

CHAPTER- ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Commercial Sex or Prostitution is one of the oldest professions of human society. Prostitution, which nowadays is also termed as commercial sex work, is an ancient and widespread phenomenon in the society. Shrestha (2013) argues that even though it is never welcomed by any society, women, men and transgender sell sex all over the world and have done so forever. Every society and their regulatory mechanism that is, state has its own way of addressing prostitution.

Defining sexual work is not an easy task. "Prostitute" is a woman who engages in promiscuous sexual intercourse for payment or a man who undertakes homosexual acts for payment. "Prostitute" is a woman or girl who engages in sexual activity for payment or a man or boy who engages in sexual activity, especially with homosexual men for payment (Social Constructionism, 2009). Whatever the definitions, we see that there are three significant elements in prostitution; *promiscuity, payment and emotional indifference*. A prostitute therefore is a person who uses her body as a commodity and sells sex for a price. Immediate nexus between money and sexuality is a crucial part of the prostitute customer relationship (Kumara et al., 2008).

In Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and South-Eastern Asia, many women are trafficked into commercial sex, while others choose to enter the profession. Many women find themselves participating in the commercial sex industry due to their limited economic opportunities. Widespread unemployment and poverty, as well as gender inequalities that often restrict women's access to alternative income-generating activities, may effectively force women into commercial sex work in order to provide for the basic needs of their families. In Ethiopia, many female divorcees migrate from rural to urban areas to become commercial sex workers, while other women trying to escape famine conditions may feel compelled to perform sexual acts in exchange for food and economic support. Some felt that sex work was "less demanding or less hazardous to their well-being" than jobs in domestic service, manufacturing. Sex work

may be valued in certain cultures, as in the case of the Indian DEVADASIS. The impressions and stigmas surrounding sex workers in a given place may depend on gender, age, culture, location, type of sex work, and reasons for sex work (Ramey, 2012).

According to the government's data by Shrestha (2002), there are around 60,000 commercial sex workers in Nepal and studies estimated up to 25,000 sex workers in Kathmandu valley only. In addition, in Mid and Far Western Nepal, there is BADI community who have been practicing prostitution from many generations. Prostitution is a norm in this community (Shrestha, 2013).

There are different beginnings to the history of sexual services in the Nepal. Like other societies, in Nepal it was considered the privilege of members of royal families to command sexual services from anyone whom they desired. Most of this service was exclusive to them and the kings had several women to meet their needs. Some of these women enjoyed a social status lesser than that of wife but often were rewarded for their service and had a place in court. Others provided short term service and were rewarded for their service and were shed aside. Gradually others in the Kings court began to seek those services as well paying by favor or in kind; and it gradually extended to the landlords, and then to anyone who could afford to pay for it (Iyenger & Rout, 2008).

Many Nepalese women are trafficked into the brothels of India, specifically Mumbai and Kolkata. According to the study conducted by International Labour Organization (ILO), around 12,000 Nepalese women are trafficked out of Nepal every year, out of these, 5,000 to 7,000 of them being trafficked to India annually. Nepalese social workers estimate the number of Nepalese girls and women working in Indian brothels are at about 200,000. Out of the official figures, 616 Female Sex Workers (FSWs) are reported HIV (Human Immune Deficiency Virus) positive and 3,181 HIV positive people are reported to be the clients of sex workers. According to the World Bank, nationally, HIV (Human Immune Deficiency Virus) prevalence among Female Sex Workers is 4 percent and infection rates among street-based sex workers in Kathmandu valley are between 15 to 17 percent.

Nationally, clients of FSWs (Female Sex Workers) have an estimated HIV (Human Immune Deficiency Virus) prevalence rate of 2 percent (Shrestha, 2013).

Women prostitution has been a well nurtured and complicated obstacle for Nepal. Every year thousands of women are lured away from broken homes by "recruiters" who promise jobs to poor people in the city and some marry them and cheat them by selling them in brothels. Different parts of the country of Nepal are trafficked to India and different parts of the world. These women of different ageing group are trapped and exploited through the sex industry in various ways. The trafficking and prostitution of young girls and women is linked to their low socio-cultural status. Since they have limited socio-economic opportunities, girls are especially vulnerable of being trafficked unknowingly and unwillingly. The lack of socio-economic alternatives for girls and ingrained cultural beliefs regarding gender roles makes young girls particularly vulnerable to trafficking and prostitution. Seventy percent of the trafficking women are thought to belong from ethnic minority groups such as the Tamang, Gurung, Magar, and Sherpa. Women and girls from Nepal's Hindu majority communities constitute about 10 to 15 percent (Bierd, 2012).

In Nepal, prostitution and prostitute are always related to female. This work highlights the Female Sex Workers (FSWs) in the context of Nepal and the reasons behind becoming commercial sex workers. Poverty, lack of education, unemployment plays major reasons behind joining the prostitution (NHRC, 2002). A study in Conducted in Calcutta, India with 450 sex workers identified following major reasons in hierarchical order behind the reason for joining the prostitution industry namely acute poverty at first rank, family dispute at second rank, misguided into this profession is third, willingly at fourth, tradition at fifth and kidnapped at sixth (Gutierrez & Dandona, 2004).

A study by Shrestha and Shrestha (2006) reveals that, Pokhara, one of the most popular destinations for tourists and trekkers, is a residence of approximately 300 FSWs. Growing urbanization in Pokhara is one of the major reasons behind population rise. Due to this reason sex workers number is gradually increasing; most of the small restaurants and big hotels of Pokhara are selling sex in concealed form. This type of illegal business operating in a concealed form is creating problems of varied nature in the society. However, very little is known about the sexual behavior

of female sex workers and their vulnerability to contact of Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome. Although condom use with client is high, not everyone use condom consistently. The majority used to have sex in alcohol influence most of the time.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Prostitution is one of the major social problems in milieu of underdeveloped Nepali society. Adolescents comprised 19 out of 32 Female Sex Workers (59.00%) covered in an ethnographic study in Pokhara by Ministry of Health and Population (2012) and 15 out of 48 Female Sex Workers (31.00%) in Jhapa district. Some of these young Female Sex Workers are married. The large majority of these young female sex workers have migrated from neighboring districts and remote villages for employment. They generally migrate with their relatives, friends including husbands. Likewise, a significant number of street based sex workers are adolescents who had initially been engaged in carpet and garment factories but later got involved in street based sex work either because they receive very low wages, were sexually exploited by the factory owners and male co-workers, or they were coaxed by their peers and elder sibling into the sex profession (MOHP, 2012).

The trend of sex worker is increasing day by day, some vital reasons are -low status of women, less education and employment opportunity. It led to a large number of young women from rural areas of Nepal being sold into prostitution by their relatives, friends or acquaintances, or being trafficked to other countries for prostitution.

Further, since last decade, Nepal faced a situation of armed insurgency. The conflict causes either migration or death of the male members of the family, leaving women with no choice to take up this profession for the survival of themselves and their children. All Female Sex Workers, interviewed in two studies carried out by women's groups expressed that poverty, often coupled with illiteracy and the need to earn the livelihood for a family and raising children, were the core reason for their prostitution(Shrestha, 2013). The research was focused to find out the interplaying factors (pull and push factors) on sex profession.

Since last four/five years, many massage parlors and Gazal/Cabin restaurants are mushrooming up in urban areas. Apparently, in massage parlors, female are employed

to do massage and in cabin and Gazal restaurant, they are working as waitress, dancers, singers, etc but in hidden way they are being involved in sex business sometimes through the owners and sometimes by themselves. Many girls are engaged into this trade as they did not get parental care, love affection from their family. Thousands of Nepalese girls are abducted and trafficked into Indian brothels. Open border area in between Nepal and India is the serious concern of Female sex work and trafficking of Nepalese girls/women, because there is separate red light area in India, whereas, such profession is legally band in Nepal (Karki, 2003).

Vulnerability of female sex workers are best understood by looking at specific gender disparities and social inequalities between male and female. Women are still the vulnerable unit in the society because of gender disparities in different sectors like education, opportunity and other means of attaining economic security in order to live their life safely and satisfactorily. Likewise, different cultural and social practices add more to fulfill gaps i.e. marriage in early age, dowry system, caste and class discrimination, drainage of poverty, gender based violence etc. Similarly urbanization, modernization, migration, sophisticated life style, trafficking has also contributed females to involve in sex business. As a result female are in vulnerable state in having life threatening condition. Given the gloomy situation of raising commercial sex industry, this study was carried out among Female Sex Workers within Pokhara Valley. This study was focused on following research questions;

- What are the state and the causes of being female sex workers?
- What is the relationship between demographical, socio-economic factors and reason for being female sex worker?
- What is their perception about their profession?

1.3 Research Objectives

The **general objective** of this research study is to understand the state of female sex workers.

The **specific objectives** of the study are as follows;

- To identify why they choose the sex work as a profession

- To analyse the relationship between various demographic and socio-economic factors for being female sex worker
- To explore their feelings and social expectations about their profession.

1.4 Rationale, Significance and Justification of the Study

The study generates information on female sex workers and the leading cause towards such profession. It provides the knowledge and necessary information concerning the female sex workers in Pokhara Valley. The significance and importance of this study has been judged from both theoretical as well from practical point of view. In terms of theoretical basis, the contribution of this study has been that it has adopted and established a new theoretical base based on anthropological fervor for the study of female sex workers. At the same time various other theories related to society and culture has been thoroughly reviewed and analyzed in the perspective of the present study. It has helped to provide some naive idea on the current situation of female sex workers and the leading cause, which will ultimately help in devising policies on women welfare. This study also disseminates information to the people and organization who are working for the welfare/ empowerment of women involved in sex profession. Hence, the study is rationale, significant and justified from both theoretical and applied point of view. From applied point of view, this research would be useful for further research and in formulating policies for the female sex workers in particular.

1.5 Operational Definition of Key Terms Used in the Study

Causes: In this study, causes meant those factors which helped to become female sex worker.

Female Sex Worker: Female sex worker was defined as a woman who engages in promiscuous sexual intercourse for payment.

Ethnicity/Caste: Ethnicity denotes community which has its own mother tongue and traditional culture, a distinct collective identity, own language, religion, culture and civilization, own traditional egalitarian social structure of the respondents. Caste is related to Hindu society on Varna system. In this study, it was depicted according to categories which are- Brahman/Chhetri, Janajati (Sherpa, Bhote, Thakali, limbu, Gurung, Rai, Newar etc), Muslim (Muslim,

Churaute), Madhesi (Yadav, Teli, Hajami etc), Dalit (Biswokarma, Pariyar, Sarki, Gandharwa, Badi) and others (Thakuri, Sanyasi etc).

Education: Education denotes the educational status of the respondents at the time of interview. It was categorized as:

Illiterate: Who cannot read and write.

Literate: Who can read and write. It was:

Informal Education: Informal education means educated from informal institution.

Formal Education: It means being educated from academic institution. It was categorized as primary level, lower secondary level, secondary level, intermediate level, bachelor level, master level and above.

Parent's Occupation: In this study, it indicates the current and major occupation of parents. It was categorized as: Agriculture, Business, Service, Labor.

Abused Child: Abused child referred to the child who was treated cruelly and unfairly by somebody, might be sexually abused.

Domestic Violence: Domestic violence denoted violent behavior by the family members intended to hurt the respondent.

Incest: Incest is the sexual activity with a person who has genetic relationship in a family of the respondent.

Rape: Rape is the forceful sexual violence, activity with the respondent when she did not want to, by threatening and using force.

Peer Group/Friend Circle: It meant any friend of the respondent either school friend or outside the school who are involving in sex trade.

Over Ambitious: In this study, over ambitious meant having a strong desire to achieve luxurious means of life, which was beyond one's own capacity and ability.

1.6 Limitations of the Study

This study can't be generalized because this study is exclusively academic and sample size and time was extremely limited. The study focused only on the sex workers of Pokhara sub-metropolitan; it may not be equally applicable on other rural and urban area of Nepal. Some of the other limitations are:

1. Limited number of data collection instruments has been used viz. fieldwork observation, Interview, case study.
2. Major focus has been on the state of female sex workers and no study has been made to explore the potential (appropriate) alternative to improve their life circle.
3. This study has limited research area and time constraint.
4. This study has been conducted to the partial fulfillment of M.A. Degree of Anthropology, hence limitations are inevitable.

1.7 Organization of Study

The study is divided into seven chapters. The first chapter is related the general background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, operational definitions of key terms, rationale and significance of the study and limitation of study.

The Second chapter is the literature review that deals with theoretical review, review of literature, concept of prostitution/ female sex workers, review of previous study gap, theoretical and conceptual framework.

The third chapter covers research methodology, which is further divided into; research design, rational of site selection, nature and sources of data, sampling. The forth chapter deals with socio-demographic condition of female sex worker. Likewise, fifth chapter deals with the state of sex workers and factors responsible for being female sex workers. Sixth chapter deals with the qualitative case study of female sex worker whereas seventh chapter is summary with major findings, conclusion and recommendation.

CHAPTER-TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter deals with concept review, theoretical review, review of previous related literature, theoretical framework and conceptual framework of the study. This chapter also expresses the previous study gap found on the relevant literature which is explained on this chapter as secondary data. Relation between the sociological/ anthropological theories and this study is also clearly vented.

2.1 Concept Review

Prostitution is the business or practice of engaging in sexual relations, especially in a promiscuous way, in exchange for payment in money or other things of value. A female who works in this field is called a **prostitute/ female sex worker**. Prostitution is one of the branches of the sex industry. The legal status of prostitution varies from country to country, from being permissible but unregulated, to an enforced or unenforced crime or to a regulated profession. (Merriam, 2013)

In Nepal, there are about 30,000 women who prostitute themselves, and the scourge of sex for money involves 600,000 men, about one out of twenty inhabitants of the country. Cause includes poverty, Income generation, peer groups, lack of education etc (Parajuli, 2008)

Country situation analysis done by the UNAIDS in Nepal states that Girls and young women continue to be particularly vulnerable to HIV/ AIDS in Nepal. Recent ongoing political instability and civil unrest have further exacerbated this. As a result there has been significant increase in the numbers of migrating populations. As per the report published by UNAID there has also been a rise in the numbers of young FSWs. The official estimates that there are around 30,000 women in sex work (UNAID, 2006) but non governmental organizations estimates it to be much higher. What really strike one about the sex work scenario in Nepal are its diversity, and the differences across region; the profile pattern of an operations and the risk and vulnerability factors vary from location to location. Although there are regional variations, most sex workers are

reported to be in the range of 20-25 years, stay in sex work for average of 2-3 years, have been or married, have two or three are dependent on their profession, and hold another job, which is often low paying (Iyengar & Rout, 2008).

Likewise one of the main causes of spreading of HIV is sex profession which is a worldwide issue with a long history. In Nepal, there are various kinds of traditional sex professions. In the hill and mountain areas of Western and Far-western development regions, there are customary practices forcing young girls to be an angle of god such as Jhuma and Deuki. The Badi women, the traditional dancers are engaged in sex trade in Mid-western and Far-western development regions in an organized way since immemorial historic past. Commercial sex work is growing in the restaurants, massage parlors, business offices, factories, hotels and discotheques and even in rented homes of urban towns. Uprising insurgency and post conflict situation has contributed further in increasing the number of women involved in survival sex as they have left their homes due to conflict and could not find jobs that match their skills. Besides, poverty and low educational status of women are major factors compelling Nepalese women to choose this profession for survival (Pokharel, 2008).

