

CHAPTER - I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Children are future of the nation. They are the beginner of every new generation. Childhood stage is the most effective stage of human development. So the type of life, a human being lives depend on the development period of children. A large number of working children are deprived in various ways and are in high risk. So these economically active children are child labors and those children who are deprived, harassed and at risk, are very serious and challenging issues of Nepal currently (CWIN, 1998).

According to the national census of Nepal of 2001, there were 43.6% children in the age group between 5-17 years. This comprised 33% of the total population (5-17 years) of the country, where 18.5% are male and 28.5 % are female.. About 84% of the children lived in rural areas, among them higher number of children lived in Terai region, secondly in hilly region and thirdly in the mountain region(NationalCensus,2001).

Generally child labors are those worker who are below 14 years of age, deprived from minimum level of facilities, work long hours, get low wage and hamper their physical and mental development (ILO,1999). Children who are prematurely living adult's lives and training opportunities that could help to make their bright future, are the general but serious form of child labor. So if the work is not harmful for their growth process, then it is known as child work, not child labor. According to The Children Act and Labor Act of Nepal (1992), the group of under the age of 16 years is considered as children, because below the age of 14 years children are

strictly prohibited to work as labor. But the children aged between 14-16 years can work only for limited working hours. They can work 6 hours per day. If they work 3 hours continuously they should get a rest of minimum half hours.

Child labor exploitation is a serious problem of the developing countries like Nepal. Thus, the child work is a cause and effect of the exploitation, socio-economic and political structure of the world. Like others developing countries, the rural communities in Nepal are going through a painful period created by increasing social injustice, economic exploitation and backwardness. The growing magnetizations among the rural population, rural migration and urbanization have also contributed to increase in the migration of child labor exploitation (Pradhan, 1995).

Domestic child workers are one of the different form of working sector of the child labor in Nepal. Domestic child labor/worker is defined internationally as children with or without wage. Domestic child workers are employed to perform domestic works such as washing dishes, cooking, clearing the house, looking after young children and other household activities (KC et al, 1997). And also domestic child worker are mostly migrants, almost half of them don't receive any though most of them receive room and clothing and some are allowed to attain school, but the majority working hours exceed recommended standards working hours (Luitel, 2000).

Domestic child worker, who are allowed and freed to visit their homes, do not go their home frequently. They work in house and they don't go to school. Most of them have parents and are left by parents, relatives or middle men as salary basis for work (Luitel, 2000).

Therefore it is important to know about their situation at present. This study attempts to describe and explore the socio economic condition and problems of Domestic child worker who are engaged in domestic works.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Domestic child worker is common and wide spread phenomena in Nepal. The subsistence economy can hardly support people for their livelihood. The rural people send their children to the urban centre hoping their better future on the one hand and for earning money to support their family on the other. Thus domestic child labor is not only the problem of an individual or a family but also the problem of the society.

Children are base for any country. They should be provided with health care, education and other important aspects of life. However, the majority of domestic child are living fearful and uncertain life. Most of the families are even unable to feed their children, so they send children to rich family, relatives or bigger cities to work as servant, with a prospect of better life. Most of the rural poor families leave their children when they can't afford basic food and education to live.

In Nepal child work has not been clearly defined yet and no national level study has been conducted about domestic child worker. Although the constitution of Interim Nepal 2063 ensures the child rights and has prohibited the child worker to work in factories, mines and other similar health hazards sector. The problem of domestic child worker is increasing day by day. Instead of improvement in the situation, the present condition of Nepalese children is far below from satisfactory level. Many domestic children are compelled to work by the rich family and exploited by them.

Most of the study conducted on domestic child worker suggests that the situation of children is getting much more worse than ever before.

Increasing poverty and ignorance are leading our society into extreme misery (ILO, 1999). This miserable condition of our country has affected every sector of the society and the children are its main victims. We all desire children to grow up into good citizen but there is a lack of proper opportunities for overall development of the country.

The use of domestic child worker is common from middle to higher level of families, especially in its affluent urban areas. However specific information on the incidence of domestic child worker in urban and rural setting is lacking, though it is suspected that at least half of the domestic child worker may be working in urban centre. Kathmandu is one of the highly urbanized and situated at the central Nepal. Kathmandu is prone to domestic child worker because it has higher opportunities for business, jobs and for better life. In reality, they are not getting better life, instead they are exploited by the employer, elite or house owner and family members. Most of the female workers have to face many sexual harassment from the owner's family and local guys(CWIN,1998). So Kathmandu Metropolitan city has been selected as the study area to identify the problems of domestic child worker in domestic work. This study has attempted to find out the answers of the following research questions.

-)] What causes enforce them to do work as a child worker?
-)] By whom they became harassed?
-)] What kind of relationships do they have with their owners?
-)] What are the problems they faced?
-)] What is the socio-economic /family background of the domestic child?

Therefore, many poor or rural children are working as child labor in different types of working sectors among which domestic child worker is one of them. So to conduct study of this situation of e domestic child worker is essential.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of this study is to find out actual information and true condition of the domestic child worker in the New Baneshwor. Thus the specific objectives of the study are as follows:

- To find out the socio-economic characteristics of domestic child workers;
- To identify the reasons for working as domestic child workers and
- To analyze the working condition and their relations between house owner and family members.

1.4 Significance of the Study

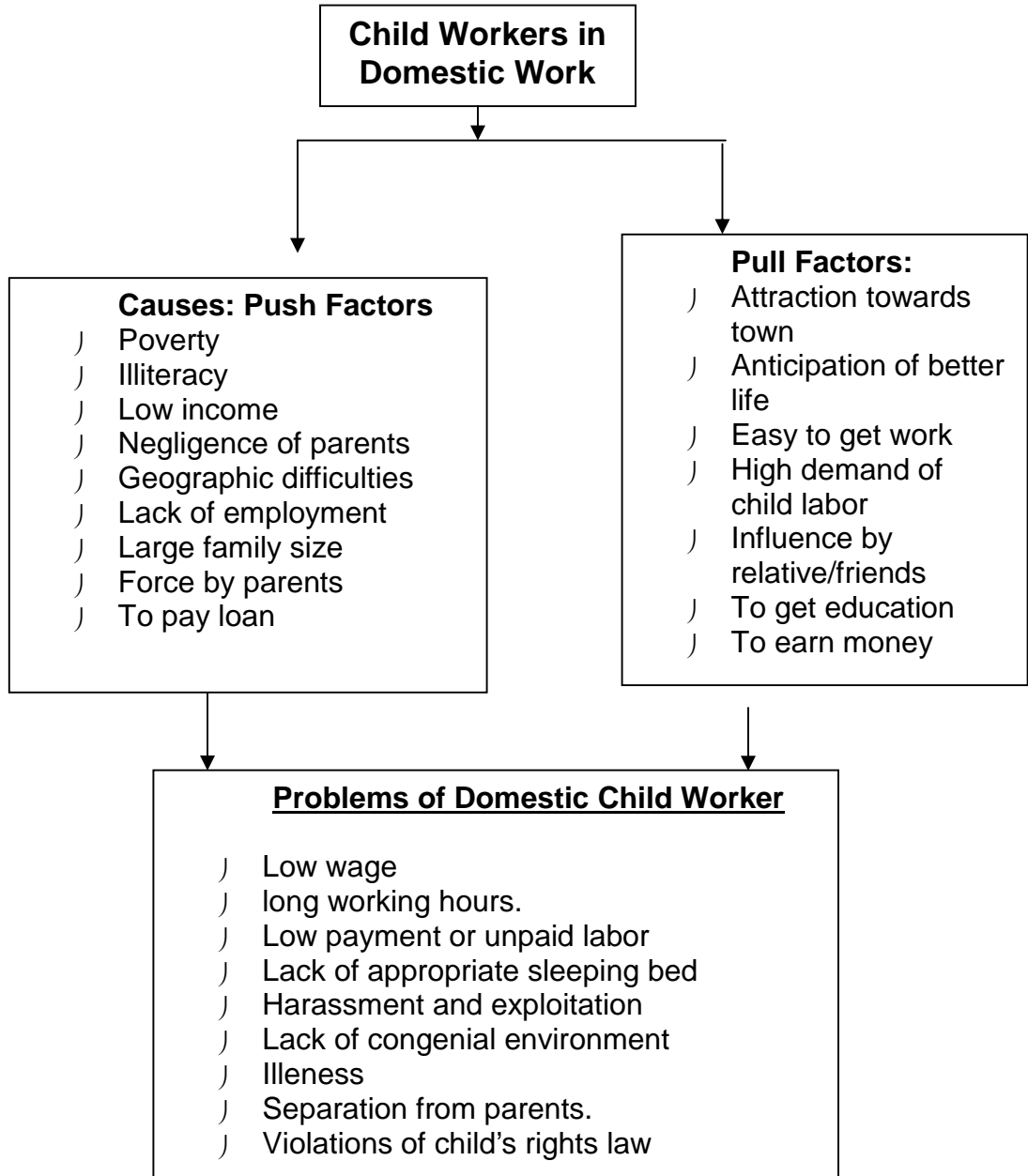
The problem of the domestic child worker is associated with those children who vary in economic, social and geographical context. They are not terrible by birth, but they are made so by the society. Among the different forms of child labor, domestic child workers are mostly exploited in different reason and ways. The problem of domestic child worker is the consequences of many social and family issues such as social exclusion, family break ups, domestic violence, abuse and neglect at home, poverty, depressions, etc. (CWIN, 1998).

