

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Child labor is the bitter fact for us and one of the ignored and invisible child labor phenomena is domestic child work. In Nepal it is estimated that around 2.6 million children work on their childhood, out of which 1 lakh 27 thousands are involved in worst form of child labor and among them around 1 lakh are in different households working as domestic worker (CIWISH, 2004).

One fourth of the total population of world has been living only in South Asia. It is relatively more poverty-ridden region of the world, and the largest numbers of child workers are in this region. The problem of child labor may not be a serious problem for developed countries but it is a burning and serious problem for all developing countries. In developed countries due to high standard of living and good economic condition, children need not do work. But in developing countries, children should have to work very hard from their early stage of life to support their families.

Today childhood is recognized as a marked period of life, the most vulnerable and formative children are the future citizen of the country on which the development of a society and country depends. Therefore, children should be provided with proper food, care, affection, love, education and shelter that will help them develop their physical, mental social development. They will become good citizen of the country; as a result they will be able to contribute to the national development. Child, being in a formative stage, can be moulded in any shape in terms of behavior. We can make them knowledgeable, capable, responsible sensitive and good citizen by providing perfect guidance and for it we have to keep them far from the war, violence and conflict. If society ensures the freedom and dignity of children, creating the conditions in which they can develop their potential, they have the chance to grow to a full and satisfying adulthood, assuming a

constructive role in the society. Today's children are the leaders and nation builders of tomorrow. Therefore, the child of today must be regarded as a subject, a member, a citizen, an actor and a co-builder of a society. But in Nepal unfortunately, many children are forced to work in difficult and hazardous conditions simply to sustain their own lives and that of their family.

A large number of children especially in less developed country, are engaged in different activities from an early age and some of them are living at risk situation: rapid population growth, widespread poverty, socio-cultural taboos, and lack of awareness are the major reasons for pushing children towards labor.

In general, child laborers are those who are below 14 years of age and are engaged in a variety of labor. They are deprived of all minimum level of facilities but are made to work long hours with very low wages and damaging their physical and mental development. Children who are pre-maturely living the adult lives and usually being deprived of educational and training opportunities that could have made their bright future are the general but serious form of child labor.

Children's contribution to support their family income can not be avoided. But most of the children, who are deprived from their fundamental rights to survive and protect are abused and exploited in daily life. Children constitute the most vulnerable group in society. The environment where they grow up easily affects them. They listen, follow and blindly trust adults. They are like clay, which can be moulded into any shape. Therefore, it is the adults' responsibility to provide them with a conducive environment for them to develop. But when they are exploited, abused and betrayed by adults, how can they ensure a better future for themselves (Acharya, 2005).

It is estimated that about 2, 60,000 children are directly or indirectly involved in different form of child labor and child work in Nepal. The largest number of working children is found in the agricultural sectors. In Industry, in carpet factory, garments and brick kilns are the biggest employers of child labor in Nepal. Tens of thousands' children are also

found working in domestic services, restaurant shops and bars. Approximately, there are 5,000 street children, 40,000 children in debt bondage, 100 children in prison, and nearly 50,000 children working in the sex industry, including children being trafficked into India and elsewhere for this purpose (CWIN, 2001).

According to the “children Act and Labors Act of Nepal 2048”, the groups of under the age of 16 years are 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 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 1\2 hours.

Child labor is a serious and wide spreading problem especially in South Asia and African country and the situation is not different in Nepal also. Although, the 1990, constitution guarantees the right of protection against exploitation as a fundamental rights and prohibits the practice of “traffic in human being, slavery and forced labor in any form and its violation as punishable by law”. His Majesty’s government enacted the “children’s rights and welfare act 1992”, as per the constitutional mandate. Such children act has defined the child as a person who has not reached the age of 16.

Historically, the problem of child labor began in 16th century. This was further expanded to different forms and areas in 17th century and children were further exposed to high risk areas in the 18th and 19th century. In Germany, France and Britain the problem of child labor was rampant in factories such as cotton mills, glass, and match making and brick kilns during 18th & 19th century. The problem existed in farming, herding and fishing in the countries like Norway, Sweden and France. For centuries, orphans and other institutionalized children provided a labor force in the early textile mills where relatively young children were employed. In coal mining in Britain in the 1840s, the mean age of entry was just under nine (Cunningham, H. & Pierviazza, P. 1996).

Nearly a quarter of the world’s children live in South Asia and they comprise of over 40 percent of the region’s population. A large number of these children are subject of

various forms of child labor and slavery every year, most common forms being bonded labor, child soldiers and child prostitution. “Bonded child labor” refers to the phenomenon of children working in conditions of servitude in order to pay off a debt incurred by relatives or guardians – usually a parent. It is a form of child slavery widely practiced in South Asia, particularly in countries like India. Most of these children put into bondage in exchange for comparatively small sums of money. Children sold to bond masters (who are often the employers or the landowners) work for long hours under hazardous condition and often become victims of violence and sexual harassment. The common form of work they engage in include agricultural and plantation industry, carpet and textile, mining and construction work, and, domestic service. In addition, a large number of children from South Asia are taking part in armed conflicts. Many of them are forcibly recruited as child soldiers, while some have joined voluntarily as they are provide with food, shelter, employment and security. These children live and work under very harsh conditions and are often compelled to witness and participate in acts of brutality against civilian population. The problem has been particularly acute in Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Nepal. Child labor is also widely used in the sex industry; a large number of children, particularly young girls are forced or otherwise coerced to enter the sex trade each year, and many of them are sold and trafficked across international borders (ISACPA, 2003).

The trade and development Act of 2000 was a great step foreword in the fight against abusive child labor in the developing world. Under this act, countries eligible to receive trade preferences under the generalized system of preference are obliged to implement their commitment on abusive child labors. The office of the United States trade representative is required by law to conduct a yearly review of countries receiving these benefits to determine, among other things, whether, they are implementing their commitments under ILO convention 182 to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.

This definition includes all forms of slavery, the trafficking of children, debt bondage and recruiting children for prostitution, pornography and the production of or trafficking in drugs. Also included in the definition is work that by its very nature is likely to harm the

health, safety or morals of children. Convention 182 was negotiated in 1999. As of April, 2005, 153 of the 178 ILO member countries including the United States had ratified the convention. Including many developing countries, have agreed to eliminate abusive child labor as an “urgent “matter.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Generally childhood is a unique period in life field with happiness and joy. However many children experience great pain in child-hood. Due to poverty, lack of education and awareness, exploitation and injustices in our society, many children are deprived of their fundamental rights. In addition, they are compelled to live wretched lives.

Children are treated as inanimate objects or secondary beings even those who claims to be civilized, educated and advanced, are also guided by that parochial traditional attitude. They don't pay much attention to children's views, emotions and feelings. Many of them keep domestic workers and treat them as slaves. They believe that they have done great charity by providing two meals a day in return for the excessive work they do. Unless we change such attitudes and activities, we can hardly bring progress in society for children. Otherwise, the slogan of “all children, all right” will go in vain (Acharya, 2005).

Poverty is one of the fundamental reasons for the entry into child labor. If family is very poor and unable to afford their basic needs (food, clothes, and shelter) for every one, then all the members of family move to work for their livelihood. And another factor of child labor is family violence. So they have to run away from their home to labor market and become labor because they have no any other alternative and they spend their childhood for their livelihood.

Tragic images of children chained in factories, forced into prostitution or coerced into a country's military, fortunately do not represent the conditions of most working children around the world. In fact, most working children are at their parents' sides, helping in the family, farm or business. A 2000 UNICEF (United Nations Children Fund) project

surveyed working children in 36 developing countries. The data represent more than 120 million children ages 5-14. While nearly 70 percent of children in these countries were engaged in some form of work less than 3 percent worked in the formal wage labor market. Most of his wage employment, like most employment overall in the world's poorest economies, was in agriculture (Eric V. Edmonds, 2005).

In the context of Nepal, basically in urban areas, it has become a fashion that even high class and middle class family would like to have a domestic worker to support to their household, which is usually called “Kanchha” for the boys and “Kanchhi” for the girl depending on the sex of the child workers. They are also known as the servant mainly in the cities areas most of the house owners have put on servant under the age of 14, which is illegal. Recently many national dailies reported with photograph, a child who was kept as domestic servant was put on chain during the day when the employer was away at work. Data are not available to record the exact number of children working as domestic child in Nepal.

The Government of Nepal is also trying to control over the use of child labor by formulating different laws. The constitution stipulates that children shall not be employed in factories, mines or similar hazardous work, and the law establishes a minimum age for employment of minors at 16 in industry and 14 in agriculture. Despite the law, child workers are found in all sectors of the rural and urban economies where the families consider child labor essential to alleviate poverty.

Nepal government has made estimation that there are about 26 lakh children are working as a child –labor and out of them 20 lakh child labor are the age of 5-14. Government has made a master plan to eradicate the worst form of child labor. According to Nepal government, in 35 districts, there are 90,100 children involving in the worst form of child labor. They are as follows:-

- 1) Debt bondge child labor - 14150
- 2) Child porter - 28450
- 3) Street children - 2900

4) Domestic child labor	- 40850
5) Child labor in mining	- 400
6) Child labor in carpet industries	- 3350
Total	90100

Development and planning in Nepal, with 10th five year plan. (2059-2064)

Child workers in Nepal (CWIN), the only national social action group dedicated to children's rights and welfare, estimates that 4.8 million Nepali children work at least part-time. As with the population at large, the overwhelming majority of these children are engaged in family subsistence agriculture, but children can be found usually doing menial jobs in almost every occupation. Child employment is particularly common in the smaller enterprises in construction, carpet weaving, restaurants, garment, manufacturing, transport and domestic work. Human Rights monitors estimate that children constitute between one – third and two – third of the unhealthy conditions for low pay. Although a law specifically designed to protect children's right was passed in May. Stipulating that children may not be used as beggars or face discrimination on the basis of caste, religion or sex. The government has little ability to implement is comprehensively (Human Rights Bulletin, 1993).

The new labor act sets minimum monthly wage in factories and in the organized labor sector. This wage is sufficient only for the most minimal standard of living. Rates in the organized service sector and in agriculture are often as much as 50 percent lower. The Labor Act calls for a 48 hours work week. Health and safety standard, and other benefits such as a provident fund and maternity benefits are also established in the Act. Implementation of the new Labor Act has been slow, as the government has not created the necessary regularity or administrative structure to enforce its provisions (Human Rights Bulletin, 1993).

