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Introduction, Objectives, Hypothesis, Research Methodology, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgement and References.

Tables and Figures of good resolution (600 dpi) should be numbered consecutively and given in the order of their appearance in the text and should not be given on separate pages.

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Homeless Population in India - A Literature Review

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Satish Pradhan Dnyanasadhana College, Thane (West) - 400604

ABSTRACT

Houselessness is often attributed to urban sprawl and the lack of affordable housing in cities. However, it is also linked to a number of complex issues that have long been embedded in our society. Moving from rural areas to urban areas poverty, unfair human development within regions and absent of housing. Indian states, with a total of 134,040 individuals are deficient in permanent residence. India has a population of 1.2 billion individuals settled in a land area measuring 32,87,263 square kilometres. India is a growing nation, with 31.16 percent of its population settled in urban regions while the remaining majority occupy rural areas. The Census of India (Census) has been collecting data on India's demographics and socio-commercial structure since 1981. The study on houselessness among individuals in developing countries is relatively new. The data on houseless individuals can be divided into two phases. Before 2001 the Indian census reported the number of houseless in an indeterminate manner. From 2001 onwards the census added socio-commercial data organized by districts. The purpose of this report is to understand the distribution, growth, and mobility of the houseless population in relation to urban development in different regions of India. From 2001 to 2011, the number of houseless persons increased significantly in urban regions distinguished from rural areas.

Keywords: Indian Census, houselessness, rural, urban, relocation.

INTRODUCTION

One of the main challenges for houseless people is information accessibility, especially in developing nations (Springer, 2000; Burrows, 1997). For the first time, Census of India began to provide information on the number of houseless people in India in elements from the census of 2001 (Gupta, 2006). Previously, the 2001 census provided information on the total number of houseless people in India, but in 2001 it added a few additional elements such as the different types of family, the total number of houseless, the total number of people living in the houseless community, the number of families living in the community, and the total number of families in the community (Yadav, 2022). It turned out that for the first time the Indian census data provided district-degree information about the number of houseless in India. The census

of India of 2011 added an additional element that roughly describes the population of the houseless people on the level of district. This Indian census data has contributed to different aspects of the houseless population. It also provides the socio- commercial characteristics of the houseless people. It explains the general population of women and men below six age level, the population of Scheduled castes and Scheduled tribes, literacy rate and illiteracy rate, total population, etc. However, the Indian censuses data do not describe that micro-level information on the houseless population, researchers in this field still rely on the number one subject survey in India. The objective of this extract is to explore and provide an explanation for spatial and sequential variations of state houseless. The presence of houseless people in every city center in the sector has raised the concerns of directors and academics (Wardhaugh, 2012).

Rural Houselessness in India

The most unique feature of rural houselessness—as an alternative to urban houselessness—is its hidden or perhaps invisible nature. To be honest, there may be very few studies on rural houselessness in India. There may be a convenient moral story that rural houselessness no longer exists within the geographical region because rural families always ‘come to their own’ and no one could be abandoned through the long cycle of relative method. But rural houselessness does occur in India—with a rural people of about 740 million people, it might be difficult to think that it no longer does. India has 1.029 billion people, 72% of whom live in rural areas. India also has the world’s second largest city population (2nd only to China’s). This newsletter uses references from educational literature and professional statistics, as well as online information reports (Wardhaugh, 2012).

It is impossible to ignore the houseless people from Kolkata’s pavement dwellers to Delhi’s squatter settlements and Mumbai’s. In rural India, however, the houseless people remain largely hidden. Many of them will live with various families, and they are not recognized by any professional who relies on houselessness. Lack of land often lead people to move from rural to urban areas, which in turn increases the number of city houseless people. Cities like Delhi are largely populated by people who have moved from neighbouring states, and people who are determined to leave the geographical region daily to find a place to live within the metropolitan areas. In summary, the

situation in rural India could be much better if lack of housing were no longer 'extracted' from the cities (Wardhaugh, 2012).

Explanation of Rural Houselessness

From any perspective, it's far very tough to outline houselessness and extra so if taking a Western approach to a growing society. If Western typologies had been expanded inside the Indian context – the use of a reasonably huge and open-minded clarification – then general numbers of human beings might be safeguarded as the ones missing steady, permanent, and ok refuge. In reference India, is prepared extra regularly to human beings 'houseless' or shelter-less in preference to the houseless. The distinction right here is that the importance is on the ones missing any shape of shelter, in preference to which includes the ones who've no real 'domestic' in each physical and social terms (they feel extra regularly used inside the West). Ideas of domestic and houselessness range significantly in keeping with social, financial, and cultural backgrounds (Glasser, 1994). The problem might appear sensible, to apply definitions to the context of study (Springer 2000) on the progress of houselessness in growing societies.

However, these definitions are rarely accurate and few take rural rootlessness into account. In this segment, a typology of country side Indian houselessness will be presented onward, sketching on a collective of credible definitions, present typologies intended the outlines of rural houselessness. According to the reliable Indian definition, a person who is no longer living in a census house according to the census data of India is considered to be a houseless person. A census house, that has a separate predominant front and is used or considered to be a detached unit. Thus, footpath occupants are categorised as houseless in the same way that many people living in slums are no longer (although they may be safeguarded in the broadest Western definitions). While some footpath occupants have a rooftop, this is considered to be transient or inadequate (kutcha) and is missing in stable or well-made constructions (Bannerjee and Das, 2001).

1. Deprived
2. Immigrants
3. Footpath occupiers
4. Inmates of organizations

5. Occupants of emergency camps

6. Road children

This typology is partially based on state-based research on houselessness. The typology attempts to include some of the most significant companies that may explain distinct types of rural houselessness. Some classes overlap reliable definitions of houselessness, and some reflect the city class defined above. Houseless individuals who co-habit with another family no longer show up in reliable statistics, and are generally not seen as a feature of both rural and city houselessness. When trying to describe houselessness, we should not forget a specific agency (Wardhaugh, 2012).

Crowds made up of sahibs and quacks can be interpreted as a form of houselessness for non-secular reasons (for them ‘ house ’ means anywhere and nowhere). Non-temporary panhandlers are valued in Indian culture and have a long-term presence, whereas nomadic companies are finding it increasingly difficult to claim their space for social and fiscal reasons. For example, the Van Gujjar mortals of Uttar Pradesh “feel houselessness of their very own” (Hasan, 1986).

The equivalency is true in terms of their megacity opposite figures, which are regularly now defended in definitions of houselessness, but may also be defended in terms of their poverty and insecurity in the long term, which may in many cases motivate them to enter into agrarian- megacity migration cycles and thus to be part of a species of the houseless population of megacity. Therefore, we may also begin to outline parameters of pastoral houselessness in India. However, the addition of companies that are no longer historically considered as houseless does not always inflame the entire number described in this way. Instead, the aim is to gain a sense of a variety of studies which may also drive mortal beings into or out of houselessness and to focus on the styles (Wardhaugh, 2012).

Sources of Rural Houselessness

Rural rootlessness is as simple as it is complex. However, in a more complex way, rural homelessness tends to be group-based. Typically, rural poverty leads the male contributors to the family. Then, they send money to the relatives who have gone to the cities and live there on a regular basis in poor and anxiety-ridden conditions. Sometimes, seasonal relocations take place while the paintings are being purchased at the ground level. However, very few of these immigrants return to their communities

fully. Their family contributors usually do not exist in the cities. As far as gender is concerned, very few girls move to the urban areas. Girls who migrate to the cities are often the victims of familial exploitation (in the form of in-laws, husbands, or other relatives). Otherwise, the younger girls enter into the intercourse occupation (Sen, 2005). Children who leave the home villages are repeatedly victims of their families' violence or forced to beg or engage in sexual exploitation (Wardhaugh, 2012).

Due to the poverty and insecurity at the level of the man or woman and his family, large rural houselessness often occurs as a result of herbal failures or common forms of social disturbance. In 2001, 600,000 persons became houseless in Gujarat, and in 1999, 275,000 houses in Orissa were destroyed due to a tropical storm. About 30 million people suffer from screw-ups every year, and 2,34 billion houses are misplacement, which is nearly 1% of India's total population of 233 million houses (Yadav, 2022).

Other human errors have occurred instead of environmental ones, such as the (100,000) people displaced by the Tehri Dam project in Uttarakhand in northern India, most of whom have been living in squalor for years as a result of disputes over compensation for land that was not allocated to them. Social fights can also result in massive displacement and long-term houselessness. For example, the riots in Kashmir in 2002 and in the northern-Japanese states in 2002 (frontline, 2002) resulted in around a hundred fifty thousand people being houseless as a result of the Gujarat riots and settled in about a hundred relief groups (Yadav, 2022).

Facing Rural Houselessness

To be houseless is to have no physical space that you can call your own space. It is to have no clean space inside your world. House and family are very important for all citizens but especially for Indian citizens. In typical rural life it is very hard to be alone & have no space in my circle of my family & community. Family in a rural house is a large circle of relatives over many years. In a couple of families, they often live in one house. Each family's circle of relatives is described as people who use the same fireplace for cooking and distributing food. Some of the nations, the fundamental human asset is called the refuge. The houseless person is marginalised and deprived citizens in every culture. They are often seen as outsiders and victims of social evils (Wardhaugh, 2012).

Houseless people can be categorised as lazy or unfortunate; reject to work; easily manipulated; involve in begging; or engage in crime. In India people without houses are commonly called as ‘people without houses’ or ‘kanga’ which means ‘a person without case or income’, or a houseless drug addict’. Houseless people are deprived not only of a decent place to live but also of many fundamental human rights and liberties. For instance, they are not allowed to have a financial institution; they are not able to vote; they have very little political support; and in some cases they are not even eligible to vote. They are often illegal; their popularity is uncertain; and they may not have a delivery certificate or any other proof that they are on the list (Wardhaugh, 2012).

AASHRAY ADHIKARI ABHIYAN, an NGO in Delhi, has taken the lead in registering houseless people to participate in the electoral process. However, similar tasks are available only in rural areas. Popular houseless people don't have ration playing cards that enable them to sponsor food. Some houseless are born into the households of houseless people, while others are urban-rural immigrants. No matter the reason, they don't have the certifications required in modern societies, particularly the identity card. We also realized the importance of identification for people. The houseless are marginalized and marginalized in urban areas, where many NGOs are working to offer basic services to houseless people and increase their social acceptance. However, in rural areas, houseless people have less access to food, accommodation, or other necessary services, and may not even have any organizations working to empower them in terms of political rights or human rights (Wardhaugh, 2012).

Measuring Rural Houselessness

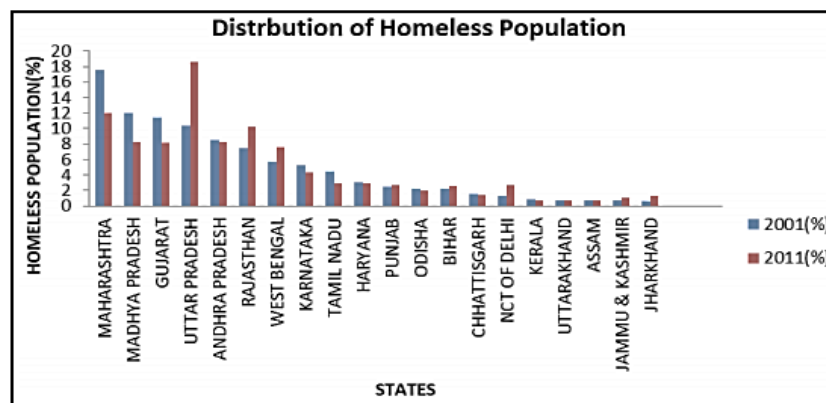
If houselessness is difficult to describe, then perhaps houselessness measurement is even more difficult to answer. It has been widely discussed that ‘legitimate memories’ of houselessness are likely to be a huge underestimation of the true number of houseless people on the street (Glasser, (1994); Speak and Tipple, (2009)). It is especially true in rural areas where houselessness is more ‘in the shadows’ and there are only a few important research papers (Cloke, Milbourne (2006) on countryside houselessness in north America & western Europe). The Census of India data for houselessness break down by state (there is no breakdown of countryside vs specific regions per state) but

there may be estimates of basic phases of rural vs specific houselessness (Wardhaugh, 2012).

Methodology

This has a look at becoming commissioned through Action Aid India. The targets of the have a look at blanketed the following:

1. To adopt a census of avenue youngsters in India.
2. To get a knowledge of the social, economic, educational, work, and own circle of relatives heritage of avenue youngsters in India.
3. To apprehend the motives why youngsters live on the paths, and the present-day troubles and destiny aspirations of youngsters residing on the streets of India.



Source: Primary Census Abstract of India 2001 and 2011

Fig 1: Distribution of Homeless Population in the States of India (2001-2011)

The Indian Census 2011 shows that Uttar Pradesh has the highest number of people classified as houseless, after that Maharashtra and then Madhya Pradesh. Maharashtra was the first ranked in the 2001 Census while Madhya Pradesh dropped to second place in the Census 2011. Houseless people are affected by a variety of factors. These include employment opportunities, safety measures, affordable accommodation, and special renewal programmes (Yadav, 2022).

The domain difference of the houseless population from 2001 to 2011 (Yadav, 2022) shows that the five Indian states accounted for over 10% of total houseless people in India in 2011: 1st position Madhya Pradesh, 2nd position Maharashtra, 3rd position Uttar Pradesh, 4th position Gujarat, and 5th position Andhra Pradesh. In 2011, these states described 60% of total population of houseless people in India, which is very different from all other Indian states in terms of socio-economic, geographic, and demographic factors (Yadav, 2022). Gujarat and Maharashtra are considered the top positions of India.

Uttar Pradesh is considered India's BIMARU (Best Indian State for Houseless population). The highest number of people reported as houseless in 2011 is reported to be in Madhya Pradesh (ranked 4th in 2001), which has so far emerged as the best state for people suffering from houselessness in 2011. Some states with deeply-rooted houseless populations in 2011 are: Jammu & Kashmir; Sikkim; Himachal Pradesh; North Eastern states; Tripura; Orissa; Jharkhand. The graphical represented of figure 2. and 3. is provided below

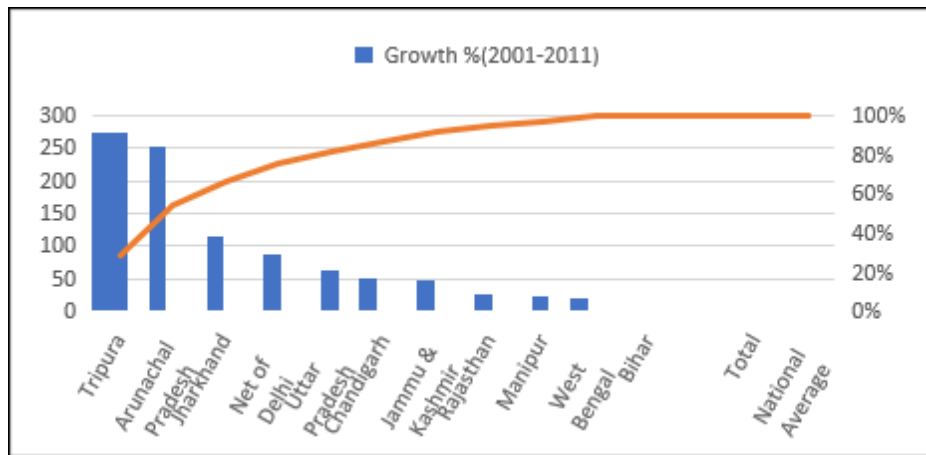


Figure 2. Growth of Indian Houseless Population

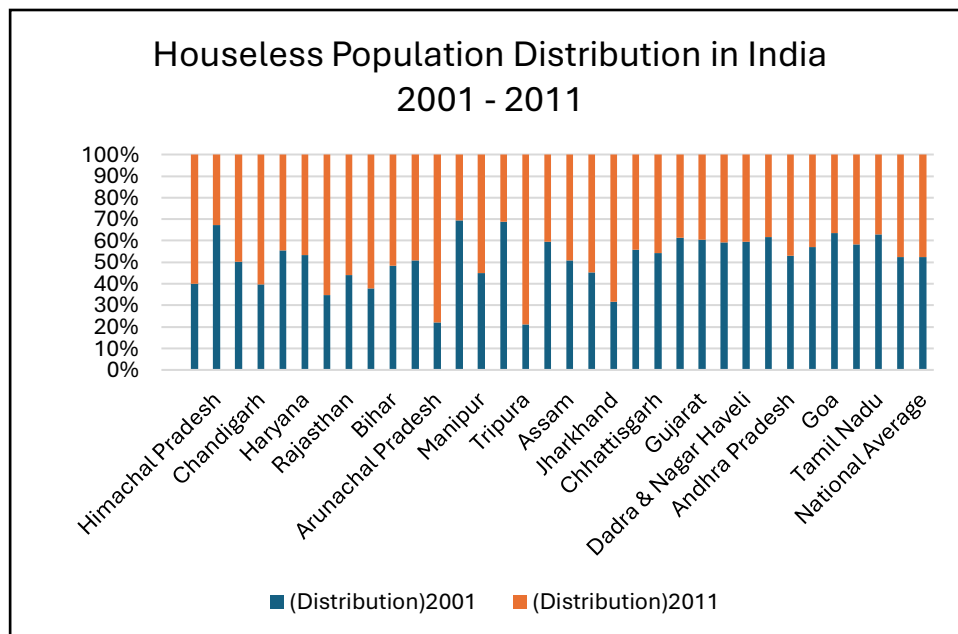
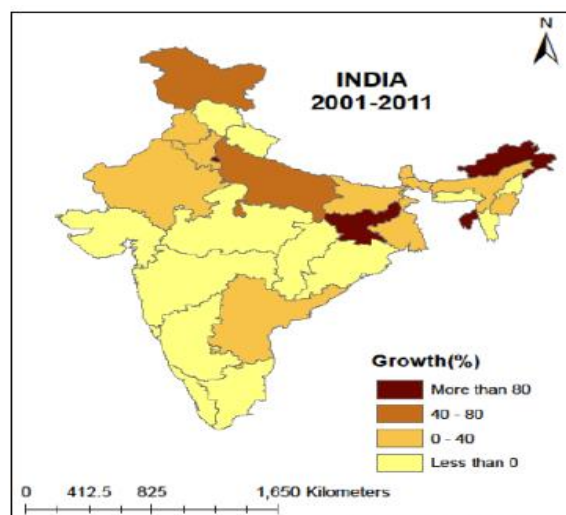


Figure 3. Distribution of Houseless Population in India

The above-mentioned Figure (1)(2)(3) indicates that the number of houseless in India declined at some point from 2001 to 2011. Between 2001 and 2011, the number of

houseless people in India decreased from 19.42 Lac in 2001 to 17.71 Lac in 2011. In 2011, the national common of houseless persons was 3 percent with a certain stage in 2001 and in 2011 it became higher. In 2011, 8 Indian states had highest number of houseless people. In late 2011, the people of the houseless in the National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCT Delhi) reached 2 sixty-six per cent. Among all Indian states, then the state with second highest increase is the state with highest number of houseless after that is Tripura. The duration of houseless in Tripura is relatively insignificant. 0.02 percent is the most effective percentage and 0.04 percent is the second highest percentage. In 2011, (Yadav, 2022) population of these states reached 0.18 percent Jharkhand has population of 0.03-0.5-0.6 percent and population of less than one percentage point since 2001 It has maximum boom price within 1/3 function post Tripura(1.4%) Its handiest population is 1.32-1.35 percent. They live at an excessive risk due to herbal calamities. In the 2011 Census, Jharkhand ST population accounted for 26.3% population in the country. For the remaining decade, ST boom price in Jharkhand followed decadal boom price in the country from 2001 to 2011. More than 1/2 of the Indian states had bad boom price from 2001 to 2011 (Yadav, 2022) except for Tripura(2%), Uttar Pradesh(3), and Assamese (4), and Jharkhand(5), in descending order. Tripura(1), Chandigarh(5) and Arunachal(6) can be excluded as they have much lower than 1/2 percent of percentage houseless population (Yadav, 2022).



Source: Primary Census Abstract of India 2001 and 2011

Map1: Population Growths of Houselessness in India 2001 to 2011

The above Map1. shows that houseless population in India from 2001 to 2011 (Yadav, 2022). In 2011, Bihar exceeded the national common and is included in the second

category of houseless people. Bihar had the highest population intensity among all Indian states in 2011. West Bengal dropped from the first position to the second nearness throughout this period. Houseless people has spread across the Indian Gangetic Basin over the last decade. In 2001, Uttar Pradesh had the highest diversity in India, but in 2011, it dropped to 4th place after Maharashtra (Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat) (Yadav, 2022).

Maharashtra ranks 5th in the nation in terms of number of houseless in 2011, whereas it ranked 1st in 2001. The percentage of houseless in Maharashtra went down from 1st in 2001 to 1st in 2011. Most of the houseless people in Maharashtra and Gujarat are considered to be non-skilled laborers who have moved from the rural areas to the developed cities in the search for a better life within the village (Gupta, 2006). Developed states of India include Maharashtra and Gujarat in the list. According to India's census 2011, the houseless people went down from 35 million people to 53 million people. As a result, these hard-working unskilled people now have more options in monetary sports in these towns (Yadav, 2022).

Growth of the Houseless People From 2001 to 2011

The number of houseless people in India decreased from 2001 to 2011 (Yadav, 2022), with negative growth rates in many states. The rural population in rural India grew at a much lower rate than the urban population. The rural population grew at -28.35 percent compared to the urban population's growth rate of 20,52 percent. Street children in India were estimated by UNICEF in 1994 to be 11 million, which is likely to be an underestimation (Yadav, 2022).

Road-Side Children in India

Road-side children in India were estimated by UNICEF in 1994 to be 11 million, which is likely to be an underestimation. The number of Avenue youngsters varies from town to town and from region to region. Most of these youngsters are boys. Women avenue youngsters are no longer visible in visible areas, making it difficult to track them down. The age range of the road youngsters is between 11-15 years, while the age range of the other 33 is between 6-10 years. An observation found that the majority (89.8%) of the road youngsters stay with their parents or their family. Almost 50 percent of the 11 Street youngsters work as self-employed workers, such as rags, hawks, and shoe

shine boys, in addition to painting in stores and establishments for 10-13 hours a day. The 2007 MWCD report on infant abuse found that 65.9 percent of the road kids lived with their families, 51.84 percent of the kids slept on sidewalks; 17.48 percent slept in shelters; 30.67 percent slept under flyovers and bridges; 66.8 percent of kids said they were physically abused through the use of their circle of participants and others (Mukherjee, 2016).

According to the Indian Embassy, there are 314,700 Avenue kids in cities like Mumbai, Kolkata, Madras, Kanpur, Bangalore, and Hyderabad and 100,000 Avenue kids in Delhi (www.childline.org.in, accessed on 23.11.2013). Recently, a rapid evaluation survey was conducted in 16 towns of India through the Don Bosco National Forum for the Young at Risk (Ya R) in New Delhi. According to the survey record, 1,29,895 Avenue kids with 90,122 boys and 39,774 women were surveyed in 16 towns. Among the 16 cities in India, Delhi has the highest debt (69976) for over 50 according to the percentage of the total avenue concerned youngsters. Among the other cities, Mumbai has 16059 debt, Kolkata has 8287 debt, and Bangalore has 7523 debt. Collectively, these cities account for 1/4 of Avenue Concerned Young people (Rs AS 2013:22).