The first and foremost step to protect them is to bring up their exact information and situation to real picture and to hold up the attention of the concerned authorities. Child labor is being gradually recognized by concerned sectors as a problem. Although the number of the study on child labor has been conducted especially focusing on child labor working on carpet industries and other small-scale industries and hotels, there are only few number of studies on domestic child workers. Thus, it is expected that this study will be helpful to find out the exact situation of domestic child workers. Thus, this research would be helpful to search the remedies of problems faced by domestic child worker for concerned organization, academician and researcher. On the other hand, this study focus on child

labor as a domestic servant, therefore, this study is typical in present situation. Moreover this study is expected to provide accurate information on child labor which might be helpful to those who are interested to conduct research in this field in future.

1.5 Conceptual Framework for the study

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework



On the basis of the theoretical and empirical review of the literature, the conceptual framework has been designed for the purpose of this study. The primary causes of domestic child worker are illiteracy, poverty, low income, geographic difficulties for proper settlement and pressure from upper class people, negligence of parents, discriminatory behavior and big family. Therefore the primary consequences are the creation of low chance for education, bad health, dropout, social conflict ,malnutrition etc.

1.6 Organization of the Study

This study is organized into seven chapters. The first chapter mainly focus on the introduction of the study, that deals with statements of the problems, the objectives, significance/organization of the study, and the limitation of the study. Chapter two presents the literature's review. The third chapter expresses the methods of the study. Chapter four expresses the socio-economic aspects of domestic child workers. Chapter five explains the causes of work and working condition of domestic child workers. Finally chapter six focuses to summarize and conclude.

CHAPTER- II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Child labor has been recognized as a major social problem in Nepal. To address this problem many studies has been conducted to understand particular forms of child labor at the local and national level by various organization. Here, the researcher has tried to review about the child labor related subjects.

Children are the future of the nation. These children are known as child labor or child workers because they work to support their family. The rapid growth of urbanization and the increasing demand for labor, particularly cheap and unpaid labor has resulted the large number of child-labor flow from the rural areas. Many children are being pushed into the labor market as a part of family survival strategy. Child-labor means "A person in an age group of 5-14 employed for hire or reward in a full time basis and included as a self employed child and child assisting his/her parent in their occupation for two or more hours. According to the UN convention on the right of the child, a child means "every child below the age of 18 years.

In Nepal according to the constitutions of 2047, "every person under 18 year is known as children." According to the Children Act of Nepal (2048), every people under the age of 18 is a child. According to the Children Act and Labor Act of Nepal (2048) the groups of children under the age of 16 years old are known as children. Below the age of 14 years children are restricted and prohibited to work as labors.

Child labor is a widespread phenomenon in Nepal. Child worker in Nepal has been increasing day by day. A series of laws and acts prohibit intolerable form of child work and protect child rights and have been working to eliminate problems method to child labor but no substantial improvements have been achieved so far. In fact, due to economic stagnation, nature calamities and disease, internal conflict as well as implication of structural adjustment policy, child labor has emerged as a major social problem in Nepal. Thus, child labor is not only the problem of an individual or a family but also the problems of the society (Gurung Y.B.etal.1998).

2.1 Child Labor and Child Work

Children are our future. Child labor has been considered as a major social problem in Nepal. Nepal labor Act. 1992 defines the term **child** as a person below the age of 14 years. The term '**work**' can simply be considered as "economic participation outside home" The term '**child labor**' implies exploitation that children are working long hours for the pay, scarifying their health, education and childhood (New Wave, 1993). The term '**worker**' indicates a person employed in return for payment of salary or wage in every production process, in the labor related services, construction works and peasantry works. It is strictly prohibited to make the children below 14 years of age work as labor. But the children between 14-16 years of age can work only when there is the condition of less working hours, six hours per day and not more then 36 hours in week. They must be given time for rest in every half an hour.

Patterson (1943) defines that child labor is not only a problem of an individual or a family but it is also the problem in the society. Child labor may be regarded broadly as any work of the child under circumstances that interferes with the opportunities for physical development, education and recreation which are required. It is the working of children at unfit ages for unreasonable hours or under healthy conditions.

However, child labor exists everywhere in Nepal. No sector of labors is completely free from child exploitation (CWIN, 1998). Inadequacy and ineffective enforcement of labor legislation is the root cause of child employment. The problem of child labor cannot be eliminated overnight but it is not impossible as well. The supply of child labor will remain high if income – generating opportunities are not available to adult household members. The demand will remain high as long as child workers are paid lower wages than adult labor when laws are not enforced effectively.

Bequle and Boyden (1998) state child labor as a humanitarian issue, which has achieved a worldwide attention in recent years and the concept is still emerging. As a human being, every child has inherent rights to justice, peace, and freedom and to all kinds of necessary for life such as education, healthcare, protection, love and respect. Information on child labor is relatively scarce because of general tendency to conceal it since child labor is illegal. Therefore, presenting a comprehensive picture of a child labor is a complex task.

The rights of the child are both need and demand of the era, so none can deny the importance of their essence. Considerably, there has been

progressive change in socio-cultural, political and economic attitudes of the people, community and the government of Nepal in the direction of child's right compared to previous years (CWIN, 1994). In this regard, it explains both government and the non- governmental agencies of the country that have been making effort to translate the spirit of the UN convention on the rights of the child into practice in spite of all these positive efforts and initiatives. However, different forms of child rights violations still exist in the country as a inevitable fact. Domestic child labor is an invisible form of child labor exploitation hiding behind the begging mask. Many employers feel that they are doing a big favor to the child and its family. There has been very little probing in this sector of unorganized child labor where no protection is granted either by laws or the trade unions. People tend to take it as an internal issues of household and rather ignore about what goes inside the closed door. That is apparently the reason why there has been a very little documentation about this matter

But if we reject this simple distinction, we can define 'child labor' as that form of work in which a child is engaged which is determined to growth and development including child prostitution, bonded labor and the economic activities of street children (including begging and stealing). Family labor, which interfaces with a child's education, recreation on physical, mental or moral health would also be considered as child labor. Some forms of child work however clearly are beneficial to growth and development. Where, for example, schooling is inadequate and where work is part of the socialization process for the child (Poudyal, 1994:3).

ILO (1995) view that “child work” is a “potential learning experience for the child, and hence not harmful” but “child labor” as exploitative by nature and determined to the child’s growing process, depriving the child of the rights to survive, development, protection and participation”.

In fact, children do various type of works in different conditions. On one hand, the work is advantageous, encouraging a child’s physical, mental, spiritual, moral, social development without disturbing schooling, recreation and rest, on the other hand, it is tangible, and destructive such as prostitutes, boded child labor etc (UNICEF, 1997).

Children are foundation of hope for the whole nation. Child labor is a global phenomenon. The problem, however, is most critical in the least developed countries. Generally, in developed countries, children do not need to support their families, instead, parents support their children until they are capable. In underdeveloped countries, the reverse is true. Children must support their families economically through their labor or they are forced to leave home and survive independently. For this reason, the overwhelming majority of children in underdeveloped countries are child labors (K.C et al., 1998).

2.2 Domestic Child Worker

Domestic child labor (DCL) is defined internationally as children working in employer’s house with or without wage. DCLs are basically employed to perform domestic chores such as washing dishes, cooking, cleaning the house, looking after young children and other household related activities. This study considers every child from the age of 5-17 working in a employer’s household as a domestic labors.

The domestic child labor may be considered as a helping hand in various activities. In most definitions of DCL a child is usually considered to be below 16 years of age. Yet, as the new ILO convention stipulates that any person under the age of 18 years has to be protected from employment in the worst forms of child labors. This study is considered on every person aged below 16/18 years, working in an employer's household as a domestic servant in New Baneshwor of Kathmandu Metropolitan city

2.3 Domestic Child Labor, Working Situation/Condition of Domestic Child Worker in Nepal

As Domestic child labor is concerned; it is found both in rural and urban areas. Compared to the rural areas, there are more domestic child worker in the urban areas. According to a situation analysis of a number of surveys, research and case studies done by CWIN in 1995 revealed that there are total 2.6 million child labors in Nepal. Among them 756,923 are DCLs. The number of Domestic Child Labors in urban places is 42,674 and the total number of DCLs in Kathmandu only is 21,191.

Because of rapid urbanization, the rural elites have mostly migrated to urban areas with their domestic servants. Such rural to urban migration is also with the economically poor section of the rural population with the purpose of seeking employment. Thus the level of rural to urban migration is growing day by day. Similarly the number of domestic servants is also growing and has become a widespread phenomenon.

The rise in the number of domestic workers has been due to the increase in migration of people and increase in population. The growth is reflected in the rise in the number of municipalities on the one hand, and the increase of the population of Kathmandu in a span of ten years from 1990 to 2000 has almost doubled, increasing at a rate of 6% every year (ILO,1999).