In spite of the different risk factors associated with this work, why female are increasingly involved in this work, this is off course a question which can arise in the mind of every citizens. Result of increasing number of female in sex work, which is in high number and of different corresponding reason behind it, researcher was enthusiastic to explore the socio-demographic and interplaying factors related to female sex workers of Pokhara valley. There have been a number of valuable studies of sex workers in Nepal using cross-section data (Shrestha, 2013, Bhatta 1994 and MOHP, 2012 etc) in context of Nepal, all of which present only the caste, economic state, education as leading factors of being sex workers. However, in some extent only some of these studies focus on a picture of other factors like need of luxurious life, peer circle, domestic violence as interplaying factors. Like wise no any studies significantly focused on the satisfaction level of the sex worker and the violence incurred. Given this study is going to explore those factors as well and fill up the knowledge gap. Researcher also wanted to explore other factors like other associated job situation/occupation of sexworker, family dependency level on their profession,

family types, and volunteer or in volunteer involvement in this trade along with other pulling and pushing factors and their habit of consuming alcohol, smoking and tobacco.

2.2 Theoretical Review

2.2.1 Structural Theory

“Structural factors include the physical, social, cultural, organizational, community, economic, legal, or policy features of the environment, which act as interplaying factors for being female sex workers and leads to HIV infection. These factors operate at different societal levels and different distances to influence individual risk and to shape social vulnerability to infection. Structural approaches to prevent female being female sex worker and HIV prevention seek to change social, economic, political, or environmental factors determining HIV risk and vulnerability. They should be implemented in a contextually sensitive way, in recognition of both the need for situational relevance and the interaction between different levels of influence (Gupta, Parkhurst, Ogden, Aggleton & Mahal, 2008). The Graph below shows the levels to which the factors belong to, and the corresponding proximity-distance relation between the factors and the behaviour lead to do certain work like sex work (Gupta, Parkhurst, Ogden, Aggleton & Mahal, 2008).

Super structural	Gender inequality (depending on social and cultural norms)
Structural	Laws restricting women’s ownership of economic assets
Environmental	Economic dependency on men
Individual	No money for food and economic necessities



Source: Adapted from Sweat and Denison Model (Sweat & Denison, 1995)

In particular, the theoretical framework presented above(Sweat & Denison, 1995) explains how super-structural factors can affect a whole society through its social and cultural norms, while structural factors, such as laws, policies or regulations may affect the behavior of a portion of society, such as young women, or commercial sex workers; and environmental factors may have an impact on the conditions and

resources of the individuals (i.e. women) with consequences on their ability to make healthy choices.

2.2.2 Gender Theory

In particular, the intermediate processes and mechanisms between “gender inequality” and “sex” - There is a strong association between factors of gender inequality in a society - leading to violence, economic dependence, social attitudes towards women etc. - and the road to unprotected sex: where a woman that discusses condom use can be raped or violence can occur; where a boyfriend can ask a young girl sex as demonstration of love; where a woman may need to sell sex as a survival strategy, if she cannot afford a stable income (Barry, 2010).

Gender is now understood to be a social status, a personal identity, and a set of relationships between women and men, and among women and men. Sex is no longer seen as a one-way input or basic material for social arrangements, but a complex interplay of genes, hormones, physiology, environment, and behavior, with loop-back effects. Sexuality is understood to be socially constructed as well as physiologically based and emotionally expressed. This gender theory has different themes: production and property relation, family structure and household, social roles, especially occupational work roles and sexualists. Socialists generally expect that the smaller the differentials in standards of living of property in society the smaller also the status differentials between men and women (Ruble et al., 2011).

The cause of women's inferior status is class society and the forms family organization it produces; one class society is abolished, and the states wears away, the patriarchalfamily will also disappear. The private family household condemns women to household work and child care and thus to inequality. Women can become equal, then only through dissolution of the private family household by the socialization of domestic services and child rising. All working situation, low level of women, dependence in male, family structure etc correspond female to different low level work (Gupta, Parkhurst, Ogden, Aggleton & Mahal, 2008). This notion provides incentive for current study on female sex workers specially in understanding the role of family structure and the consequent low status of women that prepares the ground for being a sex worker.

2.2.3 Conflict Theory

According to conflict theory, society is defined by a struggle for dominance among social groups that compete for scarce resources. In the context of gender, conflict theory argues that gender is best understood as men attempting to maintain power and privilege to the detriment of women. Therefore, men can be seen as the dominant group and women as the subordinate group. Conflict theorists argue that the only reason these roles persist is because the dominant group naturally works to maintain their power and status. According to conflict theory, social problems are created when dominant groups exploit or oppress subordinate groups. In most cultures, men have historically held most of the world's resources. All decision making power and economic power is in the hand of men. As a result female are working as a subordinate to men. Conflict between the two groups caused things like the Women's Suffrage Movement and was responsible for social change. Due to stratification female are participated in lower labor force that led to lower level income generation work (Boundless, 2014).

Employment discrimination against women is explained as the result of a distinctive system of stratification by sex. The fundamental bases of sexual stratification are human sexual drives in conjunction with male physical dominance. Variations in the social organization of violence and of economic markets determine the resources available to men and women in the struggle for control, and condition prevailing ideologies about sexuality. Historical changes in sexual roles are explained as results of shifts in these resources (Ruble et al., 2011).

Male sexual property in women is the basic pattern of sexual stratification. Variations results from two factors, forms of social organization affecting the use of force, and those affecting the market position of men and women. These two factors operate independently. Where force operates freely, the distribution of power among males determines the nature of sexual stratification quite straightforwardly, and women have no bargaining power of their own. In such a context, any market of sexual exchange operates only as part of the system of bargaining among head of families and is based on family resources, not on the personal resources of individual men and women. A market for personal sexual qualities and other personal resources can emerge only where the private use of force is limited by the state. Thus the emergence of a

personal sexual market, like that of an economic market depends fundamentally on the emergence of a particular form of the organization of power. Hence, social structures determining the distribution of force and those producing individual resources for use on a sexual market must be treated together as interrelated structural complexes (Azis, 2006). This view provides spur for current study on female sex workers as the low power and status of women in the society and employment discrimination pulls the females towards this trade.

2.2.4 Feminist Theory

Feminist theory is one of the major contemporary sociological theories, which analyzes the status of women and men in society with the purpose of using that knowledge to better women's lives. Feminist theorists also question the differences between women, including how race, class, ethnicity, sexuality, nationality, and age intersect with gender.

Feminist sociological theory is both an academic and a political approach to the study of society. Feminist sociology emerged as a response to missing gender in classical sociology setting forth an agenda for academics and social change. Feminism has never been a unified body of thought, and there are various ways that feminisms and feminist theorists can be contemplated. One of the most common is according to political/ideological orientation (Ditmore, 2008). This approach typically equates “feminism” with “feminist theory,” “liberal feminists” focus on how political, economic, and social rights can be fully extended to women within contemporary society. It argues that there is no intrinsic relationship between sex/biology and gender. Emphasis is placed on women’s access to positively valued ‘males roles’ and male experiences which are associated with good health. While “radical feminists” most famous for their proposal for a law that defined pornography as a violation of women’s civil rights (thereby allowing women to sue the producers and distributors of pornography in a civil court for damages), view women as an oppressed group, who, like other oppressed peoples, must struggle for their liberation against their oppressors. It takes a contrasting approach which endorses a strong connection between sex and gender. It attempts to undermine patriarchal privilege by positively valuing what is distinctive about the female, rather than the male body. The body is central to, and for some radical feminists effectively determinate of, women's

experience. Control over the body is also central to Marxist feminism, although many writers in this tradition are critical of what is seen as radical feminism's essentialism, arguing that while the 'biological base' is important, it is modified in different social contexts according to women's historical relationship to the means of production under patriarchy (Farley, 1998).

A new group of feminist practitioners and scholars grew tired of the dominance feminist framing of sex and sexuality called “sex-positive” or “sex-radical” feminists, this new sub-movement regarded sex as a place of potential agency for women, rather than inevitable subordination. In keeping with this logic, sex workers were no longer exploited slaves; instead there was the potential for power and agency. This new feminist framing of sex work allowed sex-positive feminists to become allies of sex workers (Ditmore, 2008).

Likewise, anti-prostitution feminists hold that prostitution is a form of exploitation of women and male dominance over women, and a practice which is the result of the existing patriarchal societal order. These feminists argue that prostitution has a very negative effect, both on the prostitutes themselves and on society as a whole, as it reinforces stereotypical views about women, who are seen as sex objects which can be used and abused by men. Anti-prostitution feminists argue that prostitution is a practice which leads to serious negative long term effects for the prostitutes, such as trauma, stress, depression, anxiety, self medication through alcohol and drug use, eating disorders and a greater risk for self harm and suicide, as they say prostitution is an exploitative practice, which involves a woman who has sex with customers to whom she is not attracted, and which also routinely exposes the women to psychological, physical and sexual violence (Farley, 1998).

Other feminists hold that prostitution and other forms of sex work can be valid choices for women and men who choose to engage in it. In this view, prostitution must be differentiated from forced prostitution, and feminists should support sex worker activism against abuses by both the sex industry and the legal system. The disagreement between these two feminist stances has proven particularly contentious, and may be comparable to the feminist sex wars of the late twentieth century (Parker, 1998).

Unlike those feminists critical of prostitution, pro-sex work perspectives do not believe that sexual acts of prostitution have an inherent element of coercion, exploitation, or domination. As such, pro-sex feminists instead assert that sex-work can be a positive experience for women who have employed their autonomy to make an informed decision to engage in prostitution (Parker, 1998).

All these literatures on sex positivism and sex radicalism converse on sex worker as a choice or exploitation but they ignored the role and expectations of dependency. Hence this research knowledge will fill up the lacuna on this field. It is assumed that if female are given the equal opportunities in different sectors like education, job, politics, society, policies etc, they can perform the same role without being dependent on man. Like wise law should be made appropriate to save the right of sex worker in order to improve the power and agency of sex workers.

2.3 Review of Previous Related Literature

Prostitution is a significant global problem that has yet to receive appropriate medical and public health attention. Worldwide and estimated 1 million children are forced in to prostitution every year and the total number of prostituted children could be as high as 10 million. Inadequate data exists on the health problems faced by prostituted children, who are at high risk of infectious disease, pregnancy, mental illness, substance abuse, and violence. Child prostitution, like other forms of child sexual abuse, is not only a cause of death and high morbidity in millions of children, but also a gross violation of their rights and dignity (Levy, 2012).

Pioneiro (2004) has put forward, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) publication which presents the findings of a pilot study and ongoing research on employer demand for domestic workers in private households, and consumers demand for commercial sexual services in selected European and Asian countries. The research within two sectors where labour/ services of trafficked persons are known to be subject to exploitation: prostitution and domestic work. The research suggests that three related factors are key to explaining the exploitative conditions experienced by many migrants domestic and sex workers: (a) the unregulated nature of the labour market segments in which they work, (b) the abundant supply of

exploitable labour and (c) the power and malleability of social norms regulating the behaviour of employers and clients.

A study carried out on the trafficking and women in Indonesia reveals that being sex worker has created many sided problems in Indonesia and the root causes of being sex worker are; poverty, especially among women; a lack of political, social and economical stability; a lack of reasonable and realistic prospects; Situations of armed conflict and oppression; Domestic violence and disintegration of the family structure; Gender discrimination; lack of access to education and information (Potray, 2013).

According to Ferguson (2007), one of the most prominent reasons for prostitution is poverty. Many families guide their children in the direction of prostitution in order to gain salary to help support the family for food and other needs. Girls in particular become extremely vulnerable and desperately need money, and this is when they become the main target for prostitution. Since prostitution is such a profitable activity many families in Kenya allow their children to get into the prostitution industry at a very young age in order to get money.

Lydersen (2003) on her article in sex workers and civil rights states that all of the respondents in New York study listed finances as their reason for getting into sex work and the Chicago study showed that almost all sex workers were substance abuser and almost all increased their use of alcohol and drugs while engaging in sex work, creating a vicious cycle where working to earn money to satisfy their habit only increased their habit. She elaborates about the status of violence that a female sex worker faces in her daily life “Crimes against prostitutes usually go unpunished. There is tacit acceptance of this form of violence, usually committed against women. The overwhelming majority of sex worker did not go to police after they experienced violent incidents. Others who attempted to report violent crimes were told by police that their complaints would not be accepted, that this is what they should expect, that they deserve all that they get.”

Studies of sex workers in 2005 found high HIV (Human Immune Deficiency Virus) prevalence rates in the West African Nations of Togo (50.90%) and Burkina Faso (20.80%). In other parts of Africa, past studies of urban areas have found that the levels of HIV infection is as high as 73 percent among sex workers in Ethiopia, and

68 percent among those in Zambia. Human Immune Deficiency Virus prevalence rates amongst sex workers in South America seem to be relatively low. A study released in 2006, which analyzed sex workers in 9 South American countries over a 13 year period, concluded that "consistently low HIV (Human Immune Deficiency Virus) sero-prevalances were detected among female commercial sex workers". Historically, the AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) epidemic in India was first identified amongst sex workers and their clients, before other sections of society became affected. The same is true in Thailand. In South and South-East Asian countries outside India, the United Nations estimates that sex workers and their clients accounted for almost half of all people living with HIV(Human Immune Deficiency Virus) in 2005. The Chinese government estimates that in 2005,sex workers and their clients accounted for just under 20 percent of people living with HIV(Human Immune Deficiency Virus) nationally (Pembrey, 2006).

For years, 'prostitution' has been a major theme in discussion about the global AIDS epidemic. The media often run stories about Human Immune Deficiency Virus (HIV) that focus on individuals who sell sex, both governments and HIV (Human Immune Deficiency Virus)- related organizations frequently talk about this population in the context of AIDS. High rates of HIV (Human Immune Deficiency Virus) have been found amongst individuals who sell sex in many different and diverse countries. Even where HIV(Human Immune Deficiency Virus) prevalence is low amongst this group, it is usually higher than the rate found amongst the general adult population (Pembrey, 2006).

The situation of HIV prevalence differs vastly between different countries and regions. While HIV(Human Immuno Deficiency Virus) prevalence is high amongst sex workers in some areas, in others it is relatively low, and they seem to play a fairly minor role in the spread of Human Immuno Deficiency Virus. For instance, in most parts Western Europe and North America, Human Immuno Deficiency Virus transmission through paid sex is not considered to be a major issue. In other regions, however, notably parts of Asia, large numbers of sex workers are living with Human Immuno Deficiency Virus and this is influencing the overall pattern of the AIDS epidemic (Pembrey, 2006).

In the context of Nepal, Nepalese sex workers derive from the traditional right of royalty to have sexual access to girls and young women. The members of the Nepalese royal family and its courtiers took Tamang girls to serve as concubines while Badi girls entertained and provided sexual services to the royal family. With the demise of the traditional royal system, men from the Tamang and Badi tribes now willingly sell their daughters, wives and sisters in to Bombay brothels. The girls are raised to believe they have no other destiny. Many of them return home years later to marry and procure "Fresh" girls for the Bombay brothers. Where these Tamang and Badi women and Deukis used to have a comparatively high status because of their connection with royalty and religion, they have now been reduced to being mere commodities. They are simply fodder for the Nepali and Indian commercial sex industries (CSIs) while the Tamang and Badi men have become part of the Nepal-India trafficking network (Jordan, 2000).