Census of India is progressively increasing its coverage or measurement of the houseless population information with each successive census. Earlier, the goal was to create a comprehensive information base that covered a specific population of houseless persons to create a feasible coverage to fight against houselessness. According to the Census

City wise distribution of street involved children in India, 2013

CITY	Boys below 8 yrs	Girls below 8 yrs	Boys 9-11	Girls 9-11	Boys 12-15	Girls 12-15	Boys 16-17	Girls 16-17	Boys With Disability	Girls With Disability	Total
Bangalore	1313	964	1198	581	1432	565	1076	317	58	19	7523
Baroda	523	257	465	226	329	177	321	110	13	7	2428
Chandigarh	414	221	476	254	428	237	238	51	3	1	2323
Chennai	448	236	412	189	382	177	369	135	16	10	2374
Delhi	8444	5373	18047	5940	13284	5713	9481	3408	141	145	69976
Dimapur	713	291	493	112	398	66	268	97	17	0	2455
Goa	285	184	222	136	165	111	122	58	4	0	1287
Guwahati	934	711	628	355	1427	1064	333	76	6	0	5534
Hyderabad	391	154	374	86	373	61	274	52	15	17	1797
Imphal	122	85	130	87	206	58	145	9	8	1	851
Kolkata	1689	793	1609	622	1638	477	1180	254	24	1	8287
Mumbai	2539	1444	2865	1422	3048	1403	2314	974	39	11	16059
Salem	1064	800	811	559	761	409	798	531	12	7	5752
Shillong	237	64	191	66	152	43	77	23	17	2	872
Trivandrum	38	37	8	8	10	2	31	5	0	1	140
Vijayawada	336	220	309	137	516	190	419	78	26	7	2238
Total	19490	11834	28238	10780	24549	10753	17446	6178	399	229	129896

Source: Rapid Assessment Survey of Street Involved Children in 16 cities of India (2013) Don Bosco National Forum for the Young at

Risk (YaR)

data of India 2011 (Yadav, 2022), there were 17,7 lac houseless persons in the country. The total houseless persons, 8,34 lac were living in rural areas, while 9,38 lac were living in urban areas, due to the 2011 Census data. The 2011 Census information showed that there was a significant decrease in the houseless number in rural areas, whereas there was a significant increase in the number inside urban areas by 21% (Mukherjee, 2016).

Conclusion

There are many issues facing India's houseless people, as shown by research conducted across multiple studies. The main obstacles to tackling houselessness are limited funding, disagreement on solutions, shortage of trained professionals, and barriers to service coordination. Houseless shelters mandated by Indian government, often do not provide the necessary amenities. There is a big difference between how important these amenities are and how satisfied the shelter inmates are. The actual availability and function of services in these facilities are often poor, highlighting the poor conditions they provide. In urban Indian cities, the houseless experience a loss of their citizenship rights, crime, and continuous displacement. The politicization of houselessness worsens these issues. Systematic enumeration of homelessness in the US is a great model for tracking service use and trends. However, lack of comprehensive data in India, it is difficult to effectively address the problem. Outreach programs are understudied but have the potential to help house individuals and prevent them from returning to houselessness. Suggestions for strategies that India should consider. There is a high prevalence of mental health issues among young houseless individuals, and shelters often do not provide adequate services to address these issues, suggesting a deficiency of holistic care. Transitioning from houselessness into stable housing is a complex process that includes responding to the situation, surviving the houselessness, and ultimately giving back, all of which inform public policies and program development. Disasters such as Hurricane Sandy have highlighted the importance of providing shelter and services to houseless people and their guests, providing an untapped resource for disaster management. Structural inequalities, poor socio-economic conditions, and weakened state accountability contribute to the houseless crisis in India. Furthermore, the social exclusion of the houseless population results in poor health and social outcomes. All of this highlights the need for a multifaceted, rights-based approach that reports the requirements of the houseless youth and integrates them into society.

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Dietary quality and nutritional status of homeless population

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Abstract

Many homeless people eat fewer meals per day, experience more food shortages, and are more likely to have unhealthy food and poorer nutritive status than those living in shelters. While public and private agencies provide food and board for the homeless, the availability of homeless services is limited. Homeless people warrant acceptable health care and certain nutrition- related health problems are current among them. People who are homeless frequently have health issues connected to nutrition and receive inadequate medical care. The aim of this review is to provide a better understanding of the existing literature regarding the diet quality and the homeless population's nutritional status. This paper could serve as a basis from which further researches can be carried out.

Key words: Inadequate diet, nutritional status, health, and deficiency

Introduction

Homelessness is a serious issue that appears to be becoming worse on a global scale. The greatest breach of the human right to decent housing is homelessness, and those who are homeless—especially children—are among the most disenfranchised, overlooked, and targets of discrimination. Access to food and health care is a huge challenge for homeless people. Not only are they undernourished, impoverished, and frequently mistreated, but they are also unable to attend school. "Homeless households" are defined by the 2011 Indian census as people who do not reside in buildings or census centers but rather live outside on sidewalks, roads, pipes, overpasses, and stairwells, as well as in mandapas, railway platforms, open-air places of worship, etc. The 2011 census states that there are about 1.7 million homeless individuals in India, of which 938,384 are in urban areas. However, these numbers grossly underestimate the actual number of homeless people. Nongovernmental organizations calculate that a minimum of 1% of India's urban population is homeless. According to this calculation, the quantity of destitute individuals within the city is at least 3 million. In Delhi, the city alone, figures estimate the quantity of individuals that are homeless people at any given time to be between

150,000 and 200,000, of whom at least 10,000 are women. India is also the country with the number of homeless children living in the streets, but there are no official figures on their numbers or adequate schemes to address their special needs and concerns. Growing poverty, lack of information, excessive food waste, lack of money, growing population and lack of awareness have derailed the challenge of zero hunger. The United Nations estimates that there are 100 million street children worldwide. UNICEF defines a street child as "every girl and boy on the street". and/or address; Most homeless people in India are male and between the ages of 18 and 60. Alcoholism, anemia, and developmental problems are more severe in those living at home.. Individuals living with homelessness are at a higher risk of malnutrition, health issues, substance abuse, and mental disorders. For instance, homeless individuals are less likely than single adults to lead households, single adults who use drugs are more likely to be addicted to drugs, and there are differences in mental health outcomes among homeless individuals based on gender, single mother status, and parentage of homeless families. Homeless people need better access to food, nutrition, and healthcare.

Dietary intakes of homeless children

According to a study conducted by Action Aid and TISS (2013) on street children in Mumbai, approximately 25% of the children in the sample skipped at least one meal a day. Lack of food is the most common reason for skipping meals. According to a Street Life survey, of street children in five Indian cities (Lucknow, Mughal Sarai, Hyderabad, Patna and Kolkata-Howrah), "As expected, many children (55 %) buy food for their own consumption, they do not rely on alms or prayers, eat unhealthy food, they are buying chapata on the street. Unlike children in rural India, children do not suffer from hunger. Most of them are not without food. However, they suffer from malnutrition. One of the reasons is that the food they buy on the street is not good. But more importantly, their body cannot absorb all the nutrients they eat. Many of these children also use drugs, mostly soft drugs, and they also suffer from health phobia. Malnutrition leads to poor growth and development; their bodies are fed less food than they need. Therefore, their bodies change due to slow growth. When you look at children on the street, you see that they don't have enough food and they look smaller than their friends,". Research shows that hunger and malnutrition can have many negative effects on a child's development. For example, maternal malnutrition during pregnancy increases the risk of birth defects such as premature birth, low birth weight, small head size, and small brain size. Additionally, compared with healthy children, children living on roads road are at slightest

twice as likely to be undesirable or unfortunate and at slightest 1.4 times more likely to have asthma. The primary three a long time of a child's life are a period of intellectual development. Lack of energy, protein, and nutrients during this time can lead to emotional, social, and emotional risks.

Dietary intakes of homeless adults

Homeless people worry most about where they will sleep at night and what they will eat, rather than what they will eat. This is why many homeless people experience food insecurity. Most of them eat as much as they can, and what they can eat is often not enough to meet their daily nutritional needs. The food that shelters provide to the homeless is often high in fat, low in fiber, and lacking in essential daily nutrients. Even if homeless people can find money to buy or cook food for themselves, a good diet is often not available. Most cheap foods are processed, so even if they are full, they are empty. Another challenge to healthy living without a home is the portability of nutritious foods. It may be easier to bring other raw or canned foods, but the homeless must bring the things needed to cook and eat them, such as pots, pans, plates, and the door opens. Prasad V et al (2010) studied 190 homeless adults in Nizamuddin and Okhla, who were significantly representative of the homeless population compared to other homeless groups. 62% of the research sample was male (118 people) and only 38% was female. Furthermore, analysts working within the field found that numerous ladies on the lanes are active with every day errands such as cooking and child care, and thus they are hesitant to take an interest within the inquire about. It was uncovered that 54 percent of the participants purchased readymade food. It is said that destitute individuals incline toward shopping for nourishment instead of cooking or reaching social administrations. Indeed, in spite of the fact that cooking takes a long time, individuals to depend on it. All this limits the working hours of the city's destitute; Numerous of them are day by day wage earners and they have start earning in the morning to increase their earnings their everyday. Indeed, in this bunch of food buyers, the normal everyday use is over 55% of every day pay. Most members spend 50-80% of their day-by-day wage on food. The rule of "survival of the fittest" is the standard of living. Looking at their daily intake of food, it can be said that their nourishment for the most part contains carbohydrates (substantial or fricasseed), whereas the foremost common vegetable within the slim down is potatoes, which are classified as carbohydrates. Studies about have appeared that the count calories of the urban poor aren't kept up by foods such as vegetables, clears out and other vegetables, drain, natural product, (great) fats and oils.

Studies have shown that since most biryanis have a piece of chicken in them, they need to know if this is the main source of protein. Malnutrition among homeless people can have a significant impact on their health and well-being. Homeless people often lack a healthy diet that includes essential nutrients, leading to vitamin, mineral, and macronutrient deficiencies. Most homeless people need vitamin D, vitamin C, iron, calcium and protein. These nutrient deficiencies can weaken the body, increase the risk of infection and chronic disease, and weaken the body. For illustration, vitamin lack can cause infections such as scurvy or rickets, whereas iron insufficiency can cause diabetes, thus influencing the general wellbeing of a person. Addressing food insecurity of the destitutes is critical to for better health and quality of life. Access to nutritious foods, health services, and support programs focused on nutrition education and support can help reduce the negative effects of malnutrition in these vulnerable individuals. Homelessness can lead to food restrictions, leading to vitamin and mineral deficiencies. Malnutrition among homeless people can weaken the immune system, increase the risk of infection, and lead to a variety of health problems, including blood, heart, and mind.

Initiatives taken by government agencies and NGOs for homeless

"Zero Hunger Challenge " was launched by the United Nations in 2012. .This campaign reflects the five pillars of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, including ending hunger, ending all forms of malnutrition and creating sustainable food. The Zero Hunger Challenge is a vision to end hunger and malnutrition by 2030. Achieving this goal is daunting and cannot be achieved by any organization or individual. In fact, according to Save the Children's research, most homeless people do not drink clean water, leading to many health problems. Many of these children have weak immune systems due to malnutrition and are frequently exposed to colds. They also suffer from stomach and skin diseases due to poor conditions. One of the Indian government's measures to combat homelessness and malnutrition is the National Food Security Act (NFSA). This bill aims to provide food assistance to approximately 66% population , including the homeless and poor families. In addition, the government is also implementing various programs such as Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Mid-Day Meal Scheme to provide good food to children and pregnant women. These projects play a vital role in fighting malnutrition and ensuring food security for vulnerable people in India. Although the government has taken some steps to address homelessness, more needs to be done to address this serious problem. The government should increase funding for homeless shelters and clinics and do more to raise awareness about

homelessness in India. Only by taking these steps can homeless people in India get the help they need and start rebuilding their lives. There are few NGOs like SBT (Salaam Balaak Trust) which provide a better environment for children and deal with their malnutrition. Street children benefit from shelters, SBT operates four community centers that are open 24/7 and can serve up to 220 children at a time. The organization has helped 3,500 children. SBT centers provide free clothing, food, education, support, and rehabilitation services. Other NGOs provide different services to homeless people in India. For example, Aashray Adhikar Abhiyan is an advocate for the homeless and Pehchan helps homeless people get their correct ID. Amma Canteen, an initiative of the government of Tamil Nadu, that feeds around 3.5 million people every day, mostly street children. Similarly, community kitchens in Hyderabad reportedly feed more than 1.2 million people by providing food for Rs 5 a day. With the help of these and other organizations, there is hope for the future of India's homeless.

Conclusion

India has a large population. Studies points out that in general the homeless are young people, and this affects the Indian economy. This not only affects the economic well-being of the country, but also violates people's fundamental right to housing. Therefore, the government and individuals in the Indian society must step up and take action to reduce destitute people in the country. Overall, prevention, early intervention, proper nutrition, and successful legislation are key to ending homelessness. As children grow into healthy, productive citizens who can access and create opportunities, the local economy is strengthened. When the system works together in this way, school food services are more sustainable and stronger. By improving health, hunger will not affect children's education and the local economy will flourish. Addressing malnutrition among the homeless is critical to improve their health and well-being. Measures to provide nutritious food and healthcare to the homeless play important role in solving these problems and improving health outcomes.

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Homeless Children/Youth: Risks and Challenges

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Abstract

The problem of homeless children in India is massive. It is profoundly observed in cities like Mumbai. It has social and economic impact on society. There are some risks involved with homelessness. There are various challenges involved in the process of rehabilitation of these homeless children.

we altogether must think about this problem of society. We must study and help towards their betterment. We must increase awareness of government schemes for homeless children to them and help in its implementation to achieve optimum results.

Keywords : Homeless children, homelessness, street children.

Introduction

Homeless children or youth is a big problem in our country. The Human Rights commission defines “Homeless” as those who do not live in regular house. UNICEF has defined three types of street children: Street-Living, Street-Working, and Street-Family.

This problem is many times due to migration of families from rural to urban areas, due to socioeconomic constraints in the family or due to feeling as neglected. It could be due to unemployment. It may be sometimes due to displacement because of some government development project.

Other causes are may be poverty, lack of affordable housing, mental disorders, drug addiction, trauma and violence, Justice system involvement, Sudden serious illness, etc.

There are many pathways into homelessness.

Objectives of Study –

- 1.To know about the issue of homeless children /Youth in India.
- 2.To find out and discuss risks involved with homeless children.

3. To know and overcome the challenges involved in solving the problems of homeless children.
4. To discuss the necessary steps to be taken to rehabilitate homeless children.

Research Methodology

The research paper is exploratory research with the help of secondary data, which is taken from various journals and articles, reports, websites and books.

Risks-

Street children or homeless children in India are more prone to abuse and extortion.

UNICEF has conducted one survey which states that violence against children in India is due to neglect, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, and exploitation.

Many children in India already lack access to proper nutrition, education and medical services. These conditions in tandem with family violence urge children to seek better lives for themselves, often away from home and on the streets of large nearby cities.

As they grow up, they face the problem of poor health. They are more prone for illness and chronic diseases. They may also develop asthma due to pollution and obesity due to irregular and improper diet. They lack basic health care and may not get vaccinations against preventable diseases. This may affect their mental health. Younger children who still do not go to school, may have anxiety, depression or some behavioural changes like aggressive nature. They may be emotionally weak and have tendency for suicidal attempts.

challenges-

This issue of homeless children is very significant, not only in India but also in rest of the world. These homeless children face many challenges and risks in life which may have a very big impact on them, throughout their remaining life.

Lack of stability: Homeless children keep on wandering here and there. This makes it difficult to develop stable relationships and attend school regularly. This uncertainty may cause fear anxiety and emotional trauma.

Health risks: Homeless children have greater risk of mental and physical health. This could be due to their neighbourhood, poor shelter, exposure to extreme weather conditions and lack of medical care.

Educational challenges: Homeless children face lots of difficulties in education. They may not get proper education due to financial problem, lack of awareness and their surrounding environment.

Social isolation:

Homeless children may not develop their personality to fullest, because of social isolation. Society may not accept them due to their poor financial condition, poor personal hygiene. They may feel neglected in the society.

Multiple moves can be particularly challenging for children and young people, and can affect their sense of belonging to a school. It can also disrupt friendships as well as relationships with school staff and the wider community. This could impact their confidence, self-esteem and attainment.

Homeless child get difficulty in having everyday meal, clean drinking water and health services. Lack of sanitisation of their residing areas. They may not reside with their parents, so they are not having love, care and support from families.

However, some homeless children do not want to come to shelter homes provided by government or NGOs. This could be due to fear and anxiety developed by previous bad experiences from the society. They may feel that their freedom on the streets will be snatched. They may have to follow rules and regulations and discipline.

To tackle the problem of homeless children, we should give them some facilities. Government should provide affordable housing to their families. Free healthcare facilities and educational support.

The Indian government has implemented several initiatives to address the issue of housing and homelessness. One of the most significant initiatives is the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), launched in 2015, which aims to provide affordable housing to all by 2024. Slum rehabilitation scheme(SRA).

Other government schemes are like, free primary education to all. Jan Dhan yojana to help poor and needy. Aayushman Bharat Yojana for health care of all. Mudra loan for poor people without any collateral guarantee.

Government also taking help of private sector and community initiatives for providing their basic needs.

Housing is still a major issue in cities like Mumbai. Because in Mumbai, land is limited . Cost of land and construction is high. So affordability of common people is less. This compels them to stay in slums and illegal homes without basic facilities like water, electricity and roads .

In conclusion, we can say that problems of homeless children are very significant. It may affect the other population, directly or indirectly. We must find out the real reasons behind becoming homeless child. Accordingly, together we should support them, provide them with necessary facilities to overcome the problem of homelessness. This will offer them to have a safe , healthy, stable and happy childhood.

Review of Literature

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Navigating the Invisible Maze: Understanding the Risks and Challenges Faced by Homeless Children

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Abstract: Homelessness among children presents a complex set of risks and challenges that often go unrecognized or misunderstood. This research paper delves into the multifaceted issues surrounding homelessness among children, aiming to shed light on their unique circumstances and the obstacles they encounter. Drawing on empirical research, case studies, and expert analysis, this paper explores the root causes of child homelessness, its impact on their physical, emotional, and cognitive development, and the systemic barriers that perpetuate their vulnerability. Furthermore, it examines innovative interventions and policy recommendations aimed at addressing the needs of homeless children and fostering their resilience. By amplifying the voices of homeless children and synthesizing existing knowledge, this paper offers insights to inform effective strategies for supporting this marginalized population.

Keywords: Homelessness, Children, Risks, Challenges, Vulnerability, Intervention, Policy, Resilience.

Introduction:

Homelessness is a situation where children have no stable and safe place to live anywhere. Among those currently living here are those living in shelters, those staying temporarily with relatives or friends, those living in cars, motels or abandoned buildings, and even those who are homeless and have a home.

Homelessness currently exists as a multifaceted issue that object over there affects millions of children worldwide. Individual in addition to family homelessness: children may become homeless alongside their families due to factors such as eviction, job loss, domestic violence, or inadequate affordable housing options. Some children may experience homelessness without a parent or guardian, often due to family conflict, abuse, or aging out of the foster care system. Hidden homelessness means many homeless children in addition to families may not exist readily visible just as they may double up with friends or family, making their homelessness less apparent. Educational disruptions little human being homelessness often leads to frequent

school changes, absenteeism, in addition to academic challenges, impacting educational attainment in addition to long-term prospects. Health in addition to well-being homeless children currently are at increased risk of physical in addition to psychological problems caused by environmental hazards, inadequate nutrition, stress, trauma, in addition to limited access to healthcare. Social in addition to emotional impact little human being homelessness currently can result in feelings of instability, shame, stigma, in addition to low self-esteem, affecting social relationships in addition to emotional well-being. Systemic factors structural issues such just as Poverty, inequality, lack of affordable housing, lack of social support, and racial discrimination increase the risk and vulnerability of minorities. Healthcare may increase the need for medical care, increasing the financial pressure on the risk of homelessness.

Addressing homelessness today is not only a moral imperative, but also an imperative to create a healthy, just and inclusive society. By investing in housing and support services, in addition to systemic reforms, all of us currently can make significant progress towards ending homelessness in addition to building a society at whatever place everyone currently is able to thrive.

Causes:

Homelessness currently exists crucial for developing effective strategies to address this object over here pressing issue. Here currently are some key factors contributing homelessness:

Family: Family poverty currently exists a leading cause of homelessness among families with children. Economic hardship, low wages, unemployment, in addition to inadequate social safety nets currently can every single one contribute to families being unable to afford stable housing.

Housing Affordability: Rising housing costs, especially in urban areas, make it difficult for low-income families to find affordable housing. Limited availability of subsidized housing in addition to lack of access to housing assistance exacerbate the problem.

Family instability: family disruptions such just as domestic violence, divorce, eviction, or substance abuse currently can lead to housing instability in addition to homelessness. Children currently are often caught in the crossfire of these crises in addition to may become homeless just as a result.

Lack of support services: Families experiencing homelessness often lack access to essential support services such just as affordable childcare,healthcare, mental health services as well as The physical, emotional, social, and economic impacts of homelessness on individuals, families, and communities; including health outcomes, educational attainment, job prospects, and relations hips.substance abuse. Without these resources, families struggle to stabilize their living situations.

Systemic inequities: Structural inequalities, including racial discrimination, housing segregation, in addition to unequal access to education in addition to employment opportunities, disproportionately affect marginalized communities in addition to contribute to higher rates of little human being homelessness.

Inadequate foster care system: Children in the fostercare system currently are at heightened risk because there is no home lack of stable family environments in addition to support networks. Aging out of foster care without adequate resources in addition to support currently can leave young adults vulnerable to homelessness.

Mental health in addition to drug use: Mental illness In addition to drug use problems currently can contribute to homelessness among parents in addition to caregivers, leading to instability in addition to insecurity for children in these households.

Educational disparities: Children experiencing homelessness often face barriers to education, including frequent school transfers, lack of transportation, in addition to limited access to school supplies in addition to resources. These challenges currently can exacerbate the cycle of poverty in addition to homelessness.

Affordable Healthcare: Families without access to affordable

Research Objective:

The research objectives related to homelessness typically focus on gaining a deeper understanding of the causes and impacts, in addition to effective interventions to address this object over here complex social issue.

Understanding root causes: Research to identify and analyze the root causes of homeless ness, including economic poverty, lack of affordable housing, unemployment, poverty, menta l illness, substance abuse, domestic violence. in addition to systemic inequalities.

Examining the scope in addition to prevalence: Research seeks to quantify the extent of homelessness within a given population, including demographic trends, geographic distribution, in addition to variations across urban, suburban, in addition to rural areas.

Exploring the impact on individuals in addition to communities:

Assessment of Service Needs and Access: Research examining the availability, accessibility, and effectiveness of services and supports for the homeless, including shelters emergency shelter, housing transition, health care, mental health services, and addiction and employment services.

Identifying effective interventions in addition to best practices: Studies seek to evaluate the efficacy of different interventions in addition to approaches to addressing homelessness, such just as housing- first models, supportive housing, rapid re-housing programs, case management, peer support, in addition to harm reduction strategies.

Analysis of policies as well as principles: The research examines the system in the institution as well as housing policies, health programs, healthcare systems, criminal justice policies, in addition to anti-discrimination laws.

Data Analysis:

There are approximately 1.8 million homeless people in India and 52% of them live in urban one of India's biggest problems right now is homelessness. India is now one of the two most populous countries in the world and its birth rate is higher than China, which holds the world population record. Homelessness now exists and is often described above; where property currently exists and can be called a homeless shelter. But there is a much bigger problem currently plaguing homelessness in India. It's like a house. The dwelling must have sufficient living space to provide its occupants with adequate heating and cooling, as well as access to necessary goods and other necessary services.

Research Analysis

The challenges faced by homeless children. A comprehensive solution requires a multi-faceted approach addressing their immediate needs as well as the underlying issues contributing to their homelessness. Here's a potential solution framework:

Shelter: Establish emergency shelters specifically designed to accommodate homeless children in addition to their families, ensuring safety, warmth, in addition to access to necessities such as food, clothing, in addition to hygiene facilities. Partner with local businesses, nonprofits, in addition to community organizations to provide donations in addition to resources for these

shelters. Education: Implement programs in shelters or community settings that provide educational support, training, and support activities tailored to the needs of homeless children, aiming to mitigate the disruption to their education. Collaborate with schools in addition to educational. Healthcare: Ensure access to healthcare services, including routine check-ups, vaccinations, in addition to treatment for acute in addition to chronic conditions. Provide mental health counseling in addition to support groups to address the trauma, anxiety and other psychological effects of homelessness, partnerships with qualified professionals and mental health organizations.

