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Child Labor in Agricultural Sector Hyderabad Sindh, Pakistan

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Abstract

Child labor is one of the major National and International issue. It has strongly affected the child's social, psychological and physical growth the child labor does not only influence on social, psychological, and physical growth but it also affects the child education and allowing the child further into dark era of his life. This research study addresses the causes and consequences of child labor in agricultural sector of Hyderabad vicinity in Pakistan. The aim of this study is to highlight hidden factors related to child labor and providing the possibilities to policy makers and stockholders to mitigate this curse from the childhood in the agriculture sector of Hyderabad city of Pakistan. Researchers have applied "The theory related to concept of poverty" declares the child labor in terms of poverty. A sample of 260 respondents was taken from the targeted population, mainly focusses on close-ended questionnaire. Further, the raw data is analysed through (SPSS) software, and other techniques used for analysing the statistical data Non-parametric tests, ANOVA, reliability, Linear Regression and correlation Chi-Square test based on the collected raw data from individuals.

Keywords: Social; Child labour; Agriculture; Poverty

Introduction

Child labor in the field of agriculture specifically for the children living in various country sides of Hyderabad city, Sindh, Pakistan. However, the stamp of labor for children is highly serious social phenomenon that is growing day by day in rural areas of Pakistan.

In Pakistan 13 million children involved in child labor and 5.2 million labor involved in agriculture sector, In Sindh 4 million children worked as labor in different sector and 1.8 million children work as labor in agriculture sector, In Hyderabad approximately 0.1 million children involved in child labor and 410000 children work as labor in agriculture sector.

The aim of this term study related to child labor is to highlight the hidden factors causing child labor and ensuring policy makers and stockholders to extirpate this issue completely. According to ILO that children, who work in agricultural lands are facing the brunt of social, psychological and physical vulnerabilities throughout their life. Thus, these said factors push them back and make them incompetent to meet the needs of this age of science and technology. Therefore, this study will be helpful for the government and NGO's sectors to take positive action to flush out this problem.

From many years in Pakistan, one of the worst child labour offenders. In recent years, some positive changes in Sindh in the shape of new law passed on Jan. 26, 2017, the province of Sindh made child labour illegal under The Sindh Prohibition of Employment of Children Bill, banned on that children who work under the age of 14, and those children who are working, they cannot work more than three hours a day. The law also prohibits adolescents from working between the hours of 7 p.m. to 8 a.m.

According to Labour Force Survey 2017-18 more than 13 million children who are involved in child labor in Pakistan, and 38% children involved in agriculture activities and 88% from rural areas both boys and girls 71% are boys involved in agriculture actives paid and unpaid work, In Sindh more than 4 million child labor work under the age of 15.

According to global survey made in 2013, 30 million people crossed the victim of child labor in agriculture sector. Not necessary work performed by the children could be rationalized into child labor, thus there is urged to make differentiating point between child work and child labor. Specifically, in the conditions wherein the health and growth development, education of a child is not affected by doing a kind of work, thus it cannot be categorized into the child labor such as helping the parents in their professional life or even work done by a child himself or herself in vacations or in closing hours of school. Therefore, such kind of doings by a child cannot be considered as child labour, but it can be counted and comes in the category of child work. However, the child labour makes the life of child on risk in terms of health, poor education even we can say no chance for going to school, freedom of childhood is lost and the value of childhood and honour is at the edge of great ignoring level. Also, the physical growth, psychological behaviour, ethics and civics and character assassination and the mental growth towards maturity is on high risk that would further affects the education of children that comes under the stream of child labor [1].

It is well established in United States Department of Labour (USDL 1957) for child labor which defines that to attract the young boys or girls towards to employment at their young age which can severely affect their health and physical growth and makes their lives unsafe and do not allow them to work actively [2].

Through International Labor Organization 2000 (ILO), the child labor is considered one kind of work which put the early childhood

grooming at the highest level of risk and completely deprived them in their self-respect and capabilities as well as risky to their mental and physical growth [3].