The Badi women of Nepal who are originally from entertainment caste-singers, dancers and musicians, see no alternatives to sex work. "Political, cultural and economic changes, particularly over the last fifty years, have contributed to and produced the development and practice of prostitution as a strategy of survival for many in the Badi community". The female members of the Badi community are fully responsible to earn breads to feed their whole family, the male members of the community would make some earning from fishing and manufacturing musical instruments and fishing nets but gradually they turned out to be parasitic lazybones fed on others earnings. The Badi women were exploited by the feudal structures of the state, which compelled them to indulge in commercial sex work (The Rising Nepal, 2009). Poverty, unemployment, human trafficking, illiteracy, desertion are some of the reasons due to which women are forced into this profession. However these factors are not limited to women alone, men are also increasingly giving in to this profession (DNA, 2009). Of these poverty remains the singularly largest cause of prostitution; however it is not the only reason. Helplessness of men and women also force them into the flesh trade. Brothel owners and pimps also run rackets wherein unsuspecting girls are lured under the pretext of love, whereby they elope from their homes only to end up in brothels. Women sometimes enter the trade after desertion by their husbands, or they are trafficked by way of compulsion and deception. Prior incest and rape, ill treatment by family members, social customs, lack of sex

education, bad company, inability to arrange marriage, and early marriage, are some other causes of prostitution (Rani, 2008).

Karki (2003) reveals that the contemporary Female Sex Workers of Nepal can be divided into two categories; involuntary and voluntary. The involuntary ones are those women who are compelled, deceived or coerced to enter into the life of female sex work by inheritance, community customs, trading on religious practices and belief, fake marriage, by being kidnapped or sold by her parents or relatives or husbands, by destitution and deception and those who through forcible or violent means are made to start as well as to continue female sex work. The Female Sex Workers (FSWs) of the voluntary categories are generally known as common FSWs and they are inmates of the typical or traditional where they are cruelly caged, and from where they are simply allowed to come like Badi and Deuki.

According to a report by UNAID (2013), Voluntary prostitution in Nepal is neither legal nor illegal. Thousands of sex workers work in Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal, and urban areas within Pokhara and Terai. There is no record of whether these workers voluntarily or involuntarily offer their services for money, but investigations have evidence of both within these areas. Sex workers can work anywhere from brothels to bars, in their homes, or on the streets. For many, entering into the sex industry is the only way in which they could survive economically in Nepal. However, sex work is not officially recognized among the industrial or service sectors of labor. There is a large case of sex trafficking in Nepal, but voluntary sex work is more common than many believe. Due to this high rate of poverty, the rural poor Nepalese people generally have large families, are landless or have very small landholdings, have high rates of illiteracy and are concentrated in specific ethnic, caste and minority groups. These many issues of poverty contribute to the reasons that men, women, and transgender go into the sex industry in Nepal. Due to their large families, these sex workers need to find a way to help out within the household. More specifically, there are not many opportunities for the women sex workers, and women in general to break out of the domestic environment and duties which have left them in poverty, so the only option left for them is going into sex work.

According to Bhatta (1994), women constitute a majority of sex workers, because they rarely have any opportunities otherwise. These women may feel empowered by

the work that they do, in the sense that they can better provide for their families, and be seen for something other than what society treats women. In some cases, girls those are put into the sex industry are forced to migrate to carpet factories outside of Nepal or in more centralized cities by their families to better provide for them. After a while, they are either abducted into the traffic scene, or coerced to join. The issue of poverty has driven many families in Nepal to desperation, to the point of putting their daughters out on the streets to earn money to help out in the home.

Similarly a study by Seib (2006) reveals that, when asked the reasons for entering the sex industry, 82 percent cited financial reasons, 52 percent indicated that working in the sex industry offered good money and flexible working hours and 39 percent said they had a particular goal in mind such as a new car, a house or a holiday. The study also found that, contrary to the popular stereotype that sex workers came from socially disadvantaged backgrounds, one in four women surveyed had a Bachelor degree or higher, and 63 percent were employed before they entered the industry.

In his Masters thesis Deo (2007) informs that Commercial Sex Workers earn an average Rs.200 per customer compared to the average daily wage for skilled labors; the commercial sex worker is able to make much better money more quickly. However, the commercial sex worker in the *Sukumbasi* (Squatter) usually makes the neighbour very hostile. Sometimes commercial sex workers are driven out of the settlement by other females.

Study by Geetanjali (2001) reveals that the question of whether the sex trade can be defined as work can be addressed through the prism of financial access. She adds, while there is little debate about the fact that women in the sex industry experience sex work as a survival strategy, the issue gets complicated by the human rights violations within the trade, linked to which is the question of access to the money and resources generated. She further elaborates by picking up the verbatim of an NGO activist; they have a continuing link with their families. Some even send money to their former husbands regularly even if he remarried. Most send money to their parents and brothers, they arrange education to their brothers, marry off their sisters. Women take up prostitution for the same reason as they might take up any other livelihood option available to them.

The study conducted by the Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance (IBBS) among 200 Female Sex Workers in Pokhara Valley showed that, regarding the ethnic composition of the respondents, 37.50 percent belonged to Aryan, 32.50 percent belonged to Dalit, 26.50 percent Mongolian and 3.50 percent belonged to other ethnic group. Majority of Female Sex Workers (63.00%) had no family members depending on their income. A total of 37 percent of them had dependents, either children or adult, on their income (New ERA and SACTS, 2008). This logic provides an incentive for this study in regarding prostitution as a problem facilitated by multiple factors.

A report by ONRT (2006-2007) alleges that the Indian brothels have demand for the Nepalese girls for many reasons. Firstly, there have been many Nepalese workers are in India for a long time as the source of 'buyers of sex'. Secondly, the fairer complexion of the Nepalese girls is attractive to most Indian 'buyers'. Finally, importing the Nepalese girls has been safer than selling local Indian girls for prostitution. Ignorance of local customs, procedures and languages make it difficult for the Nepalese girls and women to complain the police. Trafficking of the Nepalese girls and women to Indian brothels was fully established in the 1960s and increased tremendously in the 1980s. By the 1970s, criminal links between Indian sex trades and the Nepalese pimps were established.

Although there are no red light areas and brothels in Nepal, female sex work is prevalent in many towns and particularly so along the countries open border with India. Studies shows that several girls as young as 13 years of age and young married women sell sex in various guises while some directly solicit clients in the streets and place of work, or contact their client through middlemen/pimps or directly through telephones. The social mapping and focused ethnographic study conducted by Family Health International/ CREPHA in Kathmandu Valley (2001-2002) identified a total of 2008 Female Sex Workers. The professions most commonly recognized for selling sex in various guises include: waitress in cabin and dance restaurants, as dancers in dance restaurants and discos and as masseurs in massage parlors. The mapping and size estimated study identified approximately 800 FSWs who were working in over 175 cabin restaurants and about 260 as street based FSWs operating from 3-4 major public places and bus stations (MOHP, 2012).

Researcher have shown that Sixty seven percent of the FSWs of Kathmandu have reportedly experience some kind of violence, such as physical abuse, rape, group sex, forced sex, and looting money and jewellery. The main reason for this is lack of appropriate legal provision. The legal confusion and involvement of authorities in violence against sex workers has further deteriorated the situation (Kandel, 2009). This information has logicity in the current study where many of the female sex workers are continuously tortured by the police.

Comparatively, the plight of street based sex workers is quite different from the rest of the sex workers in the valley. Apart from tolerating frequent sexual abuse and rape from police and juvenile gangs of the city, most street based sex workers have to succumb to various sexual demands of their clients and pimps. The rapid ethnographic study conducted among street based FSWs of Kathmandu in 2001 revealed that despite a high prevalence of sexually transmitted infections among street based FSWs such as foul smelling vaginal discharge (62.00%), lower abdomen pain during intercourse (67.00%), painful intercourse (57.00%), burning urination (52.00%), vaginal itching (38.00%), genital ulcers (29.00%) and pus discharge from vagina (29.00%), very few amongst them sought medical attention (MOHP, 2012).

A study conducted in Kwa-Zulu Natal by Hallman (2005) has showed how low wealth among young women is associated with earlier sexual debut, multiple sexual partners and lower condom use. In particular, the same study reveals that women coming from lower wealth households are more likely to have received money, goods for favors in exchange for sex – with the unlikely condom use for their incapacity to negotiate for safer sex. The study conducted by the Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance (IBBS) among 200 Female Sex Workers in Pokhara Valley shows HIV prevalence among Female Sex Workers are three percent and active syphilis infection is 1.5 percent. The median age of the Female Sex Workers was 21 years. Nearly forty percent (38.50%) were less than 20 years of age (New ERA and SACTS, 2006).

All these previous information on prostitution provide the guidelines to the present study on sex workers of Pokhara. The knowledge lacuna in previous literatures has been dealt adequately in this current study which tries to point to and fulfill the knowledge gap in the previous researches.

2.4 Theoretical Framework of the Study

As mentioned above in theoretical review, different sociological theories like Gender theory, Conflict theory, Structural theory and Feminist theory has explained about the direct and indirect instigating factors associated with female sex work. Conferring to structural theory as conflict theory, different structure of the country like physical, social, and cultural organizational, community, legal and policy features are acting as a pushing and pulling factors for female to involve in sex work.

Vital are those laws which restrict women's ownership to economic assets, resulting on economic dependency in men. Laws, policies or regulations may affect the behaviour of a portion of society, such as young women, or commercial sex workers; and environmental factors may have an impact on the conditions and resources of the individuals (i.e. women) with consequences on their ability to make healthy choices. The detail sketch of the theoretical framework follows:

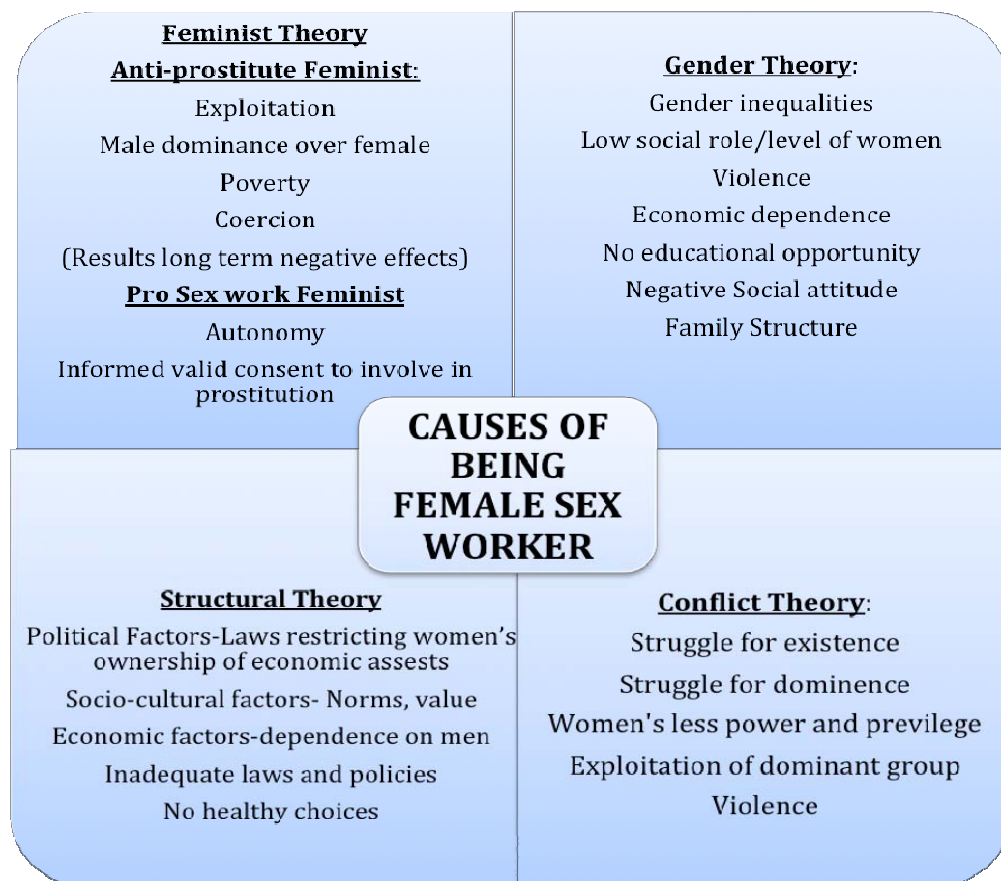


Figure 2.1: Theoretical Framework

Gender theory focuses on gender inequalities, negative social attitudes on female follow-on to low social role and level of women, women violence, low educational and economic opportunity, undignified family structure etc that has influencing linkage with prostitution business. Similarly according to Conflict theory, society is defined by a struggle for dominance among social groups that compete for scarce resources. In the context of gender inequalities, conflict theory argues that gender is best understood as men attempting to maintain power and privilege to the detriment of women. Therefore, men can be seen as the dominant group and women as the subordinate group. Hence in the context of Nepal there is less power and privilege of women and are bound to tolerate men's violence. Due to stratification female are forced to participate in lower labor force and led to lower level income generating works.

As with many issues within the feminist movement, there exists a diversity of feminist views on prostitution. Many of these positions can be loosely arranged into an overarching standpoint that is generally either critical or supportive of prostitution and work. Permitting the feminist theory especially Anti- prostitute Feminist and Pro Sex Feminist, they do have different view regarding prostitution.

Anti-prostitution feminists hold that prostitution is a form of exploitation of women and male dominance over women, and a practice which is the result of the existing patriarchal societal order. These feminists argue that prostitution has a very negative effect, both on the prostitutes themselves and on society as a whole, as it reinforces stereotypical views about women, who are seen as sex objects which can be used and abused by men. Prostitution is not a conscious and calculated choice. They say that most women who become prostitutes do so because they were forced or coerced by a pimp or by human trafficking, or, when it is an independent decision, it is generally the result of extreme poverty and lack of opportunity, or of serious underlying problems, such as drug addiction, past trauma (such as child sexual abuse) and other unfortunate circumstances. These feminists point out that woman from the lowest socioeconomic classes' impoverished women, women with a low level of education, women from the most disadvantaged racial and ethnic minorities are overrepresented in prostitution all over the world.

Anti-prostitution feminists argue that prostitution is a practice which leads to serious negative long term effects for the prostitutes, such as trauma, stress, depression, anxiety, self medication through alcohol and drug use, eating disorders and a greater risk for self harm and suicide, as they say prostitution is an exploitative practice, which involves a woman who has sex with customers to whom she is not attracted, and which also routinely exposes the women to psychological, physical and sexual violence.

Unlike those feminists critical of prostitution, pro-sex work perspectives do not believe that sexual acts of prostitution have an inherent element of coercion, exploitation, or domination. As such, pro-sex feminists instead assert that sex-work can be a positive experience for women who have employed their autonomy to make an informed decision to engage in prostitution.

Different theories have different stance regarding Female Sex Work. Hence, the aforementioned theories have explained some allied dynamics related to prostitutions; provide the parameters to the present study on sex workers of Pokhara.