1.3 Objectives of the Study

This study generally focuses on the socio-economic condition of domestic child worker of Kathmandu metropolitan city, ward number 7. Specific objectives of this study are to:

- i) Identify the contributing factors leading to domestic child labor
- ii) Assess the major problems faced by the child labor, and
- iii) Suggest for policy implications on the welfare of domestic child labor

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study may be quite important to provide information of domestic child worker in general. The study provides basic inputs to the concerned students, researcher and policy makers. It may also be helpful for further research studies related to domestic child labor to go deep into the problem.

This study aims to provide the data on socio-economic status of domestic child labor in ward no.7 of Kathmandu metropolitan city.. Thus the result may be useful in drawing attention of concerned organization in planning for the eradication of child labor.

1.5 Limitations of the Study

Because of limited time and resources this study has been done in a very small sample size. Limited variables have been taken to determine the socio-economic status of domestic child labor. Child labors below 10 years of age, very few, have been included since the response below this age was difficult. Thus the study covers between the ages of 10-15 years.

This study encompasses the socio- economic status of domestic child worker only in ward no.-7, of Kathmandu metropolitan city.

- i. The research has been conducted in very limited time and resource constraints.
- ii. A simple statistical tool has been used to analyze the data obtained.
- iii. Generalization from this study may not be possible due to limited sample size.

1.6 Organizations of the Study

The dissertation is divided into five chapters. The first chapter includes general background, statement of the problem, objective and rationale of the study. In the second chapter, literature review is included while the third chapter describes the methodology adapted for this study. The fourth chapter presents data analysis and discussion part of the study and final chapter includes summary, findings and conclusions of the study and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF LITERATURES

2.1 General Review

Child labour is one of the critical issues, receiving a worldwide attention in recent years, the problem has been still critical. Every child has an inherent right to basic human needs, such as education, health care, protection, love and respect. Child labour is the source of cheap labour. It is due to the poverty that compels parents to make the children work for wages and the employer never hesitates to take advantage of it. The work of children is not a new development in the world. Recently it has attracted enough attention in our own country, as well Nepal. Child labour refers to the employment of children for nominal income. The societal commitment is thus a must for the overall social, physical, emotional development as well as promotion and protection of the coming new generation.

In many countries there is restriction on child labour. Again there are provisions of strict control on the employment of young persons between 10-16 years of age. “No person shall continue to employ a child or a young person after receiving notification in writing from his parents or guardians that such appointment should be discontinued.” The exact written version was applied in Moritius. (ILO, 1998)

Shrestha, (2001) has studied about present national level estimate of various type of child working in Nepal on the basis of nationally representative sample survey, Nepal about force survey 1998/99, conducted by CBS based on ILO standard. Of total estimated child population of 4.2 million aged 4-14 years, 2 million are economically active. The participation rate during 1998/99 is 40.9 percent while remaining 45 per cent are attending school and rest 14 percent are idle. Idle are not those who are neither engaged in any kind of economic activities nor are they attending school. Economically active children are suffered from rape activities. Absolute number and incidence of working children are much higher in rural area than in urban area. Majority of children are

involved as unpaid employee while very few are as paid employee. Seasonally participation rate is high in rainy seasons followed by dry and winter season, the increasing trend of child labour.

Various literature (published, unpublished) on the related field to the status of working children were reviewed. Literature review made the researcher easy to select the research topic in the field of interest. Literature review includes several books, regular and irregular journals, magazines and research reports from the government and various non-government sectors. Reviewing literature is the most important part of any research study to get knowledge on concerned field. Some of the related references have been reviewed under the following broad headings.

2.2 Socio-economic Status of Domestic Child Labor

Socio-economic status of domestic child labor in Nepal is vulnerable. DCWs are dominated socially and economically. The migration of children from rural to urban is a reflection of the poor socio-economic condition of rural people.

Children are dependent on their parents and guardians. Likewise, children between 0 -14 years of age are more dependent on adults. Adults between 15 - 59 years of age are the ones taking on the responsibility of children. At the national level in our country, 72.69 percent children are dependent on their parents and adults. When we study the statistics on the district level, there is wide stratification between the most dependent and least dependent children. Statistics show that 94.47 percent of Pyuthan children are dependent on their parents and guardians, while only 39.99 percent of Manang children are dependent on their parents and guardians (CWIN).

Study on domestic workers by Dhital (1991) shows that there are more than 30,000 domestic child workers in Nepal. Many of them are mentally tortured and physical abused especially the girls. Some of them are never paid and they work just for food and shelter. A recent rapid assessment carried out by IPEC in urban areas estimated those

55,000 children under the age of 18 work as domestic servants in Nepal. In Kathmandu municipality alone, an estimated 22,000 children under the age of 18 work in this sector with one in five households employing a child for an adult job. More than half of these workers (57%) are boys, working long hours for little or no pay.

2.3 Childhood

Childhood is the foundation of hopes for a better future. Childhood means more than just the time between birth and the attainment of adulthood. It refers to the state and condition of a child's life: to the quality of those years. As the most widely endorsed human rights treaty in history, the convention on the rights of the child, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1989 and ratified by all but two countries, in effect represents a global consensus on the terms of childhood.

There are 2.2 billion children living in the world and among them 1.9 billion children are living in developing countries (UNICEF, 2005).

To Boyden. (1990) indicates that official versions of childhood are based on the ideology that childhood is demarcated by a series of biological and psychological attributes and not social characteristics.

Childhood is a critical and sensitive period for developing youthful energy and idealism. In this period girls and boys should be prepared to become productive and confident adults, childhood represents a unique chance to develop important behaviors and bolster income-generating potentials. Improvements made today in education, training, health services, and nutrition for children should be considered strategic investment for the future (INSEC, 1996).

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Judith Ennew, (1994), also describes how international legislation is developed around a version of childhood that is based on “Middle class children is the north (and the south) who do go to school, play, live in increasing private families and are assumed to help less and not able to carry out adults tasks”. It is because of this there is a carked difference between international rights legislation and the socio-economic realities of many children.

2.4 Poverty and Child Labor

UNICEF, 2005 report shows that more than half the world’s children are suffering from extreme deprivation of poverty. 640 million children do not have adequate shelter. 500 million children have no access to sanitation. 400 million children do not have access to safe water. 300 million children lack access to information. 270 million children have no access to health care services. 140 million children have never been to school. 90 million children are severely food deprived (UNICEF, 2005).

Poverty starts with children. It is said that if anyone wants to know the situation of a country, it can be known through the situation of children in that country. According to the National Policy Commission's Statistics, in Nepal, 38 percent (i.e., 90 lakh people) live under the marginalized poverty line. This means that they have not been able to meet their basic needs, such as food, shelter, clothing, education, and health. If we study the existing situation of poverty in our country, we find that people living in rural areas - due to geographical inaccessibility, discrimination and exploitation - are primarily survivors of poverty (National Planning Commission, 2003).

The situation of poverty in urban areas is 23 percent, while it has increased to more than 44percent in rural areas (Poverty in South Asia-2003, SAAPE).

When we study the effects of poverty on children, children four years and older are the most negatively affected by poverty. Of those found to be highly affected by poverty, 23

percent are newborn children, 27 percent are children up to 1 year in age, and 37 percent are children up to 2 years in age, 47 percent are children up to 3 years of age, and 58 percent are children 4 years age and above. The statistics from the 2001 Census also included the situation of children deprived of basic rights. For this, they used child literacy, child economic activities, and child marriage as their main indicators. According to the census, among children between 10-14 years of age, 21.4 percent are illiterate, 20 percent are economically active, and 1.3percent of children are literate (National status report on child rights, CWIN, 2004.)

Poverty plays an enormous role in the phenomenon of child labor. Disparate for money, poor families around the world are forced to push even young children to work to increase the family's overall income. "For poor families the small contribution of a child's income or assistance at home that allows the parents to work can make the difference between hunger and a bare sufficiency (Encarta, 2005).

Okada and Rana, (1975), observed that children if unable to get enough food in homes due to poor economic condition, they leave their home for search for jobs. Some children leave their homes to fulfill their personal needs and some to help their family economically. Therefore every year hundreds of children leave their homes for Kathmandu. The family is unable to maintain itself above the starvation level, makes its children work for wages of side the home

2.5 Children and Education

In many countries, child labor is often the product of inadequate schools. Many children are channeled into jobs simply because there is no room for them in school. A 1994 survey by the UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) found that in 14 of the world's developed nations, classrooms for first grade students had seating for only 40 percent of the pupils in that age group. Children in many developing

countries say the schools are so rigid and the classes so uninspiring that they prefer to drop out, as early as age 10, to look for work (Encarta, 2005).

Education plays a very vital role for the prevention and control of child labor. In our context education plays a very significant role in combating child labor. It is said that a good education Act is better than other acts to prevent and control child labor.

A planned education program incorporating all types of education such as formal, informal, non- formal, vocational, semi vocational and pre- vocational education, should be introduced in problem areas.

Education in fact, is a process which will lead the children into safer, sounder and more peaceful atmosphere. For this, there is a great need for good education .Good education consists of many components including transparency, ethics, dynamism and self-reliance (CWIN, 1998).

According to CBS report for the year 2000 there are 25,927 primary schools in Nepal. Even if the children both in rural and urban area have access to education, the quality of the primary schools is very poor. Lack of quality and knowledge, well-trained teachers, materials, equipments children are not going to school for study in rural areas.

2.6 Children and Domestic Violence

Women and children are extremely vulnerable to domestic violence due to the patriarchal nature of Nepali society. Though a serious issue, a domestic violence used to be a non-issue in Nepali society till few years back. However, it now manages to receive a great deal of attention.

Respect for children's right to life and survival is still a big challenge for Nepal. Innocent children are being targeted by various elements. Growing social anomalies, a lack of a feeling of responsibility towards children are causing fatal results in children's lives. This

year, CWIN recorded 72 incidents of violence against children. Out of them 38 children were murdered due to family feuds and acrimony. This year, 34 infant killings were reported (CWIN, 2002).