Family Support: Assign dedicated case managers to homeless families to assess their needs, develop personalized plans, in addition to connect them with resources such as housing assistance, employment training, in addition to financial counseling.

offer parenting classes, support groups, in addition to family therapy sessions to strengthen familial bonds in addition to promote stability.

Conclusion:

Homelessness currently exists as a multifaceted issue that object over there affects millions of children worldwide. Individual in addition to family homelessness: children may become homeless alongside their families due to factors such as eviction, job loss, domestic violence, or inadequate affordable housing options. Homelessness currently exists a much larger issue that object over there plagues India.

Of course, just a few walls plus a roof are not enough right now, just as anything that can be done now can be done in an emergency.

His research paper aims to provide insight. And challenges faced by homeless children, offering insights into effective interventions and policy recommendations to support their well-being and promote social justice.

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Exploring the Impact of Socioeconomic Factors on the Realization of the Right to Education for Children

Seema Tarak Shah

Abstract

The realization of the right to education for children is intricately intertwined with socioeconomic factors, influencing access, quality, and outcomes across diverse global contexts. This research delves into the multifaceted dynamics surrounding the impact of socioeconomic conditions on children's educational opportunities. Through an analysis of several socio-cultural contexts, the research endeavors to expose the inequalities and obstacles impeding the complete fulfillment of this essential human entitlement. Through a comparative lens, it will analyze how socioeconomic factors shape access to education, educational attainment, retention rates, and overall learning outcomes for children. Moreover, the research endeavors to identify common patterns, successful interventions, and innovative approaches employed to mitigate the adverse effects of socioeconomic inequalities on children's education. By shedding light on these critical issues, the study seeks to inform policymakers, educators, and stakeholders about the urgent need to address systemic barriers and foster inclusive educational environments. Ultimately, the findings aspire to contribute to the advancement of policies and practices aimed at ensuring equitable access to quality education for all children, regardless of their socioeconomic background or geographical location.

Keywords - Right to Education Act, Elementary Education, National Policy on Education

Introduction

One of the main tenets of human rights is the right to education, which is widely recognized as being crucial to the growth and empowerment of people everywhere. Education is not just a privilege but a basic right for every kid, as stated in numerous international treaties and declarations, such as the Convention on the Rights of the kid and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. However, the realization of this right remains elusive for millions of children worldwide, often hindered by deep-rooted socioeconomic disparities.

Socioeconomic factors play a pivotal role in shaping the educational landscape, influencing access, quality, and outcomes for children across diverse socio-cultural contexts. From

disparities in household income and parental education levels to geographical location and societal norms, the interplay of socioeconomic dynamics profoundly impacts children's ability to access and benefit from education. Despite significant progress in expanding educational opportunities globally, persistent inequalities persist, perpetuating cycles of poverty, exclusion, and marginalization.

This research endeavors to delve into the complex relationship between socioeconomic factors and the realization of the right to education for children, seeking to unravel the underlying mechanisms that perpetuate educational inequities. By conducting a comparative analysis of select regions or countries, the study aims to illuminate the diverse challenges and opportunities that characterize efforts to ensure educational equity and inclusivity.

The significance of this research lies in its potential to inform policy formulation, advocacy initiatives, and programmatic interventions aimed at addressing systemic barriers and fostering more equitable educational systems. By understanding how socioeconomic factors intersect with educational access, retention, quality, and outcomes, policymakers and stakeholders can devise targeted strategies to narrow the gap and create environments conducive to learning and development for all children.

The following sections will explore key themes and dimensions central to the research, including the conceptual framework underpinning the right to education, the role of socioeconomic factors in shaping educational opportunities, and the implications for policy and practice. Through a comprehensive examination of existing literature, empirical evidence, and case studies, the research seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of the challenges and possibilities inherent in realizing the right to education for children in an increasingly complex and interconnected world.

In framing the discourse on the impact of socioeconomic factors on the right to education, it is imperative to acknowledge the diverse perspectives and voices that shape educational realities. By centering the experiences and aspirations of children, families, educators, and communities, this research aims to amplify the call for transformative change, rooted in principles of social justice, equity, and human dignity. As we embark on this journey of exploration and inquiry,

let us remain steadfast in our commitment to building a world where every child has the opportunity to learn, thrive, and fulfill their potential through the power of education.

Literature Review

Recent studies have highlighted the intersectionality of socioeconomic factors with other dimensions of inequality, such as race, gender, and ethnicity, in shaping educational opportunities and outcomes (Gillborn, 2018; Lewis & Diamond, 2020). These studies highlight the importance of having a detailed understanding of how many types of disadvantage interact to exacerbate obstacles to educational attainment and access, especially for children from marginalized communities.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed and exacerbated existing disparities in access to technology and digital resources for remote learning (Van Lancker & Parolin, 2020; Chetty et al., 2021). Research has examined the differential impact of the digital divide on children from low-income households and communities, highlighting the urgent need for targeted interventions to bridge this gap and ensure equitable access to online education. Studies have investigated the relationship between socioeconomic status and the quality of education, focusing on disparities in learning outcomes, teacher quality, and educational resources (Sirin, 2019; Reardon & Owens, 2020). These works underscore the importance of addressing structural inequalities in education systems to improve the overall quality of learning experiences for children from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. Policy research has examined various initiatives aimed at promoting educational equity and addressing socioeconomic disparities in access to education (UNESCO, 2020; World Bank, 2021). Evaluations of targeted interventions, such as conditional cash transfer programs and school feeding schemes, have provided insights into their effectiveness in improving educational outcomes and reducing poverty-related barriers to learning. Recent research has highlighted the role of parental engagement and involvement in shaping children's educational attainment and aspirations (Hoover-Dempsey & Sandler, 2019; Clark et al., 2021). These studies emphasize the importance of fostering strong home-school partnerships and providing support mechanisms for parents from disadvantaged backgrounds to actively participate in their children's education.

Scholars have examined the impact of globalization on education governance and policy-making processes, with a focus on issues of equity, accountability, and privatization (Sellar &

Lingard, 2019; Verger et al., 2020). Research in this area explores how global trends in education reform intersect with local contexts and power dynamics to shape educational opportunities for children worldwide. Emerging research has explored innovative financing mechanisms for education, including social impact bonds, public-private partnerships, and community-driven funding initiatives (McBurnie et al., 2021; UNICEF, 2021). These studies evaluate the potential of alternative finance approaches, especially in resource-constrained contexts, to mobilize resources and provide access to high-quality education.

Objectives Of The Study

To highlights the problem of implementation of the Indian Laws and Policies related to Education in context with Elementary Education

Status of Elementary Education In India

India, home to 1.2 billion people, is a large nation. There are over 200 million students enrolled in elementary and secondary education worldwide. The majority of these kids are surrounded by almost 600,000 villages. These kids' educations surely provide many difficulties. The day after India's independence in 1947, the government took over as the country's primary education provider for all children. It was up against a huge project that would take a lot of time and money. The government had to focus its attention on other priorities, like boosting agricultural production, installing irrigation systems, developing infrastructure, and policing the border, because it lacked the funding for this ambitious project. Notwithstanding the numerous obstacles and difficulties the nation has faced, numerous noteworthy accomplishments have been made. Nowadays, practically all children attend school; in most places, 93%–95% of children are enrolled in school. Many children also live within a kilometer of a school.

Rajasthan's Jaisalmer district has the lowest percentage of girls in upper primary education (30.8%). In Manipur, 83.0 percent of elementary school students are female and boys are enrolled. In India, universal primary education has been implemented with remarkable success. Additionally, the problems with school enrollment and access have been successfully handled. It is now prepared to take on the challenge of high-quality education.

Problems Concerning Elementary Education in India Today

a. Infrastructure: Serious issues with the nation's infrastructure were brought to light by the Public Report on Basic Education in India (PROBE) Report of 1999. For example, of all the rural schools we visited, just 11% had functional toilets, and 84% had none at all. Additionally, just 41% of the schools had access to drinking water, and 26% lacked a working blackboard in each classroom. Things have significantly improved since then. For example, in 2006, 32% of all schools had male and female restrooms, and 82% of rural primary schools had access to drinking water. Additional funding was granted, at least in part, to enable this progress. But as the majority of recent reports indicate, more work has to be done. Just 61.9% of all rural schools in 2016 had a border wall; 25.9% still did not provide safe drinking water; 31.3 still lacked (usable) restrooms; and 61.9% still did not have separate (accessible) restrooms for boys and girls.

b. Absence of Teachers and Students: Regular presence and instruction should be the bare minimum that is expected of teachers. On the other hand, it is not unusual for teachers in India to be either completely absent or present but not actively teaching. In comparison to other nations, teacher absenteeism rates in India's government elementary schools were remarkably high, according to a 2005 research. Twenty-five percent of all instructors who were supposed to be present at the time of the inspection were not there; in one state, Jharkhand, the absence rate reached 41.9%, while in several other states, including Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal, Assam, Punjab, and Bihar, it exceeded thirty percent. Furthermore, at the time of inspection, just 45% of the teachers in attendance were 'actively engaged in teaching,' with some states having as low a rate as 20% to 25%. If there is only one teacher managing the school, as is still sometimes the case in rural regions, then teacher absence (or lack of teacher involvement) is obviously particularly serious.

c. Learning successes: Indian children have relatively low learning successes, which is to be expected in an elementary education system where a large proportion of students receive inadequate instruction. In nearly every category, Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh, the two participating Indian states, came in last among the 74 participating nations. Studies comparing the educational attainment of India and other nations are generally rare, but when they are, India typically performs poorly. This is also true when contrasting India with other nations in South Asia, even those of the poorest.

Striking Features of Missionary Attempts At Education

a. First, it became mandatory to provide religious lessons based on the Bible.

- b. Secondly, the curriculum covered a wide range of subjects, including geography, grammar, and history. There was use of printed textbooks.
- c. Thirdly, lessons were held on a regular basis during predetermined times. A holiday was proclaimed for Sunday. Efficiency in teaching was increased.
- d. The introduction of a regular class system came fourth.
- e. The majority of instruction was conducted in the native tongues until English was added in the fifth and final year.

Findings of The Study

Folk are not aware about the RTE Act even after ten years of the execution and it is very unfortunate to discover. The RTE Act, 2009 establishes a fair lawful framework that guarantees every kid aged 6 to 14 years of age free and obligatory entrance, attendance, and fulfillment of primary school. It guarantees kids's right to a high-quality schooling based on principles of fairness and non-discrimination. At the elementary level of education, access and enrollment have nearly achieved universal levels. The number of youngsters who are not in school has decreased considerably. The gender void in primary schooling has reduced, and the number of kids enrolled in scheduled castes and tribes is proportional to their community in school till completion of elementary education. It guarantees kids's right to a high-quality schooling established on beliefs of fairness and non-discrimination. At the elementary level of education, access and enrollment have nearly achieved universal levels. The number of youngsters who are not in school has decreased considerably.

Because of government awareness and efforts, the literacy rate has been increasing year after year. In the previous two decades, several programmes, plans, and regulations have been created to provide universal access to all children. Because the RTE Act of 2009 is a national initiative, all measures must conform to legally mandated norms and standards. The new legislation establishes a fair legal framework that ensures that all kids aged 6 to 14 years are entitled to free and obligatory elementary school entrance, attendance, and completion.

Reduced dropout rates are a significant measure of primary school excellence. Though the dropout rate at the district level has decreased in recent years, it cannot be totally ruled out that many kids are leaving school before completing their education at this time. Year after year, student absenteeism in government schools became a serious problem. According to the new

clause of the RTE Act, a student is considered to have dropped out of school if he or she misses 45 days in a row. According to the researcher's survey, a significant proportion of students in government schools fall into this group. Poverty is a factor in student dropout, but parental ignorance plays a larger influence. Surprisingly, all of the variables that contribute to dropout are within the parental and school administration's control. All of these roadblocks appear to be caused by a lack of desire on the side of the parents, and teachers should attempt to inspire such parents.

Every year, the total number of instructors in government elementary schools rises. The PTR ratio is decreasing, and most schools have enough instructors to teach and learn. In comparison to past years, new instructors are now better competent in terms of academic and professional qualifications. All openings at the primary level require a teacher eligibility test. In-service teacher education has received more attention from the administration. For all teachers, the union government has launched a new training programme called NISTHA (National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers' Holistic Advancement). For all types of instructors, the training programme is required (regular, contractual and para-teacher). Government school instructors are used for non-educational activities such as election and B.L.O. responsibilities, Mid-Day Meal duties, and pulse polio camps, among others. Teachers were not appointed according to the RTE Act in several schools, according to a poll. Teachers' availability in metropolitan government schools was determined to be sufficient, while rural government schools were found to be in poor condition. Through the Samayojan procedure, the district administration attempted to keep adequate instructors in all schools, and the government decided that teachers would be hired based on student ratio. A study on the RTE Act of 2009 was conducted by Adlakha and Sharma in 2011. The primary findings of this study included teacher shortage, absence, grievance redressal system, challenges from private schools, and lack of awareness; nevertheless, more importantly, it is a positive move for education. According to Acharya (2007), most tribal schools had only one instructor and were either housed in open areas or thatched huts. It was also discovered that there was a poor attendance rate and an extremely high pupil-teacher ratio.

Recommendations

a. Appropriate State and District level selection of Monitoring Committee Members is required. It is recommended that all members of these committees receive comprehensive training. For

the several monitoring committees to complete the tasks that have been allocated to them, there needs to be effective cooperation between them.

b. Each monitoring committee is required to provide a report to the government once a month, and any shortcomings should be addressed based on the findings of that report.

b. To exercise control and oversight over the State Monitoring Committees, the Central Government ought to designate a separate monitoring committee.

d. There must be consequences for authorities who do not put the Right to Education Act of 2009 into effect within the allotted time.

e. The instructors ought to be knowledgeable with both the newest methods of teaching children and child psychology. To pique children's attention and encourage frequent attendance at school, educators should use engaging instructional techniques.

f. The authority of the School Management Committee to appoint, dismiss, and penalize teachers for tardiness and underperformance should be increased.

g. The Right to Education Act of 2009 requires the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights to actively participate in its implementation by planning workshops, seminars, and other events in addition to creating unique publicity materials.

h. In order to ensure that every child has access to high-quality education, the federal and state governments must work together to provide budgetary resources and to swiftly implement the entirety of the Right to Education Act 2009.

i. Children should find the physical layout of the school and the classrooms more appealing.

j. More funding must be allotted in order to purchase equipment and develop appropriate school structures.

k. Given that many parents do not see the value of education, the government ought to work to change the public's perception of this issue.

l. More elementary schools ought to be built in strategic locations so that every child can easily walk from their home to an elementary school.

m. It should be illegal for private schools to take entrance exams and admit students since it violates the 2009 Right to Education Act.

Conclusion

We are aware that education is becoming a very important tool for bringing sustainable development to the global community. It is well renowned for its role in transportation, continuous revolution, and advancement in each person's life. surrounded by numerous federal

government-launched programs, the RTE Act in 2009 being one of the most notable.

It is to everyone's benefit that on April 1, 2010, India became one of the nations with free and compulsory education, a fact made possible by the 86th amendment passed in 2002. They celebrated this day with great joy and excitement. It was a dream that, in our nation, was crucial to the execution of the Mid-Day Meal and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programs, among other schemes, which made primary education free and mandatory. Today, it is a model for success that serves as an example for many other nations. It is regarded as one of the most revolutionary and will bring about revolutionary change in the field of elementary school education while being implemented throughout India, involving collaboration for the correlation of the main goals and procedures. The government is responsible for providing the funds, facilities, transportation, human resources (i.e., teachers), and support needed for the universalization of elementary school education, also known as basic school education.

The RTE Act is essential because it gives instructors access to high-quality, need-based education at the basic school level and in well-known locations. Thus, it is the duty and responsibility of every teacher in the nation to fully comprehend their role and give their all during school hours and to the benefit of society at large. As a result, the parents' and SMC members' roles are equally crucial to the Act's successful and timely implementation in many States.

Researchers have worked to examine how the Act is being implemented in various states as well as the duties and responsibilities of SMC members, instructors, and HMs in this regard. The ensuing paragraphs examine a few pertinent research studies.

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Empowering Dreams: Success Stories in Meeting the Educational Needs of Homeless Children

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Abstract

The research paper delves into the multiple dimensions of the issue concerning homeless children, with reference to the role of NGOs in addressing this challenge. Employing the data collected, the study conducts interviews with field experts and administers questionnaires to homeless children through two NGOs and one shelter home. The collected data is analyzed, revealing the role played by NGOs in effectively mitigating the problem. Notably, these organizations are instrumental in providing formal education and technical training to enhance the quality of life for homeless children. The research underscores the urgent need for collaboration among government bodies, societal institutions, and NGOs, as expressed by field experts. Ultimately, the paper advocates for a collective effort with the shared aspiration of ensuring a home for everyone, emphasizing the crucial tie-up between government, society, and NGOs to address this societal challenge.

Keywords: Homeless children, Homelessness, NGOs, shelter home

Introduction

Homelessness is a major issue in India. Basic human necessities include food, clothing, and shelter. While some people can secure the first two essentials but a large section of people struggle to attain the shelter. Consequently, a substantial segment of the population finds itself residing and resting in public spaces.

Remedies to this problem can be solved by collaborative efforts of policymakers, administrators, NGOs, activists, and common citizens. These agencies have focussed on particular problems faced by the homeless in India like other countries. There are numerous Internal and International players in this field. Some NGOs have focussed on empowering such sections of society by providing them with formal education or skillsets. They concentrate on education for homeless children as they feel that real growth of this section can be achieved

through education only. The present research paper has focussed on problems faced by two NGOs i.e. Signal Shala and Jeevan Samvardhan Foundation. It also delves into success stories of homeless children in these NGOs

A few definitions of Homelessness are as under:

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) of the USA defines youth experiencing homelessness as individuals who are “not more than 21 years of age and for whom it is not possible to live in a safe environment with a relative and who have no other safe alternative living arrangement.” This definition includes only those youth who are unaccompanied by families or caregivers

As per The U.S. Department of Education, the term "homeless children and youths" means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

The Census of India 2011 defines 'houseless household' as, Individuals inhabiting locations outside of conventional housing structures, such as roadsides, pavements, under flyovers, or in open areas like places of worship, mandaps, and railway platforms, are considered as households dwelling in non-standard or improvised living conditions

Background

During the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-1997), India initiated programs targeting the underprivileged and homeless for the first time. A key aspect of this effort was the implementation of the Footpath Dwellers Night Shelter Scheme by the government.

The recognition of the right to secure housing was considered as a human right in the 11th Five-Year Plan (2007–12). Additionally, the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) Scheme, a government initiative, aims to address homelessness in the future.

The PMAY set the target that by 2022, every individual should have access to affordable housing, emphasizing the Government's commitment to reducing homelessness.

In the winter of 2010, reports surfaced regarding the deaths of homeless individuals on the streets of New Delhi. In response, the Supreme Court mandated that cities create a minimum of one homeless shelter for every 100 people in jurisdictions with a population of 100,000 residents, estimating a 0.10 percent incidence of homelessness in urban India. This directive led to the formulation of the National Shelter Policy.

Article 21 of the Constitution is designed to ensure not just a basic physical or animal existence but also the right to life with dignity. Consequently, it is reasonable to infer that the right to a home or a place to live aligns with the principles of Article 21 of the Constitution, and homelessness is inconsistent with its provisions.

In India, approximately 1.8 million individuals are homeless, with 52% residing in urban areas. Additionally, around 73 million families inhabit substandard homes.

According to a report by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), about 32% of households in India live below the poverty line.

Review of literature

International

In their paper, "Impacts of homelessness on children – research with teachers," Dr. Ali Digby and Emily Fu illuminate the far-reaching consequences of homelessness on children. The study reveals a distressing array of challenges, from compromised mental health marked by increased tiredness and signs of distress to behavioural changes resulting in poor attendance and altered educational attainment. Physical well-being is also compromised, with fluctuations in weight and difficulties in maintaining hygiene. The study further underscores the social toll, documenting the loss of friendships and increased vulnerability to bullying. Additionally, the financial strain of homelessness hampers a child's ability to participate in school activities like paying for trips. Overall, the research emphasizes the urgent need for comprehensive support systems to address the complex and interconnected issues facing homeless children.

National

As per the handbook for administrators and policymakers on shelters for urban homeless,” the census of India defines houseless population as persons who are not living in “census houses”. A census house is a structure with a roof”. Census enumerators are guided to take note of possible places where people are likely to live on footpaths, pipes, near temples, railway platforms, staircases, footover bridges, signals, and transport nodes.

Thane

In Chande H.A's study, "A Study of the Street and Working Children Living in Thane," the focus on homeless children in less developed nations, particularly in India, unveils critical challenges. The research identifies poverty as the primary driver of child labor on the streets, with children working extended hours for meager earnings. A concerning finding is the high incidence of malnutrition among these children, underscoring the grim socioeconomic conditions they endure. The study also sheds light on the detrimental impact of unclean water and inadequate sanitation, contributing to a heightened prevalence of illnesses.

Research question:

Education can improve the quality of living for homeless children.



Method of data collection

Primary Data

Semi-structured questionnaire was administered to the students of Signal School, an NGO working for homeless children

An interview with the founder of Signal School was conducted

Interview of the successful alumni of Signal School was conducted

Secondary Data has been collected from Online research journals, research papers, Reports of various international organizations working for the cause, and Online reference literature



The causes of Homelessness is universal just like the problems of homelessness which can be divided into economic, psychological, sociocultural, and others.

Most of the causes of homelessness are well known to all of us. The present research paper would like to focus on specific causes of homeless people living in the Thane area specific in the area under study. This area has several homeless individuals/families from Pardhi tribe. For centuries together Pardhi community has been nomadic tribe and they have been homeless

as a result of peculiar beliefs within the tribe and added to it is the mainstream societal nonacceptance.

On enquiry, the main causes highlighted were culture of this community wherein its a common practice to live in the wild or open spaces. Lack of home is not looked down upon by the tribe. These communities have been forced to migrate from their original rural space for want of basic need of food. They are still not allowed, in many areas to be a part of the mainstream society. Due to scarcity of economic opportunity, they are forced to migrate to urban centers. Here, they occupy specific areas like transport nodes. It has been revealed that due to their nomadic culture, they end up living in footpaths or near signals.

The researchers visited two NGOs for the in-depth study of homeless children in Thane area. The NGOs were Samarth Bharath's Signal Shala and Jeevan Samvardhan Foundation.

The success story of Signal School- Signal School is an innovative concept initiated by Samarth Bharath Vyaspeeth in coordination with TMC. It aims to provide mainstream education to the vulnerables living on the pavements. It also aims at terminating begging from children's life routines by providing Primary and secondary education. It also aims at developing cognitive skills and professional knowledge among them. The survey conducted by this NGO reveals that the parents of the children coming from different areas of Maharashtra belong to Pardhi (hunter) community. Following are a few success stories from Signal Shala that we encountered during our meeting with the students of Signal Shala.

Name - Kiran More

SUCCESS STORY – The boy is studying in Std XI now in the Arts stream of Satish Pradhan Dnyanasadhana College. Due to his good performance in Signal School, he was transferred to Saraswati Secondary School in Standard VI. In addition, he has acquired excellence in sports and is computer literate also.

Name - Gauri Kale

SUCCESS STORY -Standard VI- Her dream is to become a doctor, to help poor people. Apart from being good in her studies, she has acquired training in painting, robotics, yoga and skating. She has participated in various competitions and bagged prizes too.

Name - Lalit Kale

SUCCESS STORY - Std VIII- He aims to become an engineer. With a lot of gratitude, he narrated the incident when he was diagnosed with Malaria, he was taken care of by the signal shala and medical expenses were borne by them. So now he has taken a pledge to reciprocate to Signal Shala when he becomes something in life.