In the Kathmandu district, approximately 11.8 percent domestic child workers are from the rural and semi-rural areas of neighboring districts, such as Nuwakot, Dhading, Kavre, Sarlahi, Chitwan, Dolkha, Makwanpur, Sindhupalchok etc. Moreover child labors of Kathmandu are from 49 districts (CWIN Survey Report, 2001) caused by accessibility and facilities of transportation, attraction of the town, step parenthood, broker's role, rural unemployment, social crimes, economic hardship etc, to be free by such social problems they have been pushed or pulled as domestic workers.

Though many families have pushed or pulled their members as the domestic servants to get rid of poverty, their economic and other conditions are not uplifted, but are still very miserable. In this respect, the CWIN researcher has made the findings that the children employed as domestic workers when frequently observed are humiliated, beaten and even sexually abused, they are fed poorly and are treated unkindly. For example, they have to eat separately and may be locked out of the house when the family members go out. Others may be kept in the house all the times except to shop, none are given holidays.

Weeramunde 1982, defines as child domestic labor entails the employment of children by adults others than their parents, who often also lose their children constitute a cheap and docile source of Labor, working long hours a days seven days a week at a range of domestic tasks for little or no pay and Minimum benefits such as food accommodation and clothing.

Domestic child workers has been defined as the children aged between 5-14 years who work as domestic servants to earn wage to get shelter & fooding etc. in return (Pradhan, 1995).

Domestic Labor occurs in societies where the use of domestic assistance in the home is common place. In most of the places these days, increasing number of children are being engaged because they are a cheap and more malleable source of household labor than adults (Black M; 1997).

In Nepal the common reason for the prevalence of DCLs is said to be widespread poverty, and the desire for parents to provide better exposure and a good education for their children. Hence they are compelled to live and work in the most intolerable conditions to survive.

CWIN 1995 study reveals that some children even from the better families run away from the houses and enter into urban enters because of several attractions in towns. Child labor exists in this sector in great scale owing to a number of reasons ranging from social reorganization, social attitude of taking the children as the source of income after death of parents to maltreatments and abuse of children by the parents and step mothers. Scarcity and lack of facilities/opportunities in rural areas and

unemployment are other reason that compels the children to enter into towns alone with their parents and engage in labor intensive works, either for their own survival or to support their family member.

According to Maggie Black in a "Hand Book for Research and action in child Domestic worker" it has stated that most of the children are unaware of their employment contract, especially when they have been employed through brokers, the child may never see money because broker often cheat the parents as well as the child. Many children work just for food and shelter. In some cases, the child's wage may be paid directly to their parents, or to the children's informal guardian.

Domestic child worker working in urban areas of Nepal are engaged in all domestic chores and some work outside the house, kitchen work, dish washing, child minding, cloth washing, house clearing, cattle raising and shop keeping are the main activities in which domestic child worker are engaged (Sharma, etal, 2001).

Children become economically active by involving themselves in domestic chores, farming and livestock grassing as early as the age of six years (CBS/NPC, 1997). Child domestic workers usually come from poor, often large rural families, rapid commercialization and computerization of the life in urban centers are the major "pull factors" for child domestic labor whereas stagnant rural sector and developing poverty in the rural areas have been the push factors for the child labor phenomena prosperous urban areas on the other hand have lured children to migrate to urban areas in search of wage work and better living condition and other opportunities (NCA 1999).

CWIN 1995 estimates 62,000 child domestic workers in Nepal. Other than that there are no major surveys conducted to project a national figures on the extent and magnitude of child domestic labor till date. It is common knowledge today that violence and sexual abuse has become the most serious frightening hazards that domestic child workers have to face. It is a matter of urgent social responsibility studied in depth so as to differentiate normal working conditions and exploitative working condition and if the case of former, to be immediately brought to the notice of legal authorizes. There are many exploitative condition of domestic child worker which are mentioned hereunder.

2.3.1. Lack of Time

Real time off is a rarity, a Child domestic has to work for whole day before sleeping, holidays may be very rare often consisting of one visit home per year.

2.3.2. Hazardous Work

Domestic child are compelled to undertake repetitive chores often unsupervised, which contains risk and danger, they are required to cook and serve chopping vegetables by using sharp knives, boiling water, lighting fires, clean-fetching and carrying heavy water pots, wash and iron clothes, go to market carrying heavy bags and groceries and so on. And these tasks are often undertaken at the same time as looking after the employer's children ensuring that they are free from danger.

2.3.3. Violence and Abuse

Verbal and physical sexual attacks or harassment to domestic child workers frequently occur. A domestic child worker may be scolded at or beaten as a form of disciplines or punished for doing a task poorly. Child

labors are known to be at risk from sexual harassment and rape by male members of the employers, households and visitors.

2.3.4.Discrimination

The child looks the food but she/he is not allowed to eat at the same time with the master's family members, and may have to eat alone and later. At the evening she/he may be allowed to watch the TV with master's family members but sleeping on the floor or kitchen. Likewise, toilet, cloth and washing cloth facilities are likely of inferior quality. They rarely go to school but most of them don't (Black, 1997).

Many parents are convinced by employers that their children will be better-off materially and gain good prospects in life. After sending children to the employers; those parents expect to receive financial or any type of patronage. This creates even a caring parent to be insensitive to their children's problem at work. On the other hand, many domestic child labor leave their home and parents/ guardians when they reach to their employer's family and often live large distance away from their homes and parents, although employer may allow few visits. They contact only with a member of the family or with the home village. They may lose affiliation and love with their parents and village. This relationship may be sometimes caring but can also be exploitative as already explained. The child workers don't see a parent or close relative for many months. They are engaged so much in work that they rarely find free time to meet their family except in few major festivals merely once a year. (Magic Black CDW, 1997)

CWIN researchers have found that children employed as domestic workers are frequently abused. They are humiliated; beaten and even sexually abused. They are fed poorly; are treated unkindly. For example they have to eat separately and may be locked in the house when other master's family

members go outside for fun, except being taken for carrying heavy bags to shop. None are given holidays. Surprisingly the larger the family, the more the workload appears to be. Washing dishes, cooking and shopping take up most of the time. But in smaller families, cooking couples with babies, for example the workers have to wash clothes, habit-sit and guard the house as well (Sattaur, 1993). Among the groups, many employers abuse the child domestic workers. Child domestic service is a wild spread practice in many developing countries, with employers in urban areas often recruiting children from rural villages through families; many have been abandoned, are orphaned or come from cruel parents/ families.

2.4. Problem of Domestic Child Worker

As revealed by a study carried by CWIN 1995, the pioneer movement for the right of child working children in Nepal discloses the following problems.

- Low wage and long working hours.
- Lack of basic education opportunities
- Work at night
- Too young to work for children
- Economics exploitation by adults
- Separation from parents.
- Abuse and neglect
- Physical , mental emotional exploitation
- No rest or entertainment
- Not having their basic needs met
- Inappropriate child rearing atmosphere

- Lack of adequate parental love, care and understanding
- Lack of social security and attention
- Violations of child's rights law

Child labor exploitation is a reflection of the socio-economic reality of the country. The child labor is a cause and affect of the exploitative socio economic political structure of the world.

Child labor employment is prohibited in hazard conditions by the factory domestic child labor and factory workers Act 1949. Nepal has ratified the convention of the rights of the child and the ILO's minimum age employment conventions. (On the basic of these conventions, Nepal has adopted the labor act 1992 and child right act 1992 and has declared that employing children at the age of 14 is illegal. Problems of child labor are consequences of social injustice, economic exploitation and anti human development programs

2.5 Causes of Domestic Child Worker

Child labor is a product of low living standards of the population resulting from the low level of income, illiterate and increasingly lack of means of subsistence, food, shelter and clothing and inadequate basic schooling and education. Thus the practices of child labor is considered on effective means of augmenting the current level of income among poor families so as to enhance, by and large, their economic well being (CDPS, 1997:3). Studies have indicated that poverty is the crux of the problem of child laboring in Nepal. There is a direct link between the poverty and child labor in Nepal. So

poverty is the main reason for emergence of child labor in Nepal (CWIN, 1989, Suwal, et al, 1997)).

Even if some children realize that education is advantageous for their future life, either they do not have access to school or they can not afford to buy stationary and pay the fees. So children leave home with the hope of acquiring both an income and an education (K.C, et. al., 1997). Other studies claimed that the child labor problem in the urban areas of Nepal is aggregated by the arrival of children to these areas as migratory workers. Child worker usually leave home for a better life in the city. ILO 1998 report shows that about 605 children left home because of burden of work at home and no opportunity to go to school. Step- parents, and maltreatment accounted for another 27%of child workers, about 245 children worked due to the death of an earning member of the family . Due to poor household 20-25% children goes to earn for family support.

Gurung YB et al (1998), attempts to explores reasons for children's leaving of their home at early ages including the forms of labors they enter in to insufficient or no food and land in the origin, lack of job, domestic violence and dislike of village are identified as the main reasons behind, migration poverty in the rural areas is the main factory of child migration.

CWIN 1989 conducted about the "study of the urban child labor in Nepal" shows that the cause of child labor was to support their family. The representation of child labor was growing with every passing day from the rural to urban. By supporting the above same reason of the child labor, Sattaur, (1993) study mentioned that urban migrant has been increasing by rural poverty to help their families' financial support. This study describes

unequal and injustice distribution system, illiterate and cultural tradition as the major causes of the child labor problem in Nepal.