2.7 Children and Workload

The children do not get any leisure time and leave. Work all the time has been their daily life. They are not provided with any recreation and entertainment facilities. Their masers do not even consider them as human beings and do not think that children also have their own needs, aspiration and wants, such as leisure and entertainment instead they treated them as machines .Thus children working as domestic servants are surviving under the most difficult circumstances. Girls working in this sector often have to face sexual harassment and abuse (CWIN, 1994).

2.8 Economic Condition of the Child Labor

In our country, it is difficult to calculate with accuracy how many children are active in economically productive activities, as there has been not extensive study and research on this issue thus far. In looking at the economic state of our country, we find children from 5-6 years of age actively working as domestic workers and in restaurants, the carpet industry, stone quarries, and etcetera, to earn their living.

According to a study by the International Labor Organization and Central Department of Population Statistics/ Tribhuvan University, carried out only a few years ago, it has been estimated that the number of working children between 5-14 years of age is 26 lakh. In Nepal, the average rate of economic activity of this age group is 20percent. The average broken down by gender is 18.50percent boys and 21.55percent girls. Among the 29 lakh 81 thousand children in this age group, 8 lakh 59 thousand children are economically active. Among the economically active children between the ages of 10-14 years, 1 lakh

85 thousand children are involved in agriculture, 62,900 are involved in wage labor, 12,479 are self-employed, 64,400 are involved in various other economic activities, 10,800 are in search of work, 1,72,000 are domestic laborers, and around 2 lakh are unemployed. Excluding this age group, among the other 23 lakh children of school going age, some are involved in economic activities. Among them, 19,873 children stay with their employers, 75,230 are involved in various earning activities, 2, 30,903 are self-employed, and 2, 83,408 children work as domestic workers in various families without receiving wages (CWIN, 2004).

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This section discusses the study area and rationale for site selection, research design, the universe and sample, nature and sources of data, data collection techniques, procedure of data analysis.

3.1 Rationale for Site Selection

Research was conducted at Chabhil area of Kathmandu Metropolitan City, ward no.7. It is situated in the East Sector of the metropolis. The number of households in the area is 9332 with the population of 39530 among which male population is 18449 whereas female population is 21081. (Census 2001) The research area is prime residential area of well-off people who can afford domestic labors. Due to the increasing urbanization, there are a growing numbers of families with both husband and wife employed outside homes. They have kept domestic workers as assistant in their household works such as cooking the food, cleaning the pots, washing the clothes, caring of the children and so on. Therefore, there are a large number of families with DCWs in their houses.

The researcher herself is a resident of the area, so it was convenient to the researcher timely as well as economically to carry out the research study and to collect the information from the servants of known local residents.

3.2 Research Designs

Research design is the plan, structure and the strategy of investigation conceived so as to obtain answers to research questions. It refers to the procedures for the collection of data and its analysis. The research design adopted in this study has been exploratory as well as descriptive types. The study has been exploratory in the sense of exploring the socio-

economic condition and identifying the problems faced by the child domestic workers. The purpose of the study was also to describe the major characteristic of child domestic labors. This design has been helpful to analyze the actual present situation of child domestic labor.

The study has been mainly based on the primary source of information collected from the study area. The survey method has enabled the researcher to focus on the past socio-economic condition of the children that compelled them to abandon their houses and made them to live as DCLs on the present socio-economic condition and opinions. A secondary source of information relevant to the research study has been taken from previously published relevant journals, newspapers, magazines, reports etc.

3.3 Universe and Sampling

The census of the child domestic labors of the study area had not been enumerated by any governmental and non- governmental organizations till the preparation of this thesis. So, the actual number of domestic child workers of the area had not been found.

The total number of houses with having servants of age between 10-15 years of ward no. 7 of Kathmandu metropolitan city (not known definite number) was the universe of the research. From the universe, total 50 numbers of child labors were purposively selected with accidental sampling method on the basis of gender, caste and ethnicity.

3.4 Nature and Sources of Data

Both primary and secondary as well as qualitative and quantitative data have been used. The researcher herself collected primary data from respondents by conducting interview, survey questionnaire and observation. Secondary data was collected through secondary sources like books, research reports, journals, articles, unpublished reports and relevant literatures etc.

3.5 Techniques of Data Collection

The following data collection techniques were adopted in this study:

3.5.1 Interview

Interviews have been conducted with the domestic workers as per the survey questionnaire. In this method, there was a direct contact between respondents and researcher, which is more interactive in nature. This method is very reliable method for obtaining information. So, for the interview, semi-structure types of questionnaire schedules were prepared for the enumeration of both quantitative and qualitative data from the DCLs.

3.5.2 Observation

Semi-participants observation method was used to obtain information about working condition, physical appearances, sanitation, sleeping place, behavior etc of the domestic child labors. Such observations were helped to make judgment on the information provided by the respondents.

3.6 Method of Data Analysis

The collected data were processed and analyzed descriptively by using simple statistical tools. Quantitative data have been presented in terms of percentage and frequencies. Table, chart and figures have been used for better illustration. Both qualitative and quantitative data have been jointly presented to sketch out the socio-economic reality of domestic child workers.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

This chapter assesses the socio-economic conditions, working environment and factors that are responsible to increase domestic child labor as identified on the primary data collected from the domestic child labor working in ward no. 7 of Kathmandu Metropolitan city.

4.1 Socio – Economic Conditions of the Domestic Child Labors

This section of the study deals with general information basically on the socio – economic issues related to the domestic child labor and their family such as caste/ethnic composition, geographic location, age and sex structure, household size, landholding patterns, educational background etc.

4.1.1 Age and Sex Structure

Labors of age under 16 are considered as child labor as the Children Act and Labor Act (2048) of Nepal has declared that the person under the age of 16 years as the child. Domestic child labor below 10 years is generally in lower number and therefore, is difficult to obtain responses from such respondents. Thus, domestic child labors only above 10 years have been considered as respondents in this study.

Both male as well as female domestic child labors were found as sampled respondents in this study. Distribution of domestic child labors by sex and age is given in the following table 4.1.

Table 4.1: Distributions of Domestic Child Labors by Age and Sex

S.No.	Age	Male		Female		Total	
		No	Percentage	No	Percentage	No	Percentage
1.	10	4	13.8	1	4.8	5	10
2.	11	5	17.2	6	28.6	11	22
3.	12	4	13.8	7	33.3	11	22
4.	13	4	13.8	2	9.5	6	12
5.	14	5	17.2	3	14.3	8	16
6.	15	7	24.2	2	9.5	9	18
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Based on age group, the highest numbers of child domestic labors (22 and 22 percent) were found of age 11 and 12. Likewise, the lowest numbers (10 percent) were of age 10 years while 12 percent, 16 percent, 18 percent were found occupied by 13 years, 14 years and 15 years ages respondents respectively. It was found that there were 29 male and 21 female due to the accidental cum purposive sampling. By the gender perspective, the highest numbers of female domestic child labors were found of age 11 and 12 years in the domestic sectors.

4.1.2 Caste and Ethnic Composition

Child labors were found to have from various caste and ethnic groups such as Brahmin, Chhetri, Newar, Tharu, Tamang, Magar, Majhi and Dalits. The following table 4.2 shows the caste and ethnic composition of domestic child labor.

Table 4.2: Distributions of DCLs by Caste/Ethnic Group and Sex

S. No	Caste	Ethnic Group	Male		Female		Total		Percent All Total
			No	Percent	No	Percent	No	%	
1.	Brahmin	Higher Caste	10	34.5	6	28.6	16	32	56
2.	Chhetri		5	17.3	5	23.8	10	20	
3.	Newars		2	6.9	-	-	2	4	
4.	Tharu	Ethnic Group	4	13.8	2	9.4	6	12	36
5.	Tamang		1	3.4	1	4.8	2	4	
6.	Magar		1	3.4	1	4.8	2	4	
7.	Dalits	Dalits	3	10.3	1	4.8	4	8	8
Total			29	100	21	100	50	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The sample populations were of three major groups, namely: Higher caste, Ethnic group and Dalits. The higher caste group (Brahman, Chhetri and Newars) consisted of 56 percent while ethnic group and Dalits were 36 percent respectively. The research shows that the respondents from Brahmin were 32 percent, the highest among the different castes and ethnic groups. The low representation of child labor in domestic sector was from Dalits. The numbers of the female domestic child labors from Brahmin, Chhetri and Tharu were significantly higher, which were 6, 5 and 2 respectively compared to others.. From gender perspective, the representation of girls from Brahman and Chhetri were found each 28.6 and 23.8 percent respectively.

4.1.3 Place of Origin

Since study area was a part of capital city, people from different places come with different purposes. Therefore, people along with other different purposes such as official, visiting etc. also come into Kathmandu in search of work from the different parts of the country. The table 4.3 shows the distribution of respondents by the place of their origin. In the present study, it was found that children had come from 20 districts of different

parts of the country to involve in domestic service sectors .Most of the domestic child labor from the peripheral districts of Kathmandu Valley.

Table 4.3: Distribution of Domestic Child Labor by Place of Origin

S.No.	Districts	Male		Female		Total	
		No	Percentage	No	Percentage	No	Percentage
1.	Kathmandu	1	3.44	-	-	1	2
2.	Dhading	4	13.80	4	19.00	8	16
3.	Nuwakot	2	6.90	1	4.80	3	6
4.	Makawanpur	1	3.44	1	4.80	2	4
5.	Chitwan	2	6.90	-	-	2	4
6.	Ramechhap	2	6.90	2	9.45	4	8
7.	Kavre	3	10.40	2	9.45	5	10
8.	Sindhupalchok	1	3.44	1	4.80	2	4
9.	Okhaldhunga	2	6.90	1	4.80	3	6
10.	Sarlahi	1	3.44	1	4.80	2	4
11.	Arghakanchi	1	3.44	-	-	1	2
12.	Kaski	-	-	1	4.80	1	2
13.	Nawalparasi	-	-	1	4.80	1	2
14.	Morang	1	3.44	-	-	2	4
15.	Panchthar	1	3.44	-	-	1	2
16.	Siraha	1	3.44	1	4.80	2	4
17.	Saptari	1	3.44	-	-	1	2
18.	Jhapa	2	6.90	2	9.45	4	8
19.	Dang	1	3.44	-	-	1	2
20.	Kailali	2	6.90	2	9.45	4	8
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table indicates that most of children (16 percent) have been arrived in research area from Dhading district where the representation of male was 13.8 percent and female was

19 percent. Likewise, among 50 child labors, 6 percent each from Nuwakot and Okhaldhunga, 4 percent each from Makawanpur, Chitwan, Sindhupalchok, Sarlahi, Morang, and Siraha, 8 percent each from Ramechhap, Morang and Kailali, 10 percent from Kavre and 2 percent each from Kathmandu, Arghakhanchi, Kaski, Nawalparasi, Panchthar, Saptari and Dang are involved as a domestic child labor. It is found that the domestic labors are from not only the adjacent districts but also far districts but also far districts from Kathmandu such as Jhapa, Kailali, Dang Arghakhanchi and panchthar.