The researchers have witnessed the transition of children starting their education journey in Signal Shala to the children who have got a job and have moved to rented houses with their families. The girls get scholarships from the school to study and these girls also have rented out a home and are now not classified as “Homeless”.

Success story from Jeevan Samwardhan- Interview with office bearers & visit to the foundation
The children or their custodians who are found in trains or signals are talked into joining the NGOs. Once joined, NGO conducts medical tests as a common observation is that these children are susceptible to contagious diseases. They have explained the importance of cleanliness, hygiene & nutrition. Slowly they are encouraged to join the schools and once the child sees other young children going to the school, they also get motivated to join the school. Hence after considerable time and readiness the child, when ready, is made to join the Jila Parishad school. The school also benefitted from these admissions as they were suffering from poor admissions. The foundation children are taken good care of by the school and after seeing so many admissions, other children from the locality also joined the school. 86 children from Jeevan Samvardhan have completed their education and are placed in different jobs. They have completed their journey from homeless to people with a home.

Recommendations

Following are a few recommendations to ensure the rights of Indian citizens to these homeless children

Encouraging NGOs to reunite street children with their families

Strategies are required to strengthen family’s responsibility for their children

There is an urgent need to spread awareness about the rights, and policies among homeless children.

There should be agencies to coordinate with the homeless children and respective Government departments.

Policymakers should focus on providing necessities such as shelter, food, hygiene, clothing, safe drinking water, and education.

In case of parents reallocating, admission to the nearby school in the new location should be arranged for effortless procedure available to them

Evening classes or Night classes should be arranged in the vicinity for working children or their parents.

Special care should be taken for homeless girls or women to safeguard them from exploitation.

The government should ensure basic and necessary services like doctors, counsellors and social workers

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Exploring Thane Community's Readiness: A Research Study on Supporting Education and Empowerment of Homeless Children

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Abstract

Education is also crucial for achieving social justice and putting an end to poverty. Children who receive a quality education can realise their full potential and become self-sufficient. Homelessness may have a serious negative influence on a child's future opportunities, health, and educational opportunities. Community Engagement or community involvement is the process of working together with individuals, groups, or communities to address challenges, find solutions to several issue of the society. The current research is conducted to describe the community perception and awareness towards the challenges of educating Homeless children in Thane region. The exploratory study approach is utilised in the study to identify the willingness of Thane community to actively contribute to education and empowerment of the Homeless Children. The primary finding of the study is that there is high amount of willingness in educated section of Thane community to actively participate into educating the homeless children. However the community resource mobilisation shows an impact on the willingness of the residents in Thane. Though there is availability of resources, yet there is insufficiency in mobilisation.

Introduction:

Homelessness may have a serious negative influence on a child's future opportunities, health, and educational opportunities. Education develops the abilities required to make a living and make sensible choices, every child deserves to be provided with access to the best possible education. An educated individual is more prepared than someone who never went to school. Children who receive a quality education can realise their full potential and become self-sufficient. Education is also crucial for achieving social justice and putting an end to poverty. India has made great strides towards increasing the percentage of its population that is literate. With the passage of the Right to Education Act in 2009, millions of children may now have access to formal education. However, according to the 2011 Census, “84 million children

between the ages of 5 and 17 are not attending school”. According the data published by, ICCPP Journal (2021) India is home to an estimated 1.8 million homeless individuals, of whom 52% live in cities. An additional 73 million households do not have access to adequate housing. (IGH, 2018; Habitat, 2019). Majority of the homeless population are homeless family with children.

The education is significant for: Getting educated is essential to landing well-paying employment, Child labour is decreased by education. Social ills such as child marriage and dowries can be eliminated via education. Creativity and imagination are enhanced by education., One effective strategy for escaping generational poverty is education., Quality education about health, nutrition and hygiene and drastically reduce preventable deaths.

Community involvement is crucial to establishing a nurturing environment that meets the special needs of homeless children. Community engagement means working with people or groups to solve problems and make decisions that affect society, it is a two-way exchange of information and ideas. To make sure community members' needs and opinions are considered in decisions, community participation can take many different forms based on the situation and goals.

Community participation is essential when there is a great deal of disagreement and gap between the parties. Community participation is important when there is significant disagreement and difference between parties. In simpler terms, By using these shared points of agreement strategically, you can unite people, promote understanding, and work together to overcome challenges and decide on a course of action collaboratively. The education of Homeless children is one the disagreement rather gap between the government policies, educational institutes and the homeless population. The concern study is to identify the readiness of the community of Thane in aiding in resolving the issue of educating the homeless children.

Hence the objective of the study are:

To identify the awareness of Thane Community regarding the issues of educating homeless children of their city.

To assess the willingness of Thane community engagement into educating homeless children

To evaluate community resource mobilisation for ensuring the education among Homeless children.

Hypothesis of the study:

1)H0: There is no significant linear relationship between the education level of Thane residents and their awareness and willingness to participate in community initiatives for homeless children's education.

H1: There is significant linear relationship between the education level of Thane residents and their awareness of and willingness to participate in community initiatives for homeless children's education.

2) H0: "There is no significant relationship between the availability and adequacy of community resources and the community's willingness to actively support educational programs for homeless children."

H1: The availability and adequacy of community resources is significantly associated to the community's willingness to actively support educational programs for homeless children..

Scope of the study: The study is Geographical scope is Then region.

Population Sampling:

While the population size is exhaustive (includes everyone relevant to the study), We employed random sampling to determine our final sample size. The sample size was 150 residents of Thane.

Limitation of the study

The study was time-limited, This affected the speed at which we could gather, examine, and present our data. The time constraint to conduct the study.

The availability of literature on the concern study to refer as secondary data is limited.

The responses obtained from NGOs and homeless kids, as referred from other studies.

Review of Literature:

As per the study of Yilmne (1990), Children who are homeless face extreme poverty and a variety of hazards that are severely affecting their wellbeing. This study investigates how academic underachievement, psychological issues, developmental delays, hunger, poor nutrition, health problems, lack of healthcare and mental health services access, and

homelessness affect children. When comparing youngsters living in shelters and motels to their age-matched peers who are continuously housed, the latter group performs worse overall in every category examined.

The McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program Act (2013), “this legislation aims to address the myriad challenges faced by homeless children by providing federal funding to states. It streamlines bureaucratic documentation requirements for school enrollment and supports the establishment of a stable learning environment, thereby enhancing these children's opportunities for academic success (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 2013)”.

Also other relevant studies like (Rafferty, n.d.) Children who are homeless face to many difficult like poverty and the range of hazards that are severely affecting their wellbeing. Child homelessness can result to factors like malnutrition, hunger, health issues, lack of access to medical and mental health care, developmental delays, psychological problems, and academic struggles. When comparing children living in shelters and motels to their age-appropriate peers who are permanently housed, they perform worse overall in every category examined.

Joseph Murphy I (2011) We are aware that being homeless puts homeless children and teens at risk for several issues, such as hunger, a lack of parental guidance, hanging out with troublesome peers, not attending school, and so on. Researchers have also shown that young people in these risk states suffer greatly from physical, emotional, social, and educational consequences.

(Cyril et al., 2015) Community engagement (CE) is frequently used in health promotion, although little is known about the aspects of CE models that lead to improved health. This research aimed to ascertain the components of CE that are appropriate, practicable, and effective when applied to disadvantaged groups, as well as the degree of CE's influence on health and health disparities within disadvantaged populations

Data Analysis:

Objective 1. To identify the awareness of Thane Community regarding the issues of educating homeless children of their city.

The 59.9% of Thane residents were able to clearly conceptually define Homelessness.

Table No. 1: Familiarity of Thane community about Educational challenges of Homeless Children

Sr.No	Degree of familiarity	Percentage
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1	Familiar	30.77
2	Neutral	38.46
3	Unfamiliar	20.51
4	Very Familiar	5.13
5	Very Unfamiliar	5.13
6	Grand Total	100

(Source: Primary Data)

The data indicates varying levels of familiarity within the Thane community regarding the educational challenges faced by homeless children. The majority fall into the "Neutral" and "Familiar" categories, constituting 69.23% of the responses. This suggests a mixed awareness or understanding within the community. A notable portion, 20.51%, expresses "Unfamiliarity," indicating a potential need for increased awareness and education on the challenges homeless children encounter in accessing education. The smaller percentages in the "Very Familiar" and "Very Unfamiliar" categories suggest that extreme levels of familiarity or unfamiliarity are less common within the community.

Table No. 2 Awareness of any existing community initiatives in Thane

Sr.No	Awareness	Percentage
1	No	25.64
2	Not Sure	41.03
3	Yes	33.33
4	Grand Total	100

(Source: Primary Data)

The data reflects the awareness levels within the Thane community regarding existing initiatives supporting the education and empowerment of homeless children. A substantial portion, 41.03%, falls under the category of "Not Sure," suggesting uncertainty or lack of clarity within the community about these initiatives. About 33.33% are aware ("Yes"), while 25.64% indicate no awareness.

Table No. 3 Agreement over the role of Community support in educating Homeless Children

Sr.No	Degree of Agreement	Percentage
1	Agree	51.28
2	Neutral	5.13
3	Strongly Agree	28.21

4	Strongly Disagree	2.56
5	Grand Total	100

(Source: Primary Data)

The data illustrates the degree of agreement within the community regarding the role of community support in educating homeless children. A significant portion, 51.28%, falls under the "Agree" category, indicating a prevailing positive sentiment toward the idea that community support plays a role in the education of homeless children. Furthermore, 28.21% strongly agree with this notion, emphasizing a stronger affirmation. Only a small percentage, 2.56%, strongly disagrees, suggesting a minority with opposing views. The "Neutral" category at 5.13% indicates a moderate stance.

Objective 2: To assess the willingness of Thane community engagement into educating homeless children

Table No. 4 Degree of willingness of Thane community active engagement into educating homeless children

Sr.No	Degree of Willingness	Percentage
1	Neutral	23.08
2	Not Willing at All	2.56
3	Somewhat Willing	15.38
4	Very Willing	10.26
5	Willing	48.72
6	Grand Total	100

(Source: Primary Data)

The data reveals the degree of willingness within the community to actively engage in and support educational programs for homeless children. A substantial 48.72% express a high level of willingness, falling into the categories of "Willing" and "Very Willing." Additionally, 15.38% indicate being "Somewhat Willing," emphasizing a moderate level of willingness. However, 23.08% remain in the "Neutral" category, signifying a level of indecision or neutrality. A small percentage, 2.56%, states "Not Willing at All," suggesting a minority with low willingness.

Table No. 5 Degree of willingness of Thane community attend programs/ workshops to resolve challenges of educating homeless children

Sr.No	Willingness	Percentage
1	Yes	56.41

2	No	10.26
3	Maybe	33.33
4	Grand Total	100

(Source: Primary Data)

The data indicates a positive inclination within the Thane community to attend programs or workshops aimed at resolving challenges related to the education of homeless children. A significant majority, 56.41%, express a willingness to attend such initiatives ("Yes"). A notable portion, 33.33%, falls into the "Maybe" category.

Objective 3 : To evaluate community resource mobilisation for ensuring the education among Homeless children.

Table No. 6: The resources within Thane those could be mobilized to support educational programs for homeless

Sr.No	Resources	Percentage
1	Educational	33.33
2	Infrastructure	33.33
3	Finance	33.33
4	Grand Total	100

(Source: Primary Data)

The data suggests an even distribution of perceived resources within Thane that could be mobilized to support educational programs for homeless children. Each resource category—Educational, Infrastructure, and Finance—holds an equal percentage of 33.33%.

Table No. 7 Contribute into the resources towards increasing the education among homeless Children

Sr.No	Contribution	Percentage
1	Yes	46.00
2	No	30.00
3	Maybe	24.00
4	Grand Total	100

(Source: Primary Data)

The data reveals a positive inclination within the community to contribute resources towards increasing education among homeless children. A significant majority, 46.00%, express a willingness to contribute ("Yes"). A notable portion, 24.00%, falls into the "Maybe" category, indicating a moderate level of openness to making contributions.

Table No. 8 Forms of Contribution towards increasing the education among homeless Children

Sr.No	Contribution	Percentage
1	Donations in form of funds	39.78
2	Donations in Kinds	26.75
3	Participation in Civic supportive programs for Homeless	6.98
4	Self Initiated efforts	13.95
5	Other forms	12.54
6	Grand Total	100

(Source: Primary Data)

The majority, 39.78%, express a willingness to contribute through donations in the form of funds. Additionally, 26.75% prefer making contributions in kinds. A smaller percentage, 13.95%, indicates a willingness to contribute through self-initiated efforts. Other forms of contribution, representing 12.54%, and participation in civic supportive programs for the homeless, at 6.98%, are also recognized.

Table No. 9 Sufficiency community resources to effectively contribute to the education of homeless children

Sr.No	Sufficiency of resources	Percentage
1	Neutral	28.21
2	Not Sufficient at All	12.82
3	Somewhat Sufficient	30.77
4	Sufficient	23.08
5	Very Sufficient	5.13
6	Grand Total	100

(Source: Primary Data)

The largest portion, 30.77%, considers resources to be "Somewhat Sufficient," suggesting a moderate level of confidence in the community's capacity to contribute. However, a significant percentage, 28.21%, falls into the "Neutral" category, indicating uncertainty or mixed opinions. A substantial portion, 23.08%, perceives resources as "Sufficient," while 5.13% view them as "Very Sufficient." Conversely, 12.82% express the opinion that resources are "Not Sufficient at All."

Table No. 10 Existing support services in Thane (healthcare, counselling, etc.) that could complement educational programs

Sr.No	Support Programs	Percentage
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1	Yes	46.00
2	No	16.28
3	Maybe	37.72
4	Grand Total	100

(Source: Primary Data)

A significant majority, 46.00%, affirm the presence of such support services ("Yes"). About 37.72% express a possibility or uncertainty ("Maybe"), while a smaller percentage, 16.28%, indicates a perception of the absence of these support services ("No").

Testing of Hypothesis

H0: There is no significant association between the educational attainment of Thane residents and their awareness of and willingness to support local programs aimed at educating homeless children.

H1: The awareness and willingness of Thane residents to participate in community activities for the education of homeless children significantly correlates with their level of education.

Correlation Coefficient

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Education of the residents</i>	<i>Awareness</i>	<i>Willingness</i>
<i>Education of the residents</i>	1		
<i>Awareness</i>	0.23553456	1	
<i>Willingness</i>	0.12532522	0.159087258	1

Correlation between Education and Awareness:

The correlation coefficient between "Education of the residents" and "Awareness of community initiatives in Thane" is approximately 0.24. There is a weak positive linear relationship between the education level of Thane residents and their awareness of community initiatives supporting homeless children's education. As education level increases, there is a slight tendency for awareness to increase.

Correlation between Education and Willingness:

The correlation coefficient between "Education of the residents" and "Willingness to participate" is approximately 0.13. There is a weak positive linear relationship between the education level of Thane residents and their willingness to actively participate in community efforts for homeless children's education and empowerment. As education level increases, there is a slight tendency for willingness to increase.

Correlation between Awareness and Willingness

The correlation coefficient between "Awareness of community initiatives" and "Willingness to participate" is approximately 0.16.

Interpretation: There is a weak positive linear relationship between awareness of community initiatives and willingness to actively participate in community efforts for homeless children's education and empowerment.

Pearsons Correlation Coefficient test:

t-Test: Paired Two Sample for Means

	<i>Education of the residents</i>	<i>Awareness</i>
Mean	1.333333	1.076923
Variance	0.333333	0.59919
Observations	39	39
Pearson Correlation	0.235535	
Hypothesized Mean Difference	0	
df	38	
t Stat	1.884516	
P(T<=t) one-tail	0.033581	
t Critical one-tail	1.685954	
P(T<=t) two-tail	0.067161	
t Critical two-tail	2.024394	

The t-test statistic is calculated as 1.884516349., For a one-tail test, the P-value is 0.033580644..

For a one-tail test, the P-value is 0.05 significance level suggests strong evidence to reject the null hypothesis. Hence, there is suggestive evidence that awareness of community initiatives

supporting homeless children's education might differ between different education levels of residents in Thane

	<i>Education of the residents</i>	<i>Willingness</i>
Mean	1.33333333	2.487179
Variance	0.33333333	0.940621
Observations	39	39
Pearson Correlation	0.12532522	
Hypothesized Mean Difference	0	
df	38	
t Stat	-6.7678336	
P(T<=t) one-tail	2.5389E-08	
t Critical one-tail	1.68595446	
P(T<=t) two-tail	5.0777E-08	
t Critical two-tail	2.02439416	

The t-test statistic is calculated as 1.884516349.

P-Values: For a one-tail test, the P-value is 0.033580644., For a two-tail test, the P-value is 0.067161287. The P-value is less than the 0.05 significance level, so reject the null hypothesis. Hence, There is significant linear relationship between the education level of Thane residents and their awareness of and willingness to participate in community initiatives for homeless children's education.

Hypothesis 2 H0: "There is no significant relationship between the availability and adequacy of community resources and the community's willingness to actively support educational programs for homeless children."

H1: The availability and adequacy of community resources is significantly associated to the community's willingness to actively support educational programs for homeless children..

Correlation Matrix

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Avaialbilty</i>	<i>Sufficiency</i>	<i>Willingness</i>
<i>Avaialbilty</i>	1		
<i>Sufficiency</i>	0.089089	1	
<i>Willingness</i>	0.087165	0.0977	1

Pearsons Correlation Coefficient test:

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Willingness</i>	<i>Sufficiency</i>
Mean	2.410256	1.794872
Variance	1.090418	1.219973
Observations	39	39
Pearson Correlation	0.0977	
Hypothesized Mean Difference	0	
df	38	
t Stat	2.661484	
P(T<=t) one-tail	0.005669	
t Critical one-tail	1.685954	
P(T<=t) two-tail	0.011337	
t Critical two-tail	2.024394	

Correlation coefficient: 0.0977

P(T<=t) one-tail: 0.0057 The p-values are below the conventional significance level of 0.05, suggesting that the difference in means is statistically significant. This provides evidence to reject the null hypothesis.

t-Test: Paired Two Sample for Means

<i>Paticulars</i>	<i>Willingness</i>	<i>Availabilty</i>
Mean	2.410256	1.25641
Variance	1.090418	0.300945
Observations	39	39
Pearson Correlation	0.087165	
Hypothesized Mean Difference	0	
df	38	
t Stat	6.340644	
P(T<=t) one-tail	9.72E-08	
t Critical one-tail	1.685954	

P(T<=t) two-tail	1.94E-07	
t Critical two-tail	2.024394	

Correlation coefficient: 0.0872. The correlation between willingness and the availability of support services is very weak (0.0872). This indicates a slight positive relationship, suggesting that as willingness increases, there is a slight tendency for the availability of support services to also increase.

t Stat: 6.3406, P(T<=t) one-tail: 9.71543E-08, The p-values are extremely low, well below the conventional significance level of 0.05, suggesting that the difference in means is highly statistically significant. This provides strong evidence to reject the null hypothesis.

Hence The availability and adequacy of community resources is significantly associated to the community's willingness to actively support educational programs for homeless children.

Conclusions and Suggestions:

The major section of Thane community is aware about Homelessness. There is significant portion of the community that is aware of the challenges of educating and empowering the homeless children. The data also indicates that there is high amount of willingness in educated section of Thane community to actively participate into educating the homeless children. However the community resource mobilisation shows an impact on the willingness of the residents in Thane. Though there is availability of resources, yet there is insufficiency in mobilisation. The Thane community is contributing in various manners to add on to the resource for enhancing the education among homeless children. But there is requirement identified via this research to coordinate the efforts of stakeholders like Community leaders, Civic bodies, Non- Profit organisations and the beneficiaries in terms of Homeless families. The Thane Community displays readiness in Supporting education and empowerment of Homeless children. Efforts by policymakers to involve community leaders and organize community engagement programs are expected to effectively channelize the community's willingness into tangible outcomes.

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The digital way of empowering homeless children in Bharat.

Introduction:

In this advanced era of the fast-paced digital age, where technological advancements are embedded in every aspect of our lives, it is painful to acknowledge the existence of a demographic, often left out on the outer borders or far away from the destination called progress. In Bharat alone, the central issue of homelessness affects millions of young lives, depriving them of basic livelihood needs, and appropriate education. The essential tools for a basic humanitarian approach are imperative, and digital empowerment emerges as an inspiration of hope but for everyone.

Homeless children face multifaceted challenges, ranging from poor access to education and healthcare to the psychological toll of living on the streets. Recognizing the potential of technology to bridge these gaps, digital empowerment initiatives have emerged as an innovative and inclusive solutions. By connecting the power of digital tools and platforms, rehabilitation measures can be handmade to address the unique needs of this helpless demographic, opening new paths for education, skill development, and emotional support. These children lack a home or a shelter. few of them have no family bonds. They are easy victims of sexual abuse and inhuman treatment and are often engaged in small robberies or prostitution for daily survival.

This paper tries to probe into the transformative potential of leveraging digital empowerment to rehabilitate homeless children. Together, we can build a better future where every homeless child can use technology to reach their full potential.

Research Question: Does access to digital tools improve education among homeless children compared to traditional classroom settings?

Hypothesis: Homeless children who receive educational support through digital tools and thus acquire digital skills will demonstrate greater academic progress than those who rely solely on traditional classroom settings.

Reviews of Ground Work Services by NGO's:

With existing ground work done by various NGOs, Government bodies, social workers, Educational Institutions, reformers, and many individuals, self-help groups, data is also subsequently collected from NGO websites and other social media. This research paper is divided into 2 simple parts

Existing ground work done on homeless children rehabilitation by NGO's

Digital empowerment for homeless Children by these NGO's Let us explore each of them stepwise

Existing ground work done on homeless children rehabilitation by NGO's:

Homeless children in Bharat, estimated to be in the millions, face a daunting reality of vulnerability, exploitation, and limited access to necessities. Research on their rehabilitation offers insights into challenges and potential solutions:

Vulnerability and Challenges:

The overview ground work research includes the study of forced begging, abuse, and exploitation faced by homeless children.

The overview ground work research overview includes the study of lack of education, healthcare, and safe shelter which severely impact their physical and mental well-being.

The overview ground work research includes the study of lack of Social stigma and lack of family support to further separate and side-line them.

Rehabilitation Approaches:

NGOs and civil society organizations: Play a crucial role in education, vocational training, healthcare, and psychosocial support.

Community-based programs: Highlight family reunification, and social integration within communities.

Child-centered approaches: Prioritize children's voices, participation, and their unique needs in program design and implementation.

Therefore, research on homeless children rehabilitation in Bharat highlights the need for comprehensive and child-centered approaches. Effective interventions should focus on

Protecting children from exploitation,

Providing holistic support,

Promoting education and skills development, and

Facilitating their reintegration into society.

Digital empowerment for homeless Children Addressing Challenges:

Education: Bridge the gap to formal education with online platforms offering flexible learning modules and skill training in coding, digital marketing, etc.

Mental Health: Provide access to remote therapists and psychologists to address trauma and anxiety associated with homelessness.

Empowerment & Skills: Equip children with Computer education, Basic financial literacy, entrepreneurship skills, and access to remote job opportunities for financial independence.

Considerations:

Digital Divide: Ensure access to devices, internet connection, and digital literacy training to bridge the gap.

Online Safety: Implement safeguards and educate children about responsible online behavior.

Human Connection: Integrate online initiatives with in-person support networks and mentorship programs.

Monitoring and evaluate program effectiveness to ensure positive outcomes.

Promote awareness and advocate for policy changes to support digital inclusion.

Digital empowerment for homeless Children by these NGO's

Digital empowerment is a tool, not a solution. Combining it with holistic support and addressing underlying challenges is crucial for successfully implementing this program.

Key Findings: Effectiveness of digital interventions: This research provides evidence on the effectiveness of specific digital interventions like online education platforms, teletherapy services, or job training programs in improving outcomes for homeless children in Bharat. This could include measuring academic achievement, mental health well-being, employment rates, or other relevant indicators.

