

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC SITUATION OF CHILD LABOUR IN
BRICK FACTORY OF SAPTARI DISTRICT**

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that **Mr. Kamal Nepali** has prepared this dissertation entitled **Socio-Economic Situation of Child Labour in Brick Factory of Saptari District** under my guidance and supervision. I am satisfied with his dissertation, therefore I recommend the dissertation committee for the evaluation and approval.

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APPROVAL LETTER

The dissertation entitled **Socio-Economic Situation of Child Labour in Brick Factory of Saptari District** by **Mr. Kamal Nepali** has been evaluated or accepted for partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master in Sociology.

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Kamal Nepali

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ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CDPS	Central Department of Population Studies
CDS	Child Development Society
CONCERN	Concern for Children and Environment Nepal
CWIN	Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Center
CWS	Child Welfare Society
ILO	International Labor Office
INGOs	International Non-Governmental Organizations
IPEC	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labor
MoLT	Ministry of Labor and Transport
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NLC	Nepal Law Commission
NLSS	Nepal Living Standard Survey
No.	Number
NRs.	Nepali Rupees
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VDC	Village Development Committee

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General Background of the Study

Children around the world are routinely engaged in paid and unpaid forms of work that are not harmful to them. However, they are classified as child labourers when they are either too young to work or are involved in hazardous activities that may compromise their physical, mental, social or educational development. The prevalence of child labour is highest in sub-Saharan Africa. In the least developed countries, around one in four children (ages 5 to 17) are engaged in labour that is considered detrimental to their health and development (<https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-protection/child-labour>).

Child labour has become a major concern for many countries in Asia. So often in the developing world children are removed from schooling and forced into exploitative forms of labour. In Nepal it is a particularly pressing problem. According to the Nepal Labour Force Survey 2014, there were about 7.77 million children in Nepal between 5 and 17 years of age, of which 50.7 per cent were boys and 49.3 per cent girls. That number has grown steadily as families have been broken apart by economic hardship, leaving children to fend for themselves (UNICEF, 2014).

Children are often seen begging, or working in the streets, cafes, petrol stations, sometimes well into the night. Children, especially girls, are also sexually exploited for commercial purposes, especially in prostitution and pornography. Trafficking of children is a regular phenomenon to which the thousands of children living in street and orphanages are particularly prone. Child labour is a widespread phenomenon in Nepal, and one that has not declined despite the existence of laws that prohibit especially burdensome forms of child labour and the efforts of many governmental, non-governmental, international and private organizations to protect child rights. An especially serious problem is the hazardous environment in which children work. Health and safety hazards in workplaces tend to be related to the nature of the work. Chemical, physical, biological and psychological hazards are often present and cause

irreversible damage to children's physiological development, often resulting in permanent disabilities that have serious consequences for their adult lives (ILO, 2017)

Child labour remains a major challenge for the Nepalese society. According to the National Living Standard Survey 20013/14, it was found that there were 1.83 million working children in Nepal. Based on the NLSS, it can be found that close to a million of working of the working children aged between 5 and 14 years were categorized as child labourers. According to The Rising Nepal "Out of an found 3.6 million child labourers, 32,000 children are involved in stone quarries, 72,000 are working in restaurants/teashops, 46,000 are serving as child porters, 17,000 in mechanical works and 60,000 children are employed in brick kilns," from concern N Nepal (ILO,2017).

Child labour is not new in Nepal, where it has been prevalent for many centuries, mostly in rural areas where it is perceived as part of the normal process of socialization. In the countryside, children have always worked, and continue to work, alongside their parents in the fields and at home. In fact, child labour is so deeply ingrained in rural society that it is often considered a wholly legitimate practice, with few people raising concerns about its effect on children's schooling and development. Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world where poverty is widespread in Nepal. Education is one of the fundamental means for all alleviating poverty and bringing improvement in the standard of living through different socio-economic activities. In 2015, adult literacy rate for Nepal was 64.7 %. Adult literacy rate of Nepal increased from 20.6 % in 1981 to 64.7 % in 2015 growing at an average annual rate of 34.70 %.the resolution implies that illiteracy rate should be reduced drastically to meet the target endorsed by national and international authorities (<https://knoema.com/atlas/>).

According to the annual household survey, out of the total population of 24.5 million, 52 percent consists of children below 18 years of age. Lack of fertile and irrigated land, illiterate large families, torment discrimination, present conflict problems and deprivation of education are some factors leading children and parents to urban areas in pursuit of economic opportunities and safer surroundings

(https://cbs.gov.np/annual-household-survey-2016_17).

In brick kiln sector, as in others, children work for a meager hard-earned sum as parents prefer their children to work at a tender age rather than enrolling them in schools. Child labour is not a new phenomenon in an agriculturally dominant country like Nepal. In farming society, children have played a significant role in the family subsistence. Fetching water, collecting firewood, grazing cattle, carrying after children and supporting parents in the fields are the most common works that children in the rural areas perform. In addition, mainly a family bread winner working as domestic servants in the homes of village, merchants. The migration of children to urban areas has been tremendously. Increasing these days and this has led to the increase of child labour in the urban areas. Industries like carpet, garments, and confectioneries. Brick kilns and stone quarries are employing many children as they are meek and uncomplaining and a cheap source of labour. The ratio of household and domestic child labour in Kathmandu is street children: mainly beggars, ragpickers, street vendors and workers in sweet shop restaurants and bars are also very squatter area has also very common in the cities. The rising number of slums and squatter areas has also contributed of the child labour population (June 13, 2017 of The Himalayan Times).

Kathmandu Valley has more than 750 brick kilns where more than 200,000 direct employees work every season. Mostly people from Kavre, Ramechhap, Rolpa, Dang and Sindhuli migrate seasonally for employment along with their children. According to the report, 'A rapid Assessment of Children in Brick Kilns of Kathmandu Valley,' conducted by Children Development Society, Kathmandu, from February 2017 to March 2017, 16 per cent children are employed as child labourers among the total 200,000 labourers at the Kilns. A total of 49 districts have been identified as worker-supplying districts (June 13, 2017 of The Himalayan Times).

Similarly, 32 per cent children and 68 per cent adults are residing on the premises of brick factories. As shown in the report, 17 per cent children are below five, 17 per cent children from 5 to 10 years, 18 per cent children from 10 to 15 years and 7 percent from the age 15 to 18 years are residing on the premises of brick kilns or nearby (June 13, 2017 of The Himalayan Times).

“Poverty is not always a major cause for the high drop-out of children from schools, who are working in brick kilns. The major reason is that they don't get an

environment to study and these results in lack of interest in studies. Twenty-two per cent children who are employed in brick factories are involved in some kind of work such as making bricks, carrying water or supporting the family by performing household chores etc,” said Kiran Thapa of Child Development Society, Kathmandu. According to the report, 53 per cent boys and 47 per cent girls from the age of 5 to 18 years are engaged in the brick kilns as labourers, while those above 16 years old work more than 12 hours a day. Eleven per cent children from the age 5 to 14 work for three hours a day while 2 per cent from the same age group work more than 12 hours a day (June 13, 2017 of The Himalayan Times).

1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

Child labor is one of the major issues in many parts of the world including Nepal. No one country has been free of these problems. Some developing countries has been try to out from these problems but the problem is still critical.

Nepal is one of the countries with a very high proportion of child labor. Out of the total child labor force, child labor in bricks kilns shares the remarkable portion in Nepal. An based on a “National survey on child labor in bricks kilns conducted by ILO Nepal in 20017” showed that there are 43,643 brick working children involved during the peak seasons of brick kilns production in Nepal (ILO,2017)..

In Nepal many programs have been attempted for their implementation through governmental and nongovernmental sectors to solve the problem of child labor. But the problem is increasing day by day. Nepal government has also made these types of works of children illegal without any provisions or alternative solutions for the rehabilitation of these working children and support for the families.

For solving the problem of the child labors, sufficient researches and appropriate actions should be undertaken and suitable strategies should be applied in sustainable way. In this regards, there are numerous studies and researches in the aspect of child labor however they are with very limited information and documentations. Hence this study has been round on the pivot of the causes consequences and effective measures of child labor, prevailed in bricks kilns which might be an analytical and evocative study to solve the problems of child labor especially in brick kilns. This study of brick

kiln working children not only illustrates the bleak picture of their day-to-day life but also offers pragmatic solutions at action levels child labor problem is increasing and could not solve by implementing the plan and policy in Saptari District. There are many problems and challenges on child labor in brick kilns in Saptari District. So, this study would address the following research questions such as:

- a) What are the facilities in brick factory for child labour?
- b) What kind of problems faced by the child labour in factory?
- c) What is the present condition of child labour in the study area?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of this study was to analyze the socio-economic condition of the child labourers in brick factories of Saptari district. The specific objectives of this study are:

- a) To describe the socio-economic background of child labour involved in brick factories.
- b) To assess working environment of child labour in the factory and identify the problem faced by them.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is significant in different ways such as to search the remedies of problem facing in this field, and policy makers of NGO/INGOS and civil society. It also helps to the national and international organizations that are interested to know about this field. Therefore, this study is typical in present situation. More over this study is except to provide accurate information on child labour, which might be helpful, those who are interested to conduct in this field in future.