2.5 Conceptual Framework of the Study

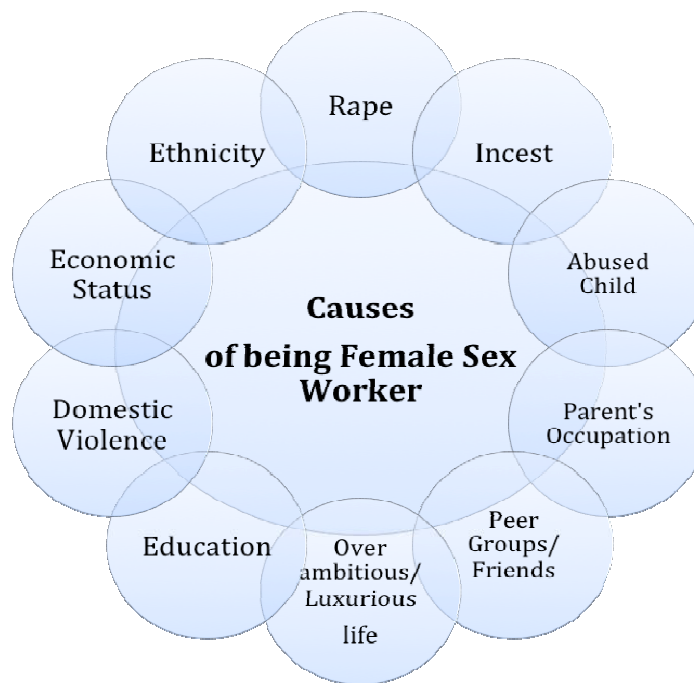


Figure 2.2: Conceptual Framework

Being sex workers is influenced particularly by diverse social factors. Peer circle, unemployment and poverty leads individual towards sex business and low education status and low parent's income state proportionally influence economic status leading towards sex workers. Likewise, certain ethnicity and cultural group has indirect relation of being sex workers according to previous research done by other researchers. Domestic violence, incest, rape, child abuse are also the contributing factors for being sex workers as a result of psychological disturbance.

CHAPTER-THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter is of the methodology section with the research design, nature of data, sampling technique and data collection methods applied during the study. In order to achieve the objective of the study the following methodological approach was followed.

3.1 Study Area and Rational for Site Selection

Pokhara Valley was used as Study Site. Pokhara is a tourism hub of Nepal. Here lots of people come to reside for their various purposes; resulting in high competition for status and living; where different profession come to arise; among them prostitution is one of the profession. The trend of rapid urbanization and the easy lifestyle is inviting rural people towards the urban areas in order to find opportunities. Soon after arriving to such area; due to lack of income generation opportunities, people are pulling towards the alternative sources of income like prostitution. Pokhara is one of the renowned valley where most of the people are coming from different places in order to get opportunity, though due to inaccessibility of the resources they need because of lack of money, most of the female are ultimately leading towards sexual activity to generate income. As the tourism hub imbedded with rapid urbanization has lured many young girls to enter commercial sex business in Pokhara. It has created many deformities in the society also. Raising unemployment has also augmented this process. Given the grim situation, Pokhara was selected as the study site for this research study.

3.2 Research Design

Cross sectional descriptive and exploratory research study design was used. The exploratory research design was used to explore the various social factors associated with female sex workers and the various aspects of the problems and issues of the study, where as descriptive research design was used to describe the demographic factors of female sex workers. No specific hypothesis has been formulated.

3.3 Nature and Sources of Data

Different types of quantitative data were collected and analyzed. Both primary and secondary data were used in the study. The primary data were collected from the field by administering structured close and open-ended interview schedule for interview. Observation was also conducted while acquiring data. The secondary data were collected from available materials such as books, journals, project reports, internet and published articles.

3.4 Universe and Sampling Procedure

The female sex workers either married or unmarried of any age, religion and caste/ethnicity of Pokhara sub-metropolitan city were sample population. Female who are involved in sex trade and participate in the interview was considered as unit of analysis. There are all together 934 female sex workers (from August 2013 to July 2014) in Pokhara sub-metropolitan city by the unpublished data of District Public Health Office, Kaski and out of this the sample size of the study was 100 respondents, hence making a 10.7% of the total female sex workers and non-probability snowball sampling technique was used.

3.5 Data Collection Instruments

Interview, Observation and Case Study were used as data collection instruments to collect primary data from respondents. For interview, open and closed ended interview schedule were used and non participant interview were also used to make data more concrete.

3.5.1 Interview

Interview method was applied to collect primary data from the female sex workers. It is fundamentally a process of social interaction. This is flexible and loosely structured format with the question. The questionnaires were prepared on the basis of the study objectives. The set of questions for interview were structured, close ended and some open ended

interview schedule which was checked and verified by supervisor. Typical set of questions were used in the interview process; are included in the Appendix A.

3.5.2 Observation

It is one of the important method of data collection which has three components i.e. impression, attention, perception. For this study, beside interview, non-participant observation was carried out parallel for their behavior analysis, food and clothing they are using, their facial expression, gesture, posture, location etc. which helped to find out bit more non verbal ideas/clues on the study factors.

3.5.3 Case Study

Case study method being an in depth study was used in this study for the study of the cases of sex workers. It was used to collect information on specific cases of female sex workers related to the experiences happening and consequences. Ten case studies were conducted based on in depth interview of the respondents identified in the course of study.

3.6 Pretest of Interview Schedule

In order make the interview schedule more reliable and valid, pretest was carried out with some of the Female Sex Workers having similar characteristics attending Child and Women Empowerment Society, Pokhara. After collection of data, necessary correction was made in interview schedule in order to get required relevant data depends on research objectives. The collected data were checked by the investigator for errors and emission and later on correction was done before data collection. Pretest aided on incorporating new questions, correcting old questions and confiscating unnecessary questions

3.7 Data Analysis

In this study, quantitative data obtained from various tools and techniques were analyzed in the different chapters using both descriptive and statistical method of analysis. The data processing was done by appropriate coding interpreted to make the meanings and implication of the study clear. The main aim of analysis of the data was to study the state of sex workers and to establish the relationship between root causes of being female sex workers and the factors responsible.

3.8 Reliability and Validity

In order to make the research more valid, reliable and effective, worldwide research tools and methods was used. The information which were collected by different tools have been analyzed and presented in their natural form without any artificial add/ modification. Collected information is valid and reliable as:

- Interview schedule was developed by using the guideline of preparing interview schedule;
- Interview schedule was checked and verified by advisor;
- Research tool was pre-tested in the respondents having similar characteristics in Pokhara Valley;
- The collected data was back checked by the investigator to ensure the reliability of the data.

3.9 Ethical Consideration

- Formal permission was taken from the authorized organizations i.e. permission was taken from the respondents;
- Objectives of the study were explained to the respondents;
- Informed verbal consent was taken from each respondent;
- The collected data was kept confidential and anonymous;
- Respondents were not influenced by any means to participate in the study;
- The special relationship between the respondent and the researcher were not exploited in any way.

CHAPTER-FOUR

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF FEMALE SEX WORKERS

This chapter presents the socio-economic characteristics of female sex workers under study. The socio-demographic variables includes the different factors like age, caste, ethnicity, religion residence, education status, marital status, family types and occupation, which has direct and indirect implications for several issues related to their sex trade. The findings of socio-economic characteristics of female sex workers are computed, analyzed and interpreted by simple table, cross table, pie chart and bar chart.

4.1 Age

Age structure is one of the imperative demographic data in examining population characteristic. In critical, age stratification refers to the hierarchical ranking of people into age groups within a society. Aging (often spelt as ageing) is both a biological and sociological process wherein human beings experience and accomplish stages of biological and social maturation (Settersten & Richard, 2011). This age characteristic is an crucial factor of female sex worker to examine when and how long they are involving in sex business by time frame.

Table 4.1: Distribution of the Respondents by Age

Age Group	Number of Respondents(n=100)	Percentage
15-19years	54	54.00
20-24 years	34	34.00
25-29 years	9	9.00
30-34 years	2	2.00
35-39 years	1	1.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 4.1 illustrates that most of the respondents were between the age group of 15-19 years which comprised of 54.00 percent and it was found that the least 1.00 percent of the respondents were in the group of 35-39 years, demonstrated that sex business is common among teenage females. The mean age of the respondents was 20.1 years. It also means that prostitution business is adopted at a quite young age and it is abandoned with the increase in age.

4.2 Caste/Ethnicity

An ethnic group or ethnicity is a socially-defined category of people who identify with each other based on common ancestral, social, cultural or national experience. Membership of an ethnic group tends to be defined by a shared cultural heritage, ancestry, myth of origins, history, homeland, language (dialect), or even ideology, and manifests itself through symbolic systems such as religion, mythology and ritual, cuisine, dressing style, physical appearance, etc (Social Constructionism, 2009)

Caste and ethnicity is the identification of the person. This makes one group distinct from other. Researcher collected data of sex workers based on caste/ ethnicity categories. From this data we can conclude, which ethnicity/caste groups are mostly involved in sex business.

Table 4.2: Distribution of the Respondents by Caste / Ethnicity

Caste/Ethnicity	Number of Respondent(n=100)	Percentage
Dalit	48	48.00
Janajati	30	30.00
Brahman/ Chettri	18	18.00
Madhesi	2	2.00
Muslim	2	2.00
Others	0	0.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 4.2 illustrates that; of the total respondents, 48.00 percent were Aryan caste Dalit, 30.00 percent were Janajati, 18.00 percent were Brahmin/ Chettri and likewise

Madhesi and Muslim comprises 2.00 percent each. Regarding the ethnic composition of the respondents, the study shows that relative proportion of Dalit in sex work is high in comparison to other caste/ ethnicity groups. Brahmin/Chettri, Madhesi and Muslim are found in low number in comparison to Dalit and Janajati. The high proportion of dalit girls in this trade depicts the low socio-economic status of this group.

4.3 Religion

A religion is a unified system of beliefs and practices relative to sacred things, that is to say, things set apart and forbidden – beliefs and practices which unite into one single moral community, all those who adhere to them. It is a system of beliefs and practice by means of which a group of people struggle with the ultimate problems of human life (Yinger, 2005). Sociology of religion is the study of the beliefs, practices and organizational forms of religion using the tools and methods of the discipline of sociology. The female sex workers has been categorized into three major religions- Hindu, Buddhist and Muslim as depicted in the table.

Table 4.3: Distribution of the Respondents by Religion

Religion	Number of Respondent(n=100)	Percentage
Hindu	80	80.00
Buddhist	18	18.00
Muslim	2	2.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 4.3 elucidates that, among 100 respondents, 80.00 percent were from Hindu religion, 18.00 percent were from Buddhist religion and 2.00 percent were from Muslim religion. None of the respondents were the followers of Christian religion. Majority of respondents were from Hindu religion. As Hindu religion followers are in majority in Nepal, it is no surprise that in the cases of respondents also it is the major religion.

4.4 Area of the Residence

Sex work in Nepal is interlinked with the geography, history and culture of each of its regions, making the scenario diverse across the country. In this study, area of residence means the geographical setting from where the sex workers belong. It shows the people's habitat arrangement, destiny of population and making the service plan. But because of lack of socio-economic and other opportunities, people are migrating in to other places from their traditional home in order to get better education, opportunities and for better livelihood. Migration is in increasing trend in Nepal where people migrate for enhanced prospects.

Table 4.4: Distribution of the Respondents by their Area of Residence

Residence	Number of Respondents(n=100)	Percentage
Rural	88	88.00
Urban	12	12.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Majority of the respondents 88.00 percent were from rural area i.e. from VDC who migrated to Pokhara for their better livelihood and 12.00 percent were from urban area i.e. from Municipality. It shows that the majority of female sex worker are migrants from another geographical area in Pokhara Valley for economic opportunity. This fast trend of migration from rural to urban area has augmented and support sex business in urban center of Pokhara.

Table 4.5: Distribution of the Respondents by Current Locality of Involvement in Sex Work

Locality	Number of Respondents(n=100)	Percentage
Lake Side	38	38.00
Baglung Buskpark	28	28.00
Srijana chowk	24	24.00
Nagdhunga	10	10.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 4.5 clarifies the current location of 100 respondents involved in sex business; 38.00 percent are in business at lakeside followed by Baglung Buspark (28.00%), Srijanachowk (24.00%) and Nagdhunga (10.00%).

4.5 Level of Education

Education is a process of cognitive cartography, mapping the experiences and finding a person’s regular work or profession, job or principal activity. It is imparting of knowledge, skill and information. Education helps people to perceive anything accurately, think clearly and set effectively to achieve the preset goal and aspiration of life. Education is one of the most important means of empowering women with the knowledge, skill and self confidence necessary to participate fully in the developmental process, also helps in the holistic empowerment of women. In this study, education means the educational status of the respondents at the time of interview.

Table 4.6: Distribution of the Respondent by State of Literacy

Education	Number of Respondents(n=100)	Percentage
Literate	Formal-84	88.00
	Informal-4	
Illiterate	12	12.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Education levels of the respondents were categorized into illiterate one who cannot read and write, literate one who can read and write. Again, the literate respondents were categorized into formal that had the educational opportunity of the formal schooling and informal who had not the opportunity of formal schooling; they simply read and write without going to school. Similarly, the formal education was categorized into primary, lower secondary, secondary and SLC, intermediate level, bachelor level, master and above. Majority of the respondents 88.00 percent were literate and 12.00 percent were illiterate.

Table 4.7: Distribution of the Respondent by Level of Formal Education

Formal Education	Number of Respondent(n=84)	Percentage
Primary	40	47.62
Lower Secondary	30	35.71
Secondary and SLC	12	14.29
Intermediate	2	2.38
Total	84	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Among literate respondents, majority of them had received formal education 84(95.46%). Among 84 formal educated respondents, most of them 40 (47.62%) had received Primary level education followed by Lower Secondary level education 30(35.71%), 12(14.29%) had got Secondary and SLC level education and only 2(2.38%) had got Intermediate level education. This finding reveals that higher the education level, lower is the number of sex worker. There were no any sex worker from higher education level i.e. Bachelor, Master and above. It shows that sex work is most prevalent among illiterate and lower education level female. Either from awareness because of high educational level or other income generation opportunities, no high level educated women are involved in prostitution. Illiterate and lowly educated females have less opportunities of getting job hence majority of them are involved in sex business.

4.6 Occupation

Occupation is a person's usual or principal work or business, especially as a means of earning a living.. It is based on the person's socio-economic background, their educational status and mostly on their interest. Sex worker prefer to remain unrevealed and regard other jobs as their major source of income. According to Decosas et al (2002); in hotels and dance restaurants, waitresses and dancers provide supplementary sex service in hidden form. Likewise, there are unnoticeable brothels in a quite street, some provide ambulatory home sex service and some provide sex services very clandestinely. In this study also sex workers are indirectly involved in sex business in hidden form hence they point to other forms of occupations in which they are involved in open (manifest) form. It is because of the legal barriers that they are afraid of.

Table 4.8: Distribution of the Respondent by Occupation

Occupation	Number of Respondents (n=100)	Percentage
Waitress	70	70.00
Housewife	13	13.00
Dancer	7	7.00
Singer	5	5.00
Hotel Manager	5	5.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 4.8 illustrates that; waitress, dancer, singer, hotel manager, and housewife were the major vocation of the respondents. A high proportion 70.00 percent of respondents were waiter followed by 13.00 percent housewife, 7.00 percent were dancer. Singer and hotel manager each comprised of 5.00 percent. Some depend only on income from sex trade which are housewife, which comprises of 13.00 percent and these groups are very secret for sex work where as remaining other 87.00 percent are taking sex work as a secondary source of income; their primary source of income were Waiter, Dancer and Singer and Hotel Manager. All of these respondents want to keep their sex act secret, keeping under covered by other profession.

4.7 Marital Status

Marital status is the condition of being married or unmarried. The marital status is the civil status of each individual in relation to the marriage laws or customs of the country. Marriage is any of the diverse form of interpersonal union established in various parts of the world to form a familial bond that is recognized legally, religiously, or socially, granting the participating partners mutual conjugal rights and responsibilities. The table 4.9 illustrates the distribution of respondents by marital status.

