



Study On

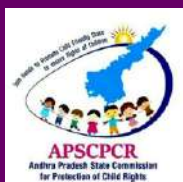
**SITUATION OF EDUCATION AND VULNERABILITY
OF CHILDREN OF VICTIMS OF COMMERCIAL
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION/WOMEN IN PROSTITUTION**

in the State of Andhra Pradesh



A Report By

**AP. STATE COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS
Government of Andhra Pradesh**



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**SITUATION OF EDUCATION AND VULNERABILITY OF
CHILDREN OF VICTIMS OF COMMERCIAL SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION/WOMEN IN PROSTITUTION
In the state of Andhra Pradesh**

Jun 2024

A Report by:

Andhra Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights

Room No:511, 4th floor,
MGM Capital, Chinnakakani,
MANGALAGIRI – 522503,
Guntur- Dist, AP

Study Facilitation by:



HELP

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Supported by:



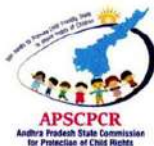
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**Andhra Pradesh State Commission
for Protection of Child Rights**

Room.No:511, 4th Floor, MGM capital,
Chinakakani (VIII), MANGALAGIRI-522503,
Guntur (Dist.) AP.



Dr. KESALI APPARAO
Chairperson

Foreword & Gratitude

Education stands as the cornerstone of our nation's progress. Embedded within the Indian Constitution, Article 21-A, brought forth by the Eighty-sixth Amendment Act, 2002, enshrines the right to free and compulsory education for all children aged six to fourteen. Yet, for many children from communities affected by Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE), this constitutional promise remains a distant reality.

The existence of commercial sex work within our society is a matter of profound concern. It persists as one of the oldest social maladies, predominantly involving women and girls. Defined broadly, sex work encompasses various activities where resources are exchanged for sexual stimulation, gratification, or other sexual acts (World Health Organization, 1994). While numerous studies have examined prostitution and sex work, this study distinguishes itself by focusing on communities traditionally engaged in commercial sex work, where children born into these communities often inherit the profession.

Hence, it becomes imperative to delve deeply into the educational status of children within these communities, whose primary source of livelihood is commercial sex work. This endeavor seeks to extend a lifeline to the most vulnerable children, preventing them from being ensnared in the cycle of sex work. I express my gratitude to my Commission for endorsing my proposal to conduct a study titled **“Study on Situation of Education and Vulnerability of Children of Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation/Women in Prostitution in the State of Andhra Pradesh”** and to the HELP organization for generously funding this endeavor.

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The findings of the study underscore the profound impact of sex work on children within these families. Many children are deprived of education, leading to significant developmental deficits, particularly among girls. Education is universally recognized as the linchpin of human development. Therefore, this report meticulously examines the educational landscape for these children and the impediments hindering their progress, aiming to pave the way for their reintegration and rehabilitation. It advocates for investing in the education of this generation through residential quality education, vocational training, and mentorship to break the cycle of sex work.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to "HELP-Andhra Pradesh" for undertaking this study on behalf of the AP State Commission for Protection of Child Rights. The commendable efforts of the Research Team, who ventured into the field, conducting meetings and one-on-one conversations with children, community members, and relevant authorities, deserve special mention. I also wish to thank the District Education Officers, School Teachers, Ward Sachivalyam officers, public representatives, Ward Counselors, Gram Panchayats, NGOs, and all those who contributed to enriching this study with their insights.

Lastly, I acknowledge the invaluable contributions of my team members: Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Dr. Gondu Seetharam, Smt. B.Padmavathi and Smt. Adhilakshmi, for their unwavering support and dedication in shaping this report.


(Kesali Appa Rao)
Chairperson, APSCPCR

About the author



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B.S.W., M.S.W., M.A.(Sociology)., N.E.T., S.L.E.T., Ph.D., D.Litt. (U.S.A.)

Prof. Saraswati Raju Iyer, Professor of Sociology & Social Work, Former Member, Executive Council & Academic Council, Former Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Former Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Coordinator, Community Social Responsibility & Coordinator, UGC-SWAYAM, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, India. A trained Psychological Counsellor, International Certified Career Coach, Gold medalist from Osmania University, Hyderabad.