Impact on social capital: This research assesses how digital technologies help homeless children build social capital by analyzing their participation in online communities, engagement with mentors, and access to resources through online networks.

Empowerment and agency: This research explore how digital tools and skills empower children to make choices about their education, careers, and future. This might involve qualitative studies to understand their experiences and perspectives on using technology.

Integration with existing programs:

Exploring how digital interventions can effectively integrate with and complement existing offline support services for homeless children is crucial for holistic and sustainable impact.

By addressing these key findings and gaps in knowledge, this research can contribute to understanding of the challenges of digital empowerment for homeless children in Bharat. these findings can inform policy decisions, program development, and future research to ensure that the technology serves as a tool for positive change and empowerment in their lives.

Methodology: The methodology used is hybrid. According to reach, data is physically collected but not purely scientific data. It's on observation, critical and hermeneutical interpretation from the field workers and organizations in the field of rehabilitation of homeless children. The data is informative and is done in limited time with limited peoples. The data collected is through some location visits, some personal one-to-one talk, telephonic interaction, and dialectical methods from persons associated in this field. The persons are the real social reformers and are in diversified field who work purely for service of people and nation. Their intentions are very clear "niskaam seva". Many of these social entrepreneurs have bought an impactful change in the existing traditional educational pattern. The most reliable part of this research method is interaction with all those who are on-field and actualizers of social reforms selflessly. The intentions, the outcome and the execution of this research is purely academic. It does not necessarily claim or intend to claim the accuracy of the findings.

Findings and Discussion:

My findings in a few organizations are presented below.

Samatol foundation:

Shri. Vijay Ramchandra Jadhav (Founder)

Locations: Thane and Kalyan, Dist. Thane Maharashtra-Bharat

Samatol Foundation is a Registered Charitable Trust that aims at reuniting every child in need across Bharat with proper education with their families in their hometowns. It believes in making them independent and confident with different vocational courses.

Several children across various parts of the country, mainly from the states of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal, leave their homes and come to cities like Mumbai in search of employment or due to city attraction. Many times, they are brought from their hometown by promising a livelihood in this city but are made to work as child laborers or are forced into begging. This in turn makes their life more miserable and might as well lead them to criminal activities.

With the help of their volunteers, they locate these children on railway junctions in Maharashtra like Mumbai CST, Dadar, Kurla, Thane, Kalyan Pune, Bhusaval, Nagpur and other such local and mail express stations. They find out such children, counsel the children, and try to convince them to join the rehabilitation center for a bright future. This is the most important step because if these children don't agree, they may fall into bad company and get involved in illegal or criminal activities.

Samatol Foundation rehabilitates every child in two ways.

They either reunite them with their families or

put them in hostels where they can stay safe and also try to give them admission to the school for their further studies.

Apart from shaping the destiny of the homeless children, a few Achievements by the Samatol Foundation is they have rehabilitated 48000 plus students to their home, they are currently servicing children at 10 railway stations. 25+ children are currently under rehabilitation. They have Digitally Trained more than 200 students. Out of many digitally trained children, one student was awarded in Rajasthan for excellent Digital photography.

Note: This information was received on telephonic talks and personally answered by the founder Shri. Vijay Ramchandra Jadhav.

Jeevan Samvardhan Foundation

Shri Sadashiv Chauhan (Founder)

Location: Titwala, Dist. Thane Maharashtra-Bharat

A haven exists where 170+ children, once cast free by the hardships of homelessness, have found a safe harbor. This is the story of an organization that is not just providing shelter, but cultivating hope, education, and a sense of belonging for these young souls. Children's laughter echoes through verdant fields as they explore the wonders of nature, a stark contrast to the harsh realities they once knew. Happy faces lit up by the joy of learning in classrooms that ignite curiosity and foster a love for knowledge.

Here's how they make a difference: A loving home replaces the uncertainty of the streets, offering a haven for children to heal and thrive.

Quality education: Tailored learning programs cater to individual needs and strengths, ensuring every child receives the education they deserve.

Nurturing environment: Dedicated teachers and caretakers provide emotional support, guidance, and a sense of family, fostering a positive and loving atmosphere.

Values and life skills: Children learn not just academic knowledge but also essential life skills like Computer education, communication skills, teamwork, and problem-solving, equipping them to navigate the world with confidence.

Parivartan Mahila Sanstha

Smt. Varsha Parchure (CEO)

Location: Titwala, Dist. Thane Maharashtra-Bharat

Started in 2005 Parivartan Mahila Sanstha Formed by a group of 08 women's, this group worked together to transform the homeless girls to a nation building citizens of Bharat.

Presently 40 girls staying in Mukta. Mukta, residential care for destitute and orphan girls. Provide care and support for such needy girls who had right to get their home, education and all other benefits that a child should get. Mukta undertakes activities and programs to ensure, they become self-reliant and well-groomed individuals. Mukata does not only provide them shelter but also satisfy their emotional and social needs.

Digitally Skilling Girls: Parivartan Mahila Sanstha initiated the campaign of digitally upgrading these girls and transformed their life. More than 25 girls got training in advanced IT Courses. After completing these courses some of these girls completed their management courses. one has graduated and also done MBA. She is currently working as a consultant to an NGO. Others who graduated, some of them are now placed at reputed companies.

This Self-Help Group collected laptops, Desktops and Tablet PC's and trained these girls during corona epidemic. With hybrid mode of study, these students are smarter than any other way of traditional learning.

Signal School: (Signal Shaala):

Shri Bhatu Sawant (CEO Samarth Bharat Vyaspith) Location: Teenhat Signal naka, Thane, Maharashtra- Bharat

Signal School started in 2017, is a unique idea started by Shri Bhatu Sawant, Samarth Bharat Vyaspith (SBV) and Thane Municipal Corporation to help kids who live on traffic signals in Thane, Maharashtra. Bharat. The main goal of Samarth Bharat Vyaspith is to teach these children so that they can fit into the regular world. Signal School gives these kids a chance to go to a proper school and provides them with different things they need.

Signal school conducts sessions on robotics in collaboration with Shri Purushottam Pachpande, a renowned personality in robotics. These students are so trained that they dare to challenge international students from dominant nearby schools. Participating in national and international school level competitions, they have won many awards and recognitions for their excellent showcase of talent. Signal shaala is a jewel in the crown of organisations working for upliftment and has covered all international media on its success.

TMGF - The Mother Global Foundation

Founder: Padma Shri Dr. Sindhutai Sapkal 'Maai' an NGO with a dedicated focus to uplift, enable and empower Orphaned children and Destitute. TMGF run orphanages where they strive to provide the necessary platform and support for the homeless children to make them self-sufficient, independent and able to lead a stable life. They have nurtured and raised more than 2100 orphaned children and destitute. Currently they are nurturing 260 plus orphaned children and destitute at 4 Orphanages with over 260 children attending 12 different schools and 5 colleges and over 1000 children who are working and earning a stable livelihood. Not only this about 400 children are married and leading a happy life with their family

References of Abandonment and Adoption in Vedic Texts: Mahabharata and Ramayana

Adoption: Maa Sita was an adopted daughter of King Janaka and Queen Sunaina. She received royal and cultural training. This involves etiquette, music, dance, household management, and knowledge of royal duties. These skills enhanced her grace and dignity.

Abandonment: Though Rama did not abandon Sita willingly, her exile to the forest due to societal suspicion of her purity signifies a form of separation. (In some Jain versions of the Ramayana, Sita's exile is described as a voluntary act of self-sacrifice rather than an abandonment by Rama. These versions underline Sita's strength and independence, suggesting she chose to leave Ayodhya to uphold her purity and dharma.)

Adoption: Sage Vishvamitra, in some versions of the Ramayana, the Maithili Ramayana, the sage Vishvamitra plays a role in Sita's education. He recognizes her extraordinary potential and takes her to his ashram.

Skilling: She receives physical and intellectual training, learning subjects like martial arts, archery, philosophy, and statecraft. This highlights Sita's strength, intelligence, and ability to stand on her own.

Karna: In the Mahabharata, Kunti abandons her new born son Karna, conceived before marriage, fearing societal censure.

Adoption: Karna was adopted by a charioteer Adhiratha. He and his wife Radha raised Karna with love and care, despite facing societal prejudice due to their lower caste and Karna's unknown origins showing compassion despite social norms even though he was not their biological son.

Skilling: Sage Dronacharya and Sage Parashurama played significant roles in Karna's training, though under very different and critical circumstances. It's very interesting to note that Karna achieved exceptional skill even in adverse conditions.

Conclusion:

Adopting homeless children's, Supporting, educating and assisting them in acquiring various life skills and thereafter digital skills and also providing them with necessary technology tools has a significant impact in the lives of these homeless children. It not only enhances their immediate access to education and job opportunities but also takes them toward a more secure and promising future. Investing in their digital education becomes a strong tool for creating positive change and nurturing inclusivity in our society. The nation's progress is tied to the well-being and development of its children. With proper attention and training, every homeless child can contribute to making our nation Bharat proud. Attaching advanced technologies is crucial in transforming these young minds into hopeful and productive citizens of Bharat, thereby facilitating economic upliftment.

Recommendations:

Comprehensive Digital Literacy Programs: Develop and implement comprehensive digital literacy programs tailored to the unique needs and challenges faced by homeless children. These programs should cover basic computer skills, online safety, and practical applications to enhance their employability.

Access to Digital Infrastructure: Ensure widespread access to digital infrastructure, such as community centres or mobile units equipped with computers and internet connectivity, to facilitate digital learning for homeless children in various locations.

Collaboration with NGOs and Government Agencies: Establish collaboration between non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government agencies, and private entities to create a unified approach towards digital empowerment. Pool resources and expertise to reach a larger number of homeless children.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Establish a monitoring and evaluation system to track the effectiveness of digital literacy interventions. Regular assessments can help identify areas of improvement and ensure the programs are meeting the intended objectives.

Partnerships with Corporates and Government policies: Partnerships with corporate entities willing to support initiatives aimed at empowering homeless children. This could involve

providing resources, mentorship programs, or even job opportunities for those who complete digital literacy programs. Also associating with governments policies meant for children will bring a manifold success.

Community Engagement: Engage with local communities to build awareness and sensitivity towards the challenges faced by homeless children.

Future Research:

By implementing these recommendations, future research and interventions can contribute to a more inclusive and effective approach to rehabilitating homeless children in Bharat through digital literacy and tools.

Making Programs for Different Age Groups: Investigate age-specific digital literacy needs and design programs that cater to the varying requirements of younger and older homeless children. Recognizing the diverse age groups within this demographic can ensure targeted and effective interventions.

Addressing Technological Barriers: Explore solutions to overcome technological barriers, such as limited access to devices and the internet due to remote locations. Research alternative approaches, like mobile-based learning platforms along with offline digital resources, to make digital literacy programs more accessible.

Public-Private Partnerships: Explore innovative public-private partnerships to enhance the sustainability of digital literacy programs. Collaborating with private enterprises for ongoing support, including the provision of updated technology, and opportunities for practical application of digital skills.

Documentation of Success Stories: Initiate research to document and share success stories arising from digital literacy interventions. Highlighting real-world examples of positive outcomes can serve as inspirational tools for expanding similar programs.

Global Best Practices: Research on global best practices in empowering homeless children through digital literacy. Identify successful models and strategies implemented in other regions that could be adapted and applied in the Bhartiya context.

Thus, by incorporating these additional considerations into future research, efforts can be further advanced to address the multi-layered challenges faced by homeless children in Bharat, enhancing their prospects for a better future. In a country of joint families and full of Vedic

scriptures and culture it's very painful to address issue on over a million of children's as a homeless. Also, to write a paper for these homeless children seems to be pathetic. Though the fact remains untouched whether many of these so-called homeless children are really homeless or home lost? Whoever they are, our effort and the people's contribution can certainly bring a change in these lives who are in utter need to be rehabilitation.

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From Poverty to deprivation through homelessness: Issues and Explanations

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Satish Pradhan Dnyanasadhana College, Thane

Abstract

The problem of homelessness is found everywhere in the world. The problem is complex as it has several degrees based on age, gender, income level, region, and health. It impacts gender equality and causes vulnerability, violence, and health problems. Homelessness can be described as a condition of not having permanent house or resident or house at all. Many countries in the world have recognized the right to shelter as a fundamental right. In India, the Right to Shelter as a fundamental right is guaranteed through Article 19 (1) (e) of constitution of India (Samvidhi, Constitution of India) But despite, homelessness is a bigger problem in India.

The study aims to understand the association of homelessness with poverty and association of deprivation to homelessness in India. Focus of our study is urban homelessness.

The study uses secondary data to understand the intensity of homelessness in India and tries to understand the association between homelessness and poverty. It has been observed that homelessness creates problems like vulnerability, unemployment, non-accessibility of government schemes etc.

It has been observed that homelessness is strongly linked with poverty in case of homelessness among families. The problem has not been resolved even though the government has implemented several initiatives to combat poverty and homelessness like employment guarantee schemes, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and Shelters for Urban Homelessness.

To reduce homelessness in India, a comprehensive strategy that integrates poverty alleviation and inclusivity in the growth process is needed. The government needs to focus on the provision of affordable housing. In addition to these steps, to truly improve the lives of the homeless, government, and non-governmental organizations must work together to execute government initiatives better and raise public awareness of them.

Keywords - Homelessness, Poverty, India, inclusiveness, deprivation

Introduction

India has the largest population in the world. As per the World bank data, India's population is 1.42 billion.¹ Although India's rate of economic growth is very high, challenges like poverty and income inequality have not disappeared. India's Gini Index, which indicates the extent of Income inequality has been 35. It suggests high income inequality.² Economic growth is not inclusive; it is accompanied by income inequality. Inequality and poverty are the basic causes of homelessness in India.³ According to the census 2011, There are 4.5 lakh homeless families and 17.73 lakh homeless individuals in India. As per the World Population Review, there are 1800000 homeless people in India and India ranks 17th in the world in homelessness (World Population Review, 2024) In India the problem of homelessness is quite alarming. The state-wise data suggests that almost all Indian states have a homeless population, but severity of homelessness is higher in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Karnataka. (Census Report, 2011)

Micro level studies related to homelessness suggest that in India homelessness is highest in Kanpur followed by states like Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai, Indore, Vizagapatam, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Patana, Kolkata, and Lucknow.⁴ (HLRN) Most of the cities have high density of population due to migration of people from rural to urban areas. Out of a total 449787 homeless households, 192891 households belong to rural areas and 256896 households belong to urban areas. Approximately 57. 11% of the homeless people belong to urban areas. The statewide comparison of homelessness and urbanization suggested that the states with higher urbanization have a higher number of homeless people.

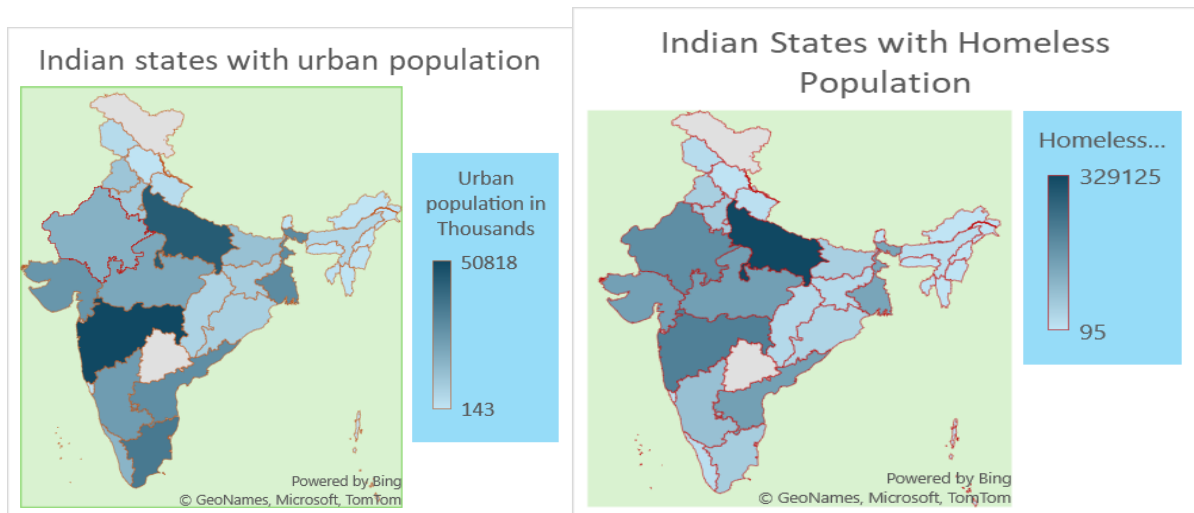
Figure 1 Indian States with urban population and Indian states with homeless population

See [Population, total - India | Data \(worldbank.org\)](https://data.worldbank.org/IN)

² World bank country overview [India Overview: Development news, research, data | World Bank](https://data.worldbank.org/IN)

³ [See world population review 2024](https://www.worldpopulationreview.com/world-population-reviews/india)

⁴ See <https://www.hlrn.org.in/homelessness#:~:text=According%20to%20the%20Census%20of,of%20urban%20India%20is%20homeless>



Source- Compiled from the 2011 census data.

There are many causes of homelessness. Our study focuses on one of the important social causes of homelessness- poverty. Poverty is the prominent cause of homelessness across different countries in the world. Despite a higher rate of economic growth, there is a high level of poverty in all its forms. Our study intends to identify the association between homelessness and poverty. As people do not have enough income to purchase a house or they do not have a good source of income they remain homeless.

The governments in some cities provide shelters, but the shelters are inadequate in number. Also, the shelters are overcrowded, and many facilities are not available. As a result, it becomes difficult for the homeless people to access food, water, and medical facilities (Geetika Goyal et. al. 2017).

Because of non-availability of facilities at shelters the homeless people are deprived of human rights like right to health, right to employment, many of the homeless people suffer from the problems of mental health due to their socio-economic vulnerabilities. (Gupta, Jaswal 2020, Mander et.al. 2009). On this background our study has the following objectives.

Objectives:

1. To Illustrate the dimensions of homelessness.
2. To identify the association between homelessness and poverty in Indian states.
3. To examine the problems of deprivation of homeless people.

The rest of the paper is organized as, section two analyses different dimensions of homelessness. Section three examines the association between poverty and homelessness, section four identifies the association between homelessness and deprivation and section five presents discussion and concludes.

2 Different Dimensions of Homelessness in India

The homeless population in India has increased even though it is the fifth-largest growing economy in the world. The increase in income has widened the gap between rich and poor due to the unequal distribution of income. Most of the population in the homeless section is from marginalized categories like backward classes, women, elderly people, children, etc. the census data suggests that over the years the homelessness among urban populations has grown up.

2.1 Rural and Urban homelessness:

Table 1 Rural and Urban Homeless populations

Sr. No	Homeless population	Number
1	Urban	938348
2	Rural	834692
3	Total	1,773,040

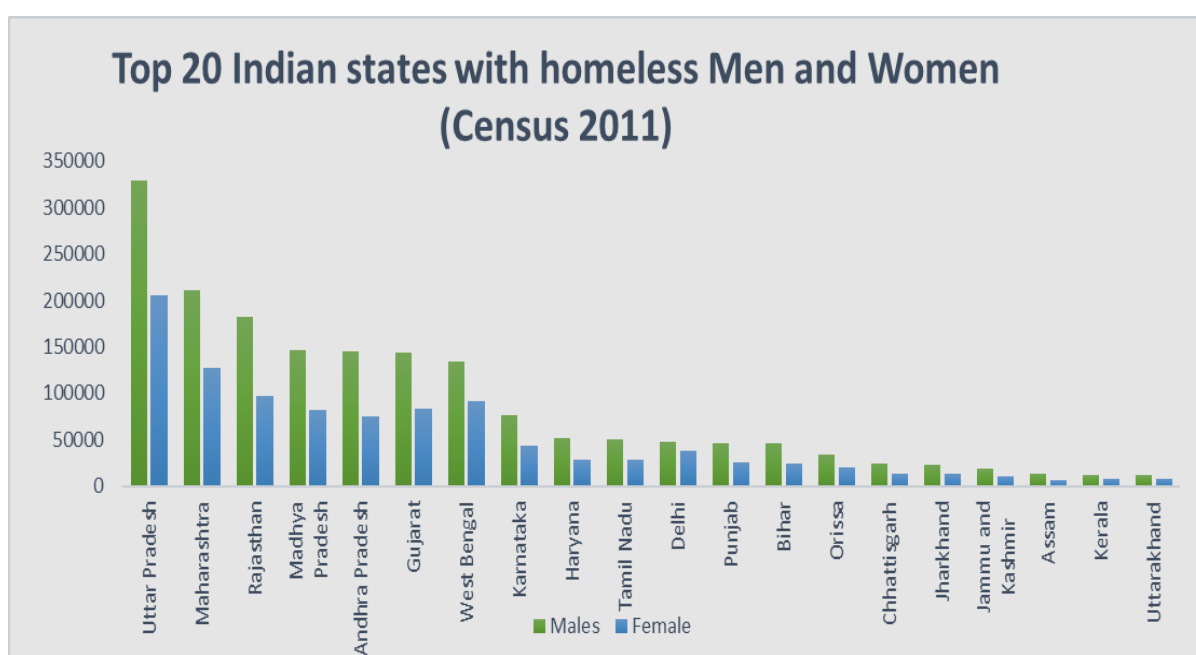
Source: Census Report 2011

As per the 2011 census, the proportion of homeless population is more in urban areas (53%) as compared to rural (47%). Urban homelessness occurs due to different reasons like lack of employment opportunities in rural areas and therefore they migrate, with an attraction towards metropolitan cities in search of jobs. They are mostly engaged in low-income jobs like collecting recycled goods, rag picking, selling toys, books etc. on the streets. Most of the migrants cannot afford even the rent and hence are forced to stay on streets roads pavements, pipelines, or in religious shelters. Even though there are public schemes available for them through central and state governments, they have problems getting documents like Adhar cards, Pan cards, ration card, voter's identity card due to which they do not get benefits through public policies. (Jha, Kumar et.al. 2017).

2.2 Homelessness among men and women:

As per 2011 census report, more homeless in the U.P, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat. The portion of male homelessness is more in men than in women but women are the vulnerable section among the homeless population.

Figure 2 - Homelessness among men and women in Indian states



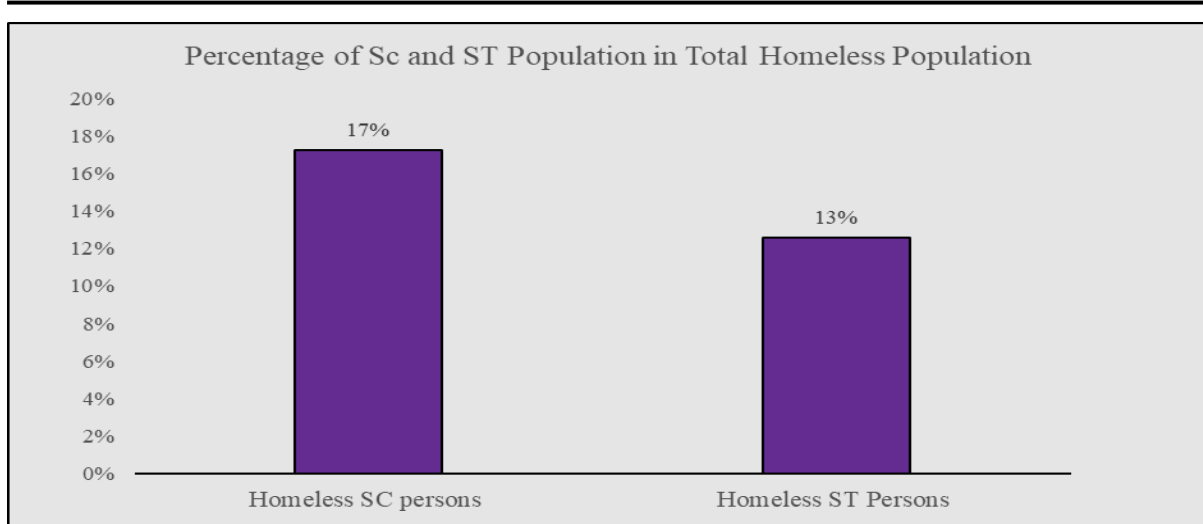
Source: Census 2011

As indicated in figure 2, most of the women homeless population is in U.P, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, etc. Homelessness causes the worst effect on women as they are more likely to face social exploitation like sexual harassment, rape threat, and trafficking apart from this there are physical problems, mental illness, and other health-related issues. The parents of homeless girl children keep on guarding them during night time to protect them from any unseen contingencies. They also face problems of basic human rights like food, cloths, shelter, education, and sanitation. The Majority of the women face problems of sanitation during normal times as well as during their menstruation period. (Bhattacharya,2022) The education of the girl child among the homeless population gets affected more compared to male child as she is expected to look after the family chores as well work outside to get the income and male child is expected to look after family income. The vulnerability of homeless women increases as they have no access to education and are forced to beg on the road and are dependent on religious places to have meals and shelters. (Chaudhry, Shivani, Singh et.al 2014.)