Table 4.9: Distribution of the Respondent by Marital Status

Marital Status	Number of Respondents(n=100)	Percentage
Unmarried	49	49.00
Separated	32	32.00
Married	13	13.00
Divorced	5	5.00
Widow	1	1.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey 2014

Table 4.9 illustrates that majority of the respondents were unmarried 49.00 percent, 32.00 percent were separated, 13.00 percent were married housewives (4.00 percent of them were involved in sex trade before marriage), 5.00 percent were divorced and only 1.00 percent of them were widow. The increasing divorce rate can be seen as a product of conflict between the socio-economic system and ideological structure that ultimately leads to prostitution. It implies that significant number divorced women are getting into this profession. This table also divulges that sex work is also mostly common on the girls/ women who are single i.e. either unmarried girl or separated women from husband (divorced or widow). Unmarried girls' involvement may be justified by relative lack of money and deprivation.

4.8 Types of Family

Family is defined as a group consisting of parents and their children living together as a unit. On the basis of size or structure and the depth of generations family is classified into two main types: 1) Nuclear or the single unit family 2) Joint family. Family type may be associated with differences in resources such as parental time, supervision, income, wealth, occupation, or social capital. Improper guidance to child, inadequate educational outcomes and inadequate income level in the family corresponds to any level of work what they found beforehand (Coleman, 1988). Table 4.10 depicts the distribution of respondents by types of family.

Table 4.10: Distribution of Respondents by Types of Family

Type of Family	Number of Respondents(n=100)	Percentage
Joint	52	52.00
Nuclear	48	48.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey 2014

Majority of the respondents 52.00 percent were from joint family and 48.00 percent were from nuclear family. Due to their large families, these sex workers need to find a way to help out within the household. More specifically, there are not many opportunities for the women sex workers, and women in general to break out of the domestic environment and duties which have left them in poverty, so the only option left for them is going into sex work.

4.9 Dependence of Family Members on their Profession

Dependency level of the family members solely on the income of the sex workers may increase the reason for getting into sex work. Girls in particular become extremely vulnerable and desperately need money, and this is when they become the main target for prostitution. Since prostitution is such a profitable activity in many families to allow their children to get into the prostitution industry at a very young age in order to get money. Or in some circumstances female are involving in sex business covertly by their own wish in order to gain money to help support the family for food and other needs in the case that their legal salary through the jobs in which they are involved is unable to feed them and their family.

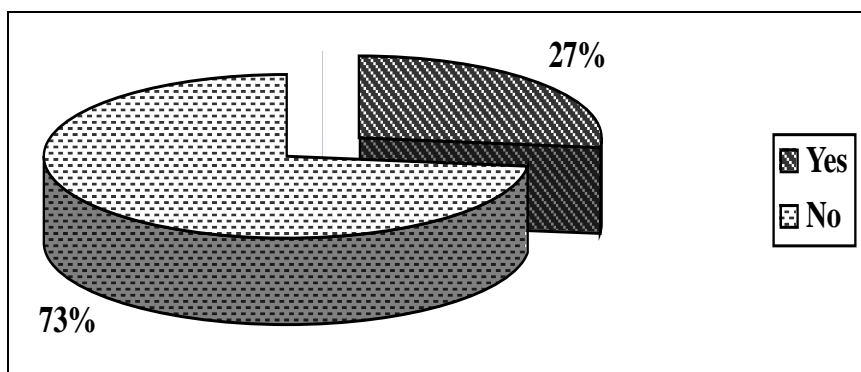


Figure 4.1: Distribution of the Respondents by Family Member depending on Profession (n=100)

Figure 4.1 shows that the majority of the respondents 73.00 percent had no family members solely depending on their profession, there are other sources of income in family to support family members. A total of 27.00 percent of them had dependents, either children or adult, on their income. Income from sex work is only the means of survival of their family as the salary earned from their job is not sufficient enough to feed their families.

4.9.1 Number of Family Members Depending on their Profession

It was found that among all of the respondents, 27.00 percent of respondent's family members are completely depended on the income of prostitution. In this study, number of the family members dependent solely on the income of sex profession was categorized into only 1 member, 2-3 numbers and 4 and more family members.

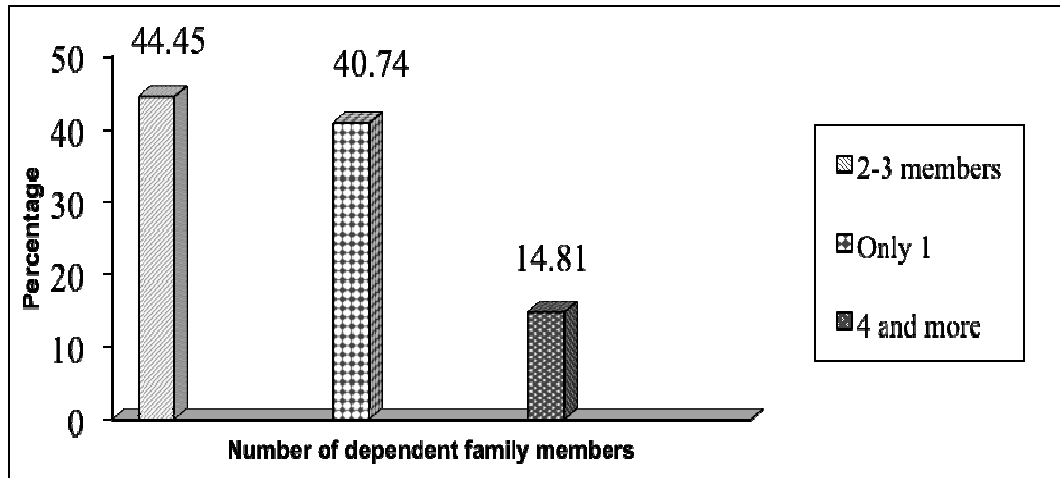


Figure 4.2: Percentage Distribution of the Respondents by the Number of Family Members Depending on their Profession (n=27)

Figure 4.2 elucidates that 12 (44.45%) of the respondents had 2-3 family members depending on their (FSW) profession, 11 (40.74%) of them had only 1 family member depending on their profession and 4 (14.81%) had four and more family members depending on their profession. It shows that the majority of the respondents had 2-3 family members depending on their profession. Dependent family members force women into commercial sex work in order to provide for the basic needs of their families.

4.10 Age at First Marriage

Marriage is a social union or legal contract between people called spouses that create kinship. Such a union is often formulated via marriage ceremony. Usually marriage is mandatory before pursuing any sexual activities in some cultures.

Table 4.11: Distribution of the Respondents by Age at First Marriage (n=51)

Age Group	Number	Percent
10-14 yrs	1	1.96
15-19 yrs	46	90.19
20-24 yrs	3	5.89
25-29 yrs	1	1.96
Total	51	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 4.11 shows that most of the respondents' age at first marriage was between the age group of 15-19 years which comprised of 46 (90.19%) followed by 3 (5.89%) in the age group of 20-24 years and it was found that least 1 (1.96%) were in the age group of 10-14 years and 25-29 years each. The mean age at first marriage was 17.39 year. This table indicates that most of the female sex workers were married for the first time in their early age (teenage).

4.11 Age at Entering the Sex Business

Majority of the respondents had entered in sex business in between the age group of 15-19 years which comprised of 71.00 percent, 25.00 percent of the respondents had entered in between the age group of 20-24 years and only 4.00 percent of them had entered in between the age group of 25-29 years. The mean age of entering the sex business was 18.65 years.

Table 4.12: Distribution of the Respondents by Age at Entering the Sex Business

Age Group	Number	Percent
15-19 yrs	71	71.00
20-24 yrs	25	25.00
25-29 yrs	4	4.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The table depicts that most of the females had entered in sex profession during their teen's i.e. age group of 15-19 years, followed by age group of 20-24 years and 25-29 years. None of them enter the sex trades after 30 years. So it reveals that younger the age of the female, higher the rate of entry into sex business. It is also deduced that burgeoning adult entertainment industry has been drawing young girls away from home being to the fleshpots of big cities as Pokhara. Young girls from impoverished families are being lured into this business. But, this *internal trafficking* has not been dealt with effectively. It has been hinted at and peripherally less addressed without researched information.

CHAPTER-FIVE

STATE ANDFACTORS OF BEING FEMALE SEX WORKER

This chapter converse on the state of female sex workers and the different factors responsible for making an ordinary female, a sex worker. This chapter also converse on sex workers attitude and social expectations.

5.1 Social Factors Leading to Sex Business

Social factors are the facts and experiences that influence individuals' personality, attitudes and lifestyles. These can change over time. There are diverse sociological aspects behind choosing the sex work. Different studies on sex workers mentioned in literature reveals that poverty, unemployment, human trafficking, illiteracy, influence from peer circle, desertion, desire of luxurious life are some of the reasons due to which women are forced into this business. Table 5.1 depicted below explores different social factors that leads to sex business.

Table 5.1: Distribution of the Respondents by Social Factors Leading to Sex Business

Social Factors	Number	Percent
Peer Circle	30	30.00
Unemployment	21	21.00
Husband Left	15	15.00
Poverty	15	15.00
Domestic Violence	11	11.00
Over ambitious	6	6.00
After Raped	1	1.00
After Incented	1	1.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The table 5.1 shows that most of the respondents 30.00 percent were involved in sex business due to peer circle, 21.00 percent were involved due to unemployment, 15.00 percent were involved after they were left by their husband, 15.00 percent due to poverty and the least of them were involved after being raped and incested which comprised of 1.00 percent each. This scenario revealed that the major reason comprises peer circle. But the social factors like unemployment, left by husband, and poverty finally prepares the ground for a new kind of crisis related to survival. Conclusively saying, all these correspond to struggle for livelihood. Collectively the final three factors are unemployment, poverty and husband left aggregately comprises 51.00 percent.

5.2 First Partner during First Sexual Intercourse

Figure 5.1 shows that among all respondents, 44.00 percent had first sexual contact with their husband followed by 28.00 percent with client, 26.00 percent with boyfriend. Incested and raped comprises 1.00 percent each.

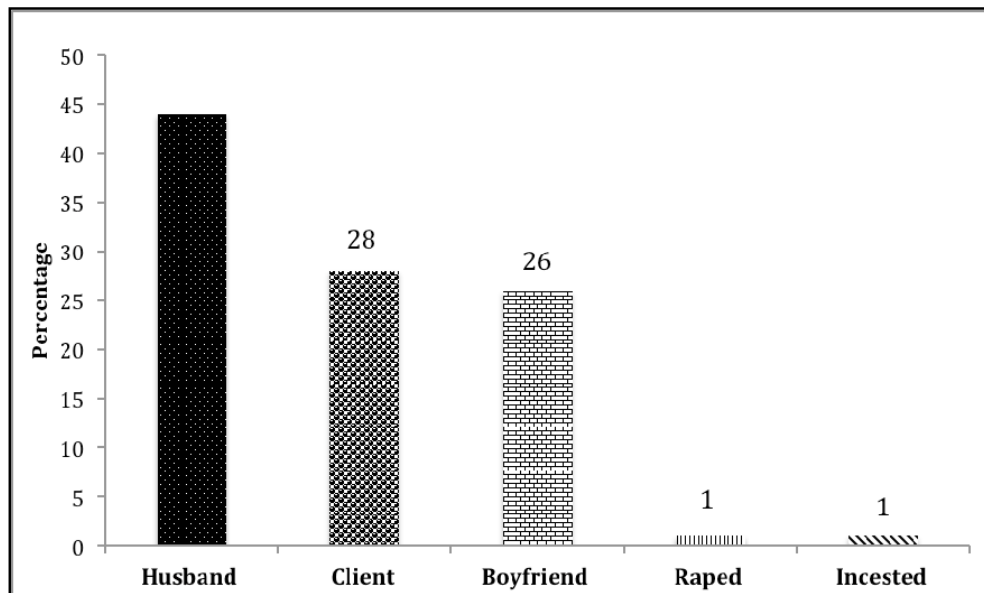


Figure 5.1: Distribution of the Respondents by First Partner during First Sexual Intercourse (n=100)

It confirms that among 100 respondents 51.00 percents were married and 44.00 percent of them did first sexual intercourse with their husband and remaining other

that comprises 7.00 percent of married respondent were involved in sexual practice with other person either with client or with boyfriend.

5.3 Satisfaction with the Profession

Job satisfaction is the personal evaluation of the condition existing on the job or the outcomes that arise out of having a job. In a simple meaning, job satisfaction is an individual's affective response towards the job (Locke, 1999). There are lots of measures to learn about the effects of job and the workplace as well as employment related stress. However, there is an absence of research exploring the determinants of job satisfaction among sex workers (Iyengar & Rout, 2008).

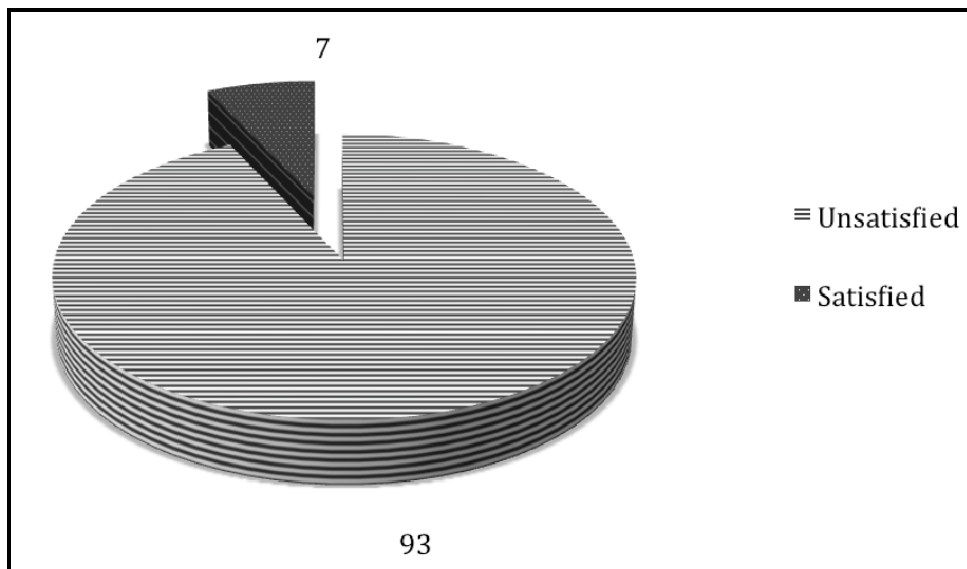


Figure 5.2: Distribution of the Respondents by Satisfaction with the Profession (n=100)

Figure 5.2 shows that majority of the respondents 93.00 percent were not satisfied with their profession and only 7.00 percent were satisfied with their profession. According to respondents, the stigma related to job situation in society, low prestige and violence from different sectors acts as main reasons for dissatisfaction. Locke (1999) contends that job satisfaction and dissatisfaction are seen as a functions of perceived relationship between what expects the job and what one perceives as receiving from it.

5.4 Willing to Change Sex Profession

Leaving the job promptly can be challenging and undeniable task for sex worker. The factors facilitating or impeding women's ability to leave sex work are still poorly portrayed. There is little known about the lives after they leave the sex work because of uncertainty of opportunities of means of survival.