The main cause of child labor is increase in poverty and population, which compelled them to seek job in different sector for them and their family's survival. As a result, the consequences of child labor have an adverse effect on the productivity capacity of the children themselves, even when they grow old. They are under paid, which makes them unable to meet their basic needs like housing and food (CDPS, 1997).

Major causes of child labor in Nepal are identified as poverty and financial pressure, unemployment, underemployment, family deprecation, lack of alternative, inadequacy of the education system, inadequate enforcement of legislation and prevalence of public attitudes (ILO 1995). Likewise major causes of child labor are food insufficiency and unemployment because of lack of land owned (Dahal, 1989).

Nepal is a rural agrarian country with persistent poverty, which is the most important reason for child worker .So they compel their children to work as a labor in employee to support financially and to solve the family problem (ILO 1998). Poverty has been reported as the leading reason for working outside work. Financial trouble has led children to be employed in industries (KC et. al, 1998) Many parents cannot afford money for their children to study. Even if primary education in Nepal is so called free, it is not compulsory. Poor people are always busy solving hand to mouth problems, and they are ignorant of the advantage and the value of education. Children are weighted only from the economic perspective. Even if some children realize that education is advantageous for their future life, either they don't have access to school or

they cannot afford to buy stationary and pay the fee. So child leave the home with the hope of acquiring both income and education (KC, et. al., 1998) People with less land or no land means that they have insufficient food for their living are forced to domestic child labor.

The main cause of child labor are poverty, illiteracy and lack of social awareness, socio-cultural exploitation and family disintegration, influenced by modernization and urbanization, lack of effective enforcement of laws and capitalistic mode of production in industrial and commercial sectors etc. Poverty has been reported as the leading reason for working outside for non domestic work (CW/CCD, 1977). The second main reason was parents who compelled their child to be employed in industries with a hope to get financial support. (K.C, et. al, 1997)

Likewise (INSEC, 1996) survey concluded that 12% of child workers search for work, and 7% due to insufficiency of food are the most important reasons for leaving home and came to Katmandu due to parent's suggestion, 43% because of advice of friends , 6.5% due to dislike of home. The desire to be educated but the lack of adequate opportunity at home 6.55% is also an important cause for leaving home and to earn money and starting to work. The principal reason why children leave home are found mainly from lack of love, care and parental guidance and violence in the family (CWS, 1996)

Gurung YB et al, (1998) attempts to explores reasons for children's leaving of their home at early ages including the forms of labors they enter in to insufficient or no food and land in the origin, lack of job, domestic violence and dislike of village like are identified as the main reasons behind, migration poverty in the rural areas is the main factory of child migration.

Practice of child labor prevents children from going to school, resulting in a low school attendance rate and a low level of general and vocational education among children. As a result, the consequence of child labor has an adverse impact on the productivity capacity of the children themselves, even when they grow older. They are underpaid, which makes them unable to meet their basic needs like shelter and food. Thus, the vicious cycle between underdevelopment and child labor is self-perpetuating (ibid).

Urbanization process is increasing in Nepal, where people have to face busy life. This situation creates high demand of domestic child labor in urban. On the other hand, children are cheap to employ (being paid only a fraction of their adults counterparts), docile, easily available as a workforce and easier to manage than adults. The younger children cannot bargain for wages or facilities.

Families with bigger size contribute to child labor and many parents may face financial difficulties and so are compelled to send at least one child to work (CWIN, 1995). Due to increasing rates of family break-up and consequent remarriage, many children are discriminated physically and mentally from their step-parent or other family member. Children then run away to the towns and end up working in some form or another to survive. (ILO, vol.11 1995).

IPEC (1995) also states that traditionally the caste system has exploited and discriminated. Children of "lower caste" or Dalit families are forced to

work in the worst work as well as their traditional occupation followed. Likewise, unequal power relationships in communities between landholders and tenants create difficulties in labor force.

At last, the above literature review shows that child labor as a growing problem in the world as well as in Nepal. More seriously, developing countries are victims of it. Children in low socio-economic status as well as deprived from minimum requirements are affected by the vicious problem of child labor. In Nepal, the vicious circle of poverty has paved the major way for entry of children in domestic child labor. This rapid increase of domestic child labor has several impacts on the socio-economic development of the nation. The ultimate effort is seen in the economic status of the victim's family because entry of children in child labor doesn't improve the economic status of family but runs the whole family in long run.

CHAPTER - III

RESEARCH METHODS

3.1 Research Design

The research design adopted in this study is exploratory as well as descriptive types. The fundamental objective of this study is to analyze the actual situation of domestic child worker in New Baneshwor-34 of Kathmandu. In this study the exploratory research design helps to know the socio-economic characteristics and to identify the causes of work of domestic child worker. On the other hand, the descriptive research design helped to describe and analyze the major working condition, problems of the domestic child worker and relation between domestic child worker and house owner. The data obtained through the design have been qualitative as well as quantitative in nature.

3.2 Site Selection

The study has been conducted at New Baneshwor ward No 34 in Kathmandu Metropolitan city. Kathmandu is the largest city and capital of Nepal. So many child and poor family enter in the capital either for opportunities or attraction of city. Many children are working as a domestic servant in the elite or rich family house. In this situation, it is very important to know that their condition of work, cause for work as domestic servant, and their relation with each other.

3.3 Universe and Sampling

Domestic child workers of New Baneshwor-34, area was the sampling area of the study. Universe of the study was the domestic child worker of Kathmandu. The purposive sampling method has been used to collect the information to match the research and availability of cases. Among the 35 wards of Kathmandu metropolitan city only ward number 34 has been selected to collect information about domestic child worker. The sample size of the study area represents the population of age between 5-17 years of 50 domestic child workers in which 20 boys and 30 girls have been taken for sample.

3.4 Nature and Source of Data

The nature of the data is of two types like qualitative and quantitative. The source of data has been collected from the primary and secondary. Both primary and secondary data has been used in this study for obtaining required information. Primary data were collected from the field by using the tools like questionnaire, observation and interviewing domestic child workers. The secondary data has been obtained from different related sources like published and unpublished books, research reports, journals, newspapers and magazines etc.

3.5 Tools of Data Collection

3.5.1 Questionnaire

A set of questions were used to collect some of the basic data in terms of personal identification, ethnic/castes, age, main occupation of their family, their previous experiences, future desire, educational background major

problem faced by them and about their happiness etc. So the questionnaire was filled through interviews with domestic child laborers at the study areas. The data are collected under the major headings namely: name, age, sex, educational background, family, recreation, relation with employer etc.

Structured questionnaire has been used to get the detail information about domestic child worker. It has been kept in mind that the target of the questionnaire schedule was to obtain the personal and socio-economic characteristics, caste, origin, reason for work, income, health and schooling, sexual harassment, relation with each others, attitude towards work and future aspirations of the domestic child worker.

3.5.2 Observation

Since the overall objectives of the study is to find out and describe the socio-economic and working conditions of domestic child workers. Observation is one of the basic powerful techniques of data collection to document the present condition. Information was collected through observation about their overall activities, working condition, physical appearance and behaviors of the owner member. Subsequently I observed many child workers cooking, washing, cleaning, sweeping, and weeping, being beaten and scolded by owner. Furthermore, the observation showed that most of the child workers were poor and unhappy.

3.5.3 Interview

Interview is one of the major method of obtaining information from respondents. This method also aims to collect information about qualitative facts such as ideas, feelings, views, behaviors which is very helpful to find

out the truth. Key interview were conducted with NGOs person and Social activist to collect information about the condition and problems of Domestic Child workers. The interview was conducted with different child workers from different background and different caste, ethnicity, sex, age, class etc .Most the interviewee were Brahmin, Chhetri, Tamang, Gurung, Tharu, ect.

3.5.4. Case Study

Case studies were conducted in the time of the fieldwork. Three child workers were selected for case study. Three kinds of tools and techniques (i.e. semi structured questionnaire, interview and observation) were followed to take case studies about their socio-economic background, their working condition, causes and problems and it helped to achieve the micro level information about domestic child worker.

3.6 Presentation and Analysis of Data

Both qualitative and quantitative methods were used. Gathered data and information from various sources and methods will be compiled and analyzed in two ways. Quantitative data are processed through editing, coding, processing, tabulation and finally data are analyzed and interpreted using statistical method. And qualitative information has analyzed through logical comparative analysis.

3.7 Limitation of the Study

The limitations of this study are as follows:

- 1) This small scale study confines itself to small part of Kathmandu Metropolitan City. So the generalization of the research may or may not be equally applicable to the other parts of Nepal.
- 2) The research study presents only one child worker employed in domestic sector and do not cover other sectors.
- 3) On this study, only domestic child workers were surveyed through purposive sampling. Thus finding from this study will not be the whole representation of the domestic child worker of the ward No. 34 of Kathmandu, Metropolitan City.

While conducting this survey/research, there were many problems where the field investigator were not allowed to interview the child. Respondent tried to avoid interviews and chose not to answer to the sensitive questions on family income, salaries of the domestic worker etc. These facts may limit the findings of the study.