Her educational qualifications include B.S.W., M.S.W., M.A.(Sociology)., N.E.T., S.L.E.T., Ph.D., D.Litt. (U.S.A.). She has visited U.S.A. to present a paper; chaired and presented a paper at Nepal Conference. Visited Netherlands to participate in the inauguration of Global Seafood Watch Advisory Group during September, 2022. Also visited Monterey, California, United States of America to participate in the Global Ocean Social Sustainability Advisory Group meeting of the Global Social Sustainability Group during October, 2023.

She is a NAAC Peer Team Member, Bangalore since 2019. She is a member of various Professional bodies and Committees constituted by Government and Acharya Nagarjuna University. She is an Advisory Group Member of Seafood Watch Social Sustainability (Global Seafood Programme), Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch, Monterey, California, United States of America since 05-05-2022. Chaired sessions in 80 Seminars; Presented 135 papers in conferences, Participated in 96 Seminars, Conferences & Workshops, gave 214 sessions in various academic forums, authored 19 books, member of the editorial board of 30 Journals, Developed 20 lessons/lectures for SWAYAM – Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs) an initiative under National Mission on Education through Information & Communication Technology (ICT) of Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India and Department of Higher Education by the Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC) in Social Work produced by Educational Multimedia Research Centre (EMRC), Hyderabad.

She gave 17 interviews on AIR, 3 interviews in Television channels, produced 28 Ph.D.s & 5 M.Phils. Received 56 National and International Awards. Has 23 years of P.G. Teaching Experience. Conducted 26 Workshops, Seminars and Conferences. Completed 32 research and consultancy projects, monitored and evaluated 10 CAPART funded Projects. Pursuing 2 Research Projects currently, reached around 10,000 people through community outreach and extension activities of Acharya Nagarjuna University.

She is a Visiting Faculty, School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada; Acharya Nagarjuna University College of Architecture, Guntur, National Institute of Design, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh Human Resource Development Institute (APHRDI), Bapatla & Central Tribal University, Vijayanagaram. She is specialized in Social Welfare and Social Development and research interests include Psychological Counseling, Gender issues, HIV/AIDS, Marginalized communities, Child rights and Disability.

Acknowledgement

Society for Help Entire Lower & Rural People (HELP), established in 1993, has been dedicated to addressing the myriad vulnerabilities faced by women, children, and marginalized communities in Andhra Pradesh. Our focus on child protection and providing support services to trafficked children mainly girls has been central to our mission. Therefore, the support and guidance extended by the **AP State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Government of Andhra Pradesh**, in conducting the “**Study on Situation of Education and Vulnerability of Children of Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation/Women in Prostitution in the State of Andhra Pradesh**” reaffirmed our commitment to the children on the fringes of society. This study has significantly enhanced our understanding of children belonging to traditional/commercial sex worker communities and the persistent issue of prostitution, an age-old social evil in our country.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the Chairperson of the AP State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (APSCPCR) and all its members and officials for entrusting the project to the **HELP** organization. Special thanks to Sri. Kesali Appa Rao, Chairperson-SCPCR, whose guidance has been invaluable from the inception to the completion of the report. I also extend my thanks to Mr. Srinivas, Secretary-AP SCPCR, for his coordination and support throughout the study, aiding in shaping the report.

I would like to be so grateful to **DASRA – Rebuild India Fund** and its team members for their invaluable support in making this precious research work materialized and published in the best interest of the children of rescued survivors of trafficking and victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE) to improve their access to education, state support services and welfare schemes. My special thanks to Mr. Lawrence – a freelance consultant from West Bengal for his commendable efforts in shaping out the study book into an attractive, readable, crispy, and concise one with stunning and colorful graphic design.

I acknowledge all stakeholders for their invaluable support and cooperation extended to help in conducting the Survey on “**Study on Situation of Education and Vulnerability of Children of Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation/Women in Prostitution in the State of Andhra Pradesh**”. The survey aimed to assess the educational status, available facilities, and vulnerabilities of children of sex workers in Andhra Pradesh, as well as to understand the actual situation and challenges faced by these children and their communities. The survey was conducted across three united districts – Krishna, Guntur, and Prakasam (now divided into six districts: NTR, Krishna, Guntur, Palnadu, Bapatla, and Prakasam).