It is a fact that child labour must be condemned at all level. Child labor has emerged as a critical, widespread and growing problem in all corners of the world. Child labor is one of the serious issues which have been greatly discussed in both first world countries and third world countries. Asia has a vast number of children employed as child labours. There is growing trend of child labor around the globe in the recent past, especially in under developing countries where poverty is at peak level, and having overpopulation [4].

There is growing number of child labor in Hyderabad Sindh, especially in the agriculture sector since three decades due to no proper planning by the local government in the Sindh province of Pakistan. Moreover, most of the parents are uneducated and facing the curse of poverty which force them to use their children as weapon for earning, thus many of the children are trapped in child labor at the age of 10 to 15 years. Therefore, authors have carried out a survey on the abuse of child labor in the agricultural sector of Hyderabad for highlighting the causes of child labor and provide the guidelines to the government and non-government organizations for developing a better society.

Review of Literature

According to Pakistan Bureau of Statistics Labor Force Survey 2012, -2013, almost 4.4% of the children between the ages of 10-15 years are part of the country's active labor force. In this regard, a sufficient employment was given to children which is considered as labor force in such an age group has increased over increased for a period of one year. For instance, the 2010-2011 labor force survey revealed that 4.29% of the children between the ages of 10-15 years were part of the country's labor force.

The Executive Board of UNICEF in 1986 make a scheme to distinguishing (child) work from labor. The key element in this scheme was the element of exploitation in any child rights, work or activity. As per this scheme, exploitation may be concluded from the following categories of work:

(i) 100% time devoted to work at early child age

(ii) Plenty of time given to such work which comes under the risky and hard work

(iii) The type of work which is most probably give social insecurity, bad societal odd numbers and psychological and moral stress

(iv) Both living and work on the streets in risky and life-threatening atmosphere

(v) Very low incentive for work.

(vi) Highly responsible for given task or assignment

(vii) Very rare chances for getting basic education and enabling them complete underestimation for both social and psychological growth.

In September 2013, the International Labor Organization (ILO), released new global figure on child labor which highlighted that the number of children engaged in economic activities globally had fell to 168, million, in 2000, ILO estimated that around 215, million children were engaged in child labor worldwide. These are remarkable achievements; however, a considerable number of children are extensively passing through adverse conditions due to child labour

activity. The report highlighted that around 85 million, of these children are intensively passing through the worst scenario of variety of child labour which is not acceptable at all level. On contrast, Maple croft, a risk analysis firms released a global child labour index for the year 2014. Pakistan was ranked six among the ten worst countries based on the prevalence of child labour [1].

The proportion of children is big in Pakistan and a reasonable number of these children perform child labour. Poverty, low status (caste), low support of the parents, illiteracy pushes the children to work in the agriculture sector. The issue of child labour in agriculture is extremely serious and invisible in nature. Similarly, majority of children in Hyderabad Sindh Pakistan work in agricultural sectors to support financially their family. However, lack of concerns by the town administration has made the conditions of agrarian children more vulnerable. As a result, child faces harsh environment and is subjected to continuous exploitations of their basic rights enshrined [4].

Based on the Fyfe [5], prior to the industrial revolution in the Europe in eighteenth century, the parents and their children highly involved in wide range of works such as agriculture, industry, factory and the development of colonies. And this trend was known as a common practice irrespective the active participation by the children which worsen the physical mental conditions of the children. However, now it is completely changed in the Europe. Fyfe [5] approached a certain thinking of mind this change devoted to the cultural behaviour and make it possible to accept in advanced and industrialized social environment in the wide range of societies. The nature of work and childhood activities passed through a wide window of change in the late eighteenth century and now the condition is that in many of the countries child labour is no more acceptable. With the evolution of global scenario still there are cases and parts of world where child labour is present at large extent and is under severe practice and highly accepted by the societies especially in the developing countries [5].