4.1.4 Household Size

Family is the most important unit of the social structure of Nepal. Table 4.4 shows the household size of the domestic child labor. For this study, a household includes all those living in same households including their unmarried siblings and who share the same kitchen.

Table 4.4: Distributions of Domestic Child Labors by Household Size

S.No.	Household size	Number	Percentage
1.	Less than 5	16	32
2.	5 to 7	23	46
3.	8 to 10	9	18
4.	More than 10	2	4
Total		50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

As for the size of the DCLs families, the average family size from which they originate was 5 to 7 members, which is similar with the national average (5.6 persons). Children having their family size of less than 5 members had covered 32 percent, family of 8 to 10 members were of 18 percent and family with more than 10 members were of 4 percent.

4.1.5 Family Background

Family background is one of the strong factors to examine the causes of DCLs as well as the family vulnerability. Break – up family structure and conflict also enforce children to work. Family background means parents situation, occupations and parent’s educational background.

Table 4.5 Distribution of Child Domestic Labors by their Parents

S.No.	Parent’s Alive Status	Number	Percentage
1.	Both Alive	39	78
2.	Father Dead	6	12
3.	Mother Dead	3	6
4.	Both Dead	2	4
Total		50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Majority of respondents (78 percent) reported that both their parents were alive and only 4 percent of DCLs reported that both of their parents were dead. Significantly, 12 percent of DCLs were without father while 6 percent were without mother. It was found that only a few numbers of children were compelled to work as domestic labors in absence of their parents.

Table 4.6 Distributions of Respondents by Stepparents

SN	Step Parent’s Status	Number	Percentage
1.	Having Step Mother	6	12
2.	Having Step Father	1	2
3.	Having own parents	43	86
Total		50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Table 4.6 shows that the majority 86 percent DCLs had no stepparents while 12 percent children had stepmothers and 2 percent had stepfathers. Distribution of children by their stepsiblings is presented in table 4.7.

Table 4.7: Distribution of Respondents by Step Siblings

S.No.	Step sister and brother's status	Number	Percentage
1.	Having Stepsiblings	4	8
2.	Having No Stepsiblings	46	92
Total		50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

According to table 4.7 , it was found only 8 percent domestic child labors had stepsiblings where as 92 percent respondents had no step sisters and brothers., Thus, the data reflected that having stepparents, stepsiblings or separation is one of the factor but not the most imperative factor to compel children for the domestic servant.

4.1.6 Parents' Occupation

In Nepal more than 80 percent people are based on the traditional agriculture. Due to the fact of small scales landholding, traditional agricultural system and lack of job opportunities, people are endured from the rampant poverty. Therefore, the occupation factor also plays the vital role for enforcing children to work in domestic sector.

Table 4.8 Distribution of Respondents by Parents' Major Occupation

S.No.	Occupation	Numbers	Percentage
1.	Agriculture	28	56
2.	Wage Laborer	14	28
3.	Service Holder	4	8
4.	Business	2	4
5.	Others (no specific)	2	4
Total		50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

According to above table, majority 56 percent of the families of the respondents were involved in agricultural sector as their major occupation sectors, Business sectors and other occupation (tailoring, handicrafts etc.) were 8, 4 and 4 percent respectively. Some respondents reported that a few numbers of parents were mostly engaged in agricultural occupation and beside agriculture they engaged in wage labor as seasonal work.

4.1.7 Landholding Pattern

The livelihood of the rural population of Nepal, agriculture is the major economic activity and other types of the manual labor represent the primary occupation of the rural poor. The families, which are depended in traditional agriculture and manual labor work, have also generally diminutive scale of land for farming, are compelled to send their children to urban areas because of rampant poverty. Land ownership pattern of the respondents labors are given in table 4.9.

Table 4.9: Distributions of Respondents by Landholding

S.No.	Landholdings	Respondents	Percentage
1	Above 2 Bigha	1	2
2	1 to 2 Bigha	3	6
3	Less than 1 Bigha	29	58
4	Landless	12	24
5	No Response	5	10
Total		50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table 4.9 shows the landholding size of all respondents. It shows that 24 percent families of respondents did not have land and 58 percent had less than 1 Bigha. Likewise, 2 percent had more than 2 Bigha and 6 percent had the land between 1 to 2 Bigha. About 10 percent respondents could not response because they did not know their landholding size. This fact reinforces the notion that domestic child labors mostly originate from land – poor households.

4.1.8 Food Sufficiency Status

Food is basic requirement of human beings. People work to maintain their subsistence problem as well as to fulfill their social and cultural needs. Though, Nepal is an Agricultural country, most of the people have no sufficient fertile cropland to grow adequate food. The table 4.10 shows the food sufficiency status of respondents from their own land.

Table 4.10: Distribution of Respondents by Food Adequacy Status from Own Land

S.N	Food sufficiency	Respondents	Percentage
1.	No production	12	24
2.	Less than 6 months	18	36
3.	6 months to 1 year	16	32
4.	No Response	5	10
Total		50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Table 4.10 shows that only 32 percent of respondents' families had sufficient food stuff around the year and 60 percent families had not adequate rations for the whole year. Quite significant families 36 percent of the children did not have sufficient food for even half a year. Those families who were landless, 24 percent and had no own agricultural production, mostly dependent on labor on labor oriented work related to agriculture and non – agriculture for their subsistence. This implies that insufficiency of won food production is another reason compelling the children to leave the parents' lovely lap to search for work.

4.1.9 Educational Background of Parents

Parents' education plays the essential role on the children's future. The first step of socialization of the man starts from his own home. A widespread parental illiteracy

makes (as shown in table 4.11) them unaware of the advantages of education in building a better future of their children.

Table 4.11 Distribution of Respondents by Parent’s Education

S.No.	Educational Status	Father	Percentage	Mother	Percentage
1.	Illiterate	15	30	23	46
2.	Literate only	12	24	8	16
3.	Primary	10	20	8	16
4.	Lower Secondary	7	14	6	12
5.	Secondary	4	8	4	8
6.	SLC or Above	2	4	1	2
Total		50	100	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Table 4.11 presents the educational figure of DCLs parents. Basically in the present research, parents’ educational status is divided into 6 categories that are in common practice. About 46 percent mothers of DCLs were illiterate while illiterate fathers were only 30 percent. It signifies that trend of providing education only for son is affected for most of the families. Common proverb is that if mother is uneducated in the family then whole family will be unaware. The percentage of the mothers’ illiteracy was low with the comparison of fathers. Out of 50 fathers and 50 mothers, 4 percent fathers and 2 percent mothers have taken education of SLC level or more than SLC. It was found that maximum number 62 percent are illiterate and only literate so that it is a symbol of unawareness that they do not know the child labor is an illegal practice. As a result, their children are compelled to work and pushing into vulnerable condition.

4.1.10 Environment of respondents at their home

Home is the first school of the children. Children are considered as the clay of the potter. Better environment supports their overall development to be an ideal and energetic person. Home environment, therefore, is one of the prime factors that effect each and

every possession of the children. Responsibilities of the children at their home and behave of family members towards them are discussed under this topics.

Table 4.12: Distribution of Respondents by Responsibilities in their Home

S.No.	Responsibilities	Respondents	Percentage
1.	Look after youngsters	6	12
2.	Kitchen work	15	30
3.	Farm work	15	30
4.	Cattle herding	5	10
5.	Above all	4	8
6.	Others (no specific)	5	10
Total		50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Before entering the domestic servant, the children were engaged in household work as well as in education. Table 4.12 revealed that each 30 percent were helped their family members in kitchen work and farm work. Similarly, 12 percent were engaged in looking siblings and 10 percent in cattle herding. The percentage of the children who were engaged in the farm and kitchen work is high because parents start to provide training for their children from the easy kitchen works and farm works. 8 percent of them were involved in all household works as mentioned in the table 4.13.

Table 4.13: Distribution of Respondents by Mistreatment at Home

S.No.	Individual	No of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Mother	3	6
2.	Father	5	10
3.	Stepmother/Father	5	10
4.	Sisters and Brothers	2	4
5.	Other Members	4	8
6.	None	31	62
Total		50	100

Source: Field Survey 2009.

The 4.13 table shows 38 percent of domestic child workers were mistreated by the family members when they were at home. Out of 50 respondents, 6 percent were badly treated by mothers, 10 percent by fathers, 10 percent by stepmother/father, 4 percent by sisters and brothers, 8 percent from other members of the family and rest of 62 percent were not ill treated by the family members.

4.2 Educational Status of Domestic Child Labors

Literacy is perhaps the most important single means of achieving social, economic and mental development. It is the most important singular capability that can bring overall change in human activities. Every policy makers and planners are convinced that in order to eliminate child labor from the country, a policy towards implementation of free and compulsory primary schooling is the most important measure to take.

4.2.1 Previous Educational Background of Domestic Child Labors

Providing education to their children is the major of the parents of rural poor society due to poverty. Educational background of the children in their home before joining the domestic service is shown in following table.

Table 4.14: Distributions of Domestic Child Labors by Previous Educational Background

S.No.	Educational Status	Male		Female		Total	
		No	Percentage	No	Percentage	No	Percentage
1.	Illiterate	9	31.1	10	47.6	19	38
2.	Literate only	6	20.7	4	19.1	10	20
3.	Primary	8	27.6	5	23.8	13	26
4.	Lower Secondary	5	17.2	2	9.5	7	14
5.	Secondary	1	3.45	-	-	1	2
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Table 4.14 shows the educational status of the children before joining the present domestic service. The maximum percentage (38 percent) of illiteracy of the children among 5 categories is itself signifies the low level of education. Only one male child is taken secondary levels education. High percentage of illiteracy of female clearly shows the biasness of the parents against the female education. It is revealed from this study that 26 percent of respondents have taken primary education because of the availability of primary education everywhere in the country by the education policy of government. A reason for massive illiteracy is shown in table 4.15.