CHAPTER- IV

SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF DOMESTIC CHILD WORKER

This chapter deals with the socio-economic aspects of domestic child worker including background, about its origin place and family background, and health situations. In particular, background and characteristics of respondents such as age, sex, caste/ethnicity, education and family status, place of origin and health situation of owner house are analyzed in this chapter.

Domestic Child worker reflects the poor socio-economic situation of the underdeveloped societies like Nepal. When agriculture is unable to substance and there is only limited alternative employment in rural area, children enter the urban area for employment for better life. Some come with their own relatives and some by agent and friends.

4.1 Background of the Respondents

The background helps to understand of the domestic child workers to know more about their present conditions. Many child workers worked in owner's house due to poverty and maltreatment by step father/mother etc. Before finding out the condition of domestic worker, it is necessary to know about their age, sex, caste/ethnic and educational status.

4.1.1 Caste/Ethnic Composition

A wide diversity was found in the caste/ethnic composition of at the study site during the field work. Domestic child worker from different caste/ethnic groups such as Chhetri, Brahmin, Tamang , Gurung , Tharu and Majhi were found. Out of total 50 respondents, 20 are boys and 30 are girls. The

highest present 40% domestic child labors are caste groups and 60 are ethnic groups. There is no other caste Dalit in this group. Table No. 1 shows that the distribution of domestic child workers by caste.

Table: No 1 Percentage of Caste/Ethnic groups by Sex

Caste/ethnic groups	Sex				
	Total Number of Boys	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Brahmin	6	30.0	3	10.0	18.0
Chhetri	5	25.0	6	20.0	22.0
Tamang	6	30.0	9	30.0	30.0
Gurung	1	5.0	3	10.0	8.0
Tharu	-	-	3	10.0	6.0
Majhi	2	10.0	6	20.0	16.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2008

From above Table No.1, it can be seen that all the higher caste children are involved in the domestic child worker i.e.40% (Chhetri and Brahmin) but lower caste (Dalit) children are not involved because they are considered untouchable caste and are not allowed to enter the Brahmin house's kitchen. On the other hand, they don't like to work in domestic work in Brahmin's house themselves. So this reality has been matched as the study area where not even single dalit children are found as a domestic child worker.

4.1.2 Age and Sex Composition

Age is one of the important factors to be considered while analyzing the situation of domestic child worker. The age under 18 is very important period of child socialization and for the formation of the self identity and self- esteem. So, this situation is most striking for all in this regard. As already defined children are minor below the age of 17 years.

Table: No 2 Ages and Sex Composition

Age below 10and Above 16	Sex of Respondents				
	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Below-10 years	1	5.0	3	10.0	8.0
10-13	10	50.0	12	40.0	44.0
13-16	8	40.0	9	30.0	34.0
16 above	1	5.0	6	20.0	14.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2008

The table No 2 shows that the age of domestic child workers ranges from 5 to 17 years, of which 40 percent are boys and 60 percent are girls. The age group of 11-13 constituted the highest percent i.e. 50 percent of boys and 40 percent of girls. Total 8 percent of domestic child workers are below 10 years of age. According to distribution on the basis of age and sex, 5 percent of boys and 10 percent of girls are below 10 years of age.

4.1.3 Educational Status

Each and every child has right to get education but many of domestic child workers don't get educational facility. Education is the light of knowledge and right of child. Without education child can not achieve liberty and better life also. They have always been the hunter of exploitation and oppression. Because of poverty, many parents can not afford the child to provide education, so child dropout their education.

In this study fewer domestic worker were studying in primary to lower secondary grades prior to be employed, which means that higher percent age of domestic child workers were school dropouts. Table 3 shows the educational status of domestic child workers.

Table: No 3 Education Status of Domestic Child Workers by Sex

Education status	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Illiterate	1	5.0	3	10.0	8.0
Literate	3	15.0	9	30.0	24.0
Primary level	8	40.0	12	40.0	40.0
Lower secondary	7	35.0	3	10.0	20.0
Secondary	1	5.0	3	10.0	8.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2008.

The table No 3 shows that total 8 percent of domestic child workers are illiterate and total 24 percent of child workers are literate. Among them, 5% of boys are illiterate whereas girls exceed in percentage of illiteracy and goes to 10%. The highest percentage i.e. (40%) of boys and also 40 % of girls have completed the primary level of education followed by 35 percent of boys have lower secondary level of education. 10% of girls have lower secondary level of education.

4.2 About Origin Place and Family Background.

Origin place and family backgrounds are most important factors for domestic child workers. Insufficient land brings the family down to the crops, successive draughts, and tenant farming drive them to urban areas in search of employment. People are compelled to leave their village due to low economic status and unfavorable political environment. Thus, Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal has become the center of attraction as all kinds of facilities of the availability of job opportunity; good schools, colleges, hospital etc. are available. In case of domestic child workers, they have also come from different districts to capital city for working

opportunities to support their family economically and to fulfill their needs and make their life better. Kathmandu has provided working opportunities for these children in different sector

4.2.1. Place of Birth

Most of the domestic child workers were from neighbor district of Kathmandu of Nepal. Based on the domestic child worker's birth place, the data presented below reveals their place of origin.

Table: No 4 Distribution of Place of Birth by District

Place of Birth or District	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Sindhupalchowk	6	30.0	6	20.0	24.0
Kavre	5	25.0	3	10.0	16.0
Saptari		-	3	10.0	6.0
Sarlahi		-	3	10.0	6.0
Dang		-	6	20.0	12.0
Nuwakot	3	15.0	3	10.0	12.0
Dhading	4	20.0	3	10.0	14.0
Kathmandu	2	10.0	3	10.0	10.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2008

Out of total, most of domestic child workers are migrant from other district, Sindhupalchowk, Kavre, Saptari, Sarlahi, Dang, Nuwakot, Dhading Kathmandu. This data shows that most of the domestic child workers have come from the neighbor district because of nearness and the contact with the broker, relative and friends.

4.2.2. Family Status

Family status is one of the leading factors why many children are pushed into domestic work. Family is the shelter for the children. Good family has a good access in all aspects. In the process of child socialization family is one of the most important and crucial institution. Family plays an important role to mould a child. The future of child depends on his/her parent's presence and support.

Many of the children are involved as domestic child workers against their will due to either family pressure or family conflict. In the family where the children have either stepmother or stepfather are more likely to join the labor force in their early age.

Table:No 5 Family Status of Domestic Child Worker by

Status of Parents	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Both parents alive	7	35.0	9	30.0	32.0
Only father alive	1	5.0	3	10.0	8.0
Only mother alive	3	15.0	3	10.0	12.0
Step father	-	-	3	10.0	6.0
Step mother	3	15.0	3	10.0	12.0
None	6	30.0	9	30.0	30.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2008

Table No 5 shows the distribution of domestic child worker by their family status. Majority of the respondents (32%) have their both parents alive. Similarly (8%) have father only followed by (12%) respondents with mother only. This entails that girls are forced to be engaged in labor force in presence of parents where as more boys are engaged in labor force due to

Case Study 1

Mana Kumari Paudel

Mana Kumari 16, who is called Gita in her employer's house, came from Sindupalchowk district. Though her mother is alive, her father remarried another woman while she was one and a half years old. Her mother did not get financial or other kinds of support from her husband. When she reached 10 years, she came to Kathmandu with her mother and worked in one of the houses in New Baneshwor-34 as a household child labor. After 1 year she left there, due to stale food and always abusing and other misbehaviors of the mistress. Since last 6 months, she is working in present employer's house. She is satisfied with her situation in this house. She does all house chores such as cooking, washing, cleaning, sweeping, weeding, etc.

She is embarrassed to clean utensils at late night. She wakes up at 6 am and goes to bed at 9 pm. She has to sleep on the Palang with mat, blanket and quilt. She bathes twice a week and changes clean clothes. She gets enough food of same quality that her employer's family eats. She listens to radio and watches TV. She sits on the floor while watching television. She plays with the employer's children when she is free. Once she fell ill. But recovered soon after the treatment with the help of her employer. Illiterate Gita earns Rs. 400 in a month. But she gives her half earning (Rs.200) to her mother due to poor economic condition and rest Rs. 200 she keeps herself. In spite of this, Maya is quite happy with the environment of this house she has been never treated badly by her employer.

demise of at least one of the parents. Table 5 also shows that total percentage of step father is 6% and step mother is 12%. However, 30% of respondents don't have any step-parents. This table shows that forms and causes of domestic child worker are different. Some came at domestic work because of stepmother and stepfather. On the other hand, some came because of poverty and low economic conditions.

Table: No 6 Distribution of Domestic Child Worker by Family Size

Family size of Parents	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
0-4	2	10.0	6	20.0	16.0
4-6	4	20.0	3	10.0	14.0
6-8	10	50.0	12	40.0	44.0
8-above	4	20.0	9	30.0	26.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2008

Table No. 6 shows the size of domestic child worker's families. Highest percent of respondents i.e. 44% belongs to families of 6-8 members followed by 26 percent of the respondents above 8 members in the family. Compared to girls domestic child workers, 50 percent of boy's domestic child workers are from families with more than 6 members and above.

4.2.3 Family Occupation

Family occupation always determines to make the good or bad life of the children. In this table we can see the highest percent of child workers have come from the agricultural family occupation and wage labor is the second occupation. It looked that most of the domestic child worker has entered at Katmandu as domestic workers to earn money, and for schooling because of their low economic family condition after being not afforded by parents.