Sebastien argues that, many children are employed in painful conditions in less developed countries (LDCs), children as labour exist in most industrial countries like USA, England, and Italy, as well as in Eastern Europe. There are many children who are not attending the school, button participate in work as labour in poor countries because of over population, jobs are not sustainable. A recent report produced by an international labour organization (ILO) that 250 million children are working in developing countries worldwide. Of these, 120 million works full time and 130 million working part time. Among the working children between the age of 5-17 working nine hours in a day and six or seven days in a week. Huge number of child labour is in Asia and Africa. About 100 million children under 14 are working in factories, agriculture, workshops, and many other hazardous sectors. These working children are come into contact with hard, dangerous, and risky jobs and lose their lives in accidents, diseases, poisoning and sexual abuse. Western countries launch many policies to eradicate or to reduce the rate of child labour, but the result is not obvious. With the rapid growth of international trade, World Trade Organization (WTO) has also increased the standard of labour among the child. The biggest problem is that the child labour occurs in poor and developing countries and contributes in the economic substructure of their family or household. An argument comes to favour the child labour is that the multinational companies contribute in economic wealth and development of the country so those children whose better off is employed to work in supporting themselves [6].

The question and our findings are very useful for numerous reasons. First, they describe the prominent level of child labor and the possible

ways to bring reduction in child labor. It is commonly believed that the child labor is the result of poverty as shown by Cabagarajah [7]. This description of child labor was put forwarded in several studies around the globe such as [3,7-9]. Our results demonstrate that the child labor would be reduced to some extent in the agriculture sector Hyderabad district. Second, our study is based on the theoretical works which used the role of child labor [10] and the buffer stock literature [11]. This argument fails that these multinational companies bring quick demographic changes as well as disequilibrium in society and children have to work like young. First responsibility gone to the family to provide the educated environment and keep them away from work while second responsibility gone to the government to provide job or sources of stable income to the child's family and give educated ground to children [12].

Research Methodology

The hypothesis of the presented case study is based on three main parameters including 1. The education background of parents which could be related to the child labor in agriculture sector, 2. The living standard of the people who are caught in the abuse of child labor related to the agriculture sector, 3. The socio-economic conditions of people who are victim of child labor in agriculture sector. Both independent and dependent variables are considered in the proposed study these are included education, living conditions, and socioeconomic conditions of parents (independent variables). The dependent variables include parent's education, living area, and socio-economic conditions of the families of the child labor related to the agriculture sector. Using hypothesis, the following research methodology is developed for the collection of data and to know the causes of child labor in the agriculture sector of Hyderabad district of Sindh province of Pakistan.

In this research, stratified method of probability sampling is used for collecting the data. Total sample size for this study was 260. Sample size of 260 samples for the different areas of Hyderabad who involved in agriculture labour work, around 220 collected data through the questionnaire from child labour and other 40 sample selected to social activist and non-government organization who work on child labour and those people who are related to this type of research and also some data collected from formers and peasants because child labour work under these people who very well about the child labour. From this perspective, all knowledge is predicated on the values, ideas and judgments of the individual, and is locally and contextually defined. The reliability of this scale is 0.74. Data was analysed with the aid of SPSS Statistics 20.

Hypothesis

✓ Education background of parents is likely to be related with the child labor in agricultural context.

✓ Living conditions of associated with the child labor in agricultural sector.

✓ Socio-economic conditions directly related with child labor in agricultural sector.

Independent variables

- Education.
- Living conditions.
- Socio-Economic conditions of Parents.

Dependent variables

- Parents education.

- Living Area.
- Socio-economic conditions of families of the child labor in agricultural sector.

Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework is very important tool to guide your research in a proper way. On the basis of theory assumptions, the hypothesis is made which will be tested by statistical tools. Theory guide and direct research in a proper line which could prove the hypothesis.