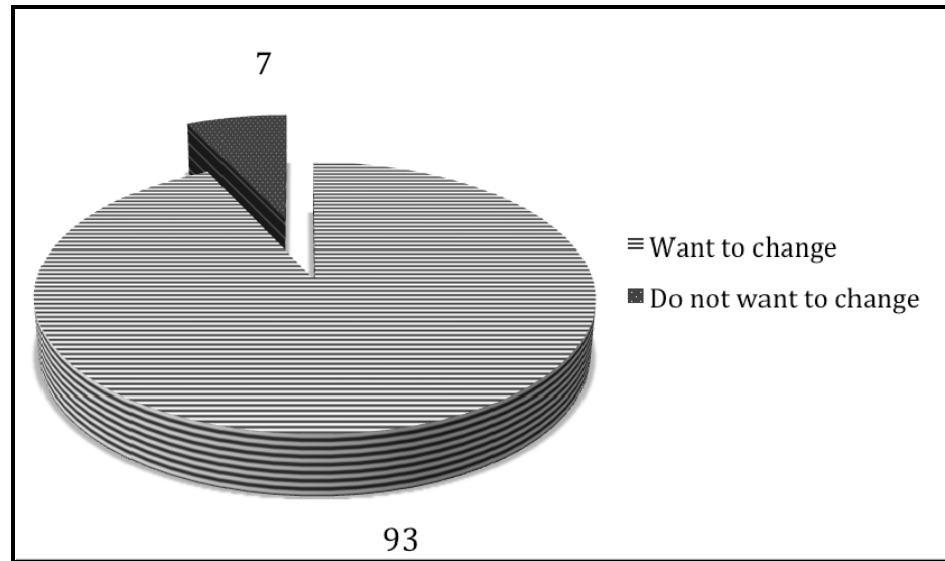


Figure 5.3: Distribution of the Respondents by Willing to Change Sex Work (n=100)

Figure 5.3 shows that most of the respondents were willing to change their profession if any alternatives found which comprised of 93.00 percent and only 7.00 percent of the respondents were happy with their profession and want to stay as status quo. It clearly explained that sex workers are not involving in this work voluntarily but compulsion by different factors that lead them to involve in this work.

5.5 Use of Alcohol

A study conducted by Parker (1998) revealed that alcohol use was prevalent among female sex workers. Multilevel context of alcohol use in the sex work environment were identified, including work place and occupation related use. The use alcohol to facilitate the transition into and practice of self medication and commercial sex.

Table 5.2: Distribution of the Respondents by the Use of Alcohol

Use of Alcohol	Number	Percent
Yes	81	81.00
No	19	19.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 5.2 illustrates that most of the respondents used to drink alcohol which comprised of 81.00 percent and only 19.00 percent of the respondents were found not to drink alcohol. It means majority of female sex workers are using alcohol during their sexual practice which stood the self medication. Alcohol use is associated with adverse physical health, illicit drug use, mental health problems as well as victimization of sexual violence. There is high risk of HIV/ AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections because of unprotected sexual relation during alcohol used state.

5.6 Habit of Smoking

Smoking is the inhalation of the smoke of burning tobacco encased in cigarettes, pipes, and cigars. Casual smoking is the act of smoking only occasionally, usually in a social situation or to relieve **stress**. A smoking habit is a physical **addiction** to tobacco products. Many health experts now regard habitual smoking as a psychological addiction too and one with serious health consequences.

Table 5.3: Distribution of the Respondents by Habit of Smoking

Smoking	Number	Percent
Yes	68	68.00
No	32	32.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 5.3 shows that 68.00 percent of the respondents used to smoke and 32.00 percent of the respondents were found not to smoke. It shows that majority of respondents have habit of smoking cigarettes due to psychological addiction which

may lead to serious health effects in future. Many of junior female sex workers have copied and learnt smoking when they saw their senior colleagues smoking.

5.7 Use of Injectable Drugs

Conferring to anti-prostitution feminists, prostitution is a practice which leads to serious negative long term effects for the prostitutes, such as trauma, stress, depression, anxiety, self medication through alcohol and drug use, eating disorders and a greater risk for self harm and suicide, as they say prostitution is an exploitative practice, which involves a woman who has sex with customers to whom she is not attracted, and which also routinely exposes the women to psychological, physical and sexual violence (Barry, 2010).

Table 5.4: Distribution of the Respondents by the Use of Injectable Drugs

Use of Injectable Drugs	Number	Percentage
Yes	5	5.00
No	95	95.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014.

Table 5.4 shows that majority 95.00 percent of the respondents was found not to use Injectable drugs and 5.00 percent of the respondents were found to use Injectable drugs. All of these respondents started using Injectable drugs after involving in sex trade. It shows that least number of respondents are using Injectable drugs during sexual practice which supports the saying of anti-prostitute feminist. These respondents used to inject drugs because of stress and remorse.

5.8 Relationship between the Educational Status and Social Factors

Among 12 illiterate respondents, 3(25.00%) stated unemployment, peer circle, and being left by their husband each as the reasons for being female sex worker. Out of 40 respondents who had received primary level education, 12(30.00%) were involved in sex business due to the influence of peer circle, 9(22.50%) stated poverty to be the main reason to choose this profession and 1(2.50%) were involved after being

incested. Among 30 respondents who had received lower secondary level education, 9(30.00%) were involved in sex business due to the influence of peer circle.

Table 5.5: Relationship between the Educational Status and Social Factors of the Respondents for being Female Sex Worker

Social Factors	Educational Status						Total
	Illiterate	Informal	Primary	Lower Secondary	Secondary and SLC	Inter-mediate	
Peer Circle	3 (25.00)	1 (25.00)	12 (30.00)	9 (30.00)	5 (41.66)	0 (0.00)	30(30.0)
Unemployment	3 (25.00)	2 (50.00)	6 (15.00)	6 (20.00)	4 (33.33)	0 (0.00)	21(21.0)
Poverty	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	9 (22.50)	4 (13.3)	2 (16.6)	0 (0.00)	15(15.0)
Left by Husband	3 (25.00)	1 (25.00)	6 (15.00)	3 (10.00)	1 (8.33)	1 (50.00)	15(15.0)
Domestic violence	2 (16.66)	0 (0.00)	4 (10.00)	5 (16.66)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	11(11.0)
Over Ambitious	1 (8.34)	0 (0.00)	2 (5.00)	2 (6.66)	0 (0.00)	1 (50.00)	6(6.00)
After Incested	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (2.50)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1(1.00)
After Raped	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (3.33)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1(1.00)
Total	12 (100.00)	4 (100.00)	40 (100.00)	30 (100.00)	12 (100.00)	2 (100.00)	100 (100.00)

Figures in the Parenthesis indicate percentage

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Similarly among the 2 (2.00) respondents having Intermediate level education, 1 (1.00) involved in the sex business after left by husband and next 1 (1.00) due to over ambition.

5.9 Relationship between the Social Factors and Occupational Status

Respondents with different occupational status were found to be involved in sex business due to different reasons. Out of 30 respondents who involved in the sex

profession because of peer circle influences, 23(76.69%) were the waitress in hotel and restaurants,1(3.33%) were the housewives, and Dancer, Singer and Hotel manager comprises 2 (6.66) each. It reveals that majority of waitress involved in the sex trade because of influence from peer circle.

Table 5.6: Relationship between the Social Factors and Occupational Status of the Respondents for being Female Sex Worker

Occupation	Social Factors								Total
	Peer Circle	Unemployment	Poverty	Left by husband	Domestic violence	Over Ambitious	After Incested	After raped	
Waitress	23 (76.69)	15 (71.44)	11 (73.33)	14 (93.33)	4 (36.36)	4 (36.36)	1 (100.00)	1 (100.0)	70 (70.0)
House wife	1 (3.33)	0 (0.00)	2 (13.35)	2 (13.35)	5 (45.46)	5 (83.34)	0 (00.0)	0 (00.00)	13 (13.0)
Dancer	2 (6.66)	2 (9.52)	1 (6.66)	1 (6.67)	1 (9.09)	0 (00.00)	0 (00.0)	0 (00.00)	7 (7.00)
Singer	2 (6.66)	2 (9.52)	1 (6.66)	0 (00.00)	0 (00.00)	0 (00.00)	0 (00.0)	0 (00.00)	5 (5.00)
Hotel Manager	2 (6.66)	2 (9.52)	0 (00.00)	0 (00.00)	1 (9.09)	0 (00.00)	0 (00.0)	0 (00.00)	5 (5.00)
Total	30 (100.00)	21 (100.0)	15 (100.0)	15 (100.00)	11 (100.00)	6 (100.00)	1 (100.0)	1 (100.0)	100 (100.0)

Figures in the parenthesis indicate percentage

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 5.6 reveals that out of 21 respondents who were involved in sex business due to unemployment (here unemployment means inadequate income for the survival), majority of them 15 (71.44%) were also the waitress. Out of 15 respondents who were involved in sex profession because of left by husband, majority of them 14(93.33%) were the waitress. Of the 11 respondents who were involved in this profession due to domestic violence, most of them 5(45.46%) were the housewives. It reveals that most of the housewives are involved in sex business because of domestic violence and over ambition.

5.10 Relationship between the Age at Entering the Sex Business and Social Factors

Among 30 respondents who were involved in sex trade due to the influence of peer circle, most 24(80.00%) were teenaged i.e., 15-19 years. Out of 21 respondents who were involved due to unemployment, majority of them 12 (57.14%) fell from the age group of 15-19 years as they could not find jobs that matched their skills. Poverty was also another major factor that contributed for becoming FSW. Among 15 respondents, 13(86.66%) of 15-19 aged group were mostly hit by poverty. One respondent each was found to be involved in this profession after being incested and raped that fell from the age group of 15-19 years and 20-24 years respectively.

Table 5.7: Relationship between the Age at Entering the Sex Business and Social Factors of the Respondents for being Female Sex Worker

Entering Age	Social Factors								
	Peer Circle	Unemployment	Poverty	Left by husband	Domestic violence	Over Ambitious	After Incested	After raped	Total
15-19 years	24 (80.00)	12 (57.14)	13 (86.66)	7 (46.66)	9 (81.82)	5 (83.33)	1 (100.00)	0 (0.00)	71 (71.00)
20-24 years	6 (20.00)	6 (28.57)	2 (13.34)	7 (46.66)	2 (18.18)	1 (16.67)	0 (0.00)	1 (100.0)	25 (25.00)
25-29 years	0 (0.00)	3 (14.29)	0 (0.00)	1 (6.68)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4 (4.00)
Total	30 (100.00)	21 (100.0)	15 (100.0)	15 (100.00)	11 (100.00)	6 (100.00)	1 (100.0)	1 (100.0)	100 (100.0)

Figures in the parenthesis indicate percentage

Source: Field Survey, 2014

5.11 Relationship between the Social Factors and Marital Status

Out of 30 respondents, 27(90.00%) were unmarried who were involved due to the influence of peer circle, 1(3.33%) were married who were engaged in this profession due to the influence of peer circle. Out of 21 respondents who were involved due to unemployment, majority of them 10 (47.63%) were separated from their husbands. Of the 11 respondents who were involved in this profession due to domestic violence, most of them 5(45.46%) were married.

Table 5.8: Relationship between the Social Factors and Marital Status of the Respondents for being Female Sex Worker

Marital Status	Social Factors								Total
	Peer Circle	Unemployment	Poverty	Left by husband	Domestic violence	Over Ambitious	After Incested	After raped	
Unmarried	27 (90.00)	9 (42.85)	8 (53.33)	0 (0.00)	3 (27.27)	1 (16.66)	1 (100.0)	0 (0.00)	49 (49.00)
Married	1 (3.33)	0 (0.00)	2 (13.35)	0 (0.00)	5 (45.46)	5 (45.46)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	13 (13.00)
Seperated	2 (6.67)	10 (47.63)	4 (26.66)	13 (86.65)	3 (27.27)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	32 (32.00)
Divorced	0 (0.00)	2 (9.52)	1 (6.66)	2 (13.35)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	5 (5.00)
Widow	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (100.00)	1 (1.00)
Total	30 (100.00)	21 (100.0)	15 (100.0)	15 (100.00)	11 (100.00)	6 (100.00)	1 (100.0)	1 (100.0)	100 (100.0)

Figures in the parenthesis indicate percentage

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 5.8 also reveals that maximum number of married women who involved in sex business are because of domestic violence and over ambition though they have sufficient amount from other sources at home. Both comprise 45.66 percentages each.

5.12 Relationship between the Educational Status and Occupational Status

Majority of the respondents are found to be literate. Among 12 illiterate respondents, most 9 (75.00%) were found to be engaged in hotels and bars as waitress. Out of 40 respondents who had received primary level education, 29(72.50%) were working as waitress and 6(15.00%) were housewives. Among 12 respondents who had received secondary or SLC level education, 9(75.00%) were waitress and 2(16.66%) were working as hotel manager.

Out of 2 respondents who had received intermediate level education, 1(50.00%) were working as waitress and 1(50.00%) were the housewives.

Table 5.9: Relationship between the Educational Status and Occupational Status of the Respondents for being Female Sex Worker

Occupational Status	Educational Status						Total
	Illiterate	Informal	Primary	Lower Secondary	Secondary or SLC	Intermediate	
Waitress	9 (75.00)	4 (100.00)	29 (72.50)	18 (60.00)	9 (75.00)	1 (50.00)	70 (70.0)
Housewife	1 (8.34)	0 (0.00)	6 (15.00)	5 (16.66)	0 (0.00)	1 (50.00)	13 (13.0)
Dancer	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	2 (5.00)	4 (13.34)	1 (8.34)	0 (0.00)	7 (7.00)
Singer	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	2 (5.00)	3 (10.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	5 (5.00)
Hotel Manager	2 (16.66)	0 (0.00)	1 (2.50)	0 (0.00)	2 (16.66)	0 (0.00)	5 (5.00)
Total	12 (100.00)	4 (100.00)	40 (100.00)	30 (100.00)	12 (100.00)	2 (100.00)	100 (100.0)

Figures in the parenthesis indicate percentage

Source: Field Survey, 2014

5.13 Knowledge Regarding HIV/ AIDS

In a simple sense knowledge means the perception of fact or truth by different means. In order to prevent the transmission of HIV/ AIDS adequate knowledge regarding its transmission cycle is needed. Along with knowledge regarding safer sex practices has vital role.

Table 5.10: Distribution of Respondents by Knowledge Regarding HIV/ AIDS

	Number of Respondents (n=100)	Percentage
Fully Known	81	81.00
Little Known	16	16.00
Fully Unknown	3	3.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014.

Table 5.10 illustrates that among 100 respondents, the majority of respondents i.e. 81.00 percent were fully known about the transmission cycle of HIV/ AIDS, followed by 16.00 percent having little knowledge. 3.00 percent of them were totally unknown about HIV/AIDS. Respondents get knowledge of HIV/AIDS mainly from NGOs, Friends, Newspaper and Television. It reveals that majority of respondents had adequate knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS transmission. If situation is favorable during sexual relation, adequate knowledge on HIV/ AIDS decreases the vulnerability of HIV infections among Female Sex Workers.

5.14 Safer Sex Practices

Country situation analysis done by the UNAIDS (2009) in Nepal states that Girls and young women continue to be particularly vulnerable to HIV/ AIDS in Nepal. Sex workers have relatively high numbers of sexual partners. This in itself does not necessarily increase their likelihood of becoming infected with HIV- If they use condom consistently and correctly then they will probably be protected no matter how many people they have sex with. The reality however, is that sex workers and their clients don't always use condoms as seen in the table given below.

Table 5.11: Respondents by Condition of Practicing Safe Sex

Condition	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	72	72.00
No	28	28.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 5.11 shows that majority of respondents (72.00%) having safe sex practices were using male condom and only 28.00 percent of FSWs have unsafe sex practices. Despite having adequate knowledge regarding transmission of sexually transmitted infection like HIV/AIDS, still due to cruelty of client, female sex workers had to practice unsafe sex. By analyzing this scenario 28.00 percent of Female Sex workers are still at high risk for sexually transmitted infection like HIV/AIDS.

5.15 Violence

Violence is an unjust or unwarranted exertion of force, action or treatment. Prostitution is an exploitative practice, which involves a woman who has sex with customers to whom she is not attracted, and which also routinely exposes the women to psychological, physical and sexual violence. During the course of sex business, some female sex workers are threatened and hassled by clients. They couldn't get any amount for their completion of work as well as need to bear physical, mental and economic torture/exploitation. Majority of female sex workers 58.00 percent are facing violence and 42.00 are not. The figure presented below clarifies the scenario.