Table:No 7 Status of Parental/Family Occupation

Occupation	Total No of respondents parents	percentage
Agriculture	18	36.0
Porter/worker	6	12.0
Wage labor	11	22.0
Driver	6	12.0
Small business	5	10.0
Do not know	4	8.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2008

Table No 7 shows the family occupation of domestic child worker. Out of 50 respondents' parents, 36 percents were engaged in agriculture. 10 percent of parents were in small business in their own origin place. 22 percent of the total 50 respondents were wage labors and mainly engaged in wage labor activities. Similarly 12 percent were involved in porter and drivers. And 8 percent of domestic child workers didn't know about their parent's job. Thus, from table No 7 it is clear that most of the parents are involved in low paying and less prestigious jobs.

4.2.4 Food Sufficiency for Family Survival

Domestic child worker/labors family are poor children who were also asked whether the production from the own or rented land was enough for the whole year. Fulfilling the basic requirements of the households is the obligation of the family. The children of the under or unemployed families therefore, must have to work for the family's survival. From the study of parental occupation, majority of the family do not receive regular wage. So

these family are financially unsecured .Under these circumstances, poverty normally would not allow them for schooling and even sufficient food for their livelihood. Thus, insufficient family income is also deep root cause to leave children to domestic work.

Table:No 8 Food Sufficient for Family Survival

Food sufficient	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Sufficient	3	15.0	3	10.0	12.0
Just sufficient	5	25.0	6	20.0	22.0
Insufficient	10	50.0	15	50.0	50.0
Do not know	2	10.0	6	20.0	16.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2008

On the above table, 12.0 percent domestic child workers reported that food is sufficient for the whole year. Similarly, 22.0 percent of children reported that there is food just sufficient, whereas 50 percent of children reported for insufficient of family survival from the family's occupation.

CHAPTER - V

WORKING CONDITION OF THE DOMESTIC CHILD WORKERS.

This chapter mainly deals about causes of work and working conditions of the domestic child workers in the study area. In particular, cause of work, working conditions, health situations, and relationship with owners and family, future aspiration are included in this study.

5.1 Causes of Work

Poverty is one of the major causes for children being engaged in domestic child worker force. Almost all the domestic child workers represents low level of income of families and no land holding at all. On the other hand, family's conflict also cause domestic work for child workers. Having established previously that parents are instrumental in sending their children to work as domestic child labor, and hope to critically examine their reasons for doing so. The respondents were questioned about the composition of their family, family status and assets. Family income, stepparents, and own idea are the main reasons for working.

Table: No 9 Distribution of Cause for Working

Reason for working	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Poverty	10	50.0	3	10.0	26.0
To pay loan	1	5.0	-	-	2.0
Force by parents	5	25.0	15	50.0	40.0
Influenced by others	3	15.0	6	20.0	18.0
Expectation of better life	1	5.0	6	20.0	14.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2008

Table No 9 shows that there is difference between boys and girls regarding reasons for working as domestic child worker. As shown, boys (50%) and girls (10%) are engaged in domestic child work due to poverty . Similarly, out of total, 40.0 percents are involved in due to parent's force whereas 25 percent of boys and 50 percent girls are involved in domestic child work due to force of parent's. From the data it is clear that poverty is the main cause for domestic child work.

Case Study - 2

Ram Bhandari

Ram Bhandari is working in one of the houses of Banesshowre Tole of Kathmandu as household child Worker. He is now 12 years old. He came Kathmandu at his age of 2 years ago from Dhading district by sister with the intention of earning money. According to him, there are eight members in his family. His parents are alive and they are surviving by working in the field of landowner or doing wage labor.

He is working at present house from 1 year. Ram changed many houses as household child labour because of the problem of beating and abusing from cruel employer. Since one year, he has not gone his home and his family didn't also come to meet him. But he has visited his sister who is living in Kathmandu.

His daily life is not different from other household child Worker such as bringing milk, cleaning utensil, washing clothes, cleaning floor, looking after the offspring of the employer. He feels burden for washing children's stool. He wakes up at 6 am and goes to bed at 9 pm. He has to sleep on the floor of room using low types of bedding materials. He bathes twice a month and has very few clean clothes to change. Although he eats enough food but mostly gets stale food eat. Ram is unknown about the person who keeps his earning. Once Ram fell ill but recovered slowly after treatment with the help of his employer. He does not listen to the radio, but watches TV and plays with neighboring child labors at his free times without giving information to his employers. Ram is studying present in class two. But he gets very little time to get engaged in study at home

5.2 Types of Work of Domestic Child Worker.

Domestic child workers don't have any fixed work schedule. They do kitchen work, dish washing, baby caring, cloth washing, house clearing etc.

Table 10 shows the types of work of domestic child work.

Table: No 10 Distribution of Types of Work, Cause for Working

Types of work	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Cooking and cleaning	10	50.0	15	50.0	50.0
Washing clothes	8	40.0	9	30.0	34.0
Baby care	-	-	6	20.0	12.0
Watching house	2	10.0	-	-	4.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2008

As shown above, total 50 percent of children are employed for kitchen work. Similarly 34 percent of total child workers are engaged in washing clothes, motors and cleaning children followed by 12 percent of girls are engaged only for baby care. Baby care is not done by boy children. 4 percent are engaged in watching house and helping others works. Highest percent of boys i.e. 40% are employed for washing clothes where as 30 % of girls are employed for washing clothes. It seems that all domestic child

workers involved in entire household works. Especially only the girls are kept for the baby care purpose.

5.3 Entry into the Domestic Work

Yet the motivation comes mostly from the parents. It entails whether they joined by their personal interest or by any other forces.

Table: No 11 Distribution of Labor Force

Who brought into labor force	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
By parents	5	25.0	6	20.0	22.0
By relatives	8	40.0	12	40.0	40.0
By own/ourselves	1	5.0	3	10.0	8.0
By house owners	5	25.0	6	20.0	22.0
By middle men	1	5.0	3	10.0	8.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The table No.11 shows that highest percent of children's (40%) were brought into domestic labor force by relatives, followed by parents (22.0%), friends or self (8%), house owners (22%) and middle men (8%). Table No 11 shows that 50 percent of girls were taken by relatives into labor force. Comparatively 40 percent of boys, engaged in the labor force were brought by relatives. So, it seems that all the children are brought to work from the parents and relatives.

5.4 Working Condition of the Domestic Child Labor

In particular, working condition of work, working hours earning activities, living condition etc are analyzed in this sub- chapter.

5.4.1 Working Hours

Generally working hours for domestic child workers are higher. It can be said that they have no better status. The working hour per day varies from below 6 hours a day to more than 10 hours.

Table:No 12 Distribution of Domestic Child Worker by Working Hour

Working hours	No. of Respondents	%
0- 6	3	6.0
6-7	15	30.0
7-8	20	40.0
8 above	12	24.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table No. 12 shows that 40 percent domestic child labors work for 7-8 hours a day, followed by 30 percent who work per for 6-7 hours. As shown, 24 percent are worked for above 8 hours per day. The table No 12 shows that many domestic child workers are forced to work for longer time. So their worked load depends upon the owner family size and freedom.

5.4.2. Earning Status of Domestic Child Worker

Children are cheap labor and they are compelled to work more than adults. They work hard, but in return the payment is found to be very low ranging from less than 500 to more than 2000 per month and higher of them are unpaid domestic child labors who gets only food, cloths and education facilities.

Table:No 13 Earning Status of Domestic Child Worker

Monthly Income	No. of respondents	%
0- 1000	12	24.0
1000-1500	20	40.0
1500-2000	8	16.0
Only food	4	8.0
Food /clothes/education	6	12.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table No 13 shows that only a very little children .i.e. 16 percent get 1500-2000 rupees as salary and but a large 40 percent get monthly Rs 1000-1500 salary from the work. Similarly, 12% of respondents are getting only for food, clothing and education facilities from the work.

5.4.3. Sleeping Place

Domestic child workers have to spend nights in poor and unhygienic place. They often get separate room for them.

Table:No 14 Distribution of Domestic Child Worker by Sleeping Place

Separate room	No. of respondents	%
Yes	40	80.0
No	10	20.0
Total	50	100.0
Place of sleeping		
On the bed	34	68.0
On the floor	16	32.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table No.14 shows that in the study area, majority of children i.e. 80% of total domestic child workers have got their separate room for their rest. There is difference between boys and girls. Girls children have got at least one separate room but boys have got a few separate rooms. Majority of children i.e. 68% of total domestic child workers sleep on the bed.

Case Study - 3

Maya Tharu

Maya Tharu, household children labour in New Baneshowr-34 residential area of the Kathmandu. She came from Dang when she was 10 years old. Maya is the eldest daughter in the family, with three brothers and one sister. During her stay at this house, she had never visited her home. But she used to weep sometimes because of homesickness. Maya does not know about her monthly earnings till now. She has a great desire to learn sewing and knitting but there is no opportunity for her. Now she is working in a Brahmin house. There are four persons in the family and both employer and mistresses are jobholders. She does the entire household chores as cooking, washing and cleaning.