2.3 Caste wise homelessness:

The most affected homeless population is marginalized groups (SC, ST) comprising 30% of the total homeless population. (Census, 2011)

Figure 3- Percentage of Homeless Population among SC and ST



Source Census 2011

Among the homeless population, 17% of the population belongs to SC and 23% population belongs to ST category. Most of them are born in the same city and have lived on the streets for two generations. They have been trapped in a vicious circle of poverty for generations and are mostly engaged in low-income-based jobs therefore they cannot break the vicious circle of homelessness.

2.4 Homelessness among children:

There are 18 million street children in India, the largest number of homeless children in India. (Nath, Ronita; Sword, Wendy et.al. 2016). The effect of both homelessness and joblessness is faced by children. As the parents migrate from one place to another in search of employment and live on the roadside, the children stay on the street. On the Street, they face sexual exploitation and often get involved in small crimes like pick-pocketing. They are forced to help their family economically by indulging in child labor and therefore they are deprived of education. Most houseless street children are unable to get basic health and education from the central and state government policy due to a lack of awareness of the illiterate parents and depressing surroundings. No helping hands are there for their literacy and hence are engaged in labour work. (Dutta, Nilika, 2018)

3 Homelessness and Poverty

There is a close association between homelessness and poverty across the countries in the world. This association is apart from the development status of the country. (Johnsen, S & Watts, B 2014, Marybeth Shinn, 2010) One of the prominent causes of homelessness in India

is poverty. (Shiv Mathur 2019, Mahwish Mozi, 2023, Nair-Shaikh, Roshni & Raghavan, Vijay, 2014)

The problem of homelessness has different dimensions. People from rural areas move to urban areas seeking better job prospects due to the lack of sufficient job opportunities in rural areas. But due to poverty and high prices of houses in cities, they cannot afford to buy houses. In metropolitan cities prices of houses are very high. For a poor person, it is not possible to buy a house in such cities. Therefore, they prefer to stay on the roads or railway platforms, staircases, temples, in pipes or in open spaces. (Geetika G. at. al. 2017) The problem has two dimensions. 1) As people are poor and they do not have better sources of income, they are not able to purchase home. 2) The prices of homes are very high, and it becomes impossible for poor people to buy homes.

To understand the relationship between homelessness and poverty we followed mapping of the variables, regarding homelessness and state domestic per capita income. The mapping of state-level data suggested that the states with low per capita income had a high degree of homelessness.

Figure 2- The mapping of state-level data for homelessness and per capita income

State	Uttar Prad	Maharash	Rajasthan	Madhya Pr	Andhra Pr	Gujarat	West Beng	Karnataka	Haryana	Tamil Nad	Delhi	Punjab	Bihar	Orissa	Chhattisga	Jharkhand
Homeless	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Per capita	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
State	Jammu and	Assam	Kerala	Uttarakha	Chandigar	Himachal	Tripura	Manipur	Goa	Puducherr	Arunachal	Meghalay	Nagaland	Sikkim	Mizoram	Andaman
Homeless	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Per capita	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low

Source: Authors computations based on [census 2011 data](#) and [state domestic per capita income data](#)

In the figure the first row denotes state level homelessness for different states and the second row denotes state level per capita income. It shows that in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Andhra Pradesh are the five top states with highest homelessness. In these states the per capita income is low. In Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, it is very low, in Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh it is low and in Maharashtra, it is moderately low.

Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, West Bengal, Karnataka, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Punjab Bihar are the states with high homeless population. ([Census 2011](#)) If per capita income is observed in these states, all states

except Delhi have either very low, low, or moderately low per capita income. It suggests that there is an association between poverty and homelessness.

How far poverty influences homelessness is partly determined by macro-economic aspects like welfare programmes, housing markets, and labour markets. But micro-level individual factors add into the state of homelessness. (Johnsen, S & Watts, B 2014) The problem of homelessness is much more acute in cities like Mumbai, Delhi and Calcutta. The cities provide employment opportunities, people from rural parts migrate to the cities in search of jobs. The cities find it difficult to supply resources. In cities, high cost of living and high rents drive people into homelessness. (Mahwish Mozi, 2023. Akshay Joshi 2022)

4 Homelessness and Deprivation

As People are poor and they do not have good sources of income, they become homeless. And as they are homeless, they further miss good employment opportunities. There are different dimensions of deprivation caused due to homelessness. Among the homeless, there are vulnerable homeless groups like women, children, disabled, elderly people. Due to the vulnerable condition, they miss opportunities to lead respectable lives. (Singh N. et al. 2018) Most of the homeless in urban areas do not get recognition due to their homelessness. They do not get essential help from society due to their homelessness.

Homelessness extends inequality. It strains social services, hinders economic development, and creates challenges for urban governance. Homeless people are more likely to be exposed to health issues. It is identified that homeless people bear the greatest mental health burden which further increases their vulnerability. (Bose, A. et al. 2023, Preetha Rajan 2023, Radhakrishnan et al. 2021)

The government has provided shelters for homeless people in many cities, but homeless people face difficulties in accessing public shelters due to entry fees, non-availability of identification proof for verification. (Akshay Joshi 22) As a result, many of the homeless people sleep on the streets. They are exposed to extreme weather conditions. Due to exposure to excess weather conditions, they are exposed to diseases like cold, fever, respiratory tract diseases. Which results in a higher mortality rate among them. According to a study by Jerzy Romaszko et al. the average life span is 17.5 years shorter in homeless people than in the general population. In north India, and especially in Delhi people die due to cold waves. Most of them are homeless people who do not have enough shelter. Health care is the most neglected area among the homeless people. They deny health problems as they give priority to fulfilling basic needs like

food. Even Though they recognize the need to get health care facilities, health care services are not available and affordable. (Sruti Mishra 2022, S.patra , K.Anand 2008)

5 Discussion and Conclusion

Homelessness is a matter of concern in India. The problem is very acute in the urban cities like Mumbai, Chennai, Delhi, Calcutta etc. According to the census report of 2011, homelessness in urban parts of the country is higher than in rural areas. A comparison of state-wise data about urbanization and homelessness suggests that there is an association between urbanization and homelessness.

The prime cause of the association between homelessness and urbanization is relocation of rural people to cities in search of better work. People move to the cities for better prospects because employment opportunities are not adequately available in rural parts. Poverty is the major cause of their migration to the cities. In metropolitan cities, migrated people get absorbed in the jobs, but living in cities is costly. In cities, prices of houses are not affordable. As per urban housing shortage report total housing shortage in Indian cities is 18.78 million. (GOI, [Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation National Building Organization, 2012](#)) In cities , many of the migrated people from rural parts, cannot afford the heavy house rents and therefor they become homeless.

There are different dimensions to homelessness. It has been observed that among the homeless population 17% of the population belongs to the SC category and 13% belongs to the ST category. ([N. Singh, et.al 2018](#)) Among the homeless, the most vulnerable group is children and women. Out of total homeless children, some stay with their families and others who are either orphans or eloped from home. Their work includes shining shoes and sorting through garbage for recycling, or selling a variety of products like toys etc. ([Alsiya N.](#)) Homelessness makes women more vulnerable. As per 2011 census data more than 700,000 women in India are homeless. Apart from other problems that a homeless person faces, they live in constant fear of sexual harassment. (Puja Bhattacharjee 2019)

By using state-level data on homelessness and state domestic per capita income, we found association between two in most of the states. As people are poor, they become homeless and as they are homeless, they suffer. They remain deprived of basic, necessities like good employment, good health care facilities, and good food. It becomes difficult for them to collect enough money to live a respectable life.

Like every individual, homeless people have the right to accommodation for shelter, and the right to lead decent life. The government of India has introduced the National Urban Livelihood

Mission to provide permanent shelter to homeless people in urban areas. But there is a mismatch between the capacity of the shelters and the requirement. (Akshay Joshi, 2022) It is necessary to increase the number of shelters to accommodate all homeless people.

Provisions of shelters are just a temporary solution to the problem. It is necessary to remove the root cause of homelessness - multidimensional poverty. Macro-level policies to regulate migration of rural population creation of employment opportunities in villages can control rural to urban migration. Another solution is to control prices of urban houses. The Government has taken initiative to provide affordable houses to people through Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. But homeless people who do not possess documents like ration cards, Adhar cards cannot get the benefits. Many NGOs work to resolve micro-level issues of homeless people like education, health care, overall protection through legal advice etc. But efforts to remove poverty and income inequality by making economic growth more inclusive will be the long-term permanent solution.

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Homeless Children: Risks and Challenges- A universal compassionate call

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Abstract

“Home is a notion that only nations of the homeless fully appreciate and only the uprooted comprehend.” This is an apt proverb in a very generic sense which an individual can relate to. Homelessness is the state of absence of a secure, steady, safe and purposeful housing. Approximately it is estimated that 1.77 million destitute live in India or among the populace according to the 2011 census, it comprises of male, females, mothers, aged and the physically challenged. In addition, there is a prevalence of psychically and intellectually handicapped street children in the world population who do not have a proper accommodation for themselves. We get a lion’s share of street children in India, the highest among than any other country in the world. Homeless children are of genuine concern in the world specifically in the urban context. Many children live in places which is unrestricted and free to all. They are found in pious places of worship of various religions such as mosques, temples and other such places which are easily accessible to all where they can live freely without any hassle. As they come from a very sensitive scenario where they face much abuse and health problems since childhood, they suffer from problematic health symptoms and they suffer in the long term. These children are subjected to malnutrition and hunger and often end their day with no food. Unemployed, they usually end up giving into theft, substance use and child labor. The homeless children always face a dearth of a proper lodging place. They have a kind of temporary housing or an arrangement for themselves because in majority of the cases they do not have a family. They are quiet sufferers of ill treatment and brutality done to them in various ways which ultimately leads them to be engaged in stealing or prostitution for their financial viability. This paper elaborately portrays a clear picture of the scenario faced by the homeless children and youth and also delineates the risks and challenges faced by them.

Keywords: Home, Homelessness, street children, malnutrition, child labor.



Fig-1. Source: Istock, Homeless child



Fig-2 Source: Unsplash, Homeless Child

Introduction

“When life gets hard, try to remember: the life you complain about is only a dream to some people.” – Anonymous. Homelessness is a concern in India which is of paramount importance. ‘Homeless’ is defined as those who do not have a permanent residence for themselves. The basic necessities of life according to Maslow’s ‘Need Hierarchy Theory’ in Business Management are stated as food, clothing and shelter. The next immediate necessity is protection from harmful environment. We can observe that the homeless children face a scarcity of all the above factors in their lives. Home doesn’t only mean four walls and a roof. It means security, stability, security which these children lack to experience in their whole existence. Next, accessibility of different services and a conducive environment for their overall growth and development is very significant in their well-being. Even protection from unwanted people and environment also plays a vital role in their maturity or in their growing years. Many children live in free spaces like roadsides, in pipes and in several religious places. They are extremely endangered within their environment facing vulnerability in various forms. They become victims of several unwanted activities which provide hindrance in the smooth evolving of their childhood. Their adolescence is jeopardized, they are into some or the other traumas which turn out to be extremely critical to handle. And this type of childhood leads to darkness in their lives forever. They cannot rely on anybody fully because they lack trustworthy people in their lives. Children who don’t have a proper accommodation arrangement adjust themselves in the street life which has a grave pessimistic effect on them. Their wobbling way of life, wavering tendencies, fluctuating situations, deficiency of medicative care and insufficient living conditions increase juvenile susceptibility to recurring as well as persistent diseases such as respiratory problems, gastrointestinal problems, sexually transmissible diseases like HIV/AIDS. Children who don’t have homes face a dearth in reliability and safety towards their

environment and the people around them. They carry on experiencing a profound cynical disgrace about being homeless. Being homeless is a curse. But being cursed means there are several elements leading to the current circumstances. The reason which is crucial and is of considerable significance is impoverishment. They face dire poverty in their lives and are vagrant. We see a few cases where kids run away from their homes either due to some derogatory or offensive situations which leads them to leave their home or they come in search of better jobs in cities. They engage themselves in various kinds of jobs such as they work in stores and establishments, they work as rag pickers, they polish shoes, they sell various items in trains, roads etc.. for a meager amount of money to support themselves in their daily life so that they can have food for themselves and their family, if at all is present. The children are threatened by severe health menaces due to an unhygienic environment in which they live; they are repeatedly exposed to ecological conditions of hotness, coldness and rain. Many homeless children are pestered frequently by the civil torchbearers. They often faced this type of situation due to poor law and order prevailing in the country. We know that all children deserve secured, protective and nurturing environment, both at home and in the community. Children are unaware of their rights which protect them from any kind of abuse and the law punishes the individual who violates the law and on the contrary takes severe action against the violator to establish responsibility on the behalf of the government and non-government agencies and the civil society. We sometimes notice the following line in many public places "If you know of any child in need of shelter, call CHILDLINE ON 1098." This proves to be beneficial many a times in today's current scenario.

There are four groups on the basis of which street children can be categorized:

The first head belongs to those children who are all alone, no home, but their shelter and support is provided by the streets. They grow up in the streets facing many challenges and they live a life of vagabond finding refuge from one place to another.

The second category belongs to those children who have a home but they do not permanently reside there. They can be seen most of the times in the day and even occasionally in the night in the streets due to the scarcity of food, sparsity of money etc. Even it can be seen that their small homes are overcrowded due to other members or they face much abuse in the family. They find themselves comfortable in the streets.

These children have their families with them but they live on city squares or deserted buildings. They are penniless; they are vagabonds and wander from place to place. They are impecunious and face shortage of money, war and natural disasters also happens to take away their homes

and then they carry their personal possessions with them. They sacrifice their childhood and work for earning a little amount of money.

In this group, children are homeless but they live in any institution for fulfilling the basic necessities of life. But in most of the time they cannot adjust according to the rules or situation of the institution and they quit living there and return back to the streets. They are so much used to the carefree life that they cannot cope up with the regulations of the other places.

The hidden and unfrequented nature of the street children contributes to decumulation of pin-pointed error-free data regarding them. But according to UNICEF there are about 100 million children who live in the streets and we see that this number is rapidly expanding diurnally. There are approximately 18 million street children present in our country India. Another remarkable fact is that small boys are prevalent mostly in the streets and the age group in which they are found are 10-14 years. Younger adolescent kids are mostly observed in the streets. Small girls are reported less, one of the reasons behind it being they are helpful in the household chores taking good care of small siblings and cooking. Girls are susceptible to trafficking. They are often sold and used for sexual misuse or for other kinds of child labor.



Fig-3. Source: Adobe stock, sad serious multiethnic poor children looking at the camera.

Objectives:

The main objectives are enumerated as follows:

To examine the impact of society on homeless children.

To evaluate the significance of children and youth who lack a shelter in different realms of life.

Methodology:

The paper is largely explanatory in nature. The facts and particulars have been collected from various reports from national and international bureau on homeless children. Also data has been collected from various authentic websites. Some journals and research articles related to the topic are also referred.

Causes of Homelessness:

Homelessness is a consequence of migration of several families. The rural to urban displacement or urbanization is a direct result of the above. Often it is seen that people living in rural areas displace themselves in need of jobs, if they face loss of land and property, lack of clear drinking water and other measures required for a standard living. Thus, for a secured environment they are ready for a complete deportation. And it is noticed that when these displaced individuals come and settle in a new place, they make shelters out of cardboards, plastics, wood and tin. Slums are also an option but many cannot afford taking them. The children specifically are victims of abuse and malnutrition. They cannot avail proper schooling; even proper medical management is not available for them. Disability of several kinds also leads to homelessness, different categories of people such as aged ones, mentally and physically challenged people, unmarried pregnant females, divorced females and girls are some of the frequently found classes of individuals. Few constituents are assumed to be major objects for homelessness: mental diseases, unsuccessful relations, substance use and domicile mistreatments. They pose the complete burden and blame on the homeless. It is commonly seen that if a family member is mentally challenged or he is a lunatic, then the family members often abandon them as they have to take up their responsibility. Therefore, we observe that these categories of cases have significantly grown. Children on the other hand run away from their homes due to destitution, they become panic stricken regarding the behavior of the family members, they are apprehensive of the situation around them, they are even exploited which forces them to live on the streets. Children fear the agitation and ill treatments of the family members and the resultant depression, thus we see that many fall prey for the use of drugs and alcohol. Then they wish for a better life for themselves and eventually get trapped into rackets of prostitution and human trafficking.

Children who work as rag pickers look through the garbage to earn money for meeting their hunger. Though children have the right to education but due to many behavior issues, bad abusive childhood and various other reasons, their academic performance is highly affected.

And ultimately they become school drop-outs and eventually face different issues in home front and become homeless. They face much mental and physical issue since their childhood which leads them to darkness in future life. Hospitals do not provide their services, their prices are escalated or proper care is denied. These lead to children being melancholic or they become antisocial with cynical approaches towards life.



Fig-4. Source: Adobe stock, Homeless Child image.

Street children have far-sighted endurance regarding countless types of exploitations and maltreatments. The forbearance they show after experiencing various types of mistreatments such as abuse at the emotional level, verbally, general abuse, neglect, lack of health care and last but not the least physical specifically on the sexual basis. It is observed many often that the quantity of abuse is directly proportional to maturity of a person and earnings. Often maltreatments are found evident from the persons who maintain law and order in the country or shrewd bosses. In addition to that, it is noticed that girls are less abused than boys on the streets. Many a times we see that older children abuse younger ones to show their attitude. Sometimes we see much unity among the members, they try to uplift others or protect each other for survival. Child labor is prevalent in street children. Basically we see that children between 5-14 years work to earn a living for themselves as well as their families. According to UNICEF, 12% of India's children are laborers. When a family has limited means to satisfy themselves, then the older individuals have no choice other than sending their children to work to make both ends meet, even they send them in unsafe and unsecured places to earn a living.



Fig-5. Source: Adobe stock, Adult and child hands holding paper house, family home, homeless shelter

Difficulties faced by the homeless:

The utmost difficulties faced by the homeless can be enumerated as follows:

The first and foremost challenge faced is very limited access to healthcare. Inadequacy of bonafide healthcare often guides the way towards chronic diseases such as respiratory disorders, sexually transmitted diseases like HIV/AIDS and several other serious problems creep up in their lives.

The next problem which is commonly observed is the availability of getting enough food. There are many people who do not afford to have meals in a whole day. Therefore, they are malnourished and ultimately they endure agony through numerous health hazards.

The homeless people face trouble staying safe.

Due to much abuse, many emotional and behavioral issues also crop up in them even few deals with trauma which sometimes takes a toll on their health.

Some do not afford to meet up the basic necessities of life which is food, clothing and shelter. They are extremely helpless people who do not have anyone to care for. Few people do not have proper identity proof. They lack having proper documents, a proper mailing address for which they do not get the proper support which is provided by the government or other NGOs related to the BPL category.

Exposure to extreme harsh climates in summer or winter seasons lead to many deaths of homeless people. Their deaths are not even accounted for as they lack proper identity documents.



Fig-6. Source: Adobe stock, depressed homeless kid girl sitting in the cardboard and holding teddy bear.

Risks faced by the homeless:

There are several risk factors related to the homeless which are described as follows:

The primary risk faced by the homeless people is that they are apprehensive of losing their settlement. A person's lodging plays a very big role in his well being.

The other main risk involved is if a person suffers from financial loss, if he becomes penniless, gambling is also a cause for loss of money and ultimately leads to homelessness.

The next risk is the stress of whether a person will be able to afford the housing because there are other factors related to the point such as rent, mortgage as the case may be.

The next risk is unsuitable habitat related conditions which may not be secured enough, inappropriate or overpopulated accommodation.

If there is a major breakdown in family or relationship, there is a risk of becoming homeless suddenly.

Child abuse which can be of many types, they are exploited sexually mentally. In short, they are in a state of vulnerability.

If there is family or domestic violence, then there is a sudden chance of becoming homeless.

Sometimes we see that a particular family member is suffering from some mental disorder or some serious health concern is there and they are discarded family-wise, thus the person faces lack of accommodation.

Taking alcohol, drugs and also they bet on something and ultimately become penniless and as a consequence homeless.

Unanticipated employment troubles and unemployment leads to homelessness.

If some educational course/training ends, then the accomodation related to the same also its availability comes to an end so there comes up the problem of homelessness.

If somebody is involved in antisocial or criminal activities, he remains aloof then he can be homeless.

If a person does not have a family or community or group, he may become homeless.

If a person stays in a boarding for a certain period of time, but it has the risk of completion of the tenure.

Acts of assistance :

Governmental services

In the past few years, the Government of India has brought to the forefront new policies to make housing affordable and shelters in the urban sectors. The shelter is one of the essentials which is of prime importance for survival of the homeless. Shelter can be defined as an abode for the homeless where they can meet up the basic necessities of life. They can feel shielded from external forces, it acts as a protection or guard from the exterior environment. Here it also means a place where homeless can live ,can keep their belongings, a place where cool and clean drinking water is available and availability of proper sanitary toilets are there. There is a mandate given by the government of India that the place where many homeless people, shelters should be made in that particular place. Many homeless people are found who are always in search for a proper accomodation for themselves with basic facilities available. We can observe that many people cannot enjoy shelters at night because they go out for employment at that time. Even it is noticed that females do not find shelters functional because they lack facilities like proper bedding, bathroom, gas is not available for cooking purpose, space for activity is not there, first-aid is not available timely, growth in mosquitoes and insects in the living space. Thus, women do not use shelters or families don't seek for shelters. Only male persons avail them for their living. Even it is seen that lighting is not proper, adequate ventilation is an issue, proper arrangement is not available if a fire accident takes place. But later on, the Supreme Court gave a verdict that shelters should be at place where a minimum of 100 people should live.

The Public Distribution System (PDS) is a service given by the government to BPL category people. But here proper identity documents are required. Most of the times in case of the homeless people these documents are not available. But in this system the food and grains available here for BPL categories are attained at a comparatively cheaper rate. Thus, the identity documents play a remarkable role to receive the benefits of being BPL.

Non-governmental services

Drop-in centers deliver services for the intellectually challenged people, homeless persons, adolescent children and various other people where food and other services are provided for their overall well-being. Moreover, mental health drop-in centers are also available as an aid for those children and adults who struggle with mental problems. Many NGOs have come forward to extend a helping hand to these centers. These centers are run for the homeless; shelters are open for 24 hours a day for many street children at a time. They offer many voluntary services like giving away food, basic education, health facilities. Then only we can see children enjoying their childhood if they are not burdened with responsibilities like adults to earn a living. Furthermore, they are dependable and reliable for children. Drop-in centers provide extreme support with dedicated staff and supervisors along with opportunities for development. Often we see that children do not get a conducive environment in the home front, especially from their parents, family and others in relation to the street. In this case, they find a trustworthy person within the staff and thus consider them to be a very near and dear one. They learn good values, good habits and often a positive change is seen in their life. In addition, they learn new skills which may prove beneficial in their long run. And children in these drop-in centers believe that there will be more opportunities for betterment in near future.