Table 4.15: Reasons for not Enrolling in School/Illiteracy

S.No.	Reasons	Respondents	Percentages
1.	Poor economic condition	9	47.3
2.	Work burden	5	26.3
3.	Parents' ignorance	3	15.8
4.	Not interested to join school	1	5.3
5.	No Response	1	5.3
Total		19	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Due to the poor economic condition of the family, 47.3 percent among not enrolling children were unable to admit in the school. Because of the poor economy, the parents have taken the subsidiary work from their children to maintain their living. This forced them to involve their children in household work. Out of 19 children, about 26 percent of children never went to school by the cause of work burden. Similarly, 15.8 percent children were deprived from schooling because their parents refused to send them for reading and writing. This fact indicates that parents' illiteracy played the critical role for the children's future.

4.2.2 Present Educational Status of Domestic Child Labor

Parents have sent their children to the masters' house as domestic helper with the expectation of better life of their children. By realizing the importance of the education, parents want to send their children to the urban areas for employment as well as having education.

Table 4.16: Distribution of Respondents by School Enrollment at Present

S.No.	School enrollment	Male		Female		Total	
		percent	No.	percent	percent	No.	percent
1.	Yes	23	79.3	14	66.7	37	74
2.	No	6	20.7	7	33.3	13	26
Total		29	29	100	21	100	50

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Table 4.16 shows the status of school enrollment at the present working pace of domestic work had admitted in the school in the study area. This figure of the school enrollment was found increased of 12 percent where as the enrollment percent of children before they leave home was about 62 percent. Unfortunately, 26 percent were deprived from the right of taking education at present.

Table 4.17: Distribution of Respondents by Present Educational Status

S.No.	Level of education	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	percent	No.	percent	No.	percent
1.	Primary	14	48.3	8	38.1	22	44
2.	Lower Secondary	7	24.1	5	23.8	12	24
3.	Secondary	2	6.9	1	4.8	3	6
4.	Not joined	6	20.7	7	33.3	13	26
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Table 4.17 presents the current educational background of domestic child workers. As already pointed out 26 percent children had not seen the light of education. 44 percent of children among 50 were in primary level while 24 percent were studying in lower secondary level. Only 6 percent were studying in lower secondary level. Only 6 percent were studying in secondary level.

4.2.3 Preference of Illiterate Domestic Child Labors for Education

Almost all children are interested to attain education. But the different constraints like poverty, parents' situation, traditional socio-cultural practices, lack of educational institution etc, are depriving the desire of children attaining education.

Table 4.18: Preference of Illiterate Domestic Child Workers to Join School

S.No.	Interest to join school	Numbers	Percent
1.	Yes	10	76.9
2.	No	3	23.1
Total		13	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Out of 50 children, 13 were deprived from getting education. Table 4.18 demonstrates the interest of education of those 13 children. Among 13, only 3 were not interested in going to school. 10 children wanted to study but their employers forcefully stopped them for joining school against their interest.

4.3 Reason for Being Domestic Workers

Like the morning show the day, the overall status of the children shows development and prosperity of the country. Positive thinking towards children is significant for social and economic development of the nation. However it is pity that some children have to go on the street, factory and domestic servitude by depriving themselves from their own

families' affection and for education. About the major reasons that pushed children to be a domestic servant is discuss in table 4.19

Table 4.19: Reason for Taking up Domestic Work

S. No	Reasons	Respondents	Percent
1.	To work and earn money	14	28
2.	To get study opportunity	23	46
3.	Mistreatment by family members	5	10
4.	Domestic quarrel	1	2
5.	To see city life	2	4
6.	Advice of friends	2	4
7.	Other reasons	3	6
Total		50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009

Table 4.19 shows that a largest numbers of children i.e. 46 percent were entered in domestic work with a great willing of study opportunity while 28 percent for financial support for survival. And, 10 percent of the children were taking up the domestic work because of maltreatment of the family members, 2 percent causes by domestic quarreled and 4 and 4 percent were ran away from home by the advice of friends and to see city lifer respectively. During the field survey, it was found that 78 percent of the children were entered into the domestic sector with their parents' suggestion.

4.4 Bringing Agent/Negotiators

In the domestic service sector a few numbers of children were entered with their own decision. Most of them were engaged through parents, relatives, mediators and employer as well. Table 4.20 shows the mode of coming at present work place.

Table 4.20: Mode of Coming at the Present Work Place

S.No.	Agents	No. of respondents	Percent
1.	Parents	11	22
2.	Relatives	18	36
3.	Employer or their relatives	10	20
4.	Contractors	3	6
5.	Self or with friends	8	16
Total		50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009

Majority (36 percent) of the respondents arrived through their relatives. 22 percent children were brought by parents and 20 percent children by employer themselves. Children were arrived the employer's house through contractors and himself/herself accounted for 6 percent and 16 percent respectively. These data reveals that the kinship network and agents were also compelled them to enter domestic sectors.

4.5 Age at Entering Domestic Service

Poverty is one of the major factors that lead children to enter in the domestic work at a very early age, especially, from the poor rural society. For the survival strategy many children from the poor rural families have to leave their houses searching for new job opportunity. The table 4.21 shows the distribution of respondents according to their ages at the commencement to work as the domestic child workers.

Table 4.21: Distribution of the Respondents on Age at Entering Domestic Service

S. No.	Age range (year)	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
1.	7 to 9	2	6.9	3	14.3	5	10
2.	10 to 12	19	65.5	14	66.6	33	66

3.	13 to 15	8	27.6	4	19.1	12	24
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.21 shows the age at which the children started to work as domestic servant. During this study, it found that 66 percent of children, mostly the girls were entered the service at the age of 10 to 12 years. Likewise, the age of children entering in the domestic service with 7 to 9 years and 13 to 15 years were 10 percent and 24 percent respectively. From the gender perspective, there was not found any notable specific trend.

4.6 Nature of Work Condition of DCLs

4.6.1 Nature of Work

DCLs working in urban areas of Nepal are engaged in all domestic chores and some work outside the house. Kitchen works, dishwashing, house cleaning, baby sitting, gardening, shop keeping and cattle herding are the main activities of DCLs in which they are engaged. Majority of children working in the hazardous condition of domestic sectors are getting limited facilities. Table 4.22 summarizes the nature of the work in which the children were engaged daily.

Table 4.22: Distribution of DCLs by Major Roles in Household's Works

S.No.	Work performed	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No	Percent
1.	Kitchen work	6	20.7	7	33.4	13	26
2.	Washing and cleaning	7	24.1	4	19.0	11	22
3.	Baby- sitting	3	10.4	4	19.0	7	14
4.	Farming and gardening	1	3.5	0	0	1	2
5.	All of the above	12	41.3	6	28.6	18	36
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.22 shows that majority (36 percent) of children had to do the entire households task. Similarly, 26 percent engaged in kitchen works, 22 percent in washing and cleaning, 14 percent in baby-sitting and 2 percent in farming and gardening. The female were found to have performed inner households' roles such as cooking, cleaning and baby-sitting.

4.7 Problems Faced by Domestic Child Labors

Domestic child labor have to face many problems such as work burden of household, getting less compensation of work, spending long hours in work, getting low quality of food, poor living/sleeping arrangement, facing health problem, no opportunity for recreation etc. The table given below shows the problem facing by domestic child labor in different aspect.

4.7.1 Working Hours

DCLs may have to work morning to evening. Some have to work up to late night and get up early in the morning. They might feel tired from continuous work but there is not any compensation to them for such exploitation. The average working hours of the DCWs is presented in the table 4.23.

Table 4.23: Distribution of Domestic Child Workers by Working Hours

S.No	Working Hours	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
1.	Less than 6 hrs.	1	3.4	1	4.8	2	4
2.	6 to 8 hrs.	6	20.7	5	23.8	11	22
3.	9 to 12 hrs.	14	48.3	9	42.8	23	46
4.	More than 12 hrs.	8	27.6	6	28.6	14	28
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

The table 4.23 shows that the majority (46 percent) of the respondents were working between 9 to 12 hours a day. Similarly, 22 percent respondents 6 to 8 hours, 28 percent respondents for more than 12 hours and only 4 percent respondents were working for less than 6 hours in the domestic sector of the sampled research households. From the gender perspective, there was no significant distinction between male and female by working hours.

4.7.2 Contract for the Compensation of the Work

There is great variation in the mode of payment to child workers. Those children who are provided education, shelter and meal besides remuneration are categorized by unpaid status. Paid status is defined be salary for compensation along with lodging-fooding. The following table 4.24 shows the paid, unpaid and no stated status of remuneration of domestic child workers.

Table 4.24: Distribution of Respondents by the Compensation for the Work

S.No.	Compensation status	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
1.	Paid	7	24.1	4	19.0	11	22
2.	Unpaid	17	58.6	13	62.0	30	60
3.	No stated	5	17.3	4	19.0	9	18
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.24 shows that 22 percent child labors were paid and 60 percent were unpaid. Similarly, 18 percent of the DCLs said that they were unknown about the salary. By the gender perspective, 62 percent female workers were in unpaid status which the unpaid male workers were only 58.6 percent.

4.7.3 Compensation for Work

According to table 4.25, there were only 11 domestic child workers who received salary per month as per the agreement with the employer. Distribution of the domestic child workers by remuneration is given in table 4.25.

Table 4.25: Distribution of Domestic Child Workers by Wages/Salary

S.No	Remuneration per month	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
1.	Less than 400	1	14.3	0	0	1	9.1
2.	400 to 600	3	42.8	2	50.0	5	45.4
3.	600 to 800	1	14.3	0	0	1	9.1
4.	800 to 1000	1	14.3	1	25.0	2	18.2
5.	More than 1000	1	14.3	1	25.0	2	18.2
Total		7	100	4	100	11	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.25 shows distribution of domestic child labors by wages. Out of 50 domestic child workers, 22 percent were worked on salary basis. Majority of the children consisted of 45.4 percent were provided Rs.800 to 1000 and more than Rs.1000 respectively. Similarly, 9.1 percent each were provided by monthly salary of Rs.600 to 800 and less than Rs.400 correspondingly.