She feels hardship for washing utensils at late night. She wakes up at 5 am and goes to bed at 10 pm. She has to sleep on the Palang with mat, blanket and quilt. She bathes weekly and changes clean clothes. She gets medicine from her employer whenever needed. She sometimes listens to the radio; watch TV but does not play.

Similarly, 32 percent of children sleep on the floor. Majority girls have got separate bed but they sleep with in household family member's room or other place.

5.5. Health Condition of Domestic Child Worker.

Health aspect is a crucial factor for everyone. The study also attempts to explore the health condition of child workers. Because of unhealthy working environment and dirty work, they are likely to meet diseases.

Table: No 15 Distribution of Health Status of Domestic Child Worker

Types of Illness	No. of Respondents	%
Cold cough	10	20.0
Fever	20	40.0
Skin problem	4	8.0
Diarrhea	6	12.0
others/no	10	20.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Most of the workers suffered from fever. Researcher has tried to describe about the health problem of the domestic child workers at the period of their involvement in the owner's house which they faced in working period. The table No 15 show that highest number of the children suffered from fever, 20 percent of child workers faced cough and cold , 12 percent of them suffered from diarrhea. About 20 percent children were suffered from other diseases where as few child were away from diseases.

The study found that most of the child respondents suffered from fever and were medically treated. Among the treated children, they reported that doctor's bill was paid by owners. At the illness time, owner members helped for the treatment. A few child workers got no help for treatment.

5.6 Helping Conditions

Table: No 16 Distribution of Helping Conditions

Helper	No. of Respondents	%
House owner	13	26.0
Owner's members	16	32.0
Self sufficient	6	12.0
No help	15	30.0
Total	50	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table No. 16 clearly shows the distribution for helping conditions. Out of total 50 sick respondents, 32 percent respondents got help by owner's family members. Followed by 12 percent self sufficient, 26 percent house owner and 30 percent child dint get any help when they were ill.

5.6 Sexual Harassment and Exploitation

It is very difficult to find out the sexual exploitation but we read many causes of sexual exploitation of child worker in newspaper and NGO's reports . likewise the researcher also found sexual exploitation among domestic child workers.

Of course, domestic child workers were forced and harassed in various aspects. They were harassed and abused in different ways by different persons which was known from questionnaire and interview with the child workers. Sex is something that is not ordinarily talked about in public. However, children do not want to express about their sexual exploitation. Some NGO's worker reported about domestic child worker who were sexually abused.

Girls are highly exploited and victimized in various forms . However, the degree of sexual exploitation to a domestic worker is unknown because of

data lacking. And it is not an easy work to find out the actual data. Girls were harassed and abused by various aspects at working time. Domestic child workers has to face sexual harassment and exploitation from the various persons during the work and especially when they are alone.

5.7 Relationship Status

5.7.1 Relationship with Family

Human relation is the main aspect of the sociological study. So here under the researcher has tried to mention about their relationships with different persons. Domestic child worker is a widely pervasive problem. Though parents have love and sympathy for their children, they are bound to labor of all factors responsible for domestic child worker/labor. Stepmother, stepmother is one of the major factors. Greater part of the stepmother, father is enacting problem of domestic child worker /labor, also seems to be no less a significant factor that poverty is a root causes of domestic child worker labor. Thus, stepmother seems to be a primary cause of domestic child worker.

Similarly, relationship with step parents is important factor for influencing the magnitude of domestic child workers. In most cases, children with step-parents are forced to enter into labor force because of unhealthy relationship with step-parents. Therefore, it can be said that ill relationship with step parents has caused many children to join the domestic child work.

Table No. 17: Relationship with Parents

Relation status	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Good	5	25.0	12	40.0	34.0
Normal	9	45.0	9	30.0	36.0
Bad	6	30.0	9	30.0	30.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field survey, 2008

According to the respondents, 34.0 percent of children have a good relationship with family. Among them, 25.0% of boys and 40 % of respondents are girls. Similarly 36.0 percent children have normal relation with step- parents and 30.0 percent have a poor relationship with family.

5.7.2 Relation with Owner's Family

Relationship with owner's family members is also crucial factors for the domestic child workers. Majority of children don't have a good relationship with owner and owner's family members. The poor relationship with owner's family situation has resulted a punishment to the domestic workers. Therefore domestic child workers were unsecured by the owner's family.

Table No. 18; Distribution of Domestic Child Worker by Owner Relationship

Relation status	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Good	10	50	15	50.0	50.0
Normal	5	25.0	9	30.0	28.0
Bad	1	5.0	3	10.0	8.0
Don't know	4	20.0	3	10.0	14.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field survey, 2008

Among the 50 respondents, 50 percent of children have established good relationship with family owners. Similarly 28 percent have a normal relationship and 8 percent have a poor relationship with owner's family. Subsequently 14 percent didn't respond about relationship with their owner.

5.8 Job Satisfaction

Children were asked whether they are satisfied with their present job or not. This question helped to know the attitude of children towards their current job and satisfaction with it.

Table No. 19: Satisfaction of Current Job

Satisfaction	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Satisfaction	5	25.0	12	40.0	34.0
Indifferent	6	30.0	9	30.0	30.0
Not Satisfied	9	45.0	9	30.0	36.0
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field survey, 2008

Table No.19: shows the perception of domestic child labors about their current job. About 34.0 percent of the respondents reported that they were satisfied with current job where boys were 25 percent and girls were 40 percent. However, out of total 50 children respondent, 32 percent reported indifferent from these types of work. There is gender differential in current job. Higher percent of female children (40.0%) were satisfied with jobs.

Table No.19 shows that 36.0 percent children reported that they were not satisfied due to long working hours, hard work, punishment, low salary, and no time to read.

5.8.1 Not Satisfying with Current Job

Table No. 20: Not Satisfying with Current Job

Job	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Hard work	5	25.0	12	40.00	34.00
salary	8	40.0	12	40.00	40.00
Other	7	35.0	6	20.00	26.00
Total	20	100.0	30	100.00	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table no. 20 shows that their work was not of their interest. They were paid low, and employer's behavior was bad which was the main reason for dis-satisfaction with current job. 34% of total respondents were dissatisfied with their job due to hard work whereas 40% of respondents were paid low salary. There were 26% of respondents who said there were other reasons for dis-satisfaction of job.

5.9 Major Problems for Domestic Child Labor at Current Situation

Various Problems are faced by domestic worker in owner's family. According to the respondent, they are facing different problems at working condition and bed time. Most of the respondents were living an unsecured life.

Table No. 21: Distribution of the Types of Problems

Types of Problems	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
Return home	3	15.0	6	17.0	18.0
Sleeping time	4	20.0	3	13.0	14.00
Clothing	7	35.0	6	24.0	26.00
Read & write or schooling	2	10.0	3	10.0	10.00
watching movie/serial	4	20.0	12	36.0	32.00
Total	20	100.0	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table No. 21 shows that their problems mostly occur to return back to home, to sleep on time, to wear new clothes, to read and write or go to school and watch movies and serials.

Table No. 21 indicates that the majority of the respondents face the problems to watch movies/serials. Out of total 28.0 percent of respondents are not allowed to see movies or serials with owner's family. 26.00 percent of respondents are not bought nice dresses for visits. Subsequently, 18.00 percent of respondents have the problem of returning home and 14.00 percent of children had the problem of sleeping on scheduled time in owner's house. Similarly only 10.0 percent children have a schooling problem in owner's house.

5.10 Future Aspiration of Domestic Child Worker

The life of domestic child worker is uncertain and unpredictable. It is full of confusion. In fact, they pass their days with a hope of better future.

Another aspect of child perception on work is their future intention to work. Majority of the children intend to change current work and don't to know what they will do next. They do not know how to change current work and what was being done. In fact, boys desired to be vehicle driver in future whereas girls wanted to be part of vocational job like tailoring, beauty parlor etc.

Table No. 22: Future Aspiration of Domestic Child Labor

Aspiration	Total Number of Boys=20	Boys N=20 %	Total Number of Girls=30	Girls N=30 %	Total no. of %
To Make good person	2	10.0	6	20.0	16.0
Driver	7	35.0	3	10.0	20.0
Change work	1	5.0	9	30.0	20.0
Earning money	6	30.0	3	10.0	18.0
Not decided	-	-	3	10.0	6.00
Don't know	4	20.0	6	20.0	20.0
Total	20	100.	30	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table No. 22 shows that 20.00 percent of domestic child worker want to change their work and same as 20 percent of children don't know what they will do in future. About 6.00 percent of children asked, dint have any plan yet. Similarly, 20.00 percent want to be driver and 18.00 percent of the respondent want to earn money in future.

CHAPTER- VI

SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

6.1 Summary & Conclusion

This study was carried out on the situation analysis of the domestic child workers below 17 years of age in Kathmandu Metropolitan city. This study was focused on the socio economic status of the child labor, reason for work as domestic child and relation between house owner family and others.

The findings are based on the structured interviews of 50 children where 20 are boy and 30 are girl age between 5-17 years working currently as domestic child worker in Kathmandu city. The field survey, which is covered mainly 34 ward of Kathmandu Metropolitan city. In the field survey, purposive sampling technique and descriptive research design is adopted. However, a few case studies were also conducted to collect more reliable information in the past and present situation.