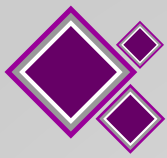
Last but not least, I would like to thank the research team of ANU, led by Prof. Saraswati Raju Iyer, Professor of Sociology & Social Work, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Team Leader, and others, who have been involved from the planning stage to the implementation, fieldwork, and preparation of the survey report. I also acknowledge the **HELP** team members – Mr. S. Pavan Kumar (Manager), Mr. V. Bhaskar (Program Coordinator), Mr. O. Nitin (Communication Officer), Ms. Parvathi, Ms. Kumari, and Ms. Sharmila – and VIMUKTHI leaders – Ms. Apurva, Ms. Rajani, Ms. Lakshmi Prasanna, and Ms. Pushpa – for their exceptional fieldwork with the communities.

With warm regards and best compliments,

(Ram Mohan VS. Nimmaraju)
Secretary - HELP

CONTENTS

Sl	Content	Page Numbers
1	Introduction	1-2
2	Review of Literature	3
3	Research Methodology	3-5
4	Data Analysis & Interpretation	6
4.1	Analysis – Children of Victims of CSE/Sex-workers	6-13
4.2	Women in Commercial Sexual Exploitation	14-21
5	Recommendations & Conclusions	22-25
6	Case Studies	26-27



1. INTRODUCTION

Prostitution, a deeply entrenched aspect of global society, extends its impact far beyond those directly involved. Among the most vulnerable are the children of those in prostitution. This issue transcends borders and cultures, resonating from bustling cities to remote villages. Victims and their children face complex challenges intertwined with socio-economic, cultural, and legal landscapes. Stigma is a pervasive challenge, affecting access to education and healthcare and perpetuating discrimination. Economic instability compounds their struggles, limiting opportunities and perpetuating poverty cycles.

Access to education and healthcare remains elusive, exacerbating vulnerabilities. Children are at heightened risk of exploitation and trafficking due to the absence of protective networks and economic hardships. In India, societal stigma, limited access to essential services, and legal ambiguities compound these challenges. Within states like Andhra Pradesh, localized factors further shape their experiences.

Socio-economic factors underpin their struggles, highlighting the need for holistic strategies addressing root causes. Effective policies and advocacy are essential for breaking generational hardships. Varied legal frameworks globally contribute to their marginalization, hindering efforts to improve their lives. Examining successful models provides insights for potential pathways forward.

Global Scenario

Vandepitte et al. (2006) estimate the prevalence of victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution in various regions, including sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, and Latin America, with estimates ranging from 0.1% to 7.4%. However, they note inconsistencies in their approach due to varying definitions of prostitution. Literature on the children of victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution is limited and primarily qualitative. Vulnerabilities include social marginalization, early sexual debut, abuse, low school enrollment, and exposure to prostitution. Motivations for entering the sex trade vary globally, from social acceptance in Thailand to financial need in Australia and India. In Mongolia, housing conditions for sex workers vary, while in the USA, youth often seek basic survival services from agencies.

Indian Scenario

According to UNAIDS (2016) there were 657,829 female sex workers (FSWs) in India. Other unofficial estimates have calculated India having roughly 3 million FSWs. India is widely regarded as having one of the world's largest commercial sex industry. It has emerged as a global hub of sex tourism, attracting sex tourists from wealthy countries. The sex industry in India is a multi-billion dollar one, and one of the fastest growing.

As per Ministry of Family Welfare (MoFW) Annual Report 2021-2022 there are a total of 825,055 FSWs in India who are registered under National Aids Control Organization (NACO). As of September 2021, Andhra Pradesh had the highest number of FSWs in India with 133,447, constituting 16.17%. Telangana stood at second with 100,818 registered FSWs.



The 2017 International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health study notes over two-thirds of victims surveyed faced adversity in healthcare settings, influenced by government representatives' empathy. The Surgeon General's Report (2014) underscores inadequate housing and healthcare for these marginalized populations, highlighting the pressing need for basic necessities like food, clothing, shelter, and education, amidst dismal living conditions in red-light areas. Hence, in absence of all these basic amenities/social entitlements which are required for minimum standards of living in these families, the holistic life of their children getting bitterly impacted in terms of their survival, protection, participation and development including education and health.