Table 4.26: Distribution of Respondent by the Collection of Salary

S. No	Earning	Respondents	Percent
1.	Parents	5	45.5
2.	Employer	3	27.3
3.	Relatives	1	9.1
4.	Self	2	18.1
Total		11	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.26 shows the majority (45.5 percent) salaries of domestic child labors were paid to their parents while 18.1 percent of employees were kept their salary themselves. Likewise, 9.1 percent of the domestic child labors' salaries were collected by their relatives. Significant number (27.3 percent) of domestic child workers' wages was kept by the employers themselves. It was found that the significant numbers of DCLs salaries were utilized by their parents for economic support.

Table 4.27: Distribution of Respondents by Ownership over Income

S. No	Ownership	Respondents	Percent
1.	Parents	5	45.5
2.	Self	5	45.5
3.	Relatives	1	9.0
Total		11	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Child labor is a cause of poverty and one of the main reasons for children to work as child domestic labors is to support the economy of the families. Table 4.27 shows the utilization of the earnings by the DCLs and closely relevant persons of DCLs. Each 45.5 percent of DCLs earning were utilized by parents and self respectively. 9.0 percent DCLs salaries were found spend by their relatives.

4.7.4 Food and Shelter

Following table 4.28 shows the quality of food and shelter obtained by the labors.

Table 4.28: Distribution of Respondents by Quality of Food

S.No.	Degree of Quality of Food	Respondents	Percent
1.	Good	7	14
2.	Normal	32	64
3.	Bad	11	22

Total	50	100
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Source: Field survey, 2009.

As all the DCLs were staying at the master's home, food arrangement was, therefore, dependent on the behavior and attitude of master family members. Table 4.28 shows the quality of food provided to the child domestic workers by master. About 14 percent of workers were provided food with good quality. Majority of children (64 percent) were provided normal food as for the members of master family but unfortunately, about 22 percent of the children were given food of bad quality.

Table 4.29: Distribution of Respondents by Sleeping Arrangement

S.No.	Sleeping Place	No. of Respondents	Percent
1.	Under the staircase	8	16
2.	Passage way	6	12
3.	Servant's room	14	28
4.	Dining room	7	14
5.	Drawing room	7	14
6.	Bedroom of master's family	7	14
7.	Others	1	2
Total		50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

The above table 4.29 shows the sleeping arrangement made for child domestic labors. Only 28 percent of the domestic child labors were provided separate servant's room. 14 percent each were slept at floor of the dining room and master's bedroom respectively. Similarly, 16 percent were sleeping under the staircase, 12 percent in the passage way and 2 percent in other places such as garage, porch of the house etc. Most of them reported that they were sleeping on the wooden bed while about one third of them reported that they were sleeping in the mat on the floor.

4.7.5 Health and Hygiene

According to several previous researchers done by government and non governmental organization, the health condition of domestic child labors of Kathmandu is in a critical condition. As child domestic labors are in unhealthy and unhygienic working condition, they are vulnerable from hygienic point of view. Food quality, sufficiency of water, clothing support, recreational facilities and facility for treatment are the factors directly related to health condition of the workers. In table 4.30 the health condition and its effecting factors are discussed.

Table 4.30: Clothing Support by the Employer

S.No.	Pair of clothes(per year)	No. of respondents	Percent
1.	Two	14	28
2.	Three	22	44
3.	More than three	14	25
Total		50	101

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.30 shows the numbers of pair of clothes provided to domestic child labors in a year by master. It was found that 44 percent of the children were given 3 pairs of dress in a year. Similarly, each 28 percent children were provided two or more than three pairs of clothes per year. All school going children reported that they had also one or two pairs of school dresses.

Table 4.31: Bathing of the Domestic Child Workers

S.No.	Taking Bath	No. of Respondents	Percent
1.	Once a week	19	38
2.	Twice a week	16	32
3.	Thrice a week	13	26
4.	More than three times	2	4

Total	50	100
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Source: Field survey, 2009.

According to table 4.31, it was found that 38 percent of children had taken bath once a week. Alike, 32, 26 and 4 percent of child labors took bath twice a week, thrice a week and more than three times in a week respectively. During field observation period most of the children, especially school children, were seen moderately clean.

Table 4.32: Domestic Child Workers on the Basis of Illness

S. No	Illness	No. of respondents	Percent
1.	Yes	31	62
2.	No	19	38
Total		50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.32 shows that 62 percent of sampled domestic child labors were fallen sick after them joining the present household for work. Excluding common cold and minor wounds, about 38 percent children were not suffered by the serious sickness during the job period.

Table 4.33: Mode of Treatment of the Domestic Child Workers

S.No.	Mode of Treatment	No. of Respondents	Percent
1.	Visit to the doctor	3	9.6
2.	Hospitalized	1	3.3
3.	Normal treatment	23	74.2
4.	Nature treatment	4	12.9
Total		31	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.33 shows the mode of treatment of the child domestic labors. Out of total 31 sick respondents, 3 respondents (9.6 percent) were reported that they had suffered from high fever of typhoid and visited to doctor at the clinic while 1 respondent (3.3 percent) had

hospitalized for 8 days by falling from the roof. Majority of the respondents consisted 74.2 percent were recovered by the normal treatment at home. Likewise, 12.9 percent of sick respondents were treated naturally, were recovered without using allopathic medicine.

4.7.6 Recreation

Recreation is most essential, especially, for the children. Necessity to have time for recreation is a child domestic labors were asked whether they play or not and if they play whatever they do. Access of watching TV, playing in-door and out-door games and listening radio and music are the major recreational facilities for new generation in the urban areas. Table 4.34 shows the recreational facilities provided by the employer to the DCLs for the refreshment.

Table 4.34: Availability of Time to Play

S.No.	Availability of Time for Playing	No. of Respondents	Percent
1.	Yes	15	30
2.	No	35	70
Total		50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009

From table 4.34, it is found that 70 percent of domestic child labors had not allowed playing. Some of them did not get spare time due to work burden. Only 30 percent of workers got the leisure time to play. Half of them played with employer's children and rest of them usually played out door games such as football, badminton and running around.

Table 4.35: Access to Watching TV to the Domestic Child Workers

S.No.	Accessibility for Watching TV	No. of Respondents	Percent
1.	Yes	44	88
2.	No	6	12

Total	50	100
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Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.35 shows that 88 percent respondents had the facility of watching TV while 12 percent respondents did not have such facility. It was found that most of the respondents have less than hour availability to watch TV only in evening.

4.7.7 Holiday Facility

Generally, DCLs are not provided long leave to visit their family and relatives. They are hardly allowed to visit once or twice a year. Table 4.36 shows the holiday facility provided to the DCLs.

Table 4.36: Holiday Facility Provided to the Domestic Child Workers

S.No.	Holiday Facility	No. of Respondents	Percent
1.	Yes	34	68
2.	No	16	32
Total		50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.36 reveals the fact that 68 percent respondents were provided holiday facility to meet their dear parents and relatives but rest of the children 32 percent were not provided such facility.

4.10 Relationship with Master’s Family of Domestic Child Worker

Every child needs love, affection and respect for his/her healthy growth. It is, therefore, important to see the relationship between the employer and his domestic workers. Here, various aspects related with relationship between the family members and DCLs such as treatment of employer towards domestic worker, closest persons of the family, nature of punishment and mistreatment are attempted to discuss appreciably in table 4.37.

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Table 4.37: Treatment towards Domestic Child Workers

S. No.	Treatment	Respondents	Percent
1.	Very good	8	16
2.	Good	21	42
3.	Bad	14	28
4.	Very bad	4	8
5.	No responses	3	6
Total		50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.37 shows the treatment of employers' towards domestic child workers of sampled households of the study area. 42 percent of domestic child workers reported the good treatment of masters' family members while 16 percent reported it very good. Similarly, 28 percent respondents had found bad and 8 percent found very bad treatment of employers towards them. Three sampled employees denied giving response. In average, the perception and attitude of employer was noted moderately kind towards DCLs.

Table 4.38: Distribution of Domestic Child workers by Calling Name

S.No.	Calling Name	No. of Respondents	Percent
1.	Kanchha/Kanchhi	8	16
2.	Nick name	14	28
3.	Self name	28	56
Total		50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

The table 4.38 shows the distribution of DCLs calling name in the workplace. It was found that 16 percent of child workers were found called by Kanchha or Kanchhi and 28 percent by nick name but majority (56 percent) respondents were by their self-name.

Table 4.39: Distribution of Respondents According to Mistreatment by Different Members

S.No.	Members	No. of Respondents	Percent
1.	Master	4	8
2.	Mistress	14	28
3.	Master's son	4	8
4.	Master's daughter	2	4
5.	Others	1	2
6.	Nobody treat badly	22	44
7.	No response	3	6
Total		50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.39 shows the highest, 28 percent respondents were treated badly by mistress while the least, 2 percent by other members of master's family. Similarly 8 percent of respondents were treated badly by master and master's son and 4 percent of respondents by masters' daughter. The table also shows that there was no maltreatment to the 44 percent of DCLs while 6 percent gave no response to this query.

The next table 4.40 shows the distribution of respondents by the closest person in the employers' families.

Table 4.40: Distribution of the Respondents by the Closest Person in the Employer's Family

S.No.	Closest person	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
1.	Master	10	34.5	2	9.5	12	24
2.	Mistress	8	27.6	12	57.1	20	40
3.	Master's son	-	20.7	1	4.8	7	14
4.	Master's daughter	2	6.9	5	23.8	7	14

P[\\5.	Other members	3	10.3	1	4.8	4	8
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.40 shows that the highest number (40 percent) of domestic child labors was close to the mistress while second highest numbers (24 percent) were close to the master. The table also reveals the closeness of DCLs from gender perspective as it shows more male DCLs (34 percent) closeness with master and more female DCLs (57 percent) with mistress respectively. Similarly, each 14 percent felt that they were closer to the master's son and daughters respectively. About 8 percent of the workers were closer with the other members such as grandfather, grandmother, another child worker etc.