These centers have some rules and regulations which the children have to follow. But in few cases the children are so used to the carefree street life that they cannot adapt themselves to the strict environment they get in these centers. Hence, they choose the street life in comparison to a disciplined life. NGOs play a remarkable life in shaping up these centers. They even support the homeless children and their families with the dearth of funds so that the family leads a good life. And even the children as a consequence can enjoy their childhood because in most of the cases children are sent by their parents to earn a living to support their family. Here child labor becomes very much evident. NGOs work relentlessly to support the homeless and bring them back on their feet. They help them with the basic necessities of life like food, clothing and shelter as well as the higher necessities which may prove beneficial in the long run such as education, training, job and overall healthcare.



Fig-7. Source: Alamy. Children shelter home-India.

Conclusion:

We can conclude that homeless children face several challenges and risks in their lives which have far-reaching effects in their future. In response to the sources of homelessness, extension of assistance and support addressed to the said families would be of immense help. If the homeless children and youth receive the succour, they can overcome many obstacles in their lives and have a secured, reliable and settled life for their own which every individual has the right to receive. We should always deal with these types of individuals sympathetically and do utmost good for them as we can afford to.

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Sociological Study of the Problems of Homeless Children

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Abstract

This research study 'Sociological Study of Homeless Children's Problems', its major problem in India. Homelessness is associated with uncertainty, lack of safety and increased risks for children. This raises the issue of child welfare. Living in a homeless shelter early in a child's life also affects the child in many ways, for example, academically, physically, emotionally and socially. This article therefore provides an exploratory review of existing questions regarding the impact of homelessness on children's overall development. In order for this study to be useful for social workers working in the field of child protection and welfare for children experiencing homelessness, homelessness affects many aspects of children's lives, such as loss of social connections, inadequate play spaces, school dropouts, dropout rates, behavioral challenges, psychological Health level is increasing. The study will be useful for India's strong democracy and expanding international relations, social development as well as future research and social work education and training.

Introduction

The research study 'Sociological Study of Homeless Children Problems' has looked at the major problem of homelessness in India. the largest number of any country in the world. A 1994 UNICEF report estimated that there were 11 million homeless children on the streets of India. Projected to increase to 1.39 billion from 1994 to 2021, child homelessness in India has increased dramatically.

Review of Reference Literature

A systematic review of the literature using the search terms family, homelessness, child and development in the research study 'Sociological Study of Homeless Children's Problems' has been carried out. Poonam R. Naik, Seema S. Bansode, Ratnendra R. Shinde and Abhay S. Niragude (2011), Bose AB. (1992), Mathur, Meena; Prachi, R.; Monica, M. (2009), Patel, Sheila (October 1990). Such literature reviews analyzed current research and academic literature to provide evidence-based evidence. Research has been done.

Objective of The Research

'Sociological Study of the Problems of Homeless Children' the objective of this research study is as follows: To make a sociological study of the homeless children. Striving to strengthen the future of India tomorrow. To try to do humane justice to the homeless children as a marginalized section of the society. Trying to bring homeless children into the society. Its study will be used in future

Significance of Research

The significance and usefulness of the research study “Sociological Study of Homeless Child Problems” is as follows: Homeless child is a serious problem from the point of view of humanity this study is important to balance the development of everyone. All children are the future of the country. If the future generation is facing the problem, then this research is useful to make efforts today so that the future of tomorrow does not go dark. This is an attempt to study this problem in order to give the marginalized sections of the society and their children a status from the point of view of humanity in the society. This study will guide future research as it looks at home as well as educational psychological and social issues. This study will be useful for the implementation of social development programs in the country, the problem of homeless children is not only a problem of India but a global problem so this study will be a guide in the study of the world.

Research Methodology

The study 'A Sociological Study of Homeless Children's Problems' has been conducted through literature review. A literature review involves the critical description and evaluation of literature written and published by the researcher through secondary sources. Approaches to the problems of homeless children are assessed from a body of previous literature while providing considerations for a new phase of research conceptual development. Research review has been used as the most appropriate method of inquiry as it seeks to contribute to the knowledge of child protection and social workers while adding to the developmental impact of homeless children. The exploratory nature of this study deemed a critical review most appropriate. This research has been presented in an attempt to consolidate all known knowledge on the subject.

Analysis of Research Information

A few points are highlighted in the research review on 'Sociological Study of Homeless Children's Problems'. India is a large country with a huge population, many of whom live in poverty. Often families are destitute and don't have enough money to pay rent and food, with adults doing menial daily wage work. If anything happens to disrupt this fragile source of income, desperation and hunger often force children to take to the streets, homeless as a means of survival.

Apart from mental and physical disabilities, lack of affordable housing and changes in industry. Abandonment of elderly, mentally ill, unmarried pregnant women, destitute divorced women and girls are also some of the major causes of homelessness in India. In difficult situations, children often see being on the streets as a better option. The bright lights of big cities attract those living in rural hardship, and many flee to urban areas in search of work, opportunity, or just adventure. Children regularly run away from homes where life is too difficult for them because many families are stuck in the next generation cycle:

In India, the country is facing the problem of street children. The government has several policies to address this issue. The mandates surrounding the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 include street homeless children. The Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) specifically addresses the needs of street homeless children. It includes policies to provide shelter, nutrition, healthcare, counseling, guidance and referral services, non-formal education programs and vocational training to street children. Railway boys work closely with the authorities to ensure that these policies are supported and protected.

Findings

Child homelessness is a problem that affects India on a large scale. To better understand the epidemic of child homelessness in India, it is necessary to first understand the factors that lead to this continued growth and the consequences that this problem has.

India has the one of the highest rate of child abuse in the world. According to a 2020 study, approximately 53% of children under the age of 18 are victims of various forms of abuse. Many children in India lack proper nutrition, education and medical services. Often away from home and on the streets of nearby big cities, most homeless children do street work to support themselves. Young boys and girls generally earn lower wages in menial jobs. This includes working at a fruit stand, shining shoes, cleaning cars and selling various items. Activities such as pick-pocketing and begging are sometimes considered essential tasks for the survival of street children.

Children living on the streets face security issues. Leaving home is often the last resort to escape from an abusive home, yet homeless children face many dangers on the streets. Every day, children fight for their survival in the face of "poverty, oppression and exploitation". Street girls are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking and prostitution rings. Money earned by children can certainly add up over time, but most people spend it right away for fear of theft. Because children can often find food at local shelters and temples, they often spend this money on "medicine or other expenses" that drive them deeper into the cycle of poverty.

In big cities like Delhi Mumbai the number of road deaths in India averages more than 10 per day. A 2010 study reports an average of 306.25 deaths a month on Delhi's roads alone - mostly women and children. Factors contributing to this high death rate include extreme climatic conditions, malnutrition and lack of proper sanitation. Often, these factors affect children most severely. This figure, although high, does not account for homeless people who are buried or cremated by friends and other acquaintances.

Recommendations and Solutions

Homelessness is a global problem and its true form can be seen in India as well. There is a need of time to implement some effective measures to support the homeless from a humanitarian point of view. Creating schemes that provide safe permanent housing to the homeless. Devise measures for homeless children to enjoy happiness like any other child. To strive for holistic development by providing food, clothing, shelter along with educational facilities to homeless children. Providing benefits of free health care schemes to free the homeless from diseases. Trying to make loans available through banks, it is necessary for the common people to come forward with the government for its prosperity, considering that the homeless are human beings like the common citizens.

Summary

As India's population continues to grow, so does child homelessness. it is important to recognize the severally of child homelessness in the country, it is equally important to understand the ways in which various groups are coming together to address the issue. These five facts stand as the first step in educating people on the issue of child homelessness in India. Hoping that wider awareness will lead to expanded interest and a willingness to respond.

A Study on Challenges Faced By Homeless Children

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Abstract

Homelessness is also biggest challenges for people to even survive. So, we have done the research on the topic of "Challenges faced by homeless children and people". There were several of causes behind to become homeless like due family issues, Migration, Emotional etc. which effect on their life as well their education too. In some states government has decrease the ratio of homeless but in even through some states have more number of homelessness. The government have to take provide them employment while preparing houses for homeless people under PMAY. Hence the Researcher tries to find out challenges & finding solutions to it.

Introduction

In India, there are a lot of homeless people and children, especially in the country's larger cities and towns. These impressionable children are frequently spotted in public spaces like train stations, outside bus stops and depots, under bridges, in markets, and around temples and dargahs.

Although the definition is typically required before talking about disadvantaged populations, some argue that it is more helpful to consider "street children" as part of a road usage hierarchy that includes all children. Social coherence is proposed as an educational goal using urban entropy, a conceptual framework applicable to both past and present environments. Pounded advocates for a non-excluding school, which is likely to benefit kids regardless of how much they use the streets.

These children are exposed to high health hazards due to unhygienic living conditions and having no shelter they are also constantly exposed to environmental conditions of heat, cold and rain. children often struggle to get an education due to a lack of resources, such as adequate clothing, school supplies, and transportation. Biggest Risk factors for homelessness, Poverty, Unemployment, Lack of affordable housing, Mental and substance use disorders, Trauma and violence.

UNICEF has defined three types of street children: Street-Living, Street-Working, and Street-Family. Legal Framework and Challenges: While the Indian constitution does not explicitly mention the right to adequate housing or enshrine it in national-level legislation, the Supreme Court has interpreted the right to shelter as implicitly safeguarded under the Indian Constitution.

This can lead to high absenteeism and lower academic performance, making it difficult for them to achieve their full potential.

Often overlooked and marginalized, homeless children grapple with a myriad of challenges, such as irregular school attendance, lack of necessary supplies, and the emotional toll of their unstable living situations.

Street children in India face additional vulnerability because of their lack of access to nutritious food, sanitation, and medical care. Street children lack access to nutritious food because many are dependent on leftovers from small restaurants or hotels, food stalls, or garbage bins.

Objectives:

To study the state wise population of homeless people.

To find out the trigger

Research Methodology

Type of Research method	Exploratory Research
Research Area	India
Method of data collection	Secondary Data
Secondary data collection method	Books, Research, Website, Article, Social Media Sites, and various digital media forms and more on Government website.
Data Analysis Techniques	To Analysis and Interpret the Data Percentage and Graphs are used.

Review of Literature

(E. ANNE ADDOWES - 1993) In urban areas, an estimated 100,000 children are homeless every night; families with children are disproportionately affected by this issue. Homelessness has always been associated with single people, but a significant change in the population has highlighted the plight of families, many of whom are led by women. Children who are homeless

must put up with appalling living conditions, live in various makeshift shelters, and struggle with serious emotional, social, and developmental issues. These children face the risk of lifelong impairments if therapy is not received. The essay discusses the challenges that homeless children face in their pursuit of an education, offers suggestions for developing inclusive daycare and education programs, and presents contemporary operational models.

(Greg Ernst and maria foscariants - 1995-1996): Children who are homeless have major obstacles to their education; federal law requires support, but execution is still uneven. In 1993, over 23% of children who were homeless did not attend school. They live in different shelters, abandoned structures, or in doubles with others, making up about 26% of the homeless population. There are more than 750,000 homeless school-age children in the country. These obstacles include lack of transportation, guardianship restrictions, residency requirements, and difficulties transferring school records. The goal of advocacy efforts is to guarantee that homeless children have access to education and to solve these issues.

(Gloria elaine white Adams – 2008): Thousands of people live in appalling conditions as a result of homelessness, which some ignore or deny exists. Children who are homeless are most affected; they are more likely to have disease, malnutrition, social impairments, and difficulties in school. In order to provide parents, educators, administrators, and school districts with useful information, this study attempts to identify the obstacles that homeless adolescents face when trying to enroll and succeed academically. The researcher provides an overview of the study and the history of homelessness while delving into the body of research on the topic and its effects on school attendance and academic performance for homeless children and young people.

(Ashley de Marcus - 2005) :The study explores the severe effects of child homelessness, with inspiration from the author's time spent working at Knox Area Rescue Ministries. It reveals the complex issues homeless children confront, from education to mental and physical health, through interviews and literary works. Developmental delays, academic setbacks, and elevated health risks are among the effects, which are exacerbated by exposure to violence and unstable family dynamics. By putting an emphasis on access to education and social services, organizations like The National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth and laws like the McKinney-Vento Act seek to lessen these difficulties. The research emphasizes the urgent need for more comprehensive solutions to address the widespread problem of child homelessness in society, notwithstanding attempts.

(James H. Stronge) – 2005: This paper uses a survey approach to look into the difficulties in teaching homeless children. A number of difficulties are covered in the second half, including

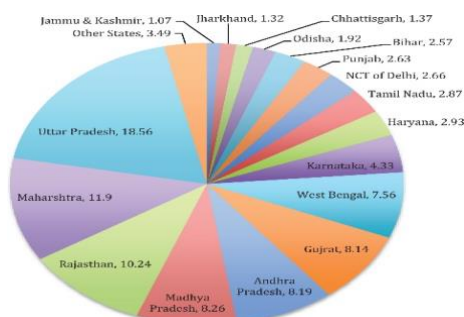
institutional obstacles, financial limitations, legal restrictions, and social and psychological issues. The Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act is covered in the third part. Effective programs in Tacoma, Salt Lake City, San Diego, Venice, and New York City are highlighted in the fourth part. In order to end the cycle of homelessness, the fifth segment highlights the significance of creative educational initiatives and more significant social changes.

(Yvonne M. Vissing - 1999): This digest dispels the myth that homelessness is primarily a problem in cities by emphasizing how common it is in rural places. Fifty percent of homeless families in rural areas are families with children, frequently led by women and dependent on unofficial networks. Due to residency constraints, transience, emotional difficulties, and health challenges, homeless children confront obstacles in their educational journey. In the US, homelessness is rising along with income inequality and housing expenses. According to the summary, teacher preparation, in-school support, and policy review are some ways that schools might tackle these issues. For a long-lasting effect, rural educators should gather regional resources and participate in public policy initiatives.

(Jessica Kingsley) – 2003: This book addresses the growing issue of families becoming homeless due to domestic violence, leaving women and school-age children without homes. It proposes strategies to manage the variety of problems faced by this group. Homeless children are shown to have acute physical and developmental issues, along with heightened risks of emotional and behavioural difficulties. The book emphasizes the This book tackles the growing problem of women and school-age children losing their homes because of domestic violence, which is a developing concern. It suggests methods for handling the range of issues this group faces. Research indicates that children who are homeless experience severe physical and developmental problems, as well as an increased likelihood of emotional and behavioural challenges.

Data Collection & Analysis

1. State wise population in India children



Source: bing.com

Interpretation: It is observed that the Homeless rate of Uttar Pradesh is highest whereas Jammu and Kashmir have lesser population.

2. Some estimated numbers of homeless people in urban areas in India (year 2020)

Name Of State	Population
Delhi	1,50,000–2,00,000
Kolkata	1,50,000
Patna	25,000
Lucknow	19,000
Chennai	40,000–50,000
Mumbai (including Navi Mumbai)	2,00,000
Vishakhapatnam	18,000
Bangalore	40,000–50,000
Hyderabad	60,000
Ahmedabad	1,00,000

Interpretation: It is observed that in urban areas, there are more homeless people in Mumbai, whereas Vishakhapatnam has a lower number of homelessness

3. Trigger facing by Homeless peoples

Factors	Percentages
Unable to pay Rent/Mortgages	15%
Loss Job	12%
Abuse by partner	12%
Addition or substance use	16%
Illness/Medical issues	10%
Unsafe housing condition	10%
Family conflict	25%

Interpretation: It observed that People are mostly get migrated as per report due to family conflict.

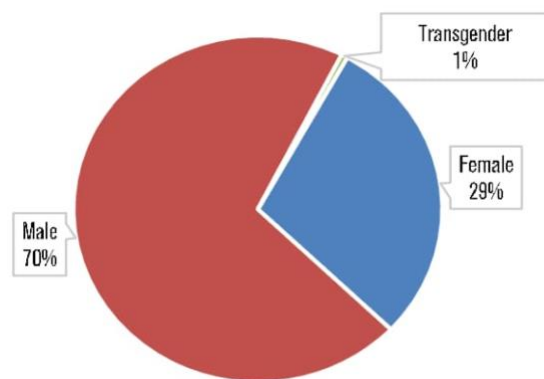
4. Homeless or street children in urban areas compared to rural areas.

Place	Population
Urban	11 million
Rural	8 million

Interpretation: It observed that 18 million street children in India, the largest number of any country in the world, with 11

million being urban.

5. Homeless male, female, and transgender



Interpretation: The given data as per the year of 2013-15-16-17. We get that the male ratio is more than females in terms of homelessness

Some causes of homelessness in India include:

Financial constraints

Lack of security

Houses not being available at a suitable time and location.

Lack of Schooling

Most orphan children in India do not have access to necessities like food, shelter, and clean water, which also leads to a lack of education. With orphans out on the street doing everything they can to survive, schooling becomes a farfetched dream for so many.

Education of street children in India

The education of street children in India is very poor and often nonexistent. A study of street children in Bombay in 1989 found that 54.5 percent had never been enrolled in school and 66 percent of the children were illiterate.

Conclusion

Solution to homelessness in India.

The Indian government has implemented several initiatives to address the issue of housing and homelessness. One of the most significant initiatives is the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), launched in 2015, which aims to provide affordable housing to all by 2022.

There are a number of reasons why people migrate from rural to urban areas, including the desire for religious freedom, work possibilities, pursuing particular career routes, fleeing conflict, and natural disasters. On the other hand, socioeconomic problems, unemployment, a lack of affordable housing, poverty, and people leaving institutions without the necessary support are frequently the causes of homelessness.

In response to the Supreme Court-appointed Shelter Monitoring Committee's concerns about the veracity of earlier estimates of Mumbai's homelessness, the Brihanmumbai Corporation (BMC) is providing an update. The precise number of homeless people in the city will be determined by a new survey.

the needs of homeless children require comprehensive approaches that encompass affordable housing solutions, support services for families in crisis, access to education and healthcare, and community outreach programs. It is essential for governments, organizations, and communities to work together to provide safety nets and opportunities for homeless children.

Findings

The people or children get migrate from rural area to urban areas due to different type of reasons:

Reasons for migration: due to war, job search, to follow a particular path, family conflicts due to changes in a climatic condition, natural disaster, religious freedom,

Reasons for becoming homeless: not getting a job, social causes of homelessness, lack of affordable housing, poverty and unemployment, People are forced into homelessness when they leave prison, care or the army with no home to go to.

Brihanmumbai Corporation (BMC) will conduct a survey to find out the number of homeless people in Mumbai after the Supreme Court-appointed Shelter Monitoring Committee raised questions over the findings of a previous study that pegged the number of homeless at 11,915 in a city with 1.24 Crore people.

As per the current data we find that, state with the Largest population of homeless people in Uttar Pradesh and the lowest, Jammu and Kashmir.

Sometime due to Handicap disease become the major problem to become homeless.

State is zero homeless in India: Project LIFE" (Livelihood, Inclusion, and Financial Empowerment) envisages making Kerala a "zero-homeless" State by providing a home for homeless and landless people.

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<https://thepathhomeswla.org/homeless-in-swla/myths-faq/>

1.77 million people live without shelter, albeit the number decline over a decade"

Mental health, mental illness, and human rights in India and elsewhere: What are we aiming
5.3 lakh families in the country are homeless.

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The Social Impact of Online Food Delivery Networks on Nutritional Empowerment for Homeless Children: A Public Perspective

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Abstract

This research explores the public's awareness, attitudes, and potential engagement regarding the use of online food delivery networks for providing nutritious meals to homeless children. The study delves into the perceived impact on nutritional outcomes and the creation of a supportive community. Additionally, it investigates the identified barriers and opportunities for implementing such initiatives and assesses the overall public opinion on the potential success of these programs. This research provides valuable insights for policymakers, organizations, and advocates aiming to leverage technology for the betterment of nutritional well-being and community support for homeless children.

Keywords: *Online Food Delivery Networks, Nutritional Empowerment, Homeless Children, Social Impact*

Introduction:

In recent years, the emergence of online food delivery networks has revolutionized the way we access and consume food. Beyond mere convenience, these platforms have the potential to address pressing social issues, including food insecurity among vulnerable populations such as homeless children. This research embarks on an exploration of the public's awareness, attitudes, and potential engagement concerning the utilization of online food delivery networks as a means of providing nutritious meals to homeless children.

The plight of homeless children, grappling with the challenges of food insecurity amidst their already precarious living conditions, underscores the urgency of innovative solutions. By tapping into the power of technology and community support, online food delivery networks offer a promising avenue to tackle this pressing issue. However, understanding the public's perception and willingness to embrace such initiatives is crucial for their successful implementation and sustainability.

This study aims to delve deep into various aspects surrounding the use of online food delivery networks for homeless children. It seeks to uncover the perceived impact of these initiatives on

nutritional outcomes, examining how access to nutritious meals can empower homeless children and contribute to their overall well-being. Furthermore, the research explores the potential of online food delivery networks in fostering a supportive community environment, where individuals and organizations come together to address the needs of the most vulnerable members of society.

Review of Literature:

- Garcia, M. (2021) in her paper titled "Community Perspectives on the Role of Online Food Delivery Networks in Enhancing Nutritional Empowerment for Homeless Children" used qualitative research methods such as interviews, surveys, or focus groups, She explores the perceptions, attitudes, and experiences of various community stakeholders, including homeless shelters, volunteers, food delivery platforms, and local businesses.
- Clare E. Holley & Carolynne Mason (2019) in their paper titled "A Systematic Review of the Evaluation of Interventions to Tackle Children's Food Insecurity" highlights the diverse and somewhat inconclusive nature of research evaluating interventions aimed at addressing children's food insecurity. The evidence base lacks robustness, indicating a need for more rigorous and standardized approaches to both implementation and evaluation.
- Kim, H., & Jackson, L. (2020) in their paper titled "Understanding Public Perception of Online Food Delivery Platforms in Supporting Homeless Children: A Review of Recent Studies" examines into the public perception of online food delivery platforms concerning their role in supporting homeless children. The study conducts an in-depth analysis of recent literature, synthesizing findings from various studies that explore the attitudes, beliefs, and opinions of the public regarding the use of online food delivery platforms for addressing the nutritional needs of homeless children

Objectives:

- To gauge the general public's awareness of online food delivery initiatives aimed at providing nutritious meals for homeless children.
- To understand public perceptions regarding the potential positive impact of online platforms on the nutritional outcomes and sense of community for homeless children.
- To identify public attitudes towards personal engagement and support for online food delivery initiatives addressing the nutritional needs of homeless children

Hypotheses:

Null Hypothesis (H0): There is no significant relationship between public awareness and support for online food delivery initiatives for homeless children.

Alternative Hypothesis (H1): Positive public perceptions correlate with increased support for online platforms aiming to improve nutritional outcomes and community support for homeless children.

Null Hypothesis (H0): Public awareness and attitudes have no impact on the perceived success of online food delivery programs for homeless children.

Alternative Hypothesis (H1): Public awareness and positive attitudes significantly contribute to the perceived success of online initiatives targeting the nutritional well-being and community support for homeless children.

Research Methodology:

The research study is indicative and analytical in nature. Both primary and secondary data was collected. Primary data was collected by floating structured questionnaire through google form among respondents in Mumbai. The secondary data was collected from different books across subject like Research Methodology, Services Marketing, Consumer Behaviour at the same time research articles across high quality journals with high number of citations. Sample size of 182 respondents was collected. The questionnaire was subject to editing. Incomplete questionnaires were edited through office as well as field editing. Data was classified, tabulated and summarized in the flow of paper. It also includes Telephonic interview with Ms. Sujata who is working at A NGO Jeevan samvardhan Foundation who gave very authentic data about their vision - To rehabilitate homeless children afflicted with social problems and create a healthy youth for a self-reliant society.