1.5 Organization of the Study

This study is divided into five chapters. The first chapter is concerned with introduction of the study dealing with the objectives statement of the problem as well as importance of the study. Chapter two deals with the review of literature relating child labour in the hotels/restaurants. The literatures are taken from relevant books,

study reports, journals and seminar papers relating to the child labour. The third chapter contains the research methods of the study. In this chapter method of data collection, sample size, research design, selection of study area and limitations of the study have been explained. The fourth chapters, consists of data presentation and analysis such as socio-economic characteristics, family background, working condition, environment of the child labourers, income profile and health status. These data show the profile of the child labours in terms of their age, sex caste/ethnicity and place of residence wage. These two chapters are the key part of the study. Finally, chapter five summarizes the major findings of the study as well as conclusions. References cited and annexes are also presented in the end.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Review of the Previous Study

Institute for labor studies (1994), states that the notion of ‘childhood’ is not a unidirectional concept. Rather it is a social –historical construct which can be linked to the economic life of a culture or society. In general, however, childhood is taken to mean a period of dependency of younger members on the older members of a family or kin group”. Child labor is considered as those who go outside the household and under any type of contact with the employer (Johnson, 1995).

Child labor has been one of the critical and crucial issues in many parts of the world including Nepal for a long time. It is universal phenomenon that no country has been free from the problems related to child labor. However there is reviving a worldwide attention on controlling the problems of child labor in recent years, the condition of child laborers has been still critical. Many of the socio-economic researchers have studied on child labor issues in different countries of the world. Their findings can be generally obtained in various internationally recognized books, research papers, seminar papers, reports, journals and articles. But the studies on child labor conducted in Nepal are very few in number (ILO, 2017).

International definitions for child labor remain somewhat vague as the specificities are often defined through national laws and local contexts. Greater clarity is offered by the distinction the ILO provides between child labor and child work. Whereas child work can reap positive results, child labor impedes a child’s education and is dangerous or harmful mentally, physically, socially, or Whether or not a specific job qualifies as “work” or “labor” depends on “the child’s age, the type and hours of work performed, the conditions under which it is performed and the objectives pursued by individual countries (ILO, 2017).”

According to the UN convention on the Right of child (CRC) a child means every human being below the age of 18 years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier (UNICEF,2014).

International labor Conventions do not define the child but make a distinction between “children”, who are persons under the age of 15 years who, in general, are not authorized to work, and “adolescents” or “young workers”, who are persons under the age of 18 years who are authorized to work in certain conditions. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child defines a child as “Every human beings below the age of 18 years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier (ILO, 2017).

“When the business of wage earning or of participation in self or family supports conflicts directly or indirectly with the business of growth and education, the result is child labor. The function of work in childhood is primarily development and not economic. Children ‘s work then as a social good, and it is the direct antithesis of child labor as a social evil” (Kuper and Suwal, 2014).

Child labor is product of capitalism and the technology it creates. And it leads to the profit maximization of producer. Karl Marx argued that the new technologies increases the demand for cheap unskilled woman and child labor and decrease rate of profit led the capitalist to increase their exploitation in labor In its most extreme forms, child labor involves children being enslaved, separated from their families, exposed to serious hazards and illness and /or left to fend for themselves on the streets of large cities-often at a very early age. Whether or not particular forms of “work” can be called ‘child labor’s age, the type and hours of work performed the conditions under which it is performed and the objective pursued by individual countries. The answer various from country to country, as well as among sector within countries (ILO, 2017).

In the context of Nepal, Children ACT (first amendment) 1992 and labor ACT 1992 the group of people under the age of 16 year is known as children. According to this law, persons below 14 years of age are strictly prohibited to work as labor but the children of age between 14 to 16years can work only when they get facility like less working hours (6 hours per day then 36 hours per week). In this way, they work 3hours continuously; they must get rest for a half an hour (cited by NLSS, 2010).

UNDP,(2010) evaluated the economic value of children of their parents engaged in agricultural farming by using data collected from village India. This study recognized and evaluated the inter link among the individual of households. The results revealed that smaller children are fewer participants in economic activity in their family enterprises. It is also concluded that low productivity of labor in agriculture farming of small land holders leads to prefer for son's education to prepare them to join urban labor force in future. For the children in the age of development and beyond that age, there is desire of parent to out migrate them to cities for better employment. It was also found that the families with greater demand for labor receive fewer benefits from children as compare to the other group of families, which is country to the other studies.

Pradhan (2008) in his book has stated that child labor is a worldwide and growing phenomenon in today's world. According to this book some of the underlying causes of child labor are poverty, insufficient or unbalanced economic growth and in some cases structural adjustment policies of concerned sectors, inequitable income distribution (no general adult access to employment). The book further connotes that poverty is not only the cause for the existence of child labor; deficiencies in the educational system, inadequate regulation to restrict child labor, ineffective enforcement of relevant legislation and lack of public awareness are also contributing factors.

Nasim (2008) has stated that most child labors come from poor families in South Asia like in other parts of the world. However, poverty is not the only reason for children work, nor it is as central as many people think. Recent studies that examined the poverty role in child labor revealed the factors such as education being low on the parent priority list, especially in case of girls and low standard education systems contribute equally to child labors instead of the poverty alone. Poor parent, illiteracy, socio-economic scenarios, poor education infrastructure, low awareness levels, high percentage of adult employment and under-employment are amongst the child generating factors.

Imran and Meerza (2011) argued that child labor was mainly necessitated by economic compulsions of the parents in many case of the children. They found children were working under hazardous condition such as mining, auto repair, battery

recharging, saw milling, welding, rickshaw pulling, garment manufacturing and working with dangerous machinery. It is clear from their study that child labor had higher probability to create negative impact on future life. They have concluded that tragically most of child lost life due to child labor. They recommended that government should take actions against child labor in Bangladesh and both government and non government organization should work together to eliminate child labor.

Saha (2008) presented overall situation of child labors in various sector. According to his study, children have had to work help their families in Nepal but in recent year urban migration fuelled by rural poverty. An informal labor industry is now operation which supplies city business with a cheap work force. The study found that there are 5.7 million children working in one or other form in Nepal. The study describes unequal land distribution system, illiteracy, feudal practices, cultural traditions and poverty as the major cause to create problems of the child labor in Nepal. It describes the magnitude and extent of the labor problem. It discusses major cause and roots of child labor and the efforts put by different government and non-government organization including the children's act introduced in 1992. While identifying major sectors of child labors.

Saha (2008), a journalist has given an account of different type of child labor in Nepal. According to him, children in Nepal are employed in ten different types of work, including agriculture, manufacturing, cottage, industries plantation, domestic works, catering, selling manual labor, tourism and prostitution. They work as rag picker, shoeshine boys, tempo conductor, street hawker, porters and beggars. Furthermore he has found that the traditional control of elites over the rural poor is evolving into control over migrant workers in the new urban industries. This has encouraged the evolution of moneylenders into labor brokers who entrap desperate people into indebtedness. Similarly, he has suggested to the government, INGOs, NGOs, Lawyers, media, trade unions and international fund bodies for enforcement and implementation of child labor laws in different ways.

Pradhan (2008) states that child labor exploitation is a reflection of the social-economic reality of the country which is also a consequence of the feudal land holding system, which is still a better reality of many third world countries. He has

taken research report to analyze the problems of child labor against the background of rural migration and urbanization. It has been pointed out that prime cause of child labor in Nepal was the social recognition as a way of life in our society. Poverty, starvation and deprivation were obvious key factors that have contributed to growing number of children in the exploitative labor market. This study reveals that most parents are poor in rural areas. They send their children in urban to work not only an additional income, but also to reduce the number of hungry stomachs. Thus, child labor is a cause and effect of the exploitation socio-economic and political structure of the world.

Suwal *et al.*, (2010) concludes that about 2.3 million children in Nepal regularly work, which is 36.7% of the total children aged 5-14 years, 23.7 % (1.3 millions) participate into the economic activities. The higher work participation rate of children is found in mountain zone (46.2%) and it is lowest in the terai (36.6 %). The proportion of children working in rural areas is 41.4% which is just double than corresponding figure for urban children (22%). Western Development region shows the lowest work participation rate where as Mid-Western region (42.4%) and Far Western region (47.7%).

CONCERN Nepal (2010) has conducted a national survey entitled “Child Labor in Stone Quarries” with the objective of understanding the situation of children in their workplaces, advocating the improvement of these situations and determining alternative ways to fulfill their rights to education and development. This study is the outcome of 208 stone quarry children interviewed through structured questionnaire and more than 400 children are observed working 14 districts of Nepal. It is found that there are at least 32,000 children working in 1,600 quarries throughout the country. Despite large numbers of children working in stone quarries, it has not yet been brought to the national agenda of child labor in Nepal.