The culture of poverty theory

The theory related to the poverty culture describes child labour in terms of poverty and this idea and approach of poverty culture was defined by a renowned American Anthropologist namely Oscar Lewis which described it in 1959 in Chicago school. The Oscar Lewis adapted the compound word culture of poverty in his own book about children who were mentioned in book as Sanchez. Lewis studied about the reasons of poverty and its impact on the social life of people either as individual or as community or as society. Lewis highlighted that poverty enables the people to pass through the inferiority, helplessness and dependents attitude to one another as described by him in 1059. The poverty makes the miserable lives and allows the people to adapt new strategies to handle it by developing their own ways of life to take rid of from the poverty. Such approach by poor people most probably trap them in the network of poverty which now call as child labour. Then Lewis found a concept which is termed as the cycle of poverty [13-20].

The word cycle poverty is related to the conditions where people are hanged and facing the poverty not by single generation but by many generations. Poor families think and believe that poverty, low income, bad living standard, no education for children is totally inherited generation to generation. It is due to the fact of no reach and insecurity for longer period and no reach for their children at the doors of schools. The presence of cycle of poverty indicates the engagement in early childhood for children who are born in the poor families and will face poverty due to the fact having no access to school and no proper education in early age of their lives as their parents are economically are not sound thus having no education, no life standard even absence of basic needs of life such as food shelter and clothe, 11 and hygiene. In order to come out from this poverty net and this poverty cycle is very impossible and at very low limits to come out from this curse. Lewis believed that such people exhibit self-routine and life strategies and dumbed into the poverty which needs generation to succeed by coming out from the zone of poverty, further he says that it is related to their life style and sects even beliefs and priorities which are not necessary compromised by the low income [21-25].

The people who are caught in the net of poverty makes different tactic to handle it in order to come out from the zone of poverty for the better life and cross the barriers of necessities. People use various methods and techniques to come out from the poverty and the child labour is found of the main life-threatening option to push away the poverty from their lives. Lewis identifies the following arguments in his concept Culture of Poverty.

1. The low-income people possess less self-motivation compared to the rich people

2. Parents of poor children are not fully understood about the importance of education of their children as they do not consider as a weapon to earn money.

3. Poverty enables the people with not excellent communication skills.

4. Poverty further makes the lives poor people miserable using health hazardous drugs and drinking of alcohols.

5. The poverty remains for long term in the lives of poor people because they are habitually affected by various factors such as worse culture, no values and common practice of these things in their lives.

Results and Discussion

Table 1 is showing the information collected from literacy point of view and the obtained data declares that the major cause for child labour is the illiteracy of their parents and the quantified number from education respondent is 55%.

This number indicates that parents being illiterate are not considering the education as weapon to earn money and improve the standard their life. Ultimately, they do not prefer education for their children and the drastic increase in child labour is found among the individuals of agriculture sector of Hyderabad. It is worth to note that only 36.2% respondents have primary education which ends to 8.8% to secondary. This analysis shows that due to lack of higher education for the children agricultural sector in Hyderabad vicinity and the children are completely facing the child labour which is alarming situation and management must take imitative to uplift the education and take efforts to eliminate the child labour as soon as possible. Both government and NGOs must devote more time on these areas for improving the basic needs at their door steps (Figure 1).

Table 2 shows the % of household income which contribute

towards the child labour curse in the Hyderabad in agriculture sector. Due to large number of family members around 64% income is coming from the child labour. Because, it is very difficult for a single parent support his family and to afford the daily expenses and they force their children towards the child labour.

Also Table 2 shows that major income is coming from child labour in agricultural sector of Hyderabad which is high number. The planning and development of departments must seriously think over it and reduce the child labour by controlling the birth rate in these areas of Sindh province of Pakistan.

Table 3 shows the reasons for not going to school and the collected information shows that around 45.8% parents allow their children to work place and deprive them from the schooling. Because, in the areas where this study is carried out, the education system is not same and lot of privatization of schools do not favours the parents to enter their children to school as they cannot afford the expenses of their schooling. Thus, the parents force their children to work in the agricultural sector and to improve the standard of life and finds only the child labour way to take rid of from the poverty.