Data Analysis

Table 1: Gender

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Male	81	44.5	44.5
	Female	101	55.5	55.5
	Total	182	100.0	100.0

Table 2: Age

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Less than 25	65	35.7	35.7

SPDC DNYANAKOSH

	25-40	57	31.3	31.3
	40 and above	60	33.0	33.0
	Total	182	100.0	100.0

Table 3: Occupation

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Service	55	30.2	30.2
	Business	60	33.0	33.0
	Professional	67	36.8	36.8
	Total	182	100.0	100.0

Table 4: Correlations

		Opinion: online food delivery networks nutrition for children's	Awareness: online food delivery networks meals for homeless children's	Awareness: Contribution of General public for food to homeless children
Opinion: online food delivery networks nutrition for children's	Pearson Correlation	1	.851	.752
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.001	.003
	N	182	182	182
Awareness: online food delivery networks meals for homeless children's	Pearson Correlation	.851	1	.841
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.001		.001
	N	182	182	182
Awareness: Contribution of General public for food to homeless children	Pearson Correlation	.752	.841	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.003	.001	
	N	182	182	182

Source: Primary Data

It can be interpreted from Table 4 there is a presence of positive Co-relation between online food delivery networks nutrition for children's and online food delivery networks meals for

homeless children's as the significant value is less than 0.05 and the r value is 0.851 presenting a strong positive co-relation.

Table 5: Model Summary ^b					
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.716 ^a	.824	.654	1.48216	1.917
a. Predictors: (Constant), Awareness: Contribution of General public for food to homeless children, Awareness: online food delivery networks meals for homeless children's					
b. Dependent Variable: Opinion: online food delivery networks nutrition for children's					

Source: Primary Data

It can be interpreted from the Table the R square value is 0.824 thereby indicating the Dependent variable accounts for almost 82 % of the Independent variable, at the same time Durbin Watson value is 1.917 which indicate Homogeneity across Data and data is well within limits.

Table 6: ANOVA^a

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	1.106	2	.553	.252	.004 ^b
	Residual	393.229	179	2.197		
	Total	394.335	181			

a. Dependent Variable: Opinion: online food delivery networks nutrition for children's

b. Predictors: (Constant), Awareness: Contribution of General public for food to homeless children, Awareness: online food delivery networks meals for homeless children's

Source: Primary Data

It can be concluded from the table the significant value is 0.00 which is less than 0.05 thereby indicating presence of relationship between Dependent and Independent variables.

Table 7: Coefficients ^a				
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients	Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.

		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	2.729	.375		7.281	.000
	Awareness: online food delivery networks meals for homeless children's	.007	.075	.007	.098	.000
	Awareness: Contribution of General public for food to homeless children	.057	.082	.052	.703	.000
a. Dependent Variable: Opinion: online food delivery networks nutrition for children's						

Source: Primary Data:

It can be interpreted from the table; regression equation can be drafted as online food delivery networks nutrition for children's = 2.729 + 0.007 (online food delivery networks meals for homeless children's) + 0.057 (Contribution of General public for food to homeless children).

Findings

The data analysis findings indicate compelling evidence of a robust positive correlation between two critical variables: "online food delivery networks nutrition for children" and "online food delivery networks meals for homeless children." This correlation is substantiated by a significant p-value of less than 0.05, indicating statistical significance, coupled with a notably high correlation coefficient (r-value) of 0.851. Such a strong positive correlation suggests that as the availability and provision of meals via online food delivery networks for homeless children increase, there is a corresponding enhancement in the nutritional empowerment programs targeting children.

Moreover, the high R square value of approximately 82% signifies that a substantial proportion of the variability observed in the dependent variable, "Opinion: online food delivery networks nutrition for children," can be explained by the independent variables, namely "online food delivery networks meals for homeless children." This suggests that the provision of meals to homeless children via online platforms plays a significant role in shaping public opinion regarding the nutritional benefits offered to children through these networks.

The Durbin-Watson value of 1.917 further reinforces the reliability and robustness of the regression analysis. A value close to 2 indicates homogeneity across the data, suggesting that the assumptions underlying the regression model, such as the absence of autocorrelation, are

adequately met. This implies that the observed relationships between variables are likely not spurious and can be considered reliable for drawing meaningful conclusions.

Overall, these findings provide compelling evidence supporting the positive impact of online food delivery networks on the nutritional empowerment of homeless children. The strong correlation, coupled with high explanatory power and the reliability of the regression analysis, underscores the importance of leveraging online platforms to address nutritional needs and garner public support for initiatives aimed at improving the well-being of homeless children.

Conclusion

The findings of the analysis reveal a compelling relationship between two vital aspects: "online food delivery networks nutrition for children" and the awareness of "online food delivery networks meals for homeless children," as well as the contribution of the general public for food to homeless children.

The study indicates a significant correlation between the provision of nutrition for children through online food delivery networks and the level of awareness regarding meals provided to homeless children via these platforms. This suggests that as awareness of meals delivered to homeless children through online networks increases, there is a corresponding enhancement in the perception of the effectiveness of these networks in providing nutrition for children. The research also underscores a noteworthy association between the contribution of the general public for food to homeless children and the perception of online food delivery networks' role in providing nutrition. This implies that as the level of public contribution for food to homeless children rises, there is a simultaneous improvement in the perception of online food delivery networks as effective means of addressing children's nutrition needs. These findings collectively emphasize the critical role played by online food delivery networks in providing nutrition for homeless children. They highlight that beyond merely delivering meals, these networks serve as catalysts for raising awareness and mobilizing support from the general public. By increasing awareness and encouraging public contributions, online food delivery networks can enhance their effectiveness in addressing children's nutritional needs, thereby positively impacting the well-being of homeless children and fostering a more supportive community environment.

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Sheltering the Future: A Comprehensive Analysis of Government Policies and Legal Frameworks Addressing Homelessness Among Children

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Abstract:

This research paper explores various government policies and legal frameworks designed to address homelessness among children on both national and international fronts. The analysis aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted challenges faced by homeless children and the effectiveness of existing measures in safeguarding their rights and well-being. This study seeks to identify gaps, successes, and potential areas for improvement, shedding light on the crucial steps needed to ensure a brighter and more secure future for these vulnerable populations. Through a synthesis of scholarly research, legal texts, and case studies, this paper aims to contribute to ongoing discourse and inform policy recommendations that can enhance the protection and support mechanisms for homeless children globally.

Keywords: *Sheltering the Future, Homelessness Among Children, Policy Analysis, Legal Analysis, Policy Recommendations*

Introduction

Numerous measures have been implemented to safeguard the welfare and entitlements of homeless children. Because of the complicated nature of the issue of child homelessness, it is imperative to examine the laws and regulations created to address this complex situation. Several steps have been taken to safeguard the welfare and rights of children who are homeless. This research paper sets out to unravel these complex measures.

Children experiencing homelessness is a complex issue that cuts across national borders. This is a situation that not only threatens the short-term well-being of these people but also seriously threatens the foundation of the future society . The complex factors that lead to child homelessness demands a careful analysis intended to offer comfort and assistance.

This paper will explore national and international jurisdictions, critically analysing the efficacy of existing governmental interventions. By checking the layers of legislation and policy initiatives, we aim to observe the successes, failures, and potential areas for improvement in to secure a stable and nurturing environment for homeless children. In doing so, our research aims to contribute valuable insights to the ongoing dialogue surrounding child homelessness and provide a foundation for informed policymaking on both national and global scales.

As we embark on this inquiry, we hope that the information provided here will help us better understand the difficulties experienced by homeless children and act as a catalyst for change. We hope to open the door for improved safeguards and support networks that can actually preserve these young people's futures by bringing attention to the shortcomings of the government's answers.

Objectives:

To conduct an assessment of current policies

To analyse legal framework

To investigate the socioeconomic factors

To examine case studies and best practices

To Monitor and evaluate framework

Literature Review:

A comprehensive review of existing literature reveals a wealth of information and insights into the complex web of governmental policies and legal frameworks addressing homelessness among children on both national and international fronts.

The State of India's Street Children:

In India, it is a very common to see children begging for money and other essentials or selling things to earn minute livings in places like bus stops, main roads, and railway stations. The famous case of Olga Tellis speaks loudly about the society's responsibility where an organization filed a case against the Bombay Municipal Corporation for dislodging the children in one night thus neglecting the essentials arrangements required for such eviction. The Indian Supreme Court correctly identified and denounced the corporation's actions directed towards the poorer segments of society. In the instance of Bandhu Mukhti Morcha⁶, they were sued by another volunteer group for coercing homeless youngsters into manual labor. Most of the children are not orphans; they have been just subjected to abandonment by their parents. Many

have run away from their houses since they were subjected to extreme physical and psychological torture by their family. Once they are on the street, they are just like any other group of people because they are under aged and cannot form a matured opinion as to how to go about dealing with various situations. The most depressing aspect is that the police, who are supposed to be our nation's law enforcement officials, also commit crimes and abuse against street children in addition to other organizations. There are various reasons why street children's rights have not been given much substance since most cases are not taken in the first place. Rarely do lawsuits ever reach the court's doorstep. These kids are driven outside the city limits and left to starve before a case is filed.

The issue of street children and protection of their rights is a global problem and it not only exists in India but in other countries growing economically and socially and the developed countries as well. Although various steps have come in handy, there is still a lot of work that needs to be done since they are also human and form a considerable part of the population.

Legal Safeguards - National and International Perspective:

National Perspective:

The broadest category of rights is human rights. In Section 2(1)(d) definition is not all-inclusive. The Indian Constitution and other national laws acknowledge children's rights and establish a legal framework to protect them, but street children are unable to assert their own rights because of their profound ignorance and apathy. The Indian Constitution provides several legislations that protect these vulnerable sections of society.

Under Article 21, the State is bound to provide compulsory and free education of the age 6 to 14 years. Interestingly, Based on statistical data and the previously discussed topics, the majority of street children fall into the 6–14 age range. Because this is their fundamental right, students should be given free education rather than engaging in any form of forced labor.

No child under 14 is permitted to work in a mine or industry, or other dangerous job, according to Article 24. Ironically, despite such shield of legislation, most children from the streets are picked to work in such conditions as mentioned under Article 24 who range below 14 years. While the legislation is crystal clear, the implication is absent.

Article 39(f) protects children and young people from being exploited and from being abandoned morally or materially. Additionally, children should get resources and opportunities

required for a healthy development in an atmosphere of freedom and dignity.. Despite the existence of such laws, the bulk of street children are the direct product of parental abandonment. Street children are not born in the streets; they are abandoned to streets and grow in very harsh conditions. They are exposed to tremendously bad health conditions since they make their living and food out of stale food from garbage and reside in very untidy places. Consequently, despite the article's assertion that kids shouldn't be abandoned and should instead have plenty of opportunities to grow up in a healthy way, the truth is completely different.

Every Indian citizen who is a parent or guardian has a fundamental duty under Article 51A(k) the Indian Constitution to provide their child with the opportunity to receive an education from the age of six to fourteen. Therefore, under the Indian Constitution, a parent who abandons their child on the streets may be held responsible for violating their Fundamental Duties.

Street children are in no manner treated equally. Street children generally belong to the tender age when generally a child goes to school. Hence, while this vulnerable group of children is forced to work in a hazardous situation, they should be equally treated like the other children who are provided with education and treated humanely.

The right to be shielded against human trafficking and forced labour is stated in Article 23. As discussed earlier, street children are most frequently subjected to trafficking and bonded labour and street children are trafficked in various ways be it prostitution, child labour, factory works, etc. Also, street children are majorly indulged forcefully in bonded labour to recover the debts of their fathers. Now, children performing the acts under bonded labour are of very tender age, and asking them to recover such huge debts is excessive in nature and most of them fail to do so leading them to long term slavery.

The FR in Part III and the DPSP in Part IV of the constitution, mention the responsibility of the government, at the federal and state levels, to take significant actions to promote and strengthen these provisions. Furthermore, to these, there are a number of other laws that address the issues facing street children and give priority to the necessity, scope, study, and analysis. According to the Indian Constitution, the government must take action. Still, that is typical." However, it is common to discover street children engaged in occupations that are inappropriate for their age.

International Perspective:

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, or U.D.H.R.

Various policies in order to defend the rights of this group. This effort brought results to some extent and was applauded which helped the children living on streets and fending for themselves in India and also caught the attention of various powerful nations. As a result, a number of laws and policies were made with the intention of protecting and preserving the impoverisher's rights of poor. Numerous countries, like India, have taken these rules and regulations seriously and made it their mission to abide by them at all costs.

According to the first article of the U.D.H.R., "all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights." On November 20, 1989, the member nations ratified the U.N.C.R.C., which was established to address rights specific to children. The agreement then came into effect.

The United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child, or U.N.C.R.C:

The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (U.D.H.R.) was adopted on November 20, 1989. Since humans are gifted and they should be treated one another with a sense of brotherhood.

The United Nations Conventions on the Rights of The Child (U.N.C.R.C):

The U.N.C.R.C. was created to address rights particular to children, and it was ratified by the member states established on November 20, 1989, and became operative on September 2, 1990. According to the statement, a kid is considered a "human being" till they become majority age. With the child's best interests always coming first, it addresses guardianship and custody laws for kids whose parents have died away or who have been abandoned. These rights encompass the liberty from prejudice.

The Police, NGO, And Judiciary's Role In Protecting Street Kids:

The Juvenile Justice Act of 2015 (Care and Protection of minors) pertains to minors who fall divided broadly into two groups: those who are dire need of care, protection, and shelter, and those who stand in the difference in opinion with the law. Children in the streets may fall under both categories simultaneously, as children who are not provided with care and protection may end up in disagreement with the legal system.

Role of Judiciary: The goal of the Seventh Five-Year Plan (1985–1990)¹⁴ was to advance and promote the plan for kids' survival and growth in every aspect of life. As a result, the judiciary and the Supreme Court launched the plan and actively supported the children's rights to social action as guaranteed by the Indian Constitution. Litigation acts as a catalyst for judicial

intervention and policy formulation. In India, the notion of "Social Interest Litigation" is essentially viewed as a tool for securing socioeconomic justice for the impoverished and ensuring that steps are taken to guarantee that each individual is aware of their constitutionally protected rights. Here are the few most important scenarios depicting social action litigation for children are the following cases; these cases have indeed proved to be absolutely vital in assuring and ensuring child rights.

Non-Governmental Organizations' Function:

According to UNICEF estimates, there are at least 100 million homeless children worldwide, including in India. Of those projected to live in homes, the majority have between 400000 and 800000 people of which are below the age of eighteen. India has a diverse population of children from different ethnicities, economic groupings, cultures, religions, and castes. The issues regarding these children have grown from the very bottom to the top, earlier people were not aware of it. There are various NGOs working for this sector of children day and night in a qualitative way includes— NHRC, NCPCR, CLAN, CRY, GRACE, etc. Each of these platforms works differently but they all focus on the same motive. The media has always been a backbone and has played a very vital role in molding public opinion as well as making an attempt in creating awareness to the citizens regarding social development and child rights protection. UNICEF and the Indian government cooperative inventiveness over the times that have gone by have shifted their attention on intensifying the power and the need of advertising and broadcasting the electronic and print media person in Ministry of Information and Broadcasting so as to combine and print the various problems regarding children's rights when living on the streets. As a result, media has had a massive impact in creating awareness amongst the people in these strata.

Research Methodology:

It is fully based on content analysis. Various methods followed for this research paper was explained down.

Literature Review:

To comprehend the historical background, current research, and academic discourse on child homelessness, conduct a thorough literature review.

Policy Document Analysis:

Collect and analyze relevant national and international policy documents related to child homelessness. Systematically review legislation, regulations, and guidelines to identify the scope, objectives, and key provisions of existing policies.

Legal Framework Analysis:

Conduct a detailed legal analysis of the frameworks.

Policy Recommendations:

Develop evidence-based policy recommendations based on the research findings, addressing gaps and shortcomings identified in the existing frameworks. Ensure that recommendations are practical, feasible, and aligned with the broader goals of promoting the well-being of homeless children.

Suggestions:

Streamline and Boost Global Collaboration:

Promote and enable increased international cooperation to exchange resources, tactics, and best practices for resolving child homelessness.

Comprehensive National Strategies:

Nations to develop comprehensive, multi-faceted national strategies that address the root causes of child homelessness. Such strategies should encompass prevention, intervention, rehabilitation, and reintegration efforts, with a focus on providing stable housing, education, and healthcare.

Investment in Social Services:

Promote greater funding like easily accessible mental health assistance, educational materials, and medical facilities. Adequate funding is crucial to break the cycle of homelessness and empower children with the tools they need to thrive.

Inclusive Education Policies:

possess equitable access to high-quality education. includes steps like doing away with school fees, providing transportation assistance, and establishing flexible attendance policies to allow for the particular difficulties experienced by homeless kids.

Data Collection and Monitoring:

Encourage the establishment of robust data collection and monitoring systems to track the prevalence and trends of child homelessness. This information is essential for evidence-based policymaking, allowing for the continuous assessment of the effectiveness of interventions.

Research and Evaluations

Support ongoing research and evaluation of government policies to assess their impact on homelessness among children. Periodic evaluations can identify successful approaches, identify areas for improvement, and inform evidence-based policy adjustments.

Conclusion

Governments can strive toward creating a more compassionate and effective framework that addresses the complex issue of child homelessness both domestically and globally level by implementing these recommendations. By taking a comprehensive and long-term approach, these steps hope to give homeless children's future opportunities and general well-being first priority. This article has clarified the definition of street children, the various forms of exploitation they experience, the laws both domestically and internationally that protect them, and the roles that the legal system and non-governmental organizations play in defending their rights. The inference that can be made from the aforementioned challenges is that although laws and organizations that endeavour to uphold the rights of homeless children have been in place for a while, the situation has not yet produced a promising and beneficial outcome. As a result, this article will provide information on the current state of street children as well as statistics for India's main states.

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Homelessness: Socio-Cultural And Economic Factors (Gender And Homelessness)

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Abstract

Homelessness is a complex social problem that implement on all types of gender in Indian communities. Though this article we are presenting the off- light topic of LGBTQ+ and their homelessness that has been ignored or knowingly neglected. The article emphasizes the challenges or hardships that are faced by them socially and economically.

KEY WORDS: Homelessness, Gender Inequality, Unrecognition in social cultural activities, Insufficient Employment Opportunities.

Introduction

LGBTQ community experience more discrimination than non- LGBTQ people in India. This can lead to feeling of isolation hence homelessness is a burning issue these people are facing. This issue is raised by all the sectors including government, NGO's, as well as other organisations. Various programs being arranged to discuss this issue in the colleges in the form of conference, workshops, etc. This term LGBTQ is an initiative to stand for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer. This particular topic is intended to give emphasis on sexuality and gender identity based on cultures and also referred to anyone who is non-heterosexual or non-cis gender instead of exclusively to people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, to recognize their identity. Recently a popular variant add the letter Q for those who are identified in this category and their issues are raised in all the platforms.

Most of the LGBTQ+ people who are homeless have either been kicked out of their families for being gay, trans, etc.. Or have run away to escape violent relationship or situation. As this concept never being openly taught to get accepted so the Indian traditions are still unknown to this topic and find it hard to accept those community's people. These communities' people are mostly deprived from an education and the necessary social support. They are often getting derogatory labels and people make fun of them, which prevents them from achieving their objective of gaining acknowledgement and makes them feel socially ostracized like while using public transit or a person as from LGBTQ+ communities are often required to arrange their

gender and identification in front of audience. Employment Opportunities are negatively impacted when it is challenging to get appropriate documentation relating to one's gender identification, including school records.

As in some occupations there is gender limits because of discriminatory qualifying rules which makes it difficult for transgender people and those who don't cling to binary gender identities to attain such positions. (Siddhesh Patil @Xpresblog,2022)

Result and Discussion-

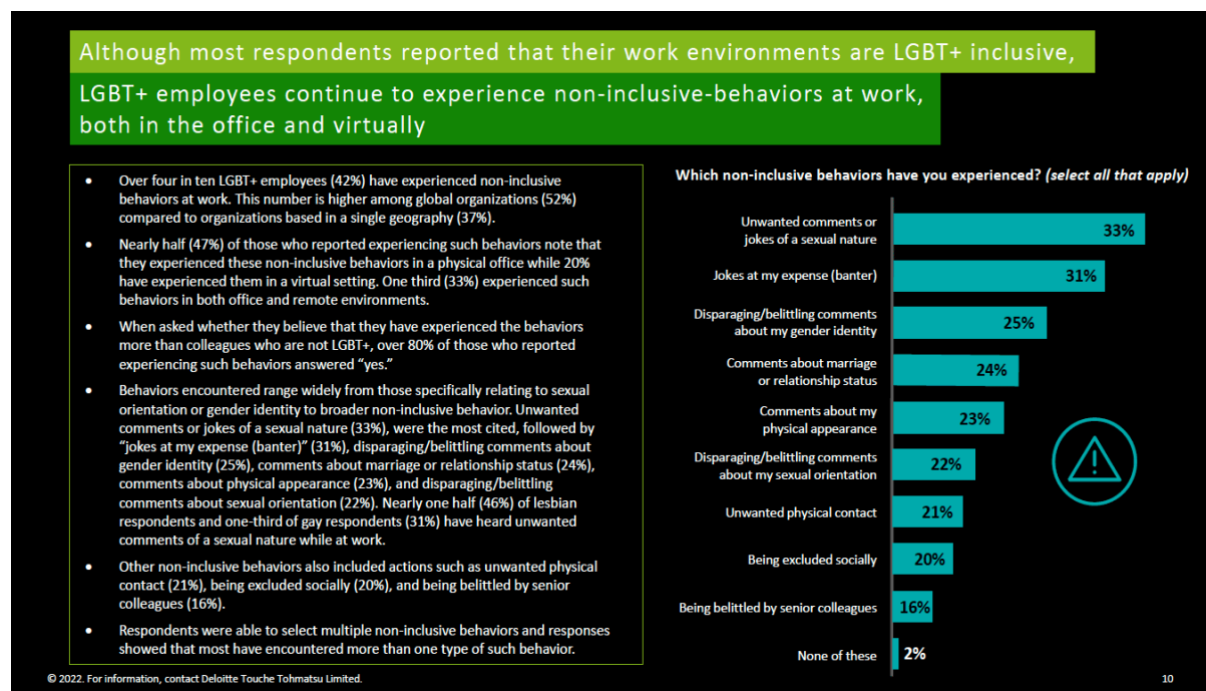


Fig –The graph showing the treatment to LGBTQ+ communities in workplace.

As per the data we collected through resources shows that as in 2017, India's National Human Rights Commission conduct a survey which shows that only 6% of transgender people were formally employed in private or non-governmental organization sectors. Another data from 2022, study by HR services firm Randstad India showed that only 9.5% surveyed organization had made efforts for LGBTQ+ communities. According to 2023, survey by Deloitte shows that 60% of Indian respondents work for employers that demonstrates commitment to LGBTQ+ inclusion. The study shows that many LGBTQ+ employees in India face workplace harassment, discriminatory treatment, and limited job opportunities. The lack of LGBTQ+ representation in the workplace also leads to the neglect of their concerns and grievances. Through the above resources and data, we conclude that even though we are living in

democratic country people from these communities are neglecting to open up themselves and it's affecting their growth individually.

To emphasize their challenges and hardship which are faced by them we need to conduct some measures to get their living as equal as other individuals. We need to acknowledge every individual about this concept of LGBTQ+ by providing survey or camps in schools, college, offices, etc.. which mostly focuses on this community's people and their development. There are many trusts like Humsafar trust, Lakshya trust, Forum foundation which are providing services in all aspects to the people from these communities. So, we need to get acquainted with them and start making surveys and get them an opportunity which are they lacking in like shelter, emotional support, medical treatment. Another positive move would be we need to start supporting them in their Pride Parade.

Conclusion

As from the above study we conclude that it is essential that government should take action to eliminate gender inequality, discrimination and abuse surrounding among LGBTQ+ people. Government should start new laws on inheritance, educational support, employment, health care services, emotional support, social security, and should make special focus on transgender persons.

Lastly, we will conclude that government and NGOs should take measure actions for LGBTQ+ community to get them equal status.

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