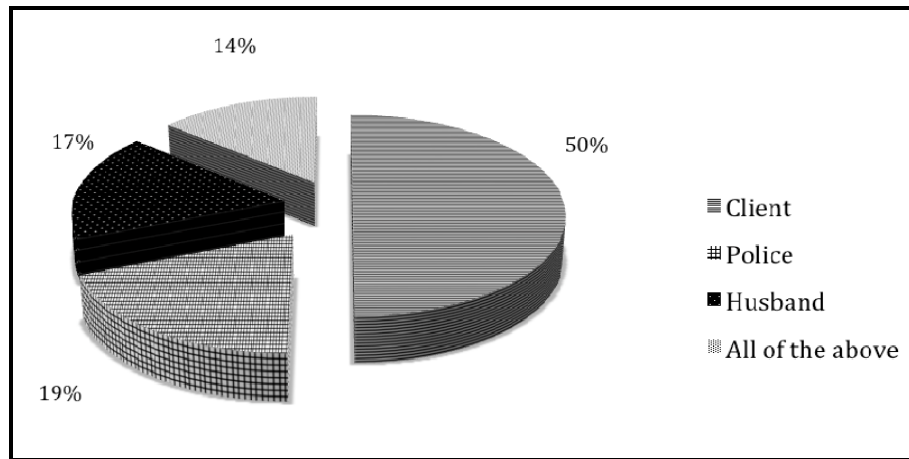


Figure 5.4: Violator in Terms of Violence (n=58)

Figure 5.4 illustrate that 29 (50.00%) of female sex workers were violated (physical abuse) from their clients which is in majority portion and 8(14.00%) are violated from all (client, police and husband) which is in least. Likewise 11 (19.00%) and 10 (17.00%) respondents were violated from police and their husband respectively. Violence includes physical assault (beating and touching all part of body, despite unwillingness, forceful anal and oral sex) , mental torture (by regular miscall, SMS, calling as play girl and other obscene words and using ill-mannered gesture etc) and economic exploitation (in order to get rid of police custody, sequestering the earned money from husband, hotel restaurant owner etc) .

5.16 Accessibility of Services

Every human being have right to get a assessable services according to their need. According to the different programs running in the country, NGOS, INGOs, Private or Government organizations are starting and continuing the activities in order to maintain and support different programs steadily and according to the situational context. Different NGOs, INGOs are acting on the health aspects of the female sex workers. At present context HIV/AIDS is in mushrooming trend. One increasing facet of HIV/AIDS is unsafe sex practices, female sex worker are acting as a vector of HIV transmission. Hence, different NGOs/INGOs are providing services to the female sex workers as well in order to control the risk on Sexually transmitted disease. Access to services keeps them aware on their health and welfare. Female sex workers are also getting different types of support from the different organizations.

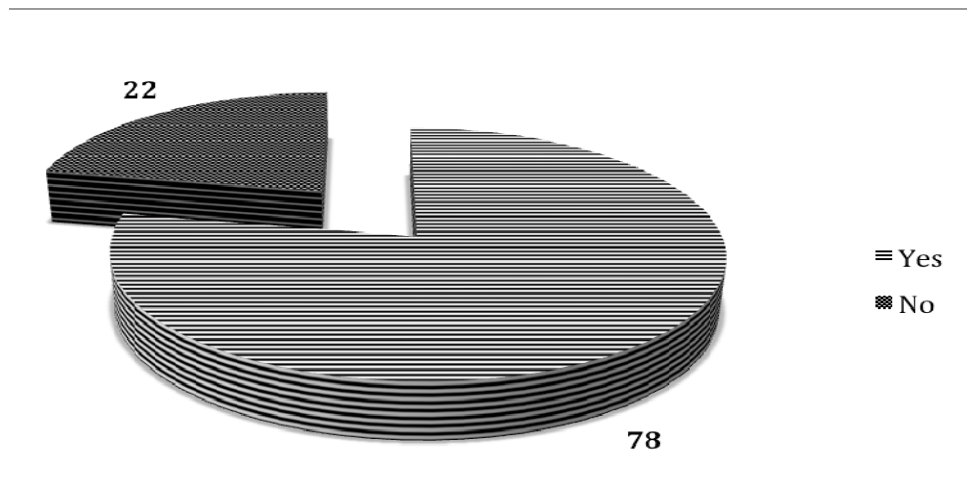


Figure 5.5: Distribution of Respondents by Accessibility of Services (n=100)

Figure 5.5 illustrates that among 100 of respondents, 78.00 percent were getting services from organization. And least of them i.e. 22.00 percent has not received any support/ services from any of the organizations. Data failed to emerge on the name of the organization from where they were getting services as they did not disclose the name of the organization from where they are getting services.

Table 5.12: Distribution of Respondents by the Types of Services they Received

Types of Services	Number of Respondents(n=78)	Percentage
Blood test+ Counseling	60	77.00
Only Counseling	8	10.2
Financial Support	5	6.4
All of the above	5	6.4
Total	78	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 5.12 illustrates that among the respondents who received the services, 77.00 percent get blood test especially HIV/AIDS and VDRL (Veneral Disease) along with counseling on disease condition, sign and symptoms of sexually transmitted disease and their preventive measures, right based education and safer sex practices i.e. using condom. Like wise 10.2 percent get only counseling. Remaining others acquires financial support and all of the above mentioned services which comprises 6.4 percent each.

5.17 Expectation from Society

In simple sense expectation or anticipation means the act or state of looking forward or expecting. As sex profession is not the desire of many women involving in this profession, its compulsion. Lots of female involving in this profession is not satisfied fully. They do have numerous desire of anticipation from the society where they exist.

Table 5.13: Distribution of Respondents by Expectation from Society

Expectation from Society	Number of Respondents(n=100)	Percentage
Provision of Job	48	48.00
Provision of Security	29	29.00
Provision of Skill	12	12.00
Rehabilitation	11	11.00
Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 5.13 clarifies that among 100 respondents, Majority of respondents' i.e.48.00 percent wants another job for the means of survival. If opportunity given to them, they want to change their profession. Likewise 29.00 percent of respondent wants the security in their profession from the society. They appeal government to make certain laws, policies regarding sex work so that they can live their life easily, shielding by their rights with out any external constraint. 12.00 percent of them expect certain skill needed to survive though leaving sex profession. Among all respondents, 11.00 percent want to assimilate on their own previous origin with the help of society. So these findings revealed that female sex workers have lots of expectation from the society in order to live their life comfortably and courteously. As a good citizen we have to respect their views and expectation from society.

In broad spectrum study was carried out on the contributing factors for being female sex worker in Pokhara Valley. The objective of the study was to identify the relationship between social factors and reasons for choosing the sex business. Total sample size was 100. Among them, most of the respondents 54.00 percent were teenaged, majority of them 88.00 percent were from rural area, 80.00 percent were the Hindu, most of them 48.00 percent were Dalit, 40.00 percent had received primary level education and 49.00 percent were unmarried.

This study reveals that sex business is largely influenced by social factors. Peer circle, unemployment, poverty etc pushed the individual towards sex business. According to the findings of MOHP 2012, adolescents comprised 19 out of 32 FSWs (59.00%) covered in an ethnographic study in Pokhara and 15 out of 48 FSWs (31.00%) in Jhapa district. This is also further supported by this current study which revealed that adolescents comprised of 54.00 percent. Moreover, according to the findings of New ERA and SACTS 2008, a large proportion 72.00 percent FSWs reported to have been married once. The reported mean age at the time of first marriage was 15.80 years which is also supported by the findings of this study.

Similarly, according to the findings of New ERA and SACTS 2008, a little more than one third 34.50 percent of the Female Sex Workers had attended 1-5 grade of schooling and only 2.00 percent of them had attended SLC and higher level of studies. These findings are also supported from this study, 40.00 percent of the respondents had got primary level education and only 2.00 percent had got higher level education.

According to the findings of MOHP 2012, the professions most commonly recognized for selling sex in various guises include: waitress in cabin and dance restaurants, as dancers in dance restaurants which even supported the findings of this study as it revealed that 70.00 percent FSWs were waitress and 7.00 percent were dancers in cabin and dance restaurants.

Likewise, according to the findings of Shrestha & Shrestha (2006), poverty often coupled with illiteracy and the need to earn the livelihood for a family and raising children, were the core reason for their prostitution which also supported the findings of this study which reveals poverty, illiteracy and need to earn a livelihood as the major contributing factors for being female sex workers.

Similarly, according to the findings of Seib (2006), 82.00 percent cited financial reasons, for entering the sex industry which also supported the findings of this study. According to Seib (2006) who had found that 39.00 percent of the FSWs had a particular goal in mind such as a new car, a house or a holiday but this study could not support this study as it revealed that only 6.00 percent of the respondents had entered the sex business being over ambitious/ luxurious life rather making a livelihood has been their major concern.

CHAPTER-SIX

QUALITATIVE CASE STUDIES OF FEMALE SEX WORKERS

This chapter presents the cross-cultural case studies of different female sex workers. During data collection of the female sex workers, female having variant cases history considerably were taken for case study, meanwhile in-depth interview were taken by maintaining interpersonal relationship. Ten case studies were taken. Out of ten case studies conducted, only six case studies are presented here.

CASE -1

Myself Sangita Sunar (name changed), 18 years old, is the resident of Lekhnath Municipality and used to live with my family. But now I have left my home and started to live in Pokhara. At the age of 15, I became the victim of my own father and my father's elder brother. I was incested by them. After the incident, I was willing to report it to police. But my mother, whom I used to love much, requested me to keep the incident secret and not to make the public issue. I could not oppose my mother's request. So I was kept silence suppressing my pain within myself.

I started thinking about my life and finally got a conclusion that my life now has become worthless. Then I decided to spend my remaining life involving in sex profession as I belong to poor family. Then I abandoned my family and came to Baglung Bus Park, Pokhara and got involved in sexual profession. After one year, unknowingly, I gave birth to a child. Unfortunate for me is that, the father of the child is yet unknown. I have been continuing my profession (FSW) and child is being grown up by my mother in Lekhnath. Since then I have been sending some amount of my income to my mother for the care of my child.

Although I am not happy with my profession, I am not willing to change it because I think the money which I am getting from this trade is well enough for me and my child to survive as there is no any option left for me to generate income for our better livelihood.

CASE 2

I Samita Pariyar (name changed) was from poor family. My mother died when I was very young. Then my father got married with other women. I even don't remember my real mother's face. I went to school until grade four. Later my step mother would not let me to go to school. My step mother started torturing me. My mother force me for household chores, animal husbandry, agriculture etc. sometime she used to hit me as well. Though I was keen interested to study, my mother did not allow me to study. It was very difficult for me to tolerate such torture/ violence. When I reached age of 15, my neighbor aunt presented better option in front of me ; explained about the best life pattern in city area; referring me to a girl working in Pokhara valley. I trusted that aunt and was escaped from home; that aunt help me to reach in target place that was Srijana Chowk Pokhara. I met that referred girl there.

That girl employed me in a hotel as a waitress, where that girl herself is also working. I worked there as a waitress for 2 weeks. Then one day hotel owner woman called me in her own room and told about the sex work. There were no words from my side as that owner told me to leave work if I refused to work as a sex worker. I was wordless. I was very confused and distressed at that time. There were no any option to choose, except to accept that proposal as I was new to that city and no one person was there to help me. I did not want to return to my own home remembering my step mom. At night that hotel owner's husband came into my room in drunken state. He talked for a while with soft caring word and made me feel that he was helping me. He destroyed my virginity, that time I was speechless and did not know what to do at such moment and then he went back. I cried for almost 2 hours. Later on from next day I accepted their proposal and worked as a professional sex worker.

After working for 2 years, I shifted to new restaurant, where still I am working. Now I am happy with my profession. I am satisfied with my lifestyle and passing my life with adequate income.

CASE 3

I (Binita lama -name changed) am a fifth daughter of my parents. I belong from poor family. My parents were working as a laborer. I did not have opportunity to study more except primary level. I got married at the age of 17 in Chitwan district. Then I started staying with my husband happily with my husband. My husband was driver. After one year I gave birth to my son at the age of 18 and at the age of 20, I gave birth to my daughter. As a housewife I was happy and used to pass my days looking after my children. Unfortunately when I was 22 years old, my husband got an accident and suffered from head injury. Soon after accident I took her to near by hospital, but the doctors referred him to neuro hospital Kathmandu.

After treatment of almost 20 days, because of severe head injury he left us (died). After the death of my husband, there was no any source of income to pass our livelihood. Money which we had collected was also spent while treating my husband. Even I did not have money to feed my child. Then I started to do struggle for nurturing my children as I worked as wage laborer. Income from that work was insufficient even to have two times meals. My son used to get sick in regular basis. That was really a difficult time for me. Once, in my work, I heard about the good income opportunity in Pokhara valley via my co- worker when I was 23.

Then, I left my children to their maternal uncle's home with their grandmother and came to Pokhara with the co-worker. He took me to the Lakeside and there I started working as a waitress. From that day I had not met them. Income from waitress was not sufficient for my children. Hence, I got involved in sex work to support my children and I at the same hotel as other girls from that restaurant was also involving in sex work.

I am not satisfied with my profession and I am willing to change it if I have found any other alternatives. It is my compulsion to continue this work.

CASE 4

Myself Pratima B.K. (name changed) 19 years, female came to Pokhara Valley in uncle's home for intermediate study from Syangja. I had studied in 'A' college for almost 9 months staying in uncle's home. As I belong from lower middle class family I couldn't get enough pocket money for my expenses. But my close friend though she belongs from poor family had enough money to expense for.

My friend used to give me some money in between when I did not have for expense. My friend used to wear branded clothes and seems happy in front of me. I was bit confused thinking that how my friend is managing money in spite of lower middle economic background. Many times I used to felt ashamed in front of other friends when I couldn't involve in monitory activities in group.

One day I saw my friend going with a guy in a bike from college in between class. I was surprised because no any relatives of my friend were in Pokhara valley. On the next day I asked my friend about that guy. She did not tell anything except saying that- leave it. After 3 days of that event my friend was absent for 2 days in college. After arrival of my friend I again asked her for her absenteeism. That time she told me the real reason behind it. I was surprised to hear that. That day I knew that my friend is involving in sex business. Then I conclude that the luxurious life of my friend was the result of this sex work. My friend explained about her luxurious life was being only possible after this work. She insisted me as well for this sex work.

I thought about the proposal for some days. Almost for 2 weeks I neglect the option given by my friend. But finally with my own wish I involved in sex business. At that time I was just thinking about the luxurious life patterns without thinking about other consequences behind this profession. And still besides studying I am involving in this profession. Now I am second year intermediate level student. Income from this profession is sufficient for my expenses. My parents are unknown about my involvement in this profession.

Note-To lead a luxurious life has been the major cause of her involvement in sex business.

CASE -5

Myself Indira Sunar (Name changed) was a bar dancer since when I was 18 years old for survival. During my work time I met a guy who used to come in bar for entertainment. During regular meeting I fell in love with him. After regular contact of 9 month period, We got married and started living together in a rent. After marriage I left the job of bar dancer as my husband wanted me to leave that job and had started a small grocery business together.

We started our life happily. After almost 2 years I had a daughter. After some years my husband attitude was gradually changing towards me. He started staying outside home over the day time later on even in night also. He started spending lots of money somewhere hiding from me. He started to violent me verbally; progressively it turned to physical violence. He started to drink more and more. Income from the shop was almost finished by my husband and there was no money to keep other goods in shop for sell and finally there were no any option left except to sell our shop.