This is also of high concern for the people to think on it who are in the government sector or NGOs to provide the free education in these areas and to minimize the child labour. This would pave the way for the economic growth of these areas and provide the equal rights for all human being in getting the proper education not only to support their family but also to develop the better society.

Table 4 shows the information about the risk factor related to health due to child labour in the agricultural sector Hyderabad city in the province of Sindh, Pakistan.

From the collected data it is found that around 72.7% the child labour severely effects on the health of children and this leads to the death in early stage or loss of organs even some chronic diseases which remains for long time in their life. Because child labour in these areas is carried out under the sun and diseases likes sun strokes, or brain strokes even in early age there are many possibilities for heart arrest which are life threatening. Also, due to insufficient supply of nutrients and dehydration results the drastic increase in the mineral in the body which strongly influence on the kidneys and other related diseases are common in these areas.

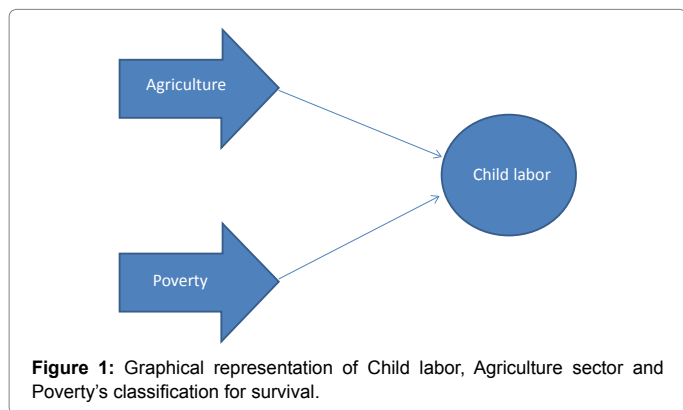| Education of Respondent	
Education of Respondent	**%**
Illiterate	55.0
Primary	36.2
Secondary	8.8
Total	100.0

Table 1: Information collected from literacy point of view.

Figure 1: Graphical representation of Child labor, Agriculture sector and Poverty's classification for survival.

Household Income	
Household Income	**%**
1000-2000	18.1
3000-4000	63.8
7000-10000	18.1
Total	100.0

Table 2: % of household income which contribute towards the child labour curse in the Hyderabad in agriculture sector.

Reason for not Going to School	
Reason for not Going to School	**%**
Child does not want to go to school	27.3
Must work to help family	45.8
Different School System	18.1
very expensive	8.8
Total	100.0

Table 3: Reasons for not going to school.

Health Risk in Labor	
Health Risk in Labor	**%**
Low	9.2
Ordinary	72.7
High	18.1
Total	100.0

Table 4: Information about the risk factor related to health due to child labour in the agricultural sector Hyderabad city in the province of Sindh, Pakistan.

Table 5 shows the causes of child labour in the agricultural sector Hyderabad and it indicates that 55% of child labour is due to poverty which is too high. And remaining 45% is due to illiteracy.

Both values are comparable and the local government must take serious notice for the control of poverty and education in these areas. Both poverty and illiteracy are contributing significantly increase in the child labour in these areas.

Table 6 shows why do many children works on agricultural sector. This figure shows that 45.5% child labour do work due to the illiteracy, 45.4% due to poverty and 9.25 work done by children is due to their own choice.

The rural areas of Hyderabad are most likely associated to agricultural sector and this is only the possibility for children to work in their early age in agricultural sector to support their family and make themselves relatively relax in life, but it is again a big question for the government to handle such situations in these areas by eliminating poverty and support the parents by providing alternative jobs with enough salary for uplifting their standard of life and prevent the child labour in these areas.