Gaire (2009) stated that in Nepal, major causes of child labors are enumerated as mass poverty, illiteracy, kamaiya system, feudal rule, influence of village elite, money lenders, unemployment and under employment, family disruption, food security, urban attraction and violence in family among many others as the new research may reveal in the future

Brick kilns are one of the fastest growing industries in Nepal on account of rapid urbanization. The brick kilns of Kathmandu valley alone are reported to have 2,500 children aged 9-14 years employed in various finds of production activity,

Dhital (2008) states that in an average brick kilns, there would be 40-50 working families and most of them have children who assist their parents in work as well as in cooking, washing and looking after the younger siblings.

ILO,(2017) Brick making is not the only job the children do. In fact many of them are involved in loading and carrying the bricks up to the kiln. It is mostly the 12-14 year olds who are involved in this job. The children work for 10-12 hours a day carrying bricks on their back to the kilns. Besides this, the child workers are also involved in taking the bricks out from the hot kilns and in filling-in or smoothing out the pits and trenches after the brick making season. They are indeed exposed to hazardous condition in dealing with the hot kilns.

Dhital, (2010) The average earning of a child worker comes to Rs 10 a day. Among the 33 wage-earning children, 60% did not direct access to their wages, it belonged to their parents. Those who were paid directly saved as much as they could so that they could give the money to their parents. Thus all the children were supporting their families. The working children had neither means of recreation nor any work for education. Out of the 33 children interviewed 11 were literate, 8 were primary drop-out and 7 were still to be enrolled in school. These school going children accompanied their parents in the work place for six months of the year and while at home they were involved in household cores and work in the farm. The environment in the brick kilns as stated by Dhital is conducive for a healthy existence because the entire area is full of dust and the workers have to inhale the fine particles constantly.

Sainju (2008) has found that there are almost 59,000 child laborers in Nepal, which is about 34% of total labor force, are working in brick kilns. Brick kilns are mostly confined to Kathmandu valley due to the appropriate soil for making bricks, rapid growth of population so that cheap labor could be obtained, unbalanced urbanization in recent years. In Kathmandu valley, almost 90% of the child workers are from outside districts. Male child workers dominate in this sector which occupying 66% of the total child labor force.

2.2 Legal Provision on Child Labour

2.2.1 National Perceptive

The constitution of the kingdom of Nepal is a fundamental law of the country and all laws inconsistent with it, shall to the extent of such inconsistency, be void. According to Nepal constitution (1990), the labour act was adopted in 1992. Following this, the labour rules were amended in 1993. The children's act was enacted in 1992 by addressing UNCRC 1990. The common law code of 1963, the foreign employment act of 1985, and the human trafficking control act of 1986 also restrict the use of child labour and protect the healthy development of children. The labour act, 1992 and the labour rules 1993.

The current labour act prohibits the employment of children under the age of 14 years and provided various safe guards to minors (at least age of 14 but less than 18 years old) children are minor and prohibited from operating dangerous machinery hazardous to health, maximum weight of load to be carried by a minor as, minor males (16-18 years) 25 kg ,minor females (16-18 years) 20 kg and minor males or female (14-16 years) 15 kg doing night duties (between 6 pm and 6 am) and working more than 6 hours a day or 36 hours a week. It also sets a minimum wage for children.

Legislative Structure

The interim constitution of Nepal 2007, explicitly states in article 22 that 'every child shall have the right against physical, mental or any other form of exploitation. Such exploitative act shall be punishable by laws any child so treated shall be given such compensation as may be determined by law and minor shall be employed to work in any factory, mine or engaged in any similar other hazardous work or used in army, police or conflict' This overarching legal framework, the constitution and related laws therefore prohibits child labour in Nepal.

The Children Act, 1992 and Child Rules, 1995

The Children's Act 1992 was issued to safeguard the interest of the children and contains a number of provisions on child labour. The act defines a child to be a human being below the age of 16 years and states that a child who has not attained the

age of 14 years shall not be employed in any work as labourer against his will The act further prohibits engaging a child in work, which is likely to harmful to his health or hazardous to his life.

The children's Rules (1995) prescribe the functions of the central child welfare Board and the District child welfare Boards. The functions of the Central Child Welfare Board include the following:

- i) To submit to Nepal Government a long term policy and plan for the protection of the rights of children and for their physical and mental development.
- ii) To approve, implement and review an annual programme of action.
- iii) To formulate the policy and the plan for mobilization of resources required for the annual programmers.
- iv) To guide the district child welfare Boards.
- v) To arrange for the preparation and maintenance of a list of children in each district who are crippled monthly handicapped orphans or who are in jail or are in the labour market (through the district child welfare Board).
- vi) To identify effective measures to end child labour, child marriage, child sacrifice and to encourage governmental and non-governmental agencies to implement the measures.
- vii) To assists and encourage national and international non-governmental organizations, foreign governments and international agencies to undertake activities for the protection and development of children.

Apart from the specific function already indicated relating to the regulation of employment of children, the District child welfare Board has other functions similar to those of the central child welfare Board at the district level (cited in ILO, 1995).

2.2.2 Nepal's International Commitments

On 14th September 1990 Nepal has ratified the convention on the rights of the child adopted on 20th November 1989 by the UN General assembly. Similarly, HMG Nepal endorsed the declaration on the survival, protection and development of children and undertook to “work for special protection of the working child and for the abolition of illegal child labour” of the world summit for children held at the United Nations in

New York on 29-30th September 1990. As a member of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC), Nepal has signed the Colombo Resolution. In accordance with this resolution, Nepal Government of Nepal is obliged to work for the following goals.

- a) Basic education; Access to and enrolment in primary education for at least 80 percent of boys and 75 percent of girls and completion of primary education by at least 50 percent of girls as well as boys by 1995.
- b) Progressive and accelerated elimination of child labour.

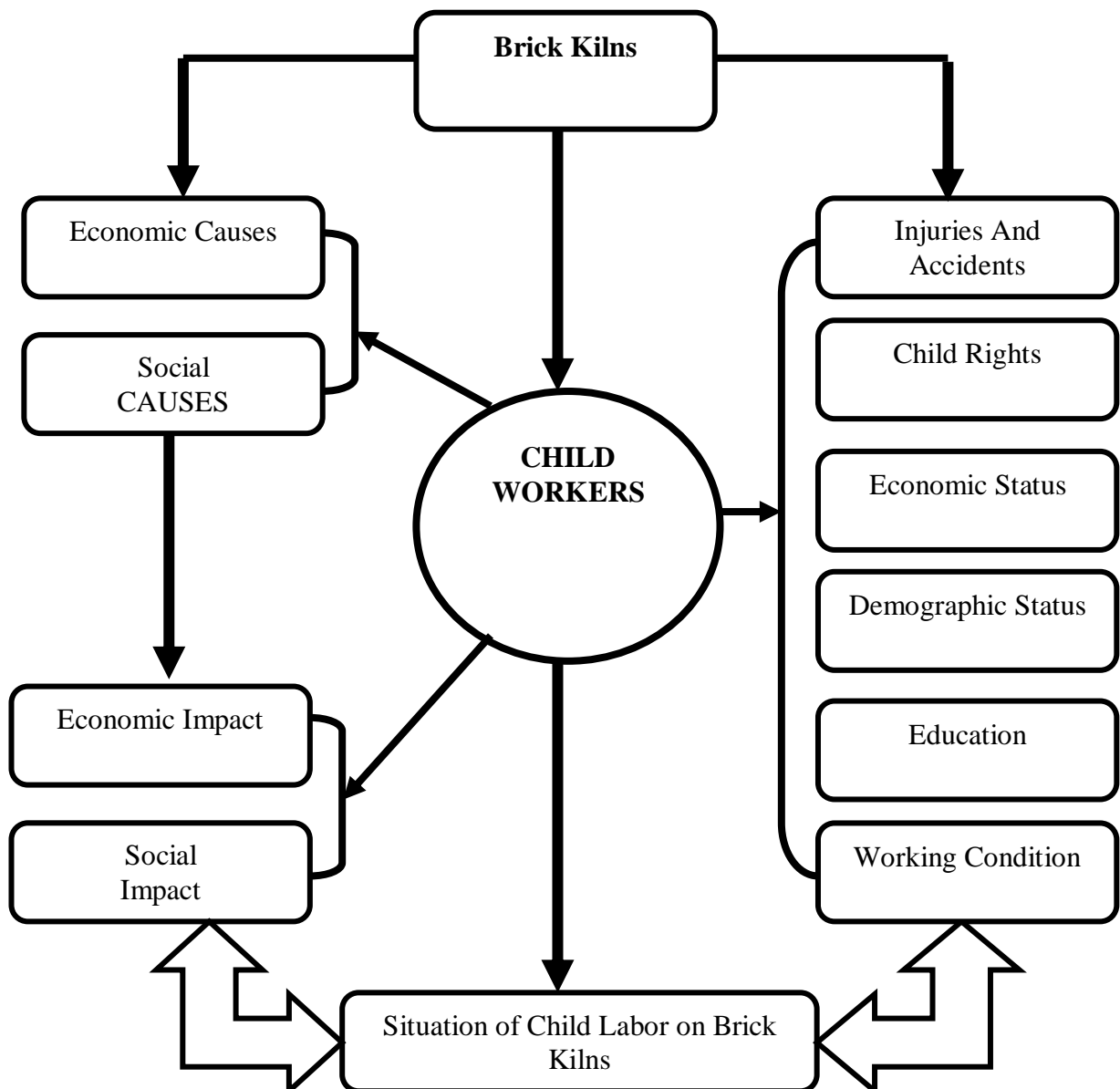
The 3years interim plan (2007-2010) carried on the issue with the consolidated aim of making child rights issues through the *“making effective legal, policy, institutional and operational efforts to protect and promote child rights”* and proposed the implementation of policies *“to create a child-friendly environment and to put an end to all kinds of discriminations and exploitation against children.”* the plan envisaged to define children by age and necessary legal, policy and institutional arrangement to place in effect to free them from all kinds of torture, abductions and discriminations (NPC 2007:56).