Table 4.41: Distribution of DCWs by Nature of Punishment

S. No.	Nature of punishment	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
1.	Scolding	9	31.0	4	19.0	13	26
2.	Beating and scolding	5	17.3	3	14.4	8	16
3.	Other punishment	2	6.9	2	9.5	4	8
4.	No punishment	12	41.4	10	47.6	22	44
5.	No response	1	3.4	2	9.5	3	6
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.41 shows the types of punishment faced by the domestic child labors at different times and situations. Scolding, beating and harassing were the common types of punishment frequently faced by workers. Actually, the nature and intensity of punishments given to the child domestic labors found were of various types. According to the above table out of 50 percent while 6 percent and 8 percent were beating and scolding and other different types of punishment.

4.11 Future Life and Personal Feeling of Domestic Child Workers

Satisfaction, dissatisfaction, personal feeling on the current job, and ambition of DCLs are discussed on the following sub-topic of the section and summarized in table 4.42

Table 4.42: Satisfaction with the Present Job

S.No	Satisfaction	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
1.	Yes	18	62.0	15	71.4	33	66
2.	No	11	38.0	6	28.6	17	34
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.42 shows that 66 percent children were satisfied and rests of the children were not satisfied their present job. Table 4.42 also shows that comparatively higher numbers of female DCLs were satisfied with their present job than male DCLs.

Table 4.43: Reason for Dissatisfaction of Child Workers with Present Job

S.No.	Reason for Dissatisfaction	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
1.	Low wage	2	18.2	1	16.7	3	17
2.	Misbehave	3	27.3	2	33.3	5	29
3.	Work burden	3	27.3	1	16.7	4	23
4.	Lack of holidays	0	0	2	33.3	2	11
5.	No education	1	9.0	0	0	1	5.9
6.	Homesickness	2	18.2	0	0	2	11.8
Total		11	100	6	100	17	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

Table 4.43 shows that 29.4 percent of the children were dissatisfied because of misbehave followed by 23.5 percent and 17.6 percent because of work burden and low wages respectively. Similarly, 5.9 percent DCLs were dissatisfied due to no education while each 11.8 percent were due to very limited holidays and homesickness respectively. By the gender perspective, it was found that 11.8 percent of children (female) were provided no holidays.

Table 4.44: Aim of Domestic Child Workers in Future

S.No.	Future aims	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
1.	Lahoore	6	20.7	0	0	6	12
2.	Army/policeman	4	13.8	0	0	4	8
3.	Teacher	8	27.6	6	28.6	14	28
4.	Driver	3	10.3	1	4.7	4	8
5.	Shopkeeper	3	10.3	2	9.5	5	10
6.	Singer/ dancer	2	6.9	3	14.3	5	10
7.	Other	1	3.5	5	23.8	6	12
8.	No aim	2	6.9	4	19.1	6	12
Total		29	100	21	100	50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

The table 4.44 shows the future plan of the domestic child labors. A majority of domestic child labors (28 percent) wanted to be a good teacher after completion of the study. 12 percent of all male children would express their desire of going gulf countries like Saudi Arab, Kuwait, UAE, and Qatar etc. for better job opportunity and 8 percent wanted to be driver and conductor, each 10 percent shopkeeper, and cine-artist like singer and dancer. 12 percent prefer other types of jobs such as government service holders, social workers, Lahore, tourist guide etc. and the next 12 percent could not express their definite future aim.

Table 4.45: Distribution of Domestic Child Workers on the Basis of Child Rights Knowledge

S. No	Knowledge on child rights	Male	Female	Total	
1.	Yes	11	8	19	38
2.	No	18	13	31	62
Total		29	21	50	100

Source: Field survey, 2009.

During the field survey, all domestic child labors (respondent) were asked about the knowledge of child rights. Above table 4.45 shows that out of 50 children, 38 percent were able to express some ideas about child rights while 62 percent could not. They (38 percent children) confidently and clearly expressed that they should have the right of survival, education, development and protection etc.

CHAPTER SIX

SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

6.1 Summary

Child labor exploitation, as part of the economic, social, and cultural aspects of our society, is a reality. Lack of familial awareness, unjust social relations, poverty, and marginalization lead children to sell their labor for a living and for the support of their families. This study has the main objective of probing into the realities of child domestic workers. Sending children for employment in the urban areas has become a normal and esteemed poverty managing and income generating strategy for poor rural households.

The specific objectives of this study were to assess the socio-economic condition of the domestic child labors, identify the major contributing factors leading them towards domestic labor and find out the problems faced by domestic child labors. From the universe, Kathmandu metropolitan city, ward no. 34. 50 child domestic labors consisted of 58 percent male and 42 percent female ages of 10 to 15 years were selected by using the purposive cum accidental sampling method. This is a descriptive and exploratory study that has focused on the socio-economic condition of the domestic child labors of the sampled respondents of research area. Both primary and secondary as well as qualitative and quantitative data have been used; and various techniques of data collection such as questionnaire, observations etc. have been applied to carry out the study on effective and reliable way. Achievement of the study is presented in the following summarized points.

-) The child labors had come from the all peripheral district including different parts of the countries. In the study, it was found that domestic child workers had come from the 20 different districts of the country.

-) Children belonging the higher caste as well as ethnic group were found in the domestic service sector. The caste group Brahman, Chhetri and Newars altogether consisted of 56 percent, ethnic group 36 percent and Dalits 8 percent.
-) The higher numbers (46 percent) of the domestic child labors were found working from the moderate (5 to7 members) size families. It was found that 78 percent children had both father and mother alive.
-) Out of 50 respondents' parents, only 54 percent were literate among whom very few (2 percent) had passed SLC.
-) 38 percent of the domestic child labors were illiterate and 20 percent wee able to read and write before joining the domestic sector. Only 26, 14 and 2 percent of them were reading in primary, lower secondary and secondary level respectively. Among 21 girls, the percentages of the illiterate girls were 47.6 percent. From gender perspective, girls had less access to education than boys even before joining the job, 12 percent more children had got the chances to admit in the school. It was found that 74 percent of the children involving in the domestic sectors had admitted in the school.
-) Before entering into the domestic works, children were engaged in household work as additional work than education (going school). Each 30 percent were assisting their family members in household work and kitchen work. Rest of the children were helping parents in different fields such as looking after youngster, house cleaning etc.38 percent of children at home were maltreated by different family members though only 10 percent of the children were found taking up the domestic work in the city because of it.
-) Forty six percent of children left home for the study opportunity while 28 percent with the expectation of earning money. About 2 percent children had come city to

be free from the domestic quarrel and each 4 percent children to see city life and due to the advice of the closest friends respectively.

) Majority (36 percent) of them arrived at the present work place through their relatives while 22 percent were brought by parents 20 percent by employers, 6 percent by contractors and 16 percent themselves.

) Sixty six percent children had entered the service at the age between 10 to 12 years. Likewise, 24 percent entered at the age of 13 to 15 and rest of them at the age of 7 to 9 years.

) Domestic child labors were involved in very wide range of activities at the employer's household. It was found that 36 percent of children had to perform all types of household work. Children doing kitchen work, washing and cleaning, baby caring etc. as major work were 26, 22, 14 and 2 percent respectively. More than 45 percent of children were working for 9 to 12 hours per day but they did not get any extra facilities and compensation for overtime. All domestic child workers were found wake up before 6 AM and usually sleep after 9 PM.

) There were 22 percent paid and 60 percent unpaid DCLs in the research areas while 18 percent were unstated. Among the 60 percent unpaid children, most had provided the facility of schooling. Out of 11 salary received respondents, more than 45 percent received Rs. 400 to 600 salaries. There were only 18.2 percent DCLs receiving more than Rs 1000 salaries from the employers. 18.2 percent children had kept their salaries themselves. Parents, employers, relatives and other closest person kept rest of the respondents' salary.

) Forty four percent of the children were provided normal food to that of the employer's family members but 32 percent children were provided qualitatively

inferior food. The study found that 28 percent children were provided separate servant's room were 16 and 12 percent children were given staircase and passage way for sleeping place. Each 14 percent were slept at the sitting room, drawing room and master's bedroom. Other 2 percent children were hardly adjusted in garages and porch of the house.

) All the children reported that they had two or more than two pairs of clothes including school dresses but about 52 percent of the children reported that they had no sufficient winter dresses. Due to lack of water, 38 percent children had taken bath once a week. Similarly, 32 and 26 percent children had bathed twice and thrice a week while 2 percent frequently.

) Among 50 respondents, 19 children mentioned that they were never ill after joining the service. Cough and cold, headache, fever, typhoid, skin disease, and wound are the most common diseases by which they had suffered. In most of the cases they were taken medicine with the help of the master's family members without having checked up from the medical professionals. 74.2 percent children were recovered by the normal treatment and 12.9 percent by natural treatment at home. The percent of hospitalized and visited to doctors were 23 and 9.6 respectively.

) The study found that 70 percent children did not get the opportunity of entertainment, but 88 percent child worker could see TV, Similarly, some child domestic workers had time to play with master's children. However, they did not get any specified time for playing. 68 percent children were provided holiday facility; however 40 percent children were unknown about it.

) Regarding the treatment of masters' family members with DCLs .It was found that 42 percent of child domestic labors were treated nicely and 16 percent very nicely. Similarly, 28 percent respondents were treated badly and 8 percent very

badly. In the study 50 percent child domestic workers were found punished among which 26 percent were punished by scolding, 16 percent by beating and 8 percent were penalized by other ways. 16 and 28 percent child domestic workers called by *Kanchha or Kanchhi* and from *nickname* were also found.

-) Forty percent of children closer with the mistress and 26 percent with the masters. Rests of the children were closer to other members of the family.
-) Sixty six percent child domestic workers were satisfied at the present job. Among those satisfied children, 18 percent were satisfied due to lack of alternatives with them.
-) It was found that majority 88 percent of them had expressed their desire for better job in near future. 28 percent of them want to be a good teacher after completion the study. Interestingly, 12 and 8 percent of them, all male children had ambitions of being Lahoore and Nepalese policeman or army respectively. The percentage of children with the ambition of shopkeeper, and singer and dancer were 10 percent of each respectively. Out of 50 children, 2 from male and 4 female had no future aim.
-) Thirty eight percent of the children were conscious about the child right. During the survey only some of the schooling children could observe talking assertively about the right of education, survival, development and protection of the children.