After a year my husband eloped with other women and started staying with that woman. He left me. I had no any option left for. I and my daughter had difficult to live our life as there were no any source of income to survive. Finally I again joined the bar and acted as a bar dancer. Only the income from dance was not sufficient to me and my daughter as my daughter was growing day by day. The owner of bar gave me the option to involve in sex work for sufficient income. Finally I accepted the proposal and became sex worker. It has been 5 years I am involving in sex trade. If any new opportunity is provided, I want to change my work.

CASE -6

Myself Sristhi Pradhan (Name changed) got eloped and married when I was 13 years old. I was inhabitant of Baglung. After marriage I shifted to Pokhara Valley with my husband. My husband was a wage laborer. He used to love me very much. I stayed as a house wife for almost 3 years. Suddenly one day my husband did not come to home. For s days I waited for him, but there were no any massage from him. I was alone and was afraid. There was no one to look after me. No money to pay rent fair, and even for food.

Near by my room there was a girl staying alone in rent taking a flat with luxurious life. Sometime I used to talk her. One day I told my painful story to her. After hearing my story, that girl advised me to do work, where she was working as a assistant manager i.e. restaurant. I accepted her proposal happily and act as a cook and waitress in restaurant. After a month I had came to know that girl was also involving in sex work intermittently besides this work. For me, income from this work was tightly adequate for my survival. I was expected my husband arrival every moment but he did not came. After this work for 6 months, I was not satisfied. I wanted more luxurious life like that girl. I had talked to girl about my feelings. That girl explained me about her life patterns and her involvement in sex trade. I requested that girl to involve me as well in this work. Lonely life was hell. So I want to live my life satisfactorily with adequate income.

One day that girl brought a client at her flat and called me there. From that day I was involving in this trade. Since then I am involving in this trade even in my restaurant also and living my life luxuriously according to my wish. Before 1 year I got married with a guy. I am happy with this trade and my husband and planning to open restaurant by myself.

Hence for the Shristhi to lead a luxurious and lavishly life was the major reason for becoming the sex worker.

These case studies explore different associated factors leading to sex work. Different women have different concomitant reasons behind. They explained their own

throbbing stories and it lead us in certain conclusion regarding this trade. Based on the theoretical notion of anti-prostitution feminists it is argued in this study that prostitution is a form of exploitation of women and male dominance over women, and a practice which is the result of the existing patriarchal societal order. Safe work has anawfully negative effect, both on the prostitutes themselves and on society as a whole. It reinforces stereotypical views about women, who are seen as sex objects which are used and abused by men.

This study deduced that prostitution is not a conscious and calculated choice. Most of the women become prostitutes because they were forced or coerced by a pimp or by human trafficking. The root causes of sex work are peer circle, unemployment, poverty and high ambition. Following these reasons, separation from husband, violence, incest, rape also to some extent, which secondarily led to poverty and act as pulling, pushing factors to involve in sex work, as there was no any healthy option. In fact prostitution is generally the result of extreme poverty and lack of opportunity, or of serious underlying problems, such as drug addiction, past trauma such as child sexual abuse) and other unfortunate social and economic circumstances. There are high chances that woman from the lowest socio-economic classes, impoverished women, women with a low level of education, women from the most disadvantaged racial and ethnic minorities are at the high risks of becoming prostitutes. This study concludes that if good opportunities are provided adequately for income generation based on educational level, no women will be interested in sex work.

Virtually rejecting the Pro-sex –work feminisms logic that some women stay in sex industry because they enjoy prostitution work, the findings of this study forcefully supports the logic of anti-prostitution feminists that prostitution is a practice which leads to serious negative long term effects for the prostitutes, such as, depression, trauma, stress, anxiety, self medication through alcohol and drug use, eating disorders and a greater risk for self harm because prostitution is an exploitative practice, which involves a woman who has sex with customers to whom she is not attracted, and which also routinely exposes the women to psychological, physical and sexual violence.

CHAPTER-SEVEN

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

7.1 Summary

The term Female Sex Worker has been defined as a person selling sex in exchange for money and goods. Prostitution is defined as provision of sexual services by one person, the 'sex worker' for which a second person provides money or other markers of economic value. In most but not in all situations, it may involve third party broker, brothel owner or keeper who takes a commission from the sex worker's earnings and facilitates client contacts. Sex workers along with other marginalized groups such as men who have sex with men and injecting drugs users, are often labeled a 'high risk groups' in the context of sexually transmitted diseases. Based on the information gathered from 100 respondent female sex workers, the theoretical approach of this study is guided by the notion of anti-prostitution feminists that prostitution is a form of exploitation of women and male dominance over women, and a practice which is the result of the existing patriarchal societal order. The study is also pedestal on Pro-sex –work feminism that raises concern about people's difficulty in accepting the view that some women stay in sex industry because they enjoy the work. In this research some concepts were incorporated from radical feminist theory. Radical feminist theorists' regards sex worker as sexually subordinate to men, and believe that sex work reduces women to the commodity and equivalent to violence against the women. This study derives few cues from structural theory and conflict theory.

The overall objective of the study was to identify the state of female sex workers and the factors responsible for being a sex worker. The study was conducted among 100 female sex workers by applying cross sectional descriptive research design. Non probability snowball sampling technique was used to collect data. Interview schedule was used to collect primary data. Simple statistical method was used to analyze data. The study findings were presented via simple and cross tables, bar graphs, pie chart and figures. Ten case studies were made.

Major Findings

- The study revealed that majority of the respondents 54.00 percent were in between the age group of 15-19 years, and almost 71.0 percent respondents entered in the sex business in the age between 15-19 years. The mean age at entering the sex business was 18.65 years.
- Among them, most of the respondents 88.00 percent were from rural areas, 80.00 percent were from the followers of Hindu religion. Majority of the respondents were Dalit which comprised of 48.00 percent.
- Out of 100 respondents 88% were literate and 12 % were illiterate. Most of the respondents 40.00 percent had got Primary level education.
- Among 100 respondents, 27 respondents family were totally dependant on her earning by sex business, 52.00 percents of respondents belong to joint family.
- Majority of the respondents 51.00 percent were married. Among married recently 13.00 percent are staying with husband and 32.00 percent were separated from husband. Similarly 5.00 percent were divorced and 1.00 percent was widow.
- A high proportion 70.00 percent of respondents' occupation involved in sex business were waitress.
- Out of 100 respondents 30.00 percent were involved in sex business due to the influence of peer circle, 21.00 percent were due to unemployment, 15.00 percent were due to poverty, 15.00 percent were due to separation from husband and 11.00 percent were due to domestic violence. Similarly 6.00 percent were involved in sex work because of over ambition and after raped as well as after incested includes 1.00 percent each.
- Majority of the sex worker were not satisfied with their sex profession i.e. 93.00 percent and remaining other were satisfied, those unsatisfied sex worker wants to change their profession if any opportunity will be provided. Hence their perception on their job is not satisfactory.
- Majority of respondent (81.00%) were well known about HIV/AIDS transmission through sex, only 72.00 percent of respondents practice safe sex by using condom because of the client's desire and majority of sex workers (81.00%) use alcohol, 68.00 percent of respondent use smoking and 5.00 percent use injectable drugs.
- Likewise 58.00 percent of female sex workers were facing violence via client husband and police. Among them 50.00 percent were victim of violence from

client followed by police (19.00%) and husband (17.00%). Violence includes physical assault (i.e. beating and touching all part of body, despite unwillingness forceful anal and oral sex) , mental torture (by regular miscall, SMS, calling as play girl, using ill-mannered gesture etc) and economic violence (in order to get rid of police custody, sequestering the earned money from husband, hotel restaurant owner etc) .

- Among 100 respondents 78.00 percent were getting services like blood check-up, counselling and monetary support from different NGOs and INGOs. Among them 60 respondents got the services of both blood test and counselling.
- The respondents had various expectations from society which includes provision of job (48.00%), Provision of security (29.00%), Provision of skill (12.00) and rehabilitation (11.00%). So these findings revealed that female sex workers have high expectation from the society in order to live their life comfortably and courteously. It seems necessary to respect their views and expectations.
- The findings of the study suggested that most of the female sex workers are teenaged girls. Peer circle, unemployment, poverty, being left by the husband and domestic violence have contributed further in increasing the number of women involved in sex business. Some of them have left their homes due to high ambitions and could not found jobs that match their skills. Beside this low educational status of women is also another major factor compelling Nepalese women to choose this profession for survival. Despite adequate knowledge, still female sex workers are being compelled towards unsafe sex practices via their clients. Majority of the respondent are not satisfied with their life style and profession, and eagerly want to change their way of life if any opportunities is provided to them beforehand according to their level.

7.2 Conclusion

This study sightsee the multifaceted dimension of socio-demographic characteristics of the sex workers, as the majority of sex workers in the Pokhara are adolescents and are from rural areas of Kaski and surrounding districts. Majority of sex workers belongs from Hindu religion and are Dalit. The proportion of unmarried sex workers are high and mostly are from joint families. The interplaying factors for being female sex workers are peer circle, unemployment and poverty in leading cause. The

unsteady family source of income leads the female to lead for economic provision through sex work.

This study deduces that the state of sex workers is pathetic. Despite having higher literacy level and proper knowledge in STI, unsafe sex practices are prevalent because of the customer's desire. Causes of being sex worker varies from individual to individual, for some it has been a steady source of income and means of survival as many families are solely depending on income from sex work. The sex workers growing dissatisfaction towards their sex work profession demands for new options in their job concern. Their raising social expectations in the form of security dignified job and adequate skills demands for new initiatives and steps in this field. Based on the theoretical notion of anti-prostitution feminists it is deduced in this study that prostitution is a form of exploitation of women and male dominance over women, and a practice which is the result of the existing patriarchal societal order of Nepali society. Sex work has a very negative effect, both on the prostitutes themselves and on society as a whole, as it reinforces stereotypical views about women, who are seen as sex objects which are used and abused by men. This study construes that prostitution is not a conscious and calculated choice. Most of the women become prostitutes because they were forced or coerced by a pimp or by human trafficking. Hence the pro-sex –work feminisms logic (that women stay in sex industry because they enjoy that work) is unacceptable. In fact prostitution is an abhorrent practice not easily accepted by normal women under the normal condition because it is socially disgraceful and leads to serious negative long term physical, mental, social, cultural and economic effects for the prostitutes.

The root causes of sex work are peer circle, unemployment, poverty and high ambition. Following these reasons, separation from husband, violence, incest, rape also to some extent, which secondarily led to poverty and act as pulling, pushing factors to involve in sex work, as there was no any healthy option. In fact prostitution is generally the result of extreme poverty and lack of opportunity, or of serious underlying problems, such as drug addiction, past trauma such as child sexual abuse) and other unfortunate social and economic circumstances. There are high chances that woman from the lowest socio-economic classes, impoverished women, women with a low level of education, women from the most disadvantaged racial and ethnic

minorities are at the high risks of becoming prostitutes. This study concludes that if good opportunities are provided adequately for income generation based on educational level, no women will be interested in sex work.

7.3 Recommendations for Further Action

On the basis of the study findings, following recommendations have been made:

- This study was carried out in small setting where only a minimum number of sample size included, therefore it is recommended for further study in large scale and in the community setting with snow ball sampling technique, so that the result can be generalized.
- Health education intervention programs should be focused on centres involved in sexual activities such as hotels, prostitution centres and bars as female sex workers are the high risk group in such centres.
- Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) is very important process to increase awareness on HIV/AIDS to the female sex workers. Such type of program should be implemented in the community with the support of GO/NGO/INGO to the nook and corner of the city.

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APPENDIX A
INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

PART I: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

A. General Information

1. Age and Sex of the Respondent:
2. Religion:
3. Caste and Ethnicity:
4. Address
 - a. Permanent;
V.D.C. Ward no.
Village District
 - b. Current Dwelling;

B. Educational Information;

5. Education:
 - a) Literate
 - b) Illiterate
6. If Literate,
 - a) Formal
 - b) Informal
7. If formal what is your educational status?
 - a) Primary (1-5 class)
 - b) Lower Secondary (6-8)
 - c) Secondary or SLC
 - d) Intermediate Level
 - e) Bachelor Level
 - f) Master Level and Above

C. Marital / Familial information:

8. Marital Status:
 - a) Married
 - b) Unmarried
 - c) Separated
 - d) Divorced
 - e) Widow/Widower
9. If married; what does your husband do?
 - a) Laborar
 - b) Foreign Employment
 - c) Unemployed
 - d) Service holder
 - d) If Others Specify.....

10. Are you presently living with your husband?
 a) Yes _____ if yes, question no. (12) b) No
11. Who are you living with now?
 a) Alone b) With parents
 c) With children d) With boy friend/other male
 e) With other male relatives f) With other females
12. What was your age at the time of first marriage?
 _____ Years
13. Does your husband have co-wife now?
 a) Yes b) No
- 14.1 If yes, why?

15. Do you have children?
 a) Yes b) No
16. 1 If yes, number of children _____
 male _____
 female _____
17. Type of family respondent belongs:
 a) Joint b) Nuclear
- D. Economic Details:**
18. What is the main source of your family income?
 a) Service b) Business
 c) Labor d) Agriculture
11. Do you have sufficient food supply in your family?
 a) Yes b) No
12. If no, how many months can you manage from your own production?

13. What are the other sources of income of your family?

25. If yes, under what circumstances would you be ready to leave this profession?
.....

F. Sexual practices:

26. Who was your first sexual partner?
.....

27. Do you use condom during sexual intercourse?
a) Sometime b) Always
c) Seldom

G. Information in HIV/ AIDS:

28. Have you ever heard of HIV/ AIDS?
a) Yes b) No

29. IF yes, from which source you know about HIV/AIDS?
a) Friends b) Radio/TV
c) Newspaper c) Poster
e) Doctor f) NGOS/INGOS
g) Teachers g) If Others Specify.....

30. How HIV/ AIDS is transmitted (multiple choice)?
a) Unsafe Sex b) Infected blood
c) Sharing of syringe d) from infected mother to child
e) If others Specify.....

H) Violence;

31. Have you ever experienced violence?
a) Yes b) No

32. Who is the perpetrator?
a) Police b) Husband
c) Client d) Others specify.....

33. What type of violence you were imposed upon?
a) Physical assault b) Sexual harrashment
c) Social Stigma and Isolation d) If others Specify.....

34. Did you made any attempt to defend yourself?
a) Yes b) No

35. What initiative did you take?
 a) Resisted or attack d) Reported to Family
 c) Reported to police d) Formed group and took action
 e) Shouted back f) Others Specify.....

I) Personal Habit:

36. Do you like to drink wine/rakshi?
 a) Yes b) No

36. 1 If yes, why.....

37. Do you smoke cigarette?
 a) Yes b) No

37. 1 If yes, why?

38. Do you inject drug?
 a) Yes b) No

38. 1 If yes, why?

J) Access to services;

39. Have you ever received services / support from any organization?
 a) Yes b) No

40. If yes what type of supports?
 a) Blood testing b) Monetary
 c) Counseling d) If others specify.....
 e) Others.....

41. What are your expectations from the society?

APPENDIX B
PHOTO GALLERY



RESEARCHER TAKING DATA FROM RESPONDENT (WORKING PLACE)



**RESEARCHER TAKING DATA FROM RESPONDENTS FROM RESIDENTIAL
AREA**



RESEARCHER TAKING DATA FROM RESPONDENTS FROM RESIDENTIAL AREA