On accepting child labour as a multi-dimensional issue the current 3 years interim Plan (2011-2013) viewed it is the main responsibility of the state to combat child labour. It recognized the need for joint effort between government and national and international non-governmental organizations, organization, local government bodies ,civil societies and private sectors to achieve this. Accordingly, the government of Nepal has made national and international commitments to combat the worst forms of child labour by 2016 and forms of child labour by 2020. Long terms cession and objectives taken by the plan include *‘combat all forms of child labour And guarantee the rights of worst forms of child labour(NPC,2011:73-74).*

Although such various studies by various all made but factual problem of child labour and their problem has not been solved. So this study tries to go in deep to find the child labour problem, which will be advantageous, or policy maker and researchers.

2.3 Conceptual Framework

The study focused mainly to the sociological causes and impact of child labour. Brick kilns as major source of respondents, five major variables were taken. Based on these five variables the study tried to locate situation of child labour in brick kilns sociologically.



The study exercised focusing on the brick kilns of Saptari district, the child workers in those brick industries were taken as respondents. Their reason to work in those industries and their impact are being analyzed through the situational analysis of the variables like economic, demographic status, education and so on as shown in the figure above. As per the conflict theories developed by Karl Marx, they are the

perspectives in sociology that emphasizes inequality of social group. Child labour brings an inequality among the same age group of children. Conflict theories draw attention to power differentials, such as class conflict, and generally contrast historically dominant ideologies. Therefore the difference between the living standard of a family creates conflict in a circle of people living around. So, the researcher wanted to investigate on the issue of child labour in Saptari district based on the variables mentioned above in the diagram.

CHAPTER- III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter deals with the techniques which are applied for this study. It describes research design, selection of the study, and general introduction of the study area, and sources of the data, sample size, tools of data collection (interview, observation and case studies) and method of data analysis.

3.1 Selection of the Study Area

Due to rapidly growing construction process in real estates, the demand of Brick has been increased in a dramatic way these days. Saptari a part of Province No. 2, is one of the seventy-five districts of Nepal. Its district headquarter is Rajbiraj. This district covers an area of 1,363 km² and has a population (2011) of 639,284 which makes it the 10th most populated district of Nepal. Saptari is renowned for its agricultural output, and is bordered on the east by the massive Sapta Koshi river. there are nine municipalities in Saptari: Dakneshwori, Rajbiraj, Bodebarsain, Hanumannagar Yoginimai, Kanchanrup, Saptakoshi, surunga, Shambhunath and Khadak. Other small towns include Mahuli, Kathauna Bazar, Pato and Itahari Bishnupur with the area government "Machha Palan Kendra" fish farming centre. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saptari_District)

The famous Chhinnamasta temple is one of the shakti peeths and Kankalini Temple are also located in Saptari District. Various local and national newspapers and intellectuals have requested the Nepal government act swiftly and punish all those who are involved in corruption and delay in infrastructure creation so that the work can start as soon as possible. Most of the brick industries are situated in the Saptari district, where a lot of child workers are engaged in brick making activities, which are from the different places around Nepal and India too due to low economic status. It is the most hazardous work especially for children and exploits their childhood. Thus, Saptari district is specially chosen as the research site to observe the prevalence and situation of child labor in brick kiln industries.

3.2 Research Design

The research design of the study is based on descriptive model. Descriptive design has been adopted to describe the personal experience of child labour. At the same time the researcher has tried to explore the overall socio- economic situation and problem of child labour in brick factory.

3.3 Universe of Analysis, Sampling Strategy and Sample Size

Here, total brick kilns in Saptari district were taken as the population for this study. There were 86 brick kilns in Saptari district. Among them only four brick kilns were selected as the sample population of the study to obtain the necessary information; and all the children working in the four brick kilns were selected by the census method and interviewed directly. So the sample size was delimited within 48 children for the study. The sample size and total population of children working were as follows:

Name of Brick Kilns	Total Population	Sample Size
Savnam Itta Udyog	16	16
Bijay Itta Udyog	8	8
Chinn Masta Itta Tiles Udyog	9	9
New Kapoor Itta Udyog	15	15

3.4 Nature and Sources of Data

Both qualitative and quantitative data was collected and used. The data will be collected using both primary sources. The main source of data was child labour of brick kilns of Saptari district. Primary data was collected by using interview schedule among the selected child labor.

3.5 Data Collection Techniques

The structured questionnaire was used to collect basic information about child labour in brick kiln industries in Saptari district. The interview schedule was prepared in terms of personal identification and population structure like family characteristics, age, sex, caste, work experience, attitude towards work etc. At first the researcher

visited to the head of selected brick kilns, described about the objective of the research and requested to provide essential time and necessary help to administrate the interview among the respondents children after that the researcher joined harmonious relationship with the selected child labours who are below the aged of 18 years and administered the interviewed individually.

3.6 Data Presentation and Analysis

After completing field work, the collected data was scrutinized. The completed questionnaire was entered into the computer immediately after editing and coding. Then these computed data was again be presented in the table for the explanation. As discussed on research design, the data was analyzed following simple descriptive using frequency tables, summary statistics- mean, percentage. Simple one way and multiple way frequency tables will be generated and analyzed accordingly.

3.7 Limitation of the Study

This study was limited at Saptari district, which was studied among 48 child labour of 4 brick factories. Nutrition of the respondents was considered in this study, similarly other psychological components were not considered in this study.

CHAPTER- IV

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

This chapter deals on the socio-economic conditions, working environment, factors that are responsible to produce child workers and analyses the possible measures for solving the problems of child labor, based on the primary data from brick kiln child workers of Saptari District. The detailed study has been attempted to present on the headings and sub-headings as given below:

4.1 Social and Demographic Characteristics of Brick Kiln Child Labors

The socio-economic condition of child laborers as presented below help us to understand different issues related to the child labors and their family status. This analysis also presents different aspects of child laborers related to their life and life style. The study analyses the family status with their education, working condition, pushing and pulling factors and many others perspectives of being child labor in brick kilns.

As the Brick Kiln child labors, children have to do all kinds of works such as brick molding, carrying bricks field to Kiln, Kiln to Pile, drying and many more. Their labor is normally hired their labor cost is low in comparison to adult and in some cases they are not paid also.

4.1.1 Profile of Child Labors

This section deals with the demographic characteristics of the brick kiln child laborers. The analysis includes universal size with sex composition working in four bricks kilns of Saptari.

Out of four industries surveyed, actually the sample frame for child labor adopted in this study has been formed purposively as shown in the Table 4.1.

Table 1: Child Labor Sample Population in Four Different Brick Kiln Industries

Kiln	Number of Child Labors				Total	
	Boys		Girls			
	No	Percent	No	Percent	No	Percent
1	12	33.3	4	33.3	16	33.3
2	10	27.8	4	33.3	14	29.2
3	9	25.0	2	16.7	11	22.9
4	5	13.9	2	16.7	7	14.6
Total	36	75.0	12	25.0	48	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

Above table shows that the total population of the child labours in four selected brick kilns, where 25 percent girl labour was found in study area. The researcher took all the children working in the sampled brick kiln where, the number of boys was found to be higher than girls. It is found that 75 percent of the respondents were boys and remaining 25 percent were girls.

It can be concluded that boys are able to stay far from their home than girls in study area and they can do hard labor than girls due to the biological and sociological factor.

4.1.2 Age and Sex Composition of Child Labors

Those brick kiln children who are under the age of 18 are selected as respondents for this study. Children (less than 14 years of age) or minor (14-18 years of age) are engaged in greater extent that differ the degree of vulnerability of children because they differ significant growth deficit due to heavy work burden. Actually, the proportion of children involved in brick kiln industries varied with age and sex of the children.

Table 2: Distribution of Child Labors by Age Group

Age Group	Number of child labors				Total	
	Boys		Girls			
	No	Percent	No	Percent	No	Percent
6-9 years	3	8.3	1	8.3	4	8.3
10-13 years	12	33.3	3	25.0	15	31.2
14-18 years	21	58.3	8	66.7	29	60.4
Total	36	75.0	12	25.0	48	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

The table above shows that children below 10 years are also working on those brick kilns. Although, the number of children age grouped 14-18 were found to be higher in number, the number of girls were higher in this age group than boys.