Children are the future pillars of society. They are future citizens of the country. Many children are compelled to work in difficult condition as child workers to support their family and themselves also. The problem of domestic child worker is serious. Domestic Child worker/labor often works in harmful and dangerous condition. Their mental, physical and social developments are also threatened. Domestic Child labor is a result of poverty, parent's ignorance, family breakdown, social injustice, economic exploitation, etc. Now a day the migration of children to urban areas is in increasing trend and this has led to the increase of children in urban areas as a cheap source of labor.

Children have been working in different fields as child laborers. The existence and exploitation of child labor in each sector is of different nature. It has become one of the most exploitative forms of child worker. In this sector, Domestic child workers are poorly paid. They are deprived of schooling, playing, recreational and emotional support from family and friends. They are treated poorly and abused both physically and mentally. They work from early morning to late night without being provided sufficient food and without affection from their employers, but however being the domestic child worker are safe under the shade of a family. Of course, they do the work for the owner's family but they also get education, training, money, food, shelter and clothes. In other words it can be said the domestic child workers and the employer is mutually dependent on each other. Shortly it can be named as symbiosis process. The dark side is that there is lack of information on household child labor in Nepal, though it is a very crucial issue today.

Child labor is one of the serious problems and widespread phenomenon in Nepal. By law the Children are restricted and prohibited to work as laborers. In fact due to economic stagnation, natural calamities and disease, internal conflict, as well as implication of structural adjustment policy, child labor has emerged as a major social problem in Nepal. The rural people send their children to the urban center hoping their better future in one hand and earning of those children that support other family on the other hand.

Poverty is the crux problem of child labor in Nepal. Major causes of child labor in Nepal are identified as poverty and financial pressure, unemployment, family deprecation, lack of alternative, inadequacy of the education system and inadequate enforcement of legislation. Likewise major causes/reasons of child labor are food insufficiency, lack of owned land, unequal land

distributions, illiteracy, ignorance, lack of legal enforcement existing behind child worker/labor.

The major findings of the study can be summarized as follows:

Most of the Domestic child worker was between the ages of 10-17 years. This is the age most favored by the employers.

Out Of the 50 Domestic child workers interviewed 30 were girls and 20 were boys. A majority of Domestic child worker were from ethnic/caste groups and poor economic background.

The number of child worker's family who were engaged on agriculture were found to be 18, whereas child worker's family engaged on wage labor were 11, similarly child worker's family engaged as porter noticed to be 6. Most of those families had little area of land or no land at all.

Out Of the total of 50 Domestic child workers, 16 respondent Child workers slept on floor by using bedding materials, whereas 34 respondent Child worker slept on bed. The health factor of most of the respondent was poor. Among sick children, most of them were medically treated by their owners. Only few dint get medical support from their owner. Among the sick child labors, only 35 no of Respondent got medicine at the time of sickness by the doctor's check. But others could not gel help from their employers.

In the scenario of education of domestic child workers, the finding shows that the highest percentage i.e. 40% of domestic child workers has the primary level education. Adversely, the lowest percentage i.e. 8% of domestic child workers has the secondary level of education. As a

conclusion, the report shows that most of the domestic child workers are illiterate or little literate.

Among 50 domestic child workers, most of the respondent i.e. 20 domestic child workers reported that they worked for 7-8 hours a day, followed by 15 domestic child worker who reported to have worked for 6-7 hours a day. There were only 3 respondents who reported to have worked for below 6 hours a day whereas 12 respondent reported to have worked for more than 8 hours a day.

In the context of distribution of the type of the problems, different problems were faced by domestic child workers in different degree. The majority of respondent i.e. 26% of domestic child workers dint get good clothing followed by 32% of domestic child workers who were not allowed to watch television, movies and serials. Furthermore, 10% of domestic child workers were deprived of schooling and 14% of domestic child workers faced the problem of sleeping schedule. The highest percentage i.e. 40% of girls faced the problem of being unable to watch movies, serials whereas highest percentage of boys i.e. 35% were not provided with good clothing.

In the context of distribution of types of work, there were different nature of work done by domestic child workers. The majority percentage i.e. 50% of respondents were involved in kitchen work(cleaning and cooking). However, the least percentage i.e. 4% of domestic child workers were involved in watching house. Most of the boys and also the girls were involved in kitchen activities and washing clothes. Interestingly, no boys were engaged in baby caring whereas 20% of girls were involved in baby caring.

6.2. Conclusion

Child labor is a burning issue of Nepal. According to the constitution of Nepalese Act 2047, every citizen before the age of 18 years is known as children. Child labor is a serious problem because has great influences on the society. Due to poverty, illiterate and hand to mouth problems, majority of poor family child shift to the town as a domestic child workers.

Children, both girls and boys from different caste/ethnicity and various districts of Nepal have come to work as household child workers in Kathmandu.

Although most of the children in this study were between 10-17 years of age, there were some children of only 8 years old who had also come to work as worker. At such an early age children are normally not given major responsibilities of any work in our societies. Generally, childhood is considered to be a time-period for children's socialization and self-identity formation. Given this, it is urged that steps should be taken to protect working children and enable them to improve their life standard through access to educational opportunities in particular.

Domestic Child worker in the present study performed all types of household chores including cooking, cleaning, washing and shopping. They did most of the work without any hesitation. They worked for an average of 15 hours a day. It would very difficult to reduce the incidence of Domestic child labors in Nepal without improving the economic situation of their poverty stricken families. It would be better to capitalize the potentiality of employed and unemployed adults instead of putting children

to work. One of the best alternative that could reduce the work burden on children might be an effective compulsory education for children.

The remuneration of child workers under study was not satisfactory in comparison to their workload .They were still compelled to work in order to survive and support their poor families.

The overall condition for the sample of Domestic child workers in terms of food, shelter, health, etc. was found to be dissatisfactory. They were often served with stale and left food and many reported that they were sleeping in the floor, corridor and under stairs. Sick child workers were treated either with their own money (earned as wages) or sometimes employers brought medicines for the sick children without consulting physicians.

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QUESTIONNAIRE SCHEDULE FOR THE STUDY

A. Personal Information

Name:.....Sex:.....Age(Completedyrs.):.....

Caste/ethnicity:..... Address:.....

B. About the Origin Place and Family Background

1. Where did you get your birth?

District.....VDC/Municipality.....Do not know.....

2. Do you have your home in your village?

a. Yes b. No

3. Do you have your own parents?

Father: a. Yes b. No

Mother: a. Yes b. No

4. Do you have also step parents?

a. Yes b. No

5. If yes which one you have?

a. Step father b. Step mother

6. How many members are in your family?

.....

7. How is your association with your Father/mother?

a. Good b. Bad c. Normal

8. What is the occupation of your family?

a. Agriculture b. Services c. Small business

d. Porter/worker e. Driver f. Security guard

g. Wage labor h. Do not know

9. Does your parent earn sufficient for family's survival?

a. Sufficient b. Just sufficient

c. Insufficient d. Do not know

C. Education, Health and Migration

1. Can you read and write?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
2. If yes, Grade.....
3. At present time are you going to school?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
4. If no, reason for not joining school,
 - a. Negligence of house owner
 - b. Busy at work
 - c. Not interested
 - d. Do not know
5. How did you come here?
 - a. With my parents
 - b. With relatives
 - c. With house owner
 - d. With middle men
 - e. Self
6. Have you been suffered from illness/injury while you were working?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
7. If yes, from what types of illness/injury?
 - a. Cold coughs
 - b. Fever
 - c. Skin problem
 - d. Diarrhea
 - e. other.....
8. Who helped you at that time?
 - a. House owner
 - b. Owner's member
 - c. Self sufficient
 - d. No help
9. Have you faced any sexual harassmt since working here?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Do not know
10. If yes, what types of harassmt?
.....
11. Who harassed to you?
 - a. House owner
 - b. Owner's son/daughter
 - c. Local boy/girl
 - d. others.....

D. Reason for Work and Working Condition

1. How many places did you work in?
 - a. One
 - b. Two
 - c. Three
 - d. Four and above
2. What types of work have to do here?
 - a. Cooking & cleaning
 - b. washing clothes
 - c. Baby care
 - d. Other.....
3. What reason you are doing these types of work?
 - a. Poverty
 - b. To pay loan
 - c. Forced by parents
 - d. Expectation of better life
 - e. Influenced by other
 - f. Others.....
4. How many hours you have to work in a day?
.....
5. What do you get from this type of work?
 - a. Only lodging footing
 - b. Owner pay for parents
 - c. Parent took loan
 - d. Schooling
6. Do you have separate sleeping room?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
7. What is the place of your sleeping?
 - a. On the bed
 - b. On the floor
 - c. Others.....
8. How is your relation with your owner's family?
 - a. Good
 - b. Normal
 - c. Bad
 - d. Do not know
9. Do you get punishment from your master's family?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
10. If yes who does this the most?
 1. Can you go home?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
12. If no how long it has been
 - a. Days.....
 - b. Month.....
 - c. Years.....

13. Are you satisfied with this job?
a. Satisfied b. Indifferent c. Not satisfied

14. If not satisfied why?
.....

15. Would you like to leave these types of work?
a. Yes b. No

16. If yes what do you want to do new?
a. Go back home b. Study
c. Do other work d. Other.....

17. What will you like to do in future

Thank you!