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (2018) observes disadvantaged interactions for these children, with teachers occasionally using disparaging language, fostering prejudice and social exclusion. Haqdarshak (2022) reports 6,88,751 registered female sex workers receiving services, yet disparities exist in unregistered figures, ranging from 3 million to 20 million victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution. Despite access to services and bank accounts, stigma prevents acknowledgment.

In summary, this opening chapter lays the foundation for a thorough examination of the experiences of children from families affected by commercial sexual exploitation. It integrates global, Indian, and Andhra Pradesh-centric viewpoints, aiming to cultivate a society that is more understanding and inclusive of these vulnerable populations, by delving into their complexities within broader socio-economic contexts.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

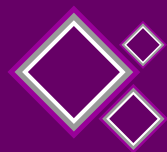
The review of literature includes Problems of Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation(CSE)/ Women in Prostitution Marissa Kaloga, Sharvari Karandikar, Lindsay B. Gezinski, and Rebecca J. McCloskey (2019) study titled "Health Concerns and Access to Services: Female Sex Workers' Experiences in Mumbai, India" and other such studies and research papers/books by various authors from national and internationally have been reviewed.

The literature review on the victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution and their children helped us in understanding their issues and in identifying the research gaps.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The General Objectives of this study was to to understand the situation of education and vulnerability of children of victims of commercial sexual exploitation/Women in prostitution in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Another objective of the study is to delve deeper into the status of accessibility of existing welfare schemes including Navaratnalu (9 social welfare schemes by the govt. of A.P) and other state support services to the children of victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution in 3 districts namely; Krishana, Guntur & Praksam of Andhra Pradesh.

All the children and mothers (respondents) are actually from the target communities where HELP is working as part of its survivor leadership building programme. Help has taken appropriate care and measures to conduct these interviews a child friendly enabling environment without leaving space for any risk to children.



Specific Objectives

- Understand the educational status and vulnerabilities leading to abuse, exploitation, and trafficking of children from families affected by commercial sexual exploitation in A.P.
- Identify out-of-school children lacking guardianship, propose actions to integrate them into education under the Right to Education Act, 2009.
- Evaluate accessibility of government welfare schemes for these children, propose enhancements for effective service delivery in A.P.
- Recommend strategies to bolster community and state-level protection, prevent trafficking, and outline effective rehabilitation for the second generation.

Desk Review

Desk review included review of literature from various secondary sources such as Books, Journals, Government reports, unpublished documents and web sources that is relevant for the study.

Report

This report is empirical in nature with facts, evidences supported by data that is captured from women and children from target communities namely sex work.

Both primary and secondary data are presented in the report to give a comprehensive picture of the Education and Vulnerability of Children of victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Field Study

Field study was conducted to meet and interact with the victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution and also their children among target communities to know, understand, document, analyse and report their status of accessibility of benefits from existing welfare schemes and state support services in terms of education, health and all other social entitlements and how far they are being affected due to lack of access these benefits.

Research Methodology

- Group Interactions with survivors of trafficking and also victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (sex workers), children of victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution, mothers and community elders.
- In depth interviews with children who are subjected to abuse, exploitation and trafficking, child victims of abuse/involved in such situations were also interviewed.
- Case study/success stories were incorporated including challenges faced by different stakeholders involved in research.

Sampling Design

Purposive random sampling method was adopted for the study where the following sample respondents were drawn randomly from three districts of Andhra Pradesh namely Krishna, Guntur and Prakasam:



- I. Children of victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution - 60
- II. Stakeholders: Mothers who are survivors of trafficking and also victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution - 60

- III. Case study of children of victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution – 6

A mixed approach was adopted for the study the primary data included quantitative data as well as qualitative data which were collected from the respondents who were drawn randomly from six districts of Andhra Pradesh; namely Krishna, NTR, Guntur, Palnadu, Bapatla and Prakasam (united Districts of KRISHANA, GUNTUR & PRAKSAM).