4.1.3 Ethnic Group of Child Labors

Children migrated from various parts of the country with different castes following different cultures seem to be engaged in brick killing industries. Maximum number of child labors working there are from the backward community with low literacy rate and unemployment. The following table shows the distribution of labors according to their casts.

Table 3: Distribution of Child Labors According to their Castes

S.N	Casts	No of Child Labors				Total	
		Boys		Girls			
		No	Percent	No	Percent	No	Percent
1	Khan	9	25.0	1	8.33	10	20.38
2	Chamar	7	19.44	3	25.0	10	20.83
3	Yadav	6	16.66	2	16.67	8	16.67
4	Dholi	4	11.11	2	16.67	6	12.5
5	Badhahi	2	5.55	1	8.33	3	6.25
6	Pasi	3	8.33	-	-	-	-
7	Others	5	13.88	3	25.0	8	16.67
	Total	36	75.0	12	25.0	48	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

The study area is located around southern border to India, this may be the reason that the number of Khan were found to be higher in number. And Chamar, Dholi, Yadav are the economically marginalized group in Nepal working in those brick kilns since many years.

4.1.4 Medium of Migration

Due to different reasons, child labors arrive in brick kilns. Some of them come with parents, relatives and friends where as some by self from their houses. The Table 4 shows how child laborers arrive in Brick kilns.

Table 4: Distribution of Child Labors According to their Medium of Migration with Respect to their Age and Sex

Medium of Migration	Age (years)			Sex		Total
	6-9	10-13	14-17	Boys	Girls	
	No/ Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
Parents	2 (18.2)	6 (54.5)	3 (27.3)	6 (54.5)	5 (45.5)	11 (22.9)
Relatives	-	2 (40.0)	3 (60.0)	4 (80.0)	1 (20.0)	5 (10.4)
Friends	1 (7.1)	5 (35.7)	8 (57.1)	11 (78.6)	3 (21.4)	14 (29.2)
Alone	1 (5.6)	2 (11.1)	15 (83.3)	15 (83.3)	3 (16.7)	18 (37.5)
Total	4 (8.3)	15 (31.2)	29 (60.4)	36 (75.0)	12 (25.0)	48 (100.0)

Source: Field Survey 2018

The table above shows, majority 18 (37.5%) of the child laborers are self coming in the Brick kilns. Accordingly, some of the children have to face very difficult environment at their homes as they have to till in others' land but difficult to even manage *mouth to hand*. Then they search the urban working places and reach to the brick kilns. So, this table also shows that the large numbers of the total child workers are self coming in brick kilns. Similarly, 11(22.9%) of the child laborers is influenced by their parents and come with them in the Brick kilns and 5 (10.4%) prevent have come with relatives.

4.1.5 Reasons for Leaving Home

Children do not want to leave their home without any compelling reasons. There are different socio-economic factors that influence and push them to leave their own village or home. Generally parents and family are responsible to provide the basic needs of children such as food, shelter, clothing, schooling and affections. When children are deprived of those basic needs, they are bound to leave home and are more likely to be engaged in the most hazardous and the worst forms of child labor. In some instances the child itself is responsible for leaving home.

Table 5: Distribution of Child Labors according to Reasons for Leaving Home by Age and Sex

Reasons	Age (years)			Sex		Total
	6-9	10-13	14-17	Boys	Girls	
	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
Poverty	2(50.0)	746.7)	1551.7)	16(44.4)	8(66.7)	24(50.0)
For employment	-	6(40.0)	10(34.5)	14(38.9)	2(16.7)	16(33.3)
For better Life	-	2(13.3)	-	2(5.6)	-	2(4.2)
Others	2(50.0)	-	4(13.8)	4(11.1)	2(16.7)	6(12.5)
Total	4(8.3)	15(31.2)	29(60.4)	36(75.0)	12(25.0)	48(100.0)

Source: Field Survey 2018

After observing above table it is concluded that the poverty is the major reason for children who are involved in laborious work where 50 percent children were leaved the home by that cause. Educational status of these people are poor and to uplift their living standard the respondents were found to be involved in these type of laborious tasks since their childhood.

4.1.6 Family's Economic Status

Generally, socio-economic status of family plays vital role in the process of socialization and overall development of children. In this section, the parental occupation, family income, reason of family disruption and other family

characteristics that clearly glimpse the economic and demographic characteristics of the child laborers are closely analyzed.

4.1.7 Parental Occupation

The parental occupation of child labors is not only limited in agriculture but also in various other activities like domestic servant, minor business etc for their survival. The Table 6 shows the parental occupation of child laborers.

Table 6: Parental Occupation of the Respondents

S.N.	Parental Occupation	Number of child labors	Percent
1	Agriculture	13	27.1
2	Domestic Servant	22	45.8
3	Business	4	8.3
4	Services	3	6.2
5	Others	6	12.5
Total		48	(100.0)

Source: Field Survey 2018

The socio economic status of the family depends on the occupation of the household head. The occupation of the family determines their economic status so every children is supposed to bear the same life standard of their parents. So in this study most of the children belongs to marginalized families so they were compelled to chose such laborious occupation since their childhood.

4.1.8 Housing and Basic Amenities

Usually, workers live in thatched huts (Jhupadi) made off raw or backed bricks, straw and tin sheets with poor housing infrastructures and very few having the minimum basic amenities like electricity and drinking water.

Table 7: Distribution of Child Workers by their Housing and Basic Amenities

S.N.	Housing	Number of child labors	Percent
1	Jupadi	42	87.5
2	Kachee	6	12.5
3	Pakee	-	-
	Total	48	100.0
Basic amenities			
i)	Sources of water		
	Hand pump	40	83.7
	Others	8	16.3
	Total	48	100.0
ii)	Electricity		
	Yes	10	20.8
	No	38	79.2
	Total	48	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

The Table 7 shows that most of the children i.e. 42(87.5%) are reported to have lived in Jupadi and only 6(12.5%) in Pakee. Similarly, most of the children 40 (83.3%) of total child laborers got hand pumps as a source of drinking water (mostly using public hand pump) and 8(16.7%) children got others sources of water and hence data concludes they have deprived of even safe drinking water. Similarly regarding the electricity facilities majority of the respondents 38 (79.2%) reported being deprived of electricity facilities at their home.

4.1.9 Landholding Patterns

Among of the brick kilns laborers 27.1% of total laborers are from agricultural background, as shown in the Table 4.5. Moreover, the families dependent on traditional agriculture have small scale of land for farming and are compelled to send their children to urban areas for employment.

Table 8: Distribution of Child Labors by Availability of Land Holding Patterns

Description	Availability			
	Yes		No	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Agriculture land	15	31.50	33	68.80

Source: Field Survey 2018

The above table shows that most of the parents of the child labour hadn't cultivated land where 68.80 percent answered.

After analyzed the above data, it is concluded that the respondents belong to marginalized economic group so it is obvious that they might not have their own agricultural land to cultivate. As presented in the table above, the respondents were compelled to work in those brick kilns for employment.

4.1.10 Educational Status of Child Labors

Education is the basic foundation for human development. With the pace of social changes in modern society, the door of opportunities can only be opened with the development of education. Now, the world is changing to the global village. In Nepal, there are many uneducated people (46% are illiterate) therefore the country could not develop smoothly in every sector. Mostly, the underprivileged groups such as child.

Table 9: Distribution of Child Labor by Educational Status

S.N	Educational status	Number of child labors					
		Boys		Girls		Total	
		No	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Literate	11	68.8	5	31.2	16	33.3
2	Illiterate	25	78.1	7	21.9	32	66.7
Total		36	75.0	12	25.0	48	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

The Table 9 shows that significant proportion of child labors 32 (66.7 %) are totally illiterate and only 16 (33.3 %) are literate. Among the literate children, the percentage of boys 11 (68.8%) is higher than that of girls 5 (31.2%). This reflects that the discrimination towards girls children in educational attainment.

After analyzed the above data it was found that most of the child labour are bounded by education due to the careless of their parents and poverty.

Table 10: Distribution of Child Labor by their Level of Education

S.N.	Level of Education	Number of Child Labors				Total	
		Boys		Girls		No.	Pr.
		No	Pr.	No.	Pr.		
1	Primary	6	66.7	3	33.3	9	56.25
2	Lower secondary	4	66.7	2	33.3	6	37.5
3	Secondary	1	100.0	-	-	1	6.25
	Total	11	68.8	5	31.2	16	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

After analyzing the above data most of the respondents have completed primary level of education within literate respondents but it was found very low number respondents in secondary level education.

Thus the education is more important day by day. But, it is very bitter that many people from the underdeveloped country like Nepal are deprived of getting the opportunity of education. Thus, they are illiterate, less skilled and poor in human development.