Table 7 shows the what kind of work is performed by child labour in agricultural sector Hyderabad. It indicates that 63.8% child labour do work of and growing harvesting crops and 27.3% grossing to the cattle and 8.8% for bowing.

In these areas of Sindh most of agricultural activities are based on the farming of cotton, wheat, bananas and mangoes crops. Also, people use to keep cattle at their homes and use it as dairy farms for earning some money. All these activities easily allow the children to be trapped in the curse of child labour in these areas (Tables 8-10).

Conclusion

This term paper provides study about the main causes, impacts and major socio-economic problem of child labour in District; Hyderabad of Sindh province, Pakistan. There are many children working as labourer in agriculture sector to fulfil their family needs, especially lack of interest in education. The main reasons of child abuse as we call it as child labour could be identified through the review of literature are about education, poverty unemployment and so forth. The main reason of child labor in the agriculture sector Hyderabad district Sindh province Pakistan is no interest of parents in sending their children to school due to lack of resources or expensive education systems around them. Therefore, the parents are forcing their children to do child labor at greater extent and such trend is gradually increasing.

Main Causes of your Child Labor	
Main Causes of your Child Labor	**%**
Poverty	54.6
Illiterate	45.4
Total	100.0

Table 5: Causes of child labour in the agricultural sector Hyderabad.

Why do Work in Agriculture	
Why do Work in Agriculture	**%**
Poverty	45.4
Own choice	9.2
Illiterate	45.4
Total	100.0

Table 6: Why do many children works on agricultural sector.

Which kind of Work do you Perform in Agriculture	
Which kind of Work do you Perform in Agriculture	**%**
Cutting crops	63.8
Grassing for cattle	27.3
Bowing	8.8
Total	100.0

Table 7: What kind of work is performed by child labour in agricultural sector Hyderabad.

Model Summary				
Model	**R**	**R Square**	**Adjusted R Square**	**Std. Error of the Estimate**
1	0.851[a]	0.725	0.719	0.52978156
a. Predictors: (Constant), REGR analysis I 4, REGR analysis I 2, REGR analysis I 5, REGR analysis I 1, REGR analysis I 3.				

Table 8: Model summary Dependent Variable: REGR analysis.

ANOVA[a]						
Model		**Sum of Squares**	**df**	**Mean Square**	**F**	**Sig.**
1	Regression	187.710	5	37.542	133.759	0.000[b]
	Residual	71.290	254	0.281		
	Total	259.000	259			
[a]Dependent Variable: REGR analysis D 1.						
[b]Predictors: (Constant), REGR analysis I 4, REGR analysis I 2, REGR analysis I 5, REGR analysis I 1, REGR analysis I 3.						

Table 9: ANOVA[a] Dependent Variable: REGR analysis.

Coefficients[a]						
Model		**Unstandardized Coefficients**		**Standardized Coefficients**	**t**	**Sig.**
		B	**Std. Error**	**Beta**		
1	(Constant)	-2.166E-016	0.033		0.000	1.000
	REGR analysis I 1	-0.420	0.041	-0.420	-10.202	0.000
	REGR analysis I 3	-1.114	0.046	-1.114	-24.011	0.000
	REGR analysis I 2	0.604	0.042	0.604	14.335	0.000
	REGR analysis I 5	0.322	0.040	0.322	8.108	0.000
	REGR analysis I 4	0.241	0.041	0.241	5.865	0.000
[a]Dependent Variable: REGR analysis D 1.						

Table 10: Coefficients[a] Dependent Variable: REGR analysis.

These results have main two directions. Firstly, research and policy structures must be reshaped or redesigned to develop healthy society. To get control on child labor, it is essential to modify survey instruments presently used to collect data on child labor. Secondly, the low power income and asset indicate that it is achievable to minimize child labor without considering only income growth. This provides the strength to the plans designed or under observation by local government and international organizations targeting to reduce the abuse of child labor. Importantly, the government and non-government organizations must take initiatives to provide free education to these areas in developing a better society.

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