

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF STREET CHILDREN
IN BUTWAL MUNICIPALITY CITY**

**A Thesis
Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements
for the Award of the Degree of Masters of Arts
in Rural Development**

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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This thesis entitled "**Socio- Economic Status of Street Children in Butwal municipality City**" has been completed by Indira Bhurtel under my guidance and supervision for the partial fulfillment of the requirement of the thesis for the award of the degree of Masters of Arts in Rural Development. I, hereby recommend this work for its evaluation and approval.

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APPROVAL SHEET

This is to certify that the thesis entitled "**Socio- Economic Status of Street Children in Butwal municipality City**" written and submitted by Indira Bhurtel has been examined. It has been declared successful for fulfillment of the academic requirements towards the completion of Masters of Arts in Rural Development.

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Acknowledgements

Butwal being loci of child labour Western Development Regional Terai belt where about thousands of children exposing into the work force are concerned here. The main reason behind it are the push factors of rural areas such as poverty, landlessness, and the urbanization and industrialization of this city contribution to the pull factor for those categories of people who come to work in different sectors. Among the different forms of child labour. Street children face various problems, which arise in different sectors. These problems are related to their living and working. But these living and working problem have many other problems, such as developmental problem, health problem, and educational problem. Thee problems are the burning issues for all developing counties including Nepal. The growing number of street children is one of the greatest challenges for all advocates of development, human right activities and policy makers

So , this study ahs attempted to answer cause of those problem s and assess the selected socio-economic situations that have affected the life of street children. The main focus is one the exploration and description of the socio-economic dimensions of delinquency and consideration of the strategies for the improvement of the situation.

First of all, I consider it my privilege and fortune to get an opportunity to study work and complete any thesis under the invaluable directions and guidance of my respected teacher Prof. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Khadka, who not only supervised this work with his incisive comments and suggestions at different stage but also took a keen interest in it and constantly encourage me to complete this research work. so, first and for most, I wish to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to my respected

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Needless to say, I alone am responsible for any deficiencies that may have retained in this study criticism and suggestions are always welcome.

Indira Bhurtel

Date: 2064/06/01

Abstract

Children who are neglected, abandoned, or orphaned and either beg or collect and sell recyclable goods or work in other similar types of informal sector, and live in streets are called street children. They are usually violated and their rights often neglected and they are not taken care of in any aspect of their life. They are isolated from the family and society. Nepal especially Butwal city is not an exception to this problem. Hundreds of innocent children are seen dwelling on the streets of Butwal city. They live in streets. Sell recyclable goods and make the provision for food. No one cares about their education, health, shelter, food and other basic needs. This study is an attempt to assess the condition of these street children.

The main objective of this study is to find out the socio economic status of street children in Kathmandu metropolitan city. For the study, well structured, semi structured questionnaires, observation, formal and informal interviews and case study were used as the techniques to obtain required information in order to fulfill the objectives. This study covered 55 street children. Out of whom 49 were boys and 6 girls related from different areas of Butwal municipality city by using cluster sampling

About one third of the children (32.73%) had left their home due to maltreatment/abuse as a major cause and the minority of them left their home due to influenced by other. Expectation of better life, poverty conflict death of parents and others. Out of total sampled children only 16.36 percent were literate, whereas parents of only 38.19 of them were reported to be illiterate. A large proportion of the children (41.82%) responded they had an experience of primary level education. Some of them had completed primary level and some had dropped out already. The origins of street children were many. However over 40 percent of them were from the periphery of Butwal. Street children who dwell in

Butwal were of various caste and ethnic background but one-fourth of them were (23.64%) Magar. Of the 55 respondents, 29.09 percent responded that they worked as rag pickers. Similarly more than 16.36 percent of the children were found to be beggars and a small number of the children had adopted other occupations. A large proportion (43.64%) of the children worked 5-8 hours per day and many of them earned sufficient income their daily food, but they spent most part of their income in watching movies, drinking alcohol and smoking cigarettes.

The study has also covered such aspects as the street children's age structure, reasons for not joining school, parents being alive or dead, parental, education and occupation and the children's future aspiration, reasons for the leaving previous work, their harassment and exploitation by others and such other facts.

Overall, the situation of street children is found to be very vulnerable, this fact, some practical recommendations have been presented so that consideration of these would lead to improvements in the situation of the children that usually are somehow compelled to spend life as street children.

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ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CRB	Conversation on the Right of Child
CWIN	Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre
CWS	Child Workers Situation
GNP	Gross National Product
Gos	Government Organization
IDPs	Internally Displaced People
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPEC	International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour
NPC	National Planning Commission
UNDP	United Nations Children's Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nation's Children Labour
WHO	World Health Organization