4.1.11 Causes of Not Going to School

A great number of Nepalese children don't have access to educational facilities. Both direct and indirect cost of schooling highly affects education of children due to poverty of family. Except it, there are actually various socio-economic and other factors which determine the schooling of children. For children working in Brick

kilns of Saptari district surveyed, major reason for never attending school and dropped out has been revealed in the Table 4.11.

Table 11: Distribution of Child Labor by the Causes of Not Going to School

S.N.	Causes of not going to School	Number of child labors					
		Boys		Girls		Total	
		No.	Pr.	No.	Pr.	No.	Pr.
1	Poverty	11	44.0	6	85.7	17	53.1
2	Negligence of Parents	5	20.0		-	5	15.6
3	No response	2	8.0	1	14.3	3	9.6
3	Family disturbance	5	20.0		-	5	15.6
4	Others	2	8.0		-	2	6.2
	Total	25	100.0	7	100.0	32	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

The Table 11 shows that most of the girls children 6(85.7%) and boy children 11(44%) working in Brick Kilns reported poverty as the main reason of non schooling. In sum, due to poverty 53.1%, negligence of parents 15.6%, family disturbances 15.6%, no response 9.6% and other reasons 6.2% reported as a reason for not going school.

After analyzing the above data poverty and unawareness among parents were found major factors for not sending their children to school.

4.1.12 Child Rights

The issue of child right has been a national agenda for the last couple of decades. However, these child workers are not aware of their rights nor their parents are know-how on it. Thus, there is the high chance of child right violation in the factories.

Table 12: Distribution of Child Labor on the Basis of Knowledge in Child Rights

Knowledge of child rights	Age (years)			Sex		Total
	6-9	10-13	14-17	Boys	Girls	
	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
Yes	-	5(33.3)	11(37.9)	12(33.3)	3(25.0)	15(31.25)
No	4(100.0)1	10(66.7)	18(62.1)	24(66.7)	9(75.0)	33(68.75)
Total	4	15	29	36	12	48/100.0
Eager to know about child rights			No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
Yes	2 (50.0)	11(73.3)	16(55.2)	21 (58.3)	8 (66.7)	29(60.4)
No	2 (50.0)	4 (26.7)	19(44.8)	15 (41.7)	4 (33.3)	19(39.6)
Total	4	15	29	36	12	48/100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

During the field survey, the entire respondents were asked about the knowledge of the child rights. Since the respondents for the study were children the researcher involved this question in the questionnaire. Calculating the result the researcher found that most of the respondents were unknown about child rights due to low educational status of the respondents. According to the respondents they have seen the workers of child rights but they still not known about the child rights. The company owners are also not found to care about the child rights.

4.2 Working Condition

The bitter reality is that children are continuously pushed to high risks job in bricks kilns. They are especially involved in molding, carrying and piling the bricks. They are comparatively low paid that means their wage rate is lower than other seniors. Thus, this chapter examines the working environment, income, activities and facilities obtained by children. This analysis mainly focuses on working hours, types of work, earning status and medical facilities. In the bricks kilns, all the children work more than 12 hours a day but their payment is very much nominal which is on piece-rate basis. It is found that children in the brick kilns work in dirty and suffocating environment.

4.2.1 Nature Work

The Child laborers are engaged in various activities, such as molding, carrying and drying the bricks and similarly piling and loading the bricks. Data indicates that mostly boys were engaged in carrying and loading works. The children who are trained are involved in filling up the sack because it requires technical skills. These all works are drudgeries for children thus the children seem vulnerable in the brick kilns. The types of work children are involved are as follows.

Table 13: Distribution of Child Labors by the Nature of Work by Age

Types of work	Age (years)			Sex		Total
	6-9	10-13	14-17	Boys	Girls	
				No / Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
Brick molding	1	4	12	13 (76.50)	4 (23.50)	17(35.40)
Carrying Brick to the Kiln	-	5	12	13 (76.50)	4(23.50)	17(35.40)
Loading the dried bricks in the truck from kilns	-	6	5	8 (72.70)	3(27.30)	11(22.90)
Others	3	-	-	2(66.70)	1(33.30)	3(6.20)
Total	4	15	29	36	12	48

Source: Field Survey 2018

The task performed by the respondents was according to their capacity and physical ability. The task assigned to them seems reasonable as per their age and physical ability. Through the prospective of sociology the task assigned to them seems reasonable.

4.2.2 Working Hour

According to child labor Act 2000 of Nepal, the working hours for children are limited to 6 hours a day and 36 hours a week, but their provision is not applicable for children in brick kilns because this can't sustain their minimum level of livelihood due to piece-basis wage rate system if they work less than 6 hours a day. Some of the child workers involved in bricks molding stated that they wake up as early as 3/4 am to dig and knead mud making sufficient for the whole day, and work continuously

till 7/8 pm. In this study, it is tried to capture the working hour of child worker involved in brick kilns which is presented in the Table 4.13.

Table 14: Distribution of Child Labor According to Working Hours

Duration	Age (years)			Sex		Total
	6-9	11-13	14-17	Boys	Girls	
	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
Below 6 hours	4(100.0)	6 (40.0)	7 (24.1)	14(38.9)	3(25.0)	17(35.4)
6-8 hours	-	9 (60.0)	15(51.7)	19(52.8)	5(41.7)	24(50.0)
8-12 hours	-	-	7 (24.1)	3(8.3)	4(33.3)	7(14.6)
Total	4	15	29	36	12	48

Source: Field Survey 2018

In the Table 14 shows that majority of child workers 24 (50.0%) work 6-8 hours a day. While 17 (35.40%) work less than 6 hours and 7 (14.16%) work 8-12 hours duration per day. On the other hand more girls 4/7 compared to boys 3/7 reported to work longer for 8-12 hours per day. In the age groups 14-16 and 11-13 majority of them 15 (51.70%) and 9 (60.0%) child workers work for 6-8 hours a day while only 4 in the age group 6-10 work less than 6 hours.

After analyzed the above data most of the respondents are doing full time duty in brick kiln.

4.2.3 Earning Status

Working in brick kilns is very strenuous for the children as they cannot perform as much as adult. In spite of low earning most of the children are forced to work in this sector for livelihood. Usually, workers in brick kilns receive wage in piece rate basis i.e. payment is made on the basis of work done. They are not paid monthly rather daily and weekly basis.

Table 15: Wage Rate Distributed as Per Nature of Works

S.N.	Type of works	Wage Rate (In Rs.)
1	Brick Molding (per 1000 pieces)	1000
2	Carrying Bricks to the Kilns (1000 pieces)	200-250
3	Carrying of Fired Bricks from the Kilns (1000 pieces)	250-300

Source: Field Survey 2018

Above table shows that the earning status of the child labour in brick kilns, the result indicates low earning status of the child.

Table 16: Distribution of Child Labors by Average Earning Per Month

Average earning per month(NRs)	Age (years)			Sex		Total
	6-9	10-13	14-17	Boys	Girls	
	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
<1000	4(1000.0)	1(6.70)	2(6.90)	5(13.90)	2(16.70)	7(14.60)
1000-2000	-	10(66.70)	18(62.10)	22(61.10)	6(50.0)	28(58.30)
>2000	-	4(26.70)	9(31.0)	9(25.0)	4(33.3)	13(27.10)
Total	4	15	29	36	12	48

Source: Field Survey 2018

Analyzing the data the researcher concluded that the majority of the respondents i.e. 28(58.30%) respondents earn 1000-2000rs monthly. Since the respondents of age group 14-16 years are capable to work and they can demand for their livelihood they are found to be paid more than the respondents below the age of 14 years. Only few respondents are found to earn more than 2000 Rs. monthly since they are found to do more dangerous and skillful works inside the kilns.

Although the work of brick kiln' is being a hard and laborious work the earnings ratio of the children is low in study area which unacceptable from the view point of sociological justice.

4.2.4 Wage Payment

There is no uniform wage or payment basis in brick kilns. Since most children do not keep any sort of personal record they are easily exploited and cheated. They complain that they often do not receive due wages or fair remuneration for work completed. Wages can vary even among those working on a daily wage basis and varies dependent on type of work as well. Despite long and hard work, the wage aspect appears to be unsatisfactory.

Table 17: Distributions of Child Labors by Average Wage Payment

S.N.	Wage payment	Number of child labors	Percent
1	Daily	31	64.6
2	Weekly	17	35.4
Total		48	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

The Table 4.17 shows the mode of payment of the respondents. Maximum no. of respondents is found to be paid daily. The respondents are found to be dissatisfied to their payment mode. The respondents wanted to get paid monthly but the owners are not found to pay monthly due to the seasonal work.

4.2.5 Expenditure Status

Some of the children have to be self sustained thus they have to manage everything for daily livelihood with their income. Thus their income mostly used to the daily expenditure and livelihoods.