6.2 Conclusions

When a child is exploited for the economic gain of others, the child loses and the world loses. A nation can not achieve prosperity on the backs of its children.

Child labor is a pervasive problem in today's world, but it is not a hopeless one. When communities mobilize, when societies come together and decide that child labor is no longer acceptable, great progress can be made towards it. This is an economic issue for countries and families but it is also an ethical one. The fight against child labor is ultimately a battle to expand the frontiers of human dignity and freedom.

Because of population growth, small land holding size, and lack of alternative income opportunities, the economy of rural people is falling far down the line of poverty. They are therefore; compel to look for secondary professions. As most of the non-agricultural income generating activities is concentrated in urban areas, they are compelled to migrate temporarily or enduringly to major cities of the country. A large number of adults as well as children are migrating to cities, especially in Kathmandu, looking for the supportive work for education, survival, family economic support etc. A large part of migrant children are engaged in the domestic sectors as domestic child workers.

Children assist to their parents in household works while they are in their homes and provide economic support to the parents while they are in city as DCLs. Some of the children are kept as DCLs with the agreement of schooling rather than in salary.

It is the first and foremost duty of guardians and parents to give appropriate care and protection for every child. Those children who do not get appropriate care and protection from their parents and care takers are most likely to fall into risky situations. If children do not get a suitable environment at home, then schools and day care centers need to bring up the children in healthy, secure, and loving environments. In this situation, children's well-being depends on better guardianship rather than on poor economic status. If children are not properly taken care of by their parents and caretakers, it is more likely problems will be found in these children. Those children who are most liable to face challenges regarding their psycho-social health are those who grow up in homes where there are domestic problems or disputes between parents or in a society where there is not a child-friendly environment. It is said that childhood surroundings have a strong impact on the child throughout his lifetime.

Actually, child labor is not only a problem of Nepal but also of several countries and one of the serious problems of the world. Therefore, concern for child labors has been increasing and understanding that the perspective of the child must be considered at all stages i.e. research, policy making and programming so that the problem can be addressed on time. In this regard, United Nation Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC) 1989, offers the right of children to education self – expression and freedom from exploitative work. Children are not little adults. Their fundamental right is to childhood itself.

Child labor exploitation is an alarming problem in this country. This is caused by the existing exploitative socio-economic and cultural structure of the country. Landlessness, illiteracy, exploitative labor relations and poverty are the basic long-term causes of child labor whereas large family size, dropping out of school and domestic violence are amongst the immediate causes.

6.3 Recommendations

Child labor is a cause and consequence of injustice and unfair socio-economic and cultural relations in society. The issue of child labor has gone from being ignored in Nepal to now being on the political agenda. There has been a gradual increase in social awareness among different segments of society on the issue and this has helped empower the movement for the rights of working children.

A progressive intervention should be done for the prevention and control of child labor exploitation. Meaningful education can be taken as an effective intervention in this regard.

Child labor is linked to the socio-economic, political and cultural realities of the country. The adoption of new laws and policies only can not prevent the child labors problem unless society as a whole is mobilized in this direction. Hence, social mobilization is an important device for building awareness and bringing about positive change. Child laborers, parents, students, teachers, trade unionists, employers, social workers and

people of all walks of life should be influenced and mobilized for the prevention and protection of working children in society.

As expressed by several government officials, the government must recognize CDL as a worst form of child labor, therefore prohibiting it by law and eliminating it in the near future. Officials from the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration feel that the Ministry should do this within the new National Plan of Action on Child Labor. It was strongly expressed that regulations covering working conditions and hours of work are necessary. A balanced situation must be created between the need of CDLs and the capacity of society to implement these regulations.

Regulations should be developed using the tripartite concept and a system of protection needs to be developed for those children who are ill-treated and abused. Some NGOs strongly insist that the right of the child should be a priority when thinking about the way forward. While government regulations undoubtedly will be a powerful intervention, the elimination of CDLs needs to happen step-by-step, taking into accounts the possibility of alternatives. The enforcement of such regulations needs to be followed up.

Following recommendations have been suggested to overcome DCLs problem and to bring some reformation in the working environment.

-) Examine and review laws and regulations to promote and protect children's rights and eliminate child labor.
-) Raising awareness among the children and their families, particularly the poor about various forms of child labor such as child prostitution and the consequences.
-) Encourage the CBOs and NGOs to participate in the protection of child rights and combat against child labor.
-) Penalize the offenders, traders and employers who use or trade child labor for various purposes.
-) Provide education facilities and alternative livelihood opportunities for children, particularly those who belong to poor and backward classes.

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Appendix A
QUESTIONNAIRE

A. Personal Details

Name of the Respondents :

Sex :

Age :

Caste/ Ethnic Group :

Address : District:.....

Municipality:.....

V.D.C. :

B. Family Background

1. Father :

a. Alive b. Dead

2. Mother :

a. Alive b. Dead

3. Do you have stepparents? If yes,

- a. Step mother b. Step father

4. Do you have stepsibling? If yes,

- a. Step brothers b. Step sisters

c. Both

5. Family size :

- a. Less than 5 members b. 5 to 7 members
c. 8 to 10 members d. more than 10

6. What is your parent's occupation?

- a. Agriculture b. Service c. Business
d. Labor e. Others

C. Parent's educational status (if you know)

Educational status	Father	Mother
Illiterate		
Literate only		
Primary		
Lower secondary		
Secondary		
SLC or above		

D. Previous educational status of the respondents

Educational status	
Illiterate	
Literate only	
Primary	
Lower secondary	
Secondary	
SLC or above	

1. If literate, where did you study?

- a. Home b. School

E. Present educational status of the respondents

1. Are you going to school?

- a. Yes b. No

2. If yes, which level do you read?

- a. Primary b. Lower secondary
c. Secondary

3. What is your school type?

- a. Government b. Private

4. Do you have sufficient time to read and write in home?

- a. Yes b. No

5. Do you get guidance from the master's family?

- a. Yes b. No

6. If dropped out or never joined school, what was the reason?

- a. poor economic condition
- b. work burden
- c. Not interested
- d. parent's illiteracy
- e. Parent's negligence
- f. Others

F. Reason for adopting domestic work

1. What were the reasons for leaving home?

- a. To work and earn money
- b. Mistreatment
- c. To get study opportunity
- d. Domestic quarrel
- e. To see city life
- f. Friends' suggestion

2. Did you leave home with parent's permission?

- a. yes
- b. no

3. If no, through whom did you come here?

- a. Relatives
- b. Villagers
- c. Contractors
- d. Alone
- e. Friends
- f. Employer

4. With what expectation did you join this job?

- a. To study
- b. To earn
- c. for the protection

G. Nature of work that you have to perform

- a. cooking
- b. washing dishes / clothes

- c. cleaning
- e. child care
- g. shopping
- i. All of above
- d. Gardening
- f. Farming
- h. others

H. Problem faced by the domestic child labor

Working Hours

1. How many hours do you work?
 - a. less than six hours
 - b. six to eight hours
 - c. eight to twelve hours
 - d. Nine to twelve hours.
 - e. More than twelve hours

2. What is your wake up time?
 - a. Before 5 AM
 - b. After 5 AM
 - c. At 6 AM

3. What is your bed time?
 - a. Before 5 AM
 - b. 8 to 10 PM
 - c. 10 to 12 PM
 - d. after 12 PM

Food and Shelter

1. Do you get sufficient food?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

2. What type of food they provide you?
 - a. Same
 - b. Different

3. If different, what is the degree of quality of meal?

- a. Low
- b. Medium
- c. Good

4. Do you get clothing support?

- a. Yes
- b. No

5. Do you have separate room to sleep?

- a. Yes
- b. No

6. If no, where do you sleep?

- a. under the stairs
- b. In the passageway
- c. Dining room
- d. Drawing room
- e. Master's bedroom

Health and Hygiene

1. How many times you take bath in a week?

- a. One
- b. Two
- c. Three
- d. More than three

2. Do you get sufficient water for bathing and cleaning the clothes?

- a. Yes
- b. No

3. How frequently you change your dress?

- a. Daily
- b. twice a week
- c. Thrice a week

4. Have you ever been sick here?

a. Yes

b. No

5. If yes, how did you recover?

a. by normal medicine

b. Natural treatment

c. Hospitalized

d. visited to doctor

6. Who helped you in your illness?

a. Master's family

b. Parents

c. Friends

Recreation

1. Does your master provide any kinds of recreational materials?

a. Yes

b. No

2. Do you watch T. V.?

a. Yes

b. No

3. Do you play games?

a. Yes

b. No

4. With whom do you play?

a. Master's kids

b. Neighbor's kids

c. Other friends

I. Relation with Master's Family

1. How do family members call you?

a. Kanchha / Kanchhi

b. Nick name

c. Self name

2. Does any of your master's family treated badly?

a. yes

b. No

3. If yes, who treats badly?

a. Master

b. Mistress

c. Master's son

d. Master's daughter

4. In what way they misbehave you?

a. Scolding

b. Beating and scolding

c. Others

5. Who loves you the most and takes care?

a. Master

b. Mistress

c. Master's son

d. Master's daughter

e. Others member of the family

Economic aspect of the respondents

J. Earnings

1. Do you get salary for this work?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Unknown

2. If yes, what is your monthly income?

a. less than Rs 400.

- b. Rs. 400-600
 - c. Rs. 600-800
 - d. Rs. 800-1000
 - e. More than Rs. 1000
3. If no, what is the reason?
- a. To pay debt of parents
 - b. To be educated
 - c. For the livelihood
 - d. others
4. Who keeps your earning?
- a. Parents
 - b. Masters
 - c. Relatives
 - c. Yourselfes
5. Are you satisfied with your income?
- a. Yes
 - b. No

K. Personal Feelings and Future Aims of the Respondents

1. Do you satisfy with your present job?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
2. If no, would you like to leave it?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
4. If yes, what do you want to do now?
- a. Go back to home
 - b. Study
 - c. Work easier than it
 - d. Others
5. What is the reason for dissatisfaction?
- a. low wage
 - b. Bad behave

c. Overload of work

d. No opportunity for education

6. What is your future ambition?

7. Do you know anything about child right? If yes, what do you know?