Primary data was collected from the sample respondents namely children of sex workers and stakeholders. While the secondary source included books, journals, newspapers, government reports, unpublished articles, reports and web sources.

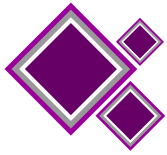
Levels of Data Collection	Method	Tool
Children of victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution (11-18 years boys and girls)	Focussed Group Discussions & One to One (based on need)	Interview schedule
Stakeholders (mothers, women in CSE, pimps, brokers, brothel madams, hawkers)	Interviews	Interview schedule
Children	Case studies	Case study formats

Area of Study

The research on **“Situation of Education and Vulnerability of Children of Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE)/Women in Prostitution in the State of Andhra Pradesh”** was conducted in 3 united districts namely Krishna, Guntur and Prakasam Districts in Andhra Pradesh.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Primary data that were collected from the respondents through focused group discussion, Interviews and Case Studies were analysed and interpreted with the help of pie-diagrams, graphs and case studies since the study is empirical in nature and has adopted mixed approach.



4. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

This chapter analyzes and interprets primary data collected from respondents using statistical tests. The empirical study gathered both primary and secondary data. Primary data was obtained from sample respondents, while secondary data came from structured interviews, group discussions, and case studies. Adopting a mixed approach, the study combines qualitative and quantitative methods to assess education access and vulnerability among children affected by commercial sexual exploitation in Andhra Pradesh's Krishna, Guntur, and Prakasam districts.

The data analysis pertains to

- I. Children of victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation/Women in Prostitution in Andhra Pradesh,
- II. Women in CSW/Mothers,

The data is analysed and interpreted with the help of pie-diagrams, graphs and case studies to give a clear picture of different situation and vulnerability of Children of victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation/Women in Prostitution in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

1. Analysis – Children of Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation/Women in Prostitution

Fig.1.1

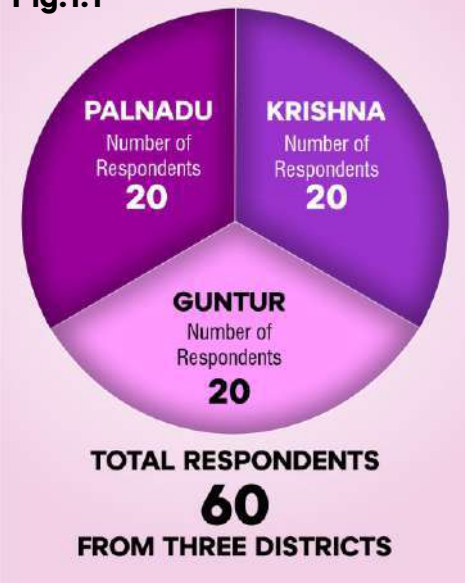
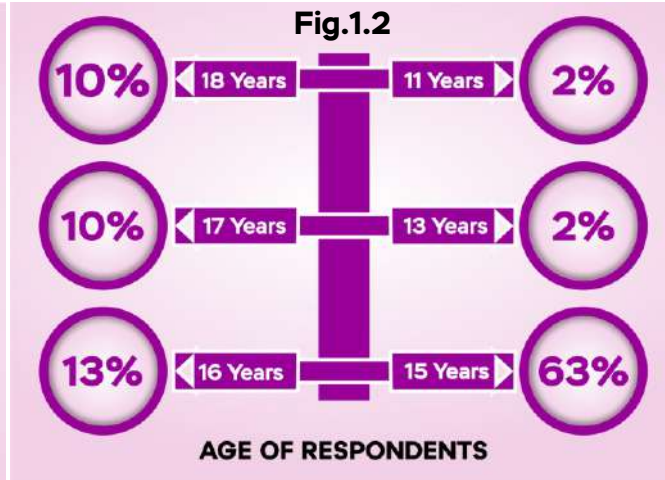


Fig.1.2



There were a total of 60 respondents from the three districts. Of them just 4% were between the age of 11-13 years and 63% were 15 years old. 10% each belonged to the age group of 17 and 18 years.