Table 18: Distribution of Child Labors According to their Expenditure Status

Expended Item	Age (years)			Sex		Total
	6-9	10-13	14-17	Boys	Girls	
	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
Food	-	1(6.70)	10(34.50)	9(25.0)	2(16.70)	11(22.90)
Clothing	-	1(6.70)	-	-	1(8.30)	1(2.10)
Alcohol	-	-	5(17.20)	5(13.90)	-	5(10.40)
Entertainments	-	3(20.0)	1(3.40)	2(5.60)	2(16.70)	4(8.30)
Smoking	-	2(13.30)	1(3.40)	3(8.30)	-	3(6.20)
Family support	4(100.0)	8(53.30)	12(41.40)	17(47.20)	7(58.30)	24(50.0)
Total	4	15	29	36	12	48

Source: Field Survey 2018

Respondents are found to spend most of their earning just to fulfill their basic needs like fooding and clothing. Some are also found to spend their earnings for alcohol and smoking. Since the maximum respondents are from poor family background they are found to support their family too.

4.2.6 Saving Patterns

Generally most of the children expend their all earnings and only few save small fraction.

Table 19: Distribution of Child Labors by Average Saving Patterns

S.N.	Proportion of monthly saving	Average earning per month			Total
		<1000	1000-2000	>2000	
		No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
1	None	6(20.70)	19(65.50)	4(13.80)	29(60.40)
2	One-Fourth	1(5.90)	9(52.90)	7(35.40)	17(35.40)
3	Half	-	-	2(100.0)	2(4.20)
	Total	7(14.60)	28(58.30)	13(27.10)	48 (100.0)

Source: Field Survey 2018

Analyzing the data the researcher concluded that maximum no of respondents are not found to save their earnings. This is due to their low payment and daily mode of payment. Although some respondents are found to save some amount, this seems very less with comparison to their motherly earnings.

4.2.7 Control Over Income

The child laborers come to the kilns either with their parents or relatives or friends or self. It is found that children who comes to work in the kilns and live with their parents/guardians as well as brother/sister, do not get their wage in their own hands. Whatever they earn is almost controlled by parents and brother/sister. The children who come with the relative or self are independent and self sustained and have their own control over income.

Table 20: Distribution of Child Labors on Controlling Over their Earnings

S.N	Controlling individual	Age (years)			Sex		Total
		6-9	10-13	14-17	Boys	Girls	
		No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	
1	Self	1(25.0)	9(60.0)	20(69.0)	23(63.9)	7(58.3)	30(62.5)
2	Parents	2(50.0)	4(26.7)	7(24.1)	8(22.2)	5(41.7)	13(27.1)
3	Friend(other)	1(25.0)	1(6.7)	-	2(5.6)	--	2(4.2)
4	Brother/Sisters	-	1(6.7)	2(6.9)	3(8.3)	-	3(6.2)
	Total	4	15	29	36	12	48

Source: Field Survey 2018

The majority of respondents used to save their earnings by themselves. Few of them were supported by their family members and their guardians to control their earnings and daily expenditure. The data also depicted that children are most likely to control their earnings as the age increases.

4.2.8 Work Satisfaction

Most of the child workers belong to poor families who cannot afford even the basic amenities without working alongside with the parents and contributing to the family

income. One would expect children to be happy to earn an extra income, as this would ensure better food, an opportunity to study and hope for a better future in life.

Today's children are the future of tomorrow's society and the future of the country depends on the present condition of the today children. But most of the children seem to be deprived of their basic rights. They are bound to engage in the most hazardous work like brick kilns. In this study work satisfaction of the child labors towards their current work is shown in following table.

Table 21: Work Satisfaction Response of Child Labors

S.N.	Response	Number of Child Labors	Percent
1	Yes	15	31.2
2	No	21	43.8
3	No response	12	25.0
Total		48	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

Since the respondents of the study were taken below the age of 16, they could not decide about what they have to do and what they are doing. Majority of respondents are not found to be satisfied towards their job. The few respondents are found to be satisfied because of their freedom during the work.

4.2.9 Condition of Recreation

Every child has a right to have a time for recreation. Actually working in brick kilns is the most tedious for the children due to heavy work burden. They work nearly a whole day with adult workers and get leisure time for entertainment rarely.

Table 22: Distribution of Child Labors Getting Time for Recreation and Means of Recreation

Response	Age (years)			Sex		Total
	6-9	10-13	14-17	Boys	Girls	
	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
Yes	2(6.2)	12(37.5)	18(56.2)	23(71.9)	9(28.1)	32(66.7)
No	2(12.5)	3(18.8)	11(68.8)	13(81.3)	3 (19.7)	16(33.3)
Total	4 (8.3)	15 (31.2)	29(60.5)	36 (75.0)	12 (25.0)	48(100.0)
If yes, Means of recreation	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
Cinema	1(50.0)	1(8.3)	5(27.8)	4(17.4)	3(33.3)	7(21.9)
Television	-	2(16.7)	5(27.8)	3(13.0)	4(44.4)	7(21.9)
Game	-	6(50.0)	4(22.2)	9(39.1)	1(11.1)	10(31.2)
Radio	1(50.0)	3(25.0)	4(22.2)	7(30.4)	1(11.1)	8(25.0)
Total	2	12	18	23	9	32

Source: Field Survey 2018

Recreation is the basic need of human life. Maximum no of respondents are not found to be involved in any recreational activities due to the heavy pressure in their work and poor economical status. Theirs earnings is not sufficient for them to involve in any kind of recreational activities. Only 16 respondents were found to be involved in recreational activities. Majority of them play games and watch television as a means of recreation.

4.2.10 Injuries and Accidents

The workers in brick kilns suffer from serious health hazards due to heavy work burden as well as suffocating working environment. The whole area of brick kilns is full of dust, smokes coming out from kilns. Injuries and accidents are other frequent health related problems among child workers mainly because lack of occupational safety measures. Work involving the carrying of brick on the head or back causes injuries with getting hit from falling bricks or falling under the heavy load. Burns are also a problem in brick kilns as child workers do not wear gloves or protective

clothing and do not have proper equipment to use when placing or removing fired bricks. In addition some are responsible for maintaining heat and firing the chimneys which puts the child workers at further risk of suffering burns.

Table 23: Distribution of Child Labors According to Injuries/Accidents

S.N.	Types of injuries/accidents	Number of child labors	Percent
1	Burns	6	12.5
2	Falling Down	11	22.9
3	Eye Irritation	16	33.3
4	Other	8	16.7
5	No Response	7	14.6
	Total	48	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

The respondents are found to work in risky areas without any prevention and insurance. The respondents are compelled to work in smoke, fire, dust and even in high temperature shells. Because of that they feel eye irritation and headaches. While working in fire 6 respondents were burnt. Due to continuous working sometimes the respondents are found to loose their consciousness either.

There are no special facilities for health care provided to children working in brick kilns. If they are provided some money for treatment that is cut off from their wages. So there is no provision of compensations in extreme illness or accidents.

4.3 Future Plans

In course of the study, the child workers were asked whether they would like to return home and live with their family. Majority of them appeared to be fed up with the present job and were, of course, interested to change the job in their future.

4.3.1 Future Working Plan

Most of the children kept their interest to join especially- in the army or to be driver or run self business etc at the time of interview. Their future plan has been demonstrated with the help of following Table 4.24.

Table 24: Distribution of Child Labors by their Future Plan

Future plan		Number of child labors		Total
		Boys	Girls	
		No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
1	Business	5 (13.9)	1(8.3)	6 (12.5)
2	Police service	1 (28.0)	2 (16.7)	3 (6.2)
3	No idea/Can't say	14 (38.90)	4 (33.3)	18 (37.5)
4	Others	16 (44.4)	5 (41.7)	21(43.8)
	Total	36 (75.0)	12 (25.0)	48 (100.0)

Source: Field Survey 2018

Maximum respondents are not found to have proper plans about their future. Few of them wanted to be a businessman. The respondents are not found to be in a better company due to which they cannot decide what they actually want to be in future. Those respondents who have aims are not found to be determined.

4.3.2 Plan of Further Schooling

Every individual have their plan for his/her working and schooling, that's plan helps to the person to progress his/her life. Hence in the context of child labour of brick kilns, the schooling plan is related to their job continuity and discontinuity. So the researcher administered a question to the respondent about their future schooling, the result is found as below.

Table 25: Distribution of Child Labors According to their Plan for Further Schooling

Interest for further schooling	Number of child labors				Total
	Boys		Girls		
	No	Percent	No	Percent	No/Pr
Yes	17	77.3	5	22.7	22 (45.8)
No	19	73.1	7	26.9	26 (54.2)
Total	36	75.0	12	25.0	48 (100.0)

Source: Field Survey 2018

According to the Table 4.25, 26 (54.20%) child laborers are not interested for further education. Only 22 (45.80%) of them are interested for further schooling. Among the interested in further schooling 17 (77.3%) are boys and 5 (22.7%) are girls. Thus their works in brick kilns have hampered their education and blocked their better future.

4.3.3 Continuity of the Same Job and Other Skills in Future

In the perspective to continue to the same job, we found that most of the children want to leave this job in their future. The result about it is presented below.

Table 26: Distribution of Child Labor by their Continuity of the Job and Other Skills

Continuity of the same job	Number of child labors		Total
	Boys	Girls	
	No/Pr	No/Pr	No/Pr
Yes	13(36.1)	4 (33.3)	17 (35.4)
No	23(63.9)	8 (66.7)	31(64.6)
Total	36	12	48/100.0
Other skills			
Yes	12 (33.3)	3(25.0)	15(31.2)
No	17 (42.2)	5(41.7)	22 (45.8)
No response	7 (19.4)	4(33.3)	11(22.9)
Total	36	12	48/100.0

Source: Field Survey 2018

Analyzing the data presented in the table it was clear that maximum percentages of respondents do not want to quit their job because that is the only mean to support their family and carry out their livelihood. Since maximum respondents do not have any other skills they are compelled to continue the same job. Some of them who have other skills are also found to continue the job in kiln industries because they haven't got any chance to uplift themselves.

CHAPTER -V

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

5.1 Summary

The child labor is an increasing socio-economic problem in Nepal. Due to socio-economic inequality, poverty, backwardness, illiteracy and deprivation of resources are the major causes for increasing the child labor. Many children are forced to work even in exploitation conditions for their own and family survival. In this situation, they are not only deprived of their basic child rights but also suffered from abuse, exploitation, neglect and humiliation. Thus, this study with the Title of “Socio-economic Situatio of Child Labour in Brick Factory of Saptari district” has been attempted with the aims of studying the socio-economic condition of child labour in Brick factories, analyzing the causes and consequences of increasing trend of child labor.

This study has been based on the survey of 48 child laborers working in the four brick kilns of Saptari district, among which 36(75%) were boys and 12(25%) were girls. In this study, both qualitative and quantitative analyses have been done. Significant and relevant literatures were reviewed. Primary data has been consulted and various research techniques with interview, observation, group discussion were used to collect the required data for the study. The study is basically descriptive and explanatory.

5.2 Conclusion

Both quantitative and qualitative information have been used in this study which captures following conclusions.

A significant portion of children come from poor families who are dependent on agriculture/domestic servant as their source of income. Many of these families either have a little land or no land at all. The prevailing socio-economic conditions, i.e. poverty, lack of adequate working and employment facilities compel to send their children to work in the brick kiln industries. A significant portion of children working in brick kilns seems illiterate. The children do not attend school beyond the primary

level as they are forced by their parents to earn and contribute to the family income. Enduringly the children are deprived of getting education and skill for their better future.

A significant portion of children working in brick kilns are exploited, harassed and abused in work places by one or another form. Most of the children reported to have been dissatisfied with their earning and current work. Child workers are working in brick kilns under hazardous and exploitative condition, as well as unhealthy working environment. They have to face various kinds of injuries/accidents. In addition child workers are suffered different kinds of illness like fever, headache, joint pain, eye irritation, burn etc. Most of the children are unaware about their rights.

The proportion of child involved in brick kiln industries differs by age, their schooling as well as their family background. In terms of age, the majority of child labors 29(60.4%) fall in the age group 14-18. The majority 18 (37.5 %) of the child laborers are self coming in the Brick kilns and then with their friends 14(29.2%), parents 11(22.9%) and relatives 5(10.4%). Majority of child labors coming with parents are under the age groups of 11-13 while majority of child labors coming with relatives, friends and by self are under the age group of 14-16. Among the sex, more boys come with their parents, relatives and friends and by self than girls. Among boys majority of them come by self while among girls majority of them come with parents. Out of the total children interviewed, majority of them 24(50.0%) joins brick kilns due to poverty and 16 (33.3%) for the employment. Parental occupation of the most of the child labors 22(45.8%) is domestic servant followed by agriculture 13 (27.1%), business 4(8.3%), services 3(6.2%) .Regarding the basic amenities availability, 42 (87.5%) of child labors have jupadi type of housing with 40 (83.7%) having hand pump as source of water but majority of them 38 (79.2%) without electricity facilities. Out of the total children sampled, 16(33.3 %) of the respondents are literate and 32(66.7%) of total respondents are illiterate. Ironically among total literate, the greater portion i.e. 9(56.2%) of total literate children are in primary level, 6(37.5%) of literate children are in lower secondary level and 1(6.2%) are studying in secondary level. However the literacy of girl children is lower than that of boys. Out of 32 illiterate children, 17(%) of the children are deprived for study is due to poverty which is the major reason and other reasons are negligence of parents and family disruption. Total

26 (56.2%) child laborers are not interested for further education even if they get chance to go to school. Only 22 (45.8%) of them show interest in continuing education if given the opportunity. Majority 17 (35.4%) of the children are involved in brick molding and carrying brick to the kilns. While 11 (22.9%) of the children have to loading the dried bricks in trucks from the kilns and very few percent 3 (6.2%) of the children are engaged in other works.

Majority 24 (50.0 %) of child workers engaged in bricks kilns work for 8-10 hours per day. Only 17 (35.4%) child labor are reported to be engaged in brick kilns less than 6 hours and while a significant proportion 7 (14.6%) of work for more than 8 hours a day. The higher portion 28 (58.3%) among the child workers earns only Rs. 1000 to 2000 per month and 13 (27.1%) of the child workers in the bricks kilns earn more than Rs. 2000 followed by 7 (14.6%) who earn below 1000 NPR monthly. Total 29 (60.4%) children can't save their income. Comparatively few children i.e. 15 (31.2%) of total children are satisfied with their work and remaining 21 (43.8%) of the children aren't satisfied. Out of the total children sampled, 30 (62.5%) of children have obtained their wages themselves. Similarly, wages of 13 (27.1%) children are paid to their parents and another 3 (6.2%) have wages paid to brothers/sisters. Similarly, a number of the children i.e. 2 (4.2%) have wages paid to others (friend). Majority of the child workers expend their earnings in family support followed by in food and then others. Out of the total interviewed 41 (85.2%) of the respondent have faced an illness during their work period. All the children have fallen in accidents or faced injuries. In injuries, 16 (33.3%) of the children face the eye irritation. Out of the children surveyed, 32 (66.7%) children reported having time for recreation only for short time in a day. The remarkable number of children 10 (31.2%) have accessibility to game, 8 (25.0%) radio and 7 (21.9%) to cinema and television each.

A countable number of children i.e. 17 (35.4%) of total interviewed wanted to continue the same work because they don't have any alternative and support from the family. Out of total respondent, 16 (33.3%) were able to express some ideas about child rights while 32 (66.7%) could not know what is child right. Out of the children surveyed 29 (60.4%) were able to eager about child right.

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APPENDIX

Individual Interview Schedule

Questions asked to the child labourers in Brick Factory

District: S.N. of respondents:

Factory's Name:

Address: Municipality/Rural MunicipalityWard No.:

A. Basic Information

S.N.	Questions	Response
1	Name of the respondent	
2	How old are you? (completed age)	
3	What is your caste/ethnicity?	
4	What is your mother tongue?	
5	Sex of the respondents	Male Female
6	Can you read and write?	Yes No.
7	Have you ever attended school?	Yes No.
8	What is the level you have passed?	Less than 5 5-8 9-10
9	Why did you never attend school? (or dropped out)? [Ask for respondent who have never attended school and dropped out]	Having been low economic status..... Having not been leisure due to work.... Parents interest for not schooling..... Having the school far away Having not interested for schooling..... Others [specify].....

B. Work and Payment

10	How long have you been working in this factory?	Less than 6 months Less than 1 year Less than 2 year..... More than 2 years.....
11	How did you join this factory?	Coming with borker/Naike..... Coming with parents Coming with relatives With own self
12	What is your work in this factory	Brick moulding Carrying bricks from kilns to pile..... Carrying bricks field to kilns..... Others
13	How many months do you work here in a year	Less than 6 months Less than 1 year
14	How many hours do you work in a day?	Less than 8 hours Less than 12 hours Less than 16 hours More than 16 hours
15	How do you get your wage payment ?	Daily Weekly Monthly Others.....
16	Who keeps your earnings ?	Self Parents /Guradian Brother/Sister Broker
17	Who does agreement of the work?	Own self Other [specify].....
18	Who fixes the remuneration or wage rate ?	Own self Other [specify].....
19	Do you find your earning sufficient?	Yes..... No.....

C. Living Condition

20	Where do you live here?	Temporary hut..... Rented house Other [Specify].....
21	With whom do you live here?	Parents Brother/Sister. Relatives Friends Brooker/Naike Alone
22	Do you use piped water?	Yes..... No.....

D. Health Condition

23	Have you ever been sick since working	Yes..... No.....
24	If yes, specify the nature of sickness
25	Have you got any treatment ?	Yes..... No.....

E. Perceptions of Child Workers

26	Do you like this job?	Yes..... No.....
27	If no, what is reason for not like this job, specify reason?	
28	Do you get time for recreation?	Yes..... No.....
29	What type of recreation do you get ?	Play Games Hearing Radio Cinema

		Watching T.V. Other [Specify]
30	Do you want to study?	Yes..... No.....
31	Do you have any ambition in life?