35% of the respondents were female. Remaining 65% were male. Level of vulnerability of children were taken into consideration for interview, irrespective of gender. Number of boys being more than girls is coincidental.

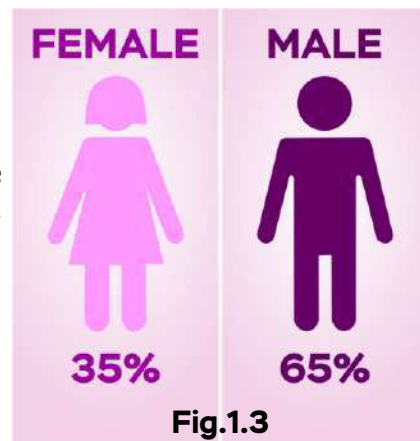


Fig.1.3

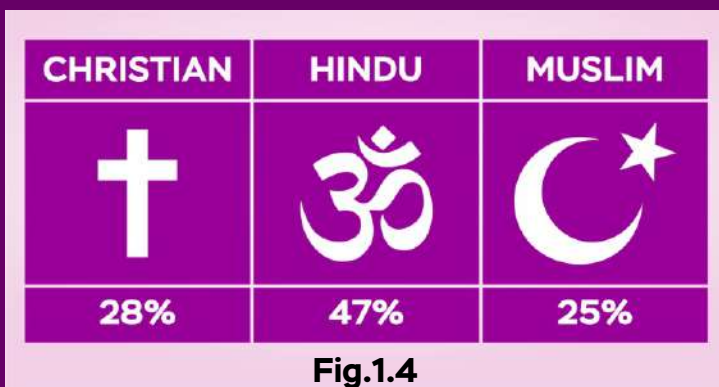


Fig.1.4 shows the religion of the respondents. 47% belong to Hindu religion with Muslims being 25%.

Fig.1.5 shows the caste of the respondents. Of them 70% belonged to OBC. 2% were from the ST community.

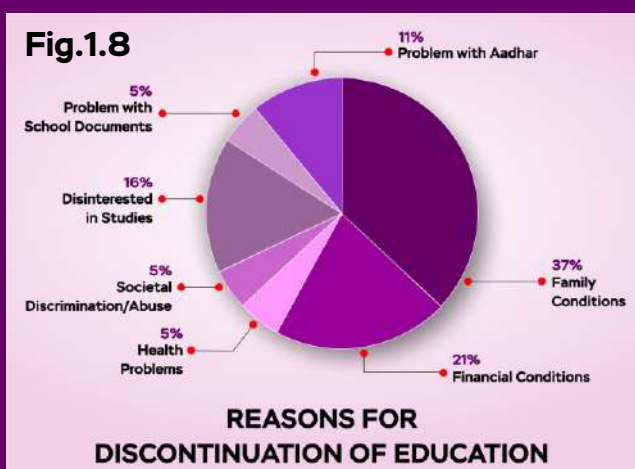
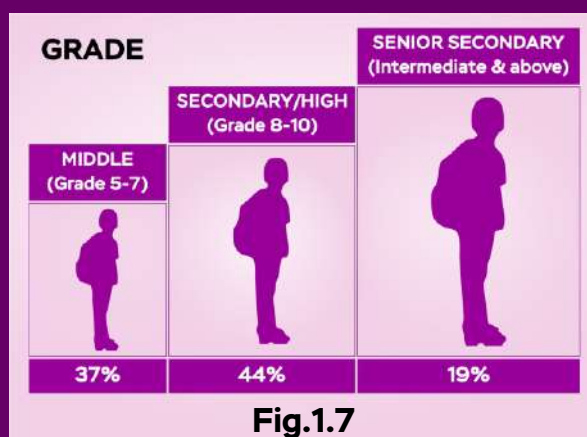
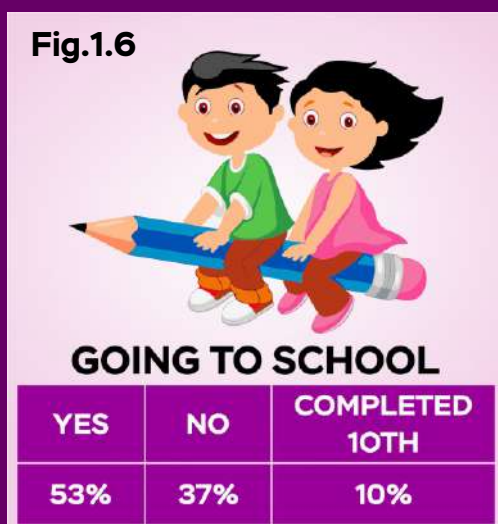
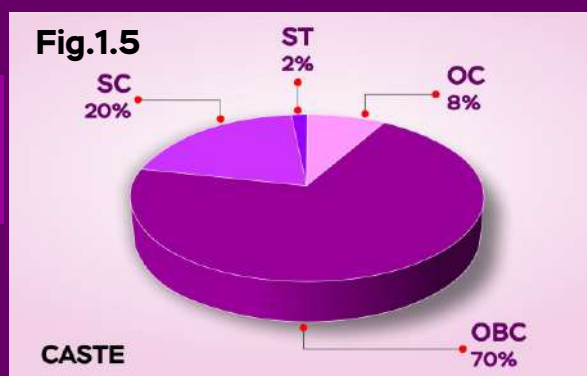


Fig.1.6 and Fig 1.7 shows the status of school attendance of the respondents and their respective grades. Of the 53% going to school (Fig. 1.6) 37% are in Middle school, 44% in Secondary/High and the rest in Senior Secondary (Fig. 1.7).

Fig 1.8 shows the reasons for discontinuing education among the respondents.

The major reason for discontinuation of education is family conditions.

Among other major reasons are financial conditions and lack of interest in studies.

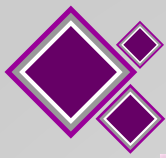
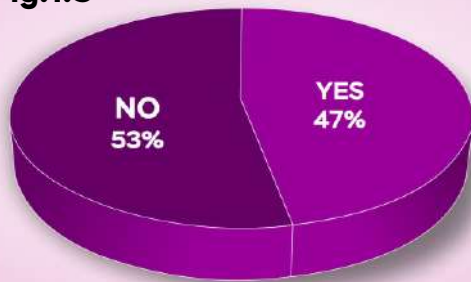


Fig.1.9



INVOLVEMENT IN WORK

47% said they are involved in different types of work or employment.

Fig. 1.10 shows the level of access to welfare schemes by the respondents. A total of 78% of the respondents have accessed at least one or most of the schemes related to education.

The remaining 22% were not going to school hence the schemes were not applicable to them.

WHERE DO THEY LIVE

WITH PARENTS	83%
WITH OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS	10%
HOSTEL	5%
WITH LEGAL GUARDIAN	2%

Fig.1.11

Mid day meals, books, shoes, uniforms	25%
Not applicable	22%
Books, shoe and uniform along with midday meal and fee reimbursement	15%
Mid day meals, books, shoes, uniform, vaccinations	10%
Private Schools	10%
All of the Above	6%
Mid day meal, fee reimbursement	6%
Only Scholarship	4%
Only Vaccination	2%

Fig.1.10

Fig. 1.11 shows with whom the respondents reside. 83% were found to live with their parents. Just 2% lived with their legal guardians.

Fig.1.12

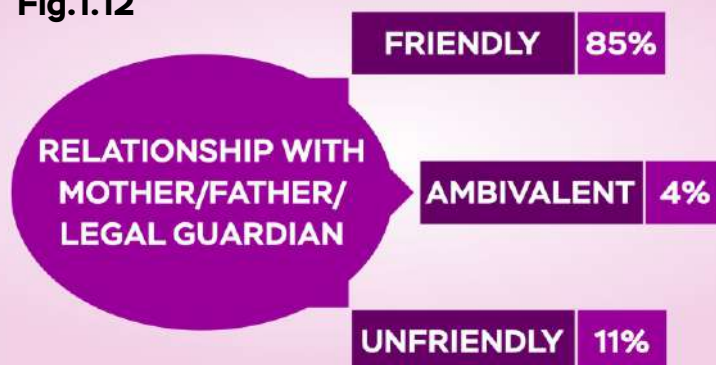
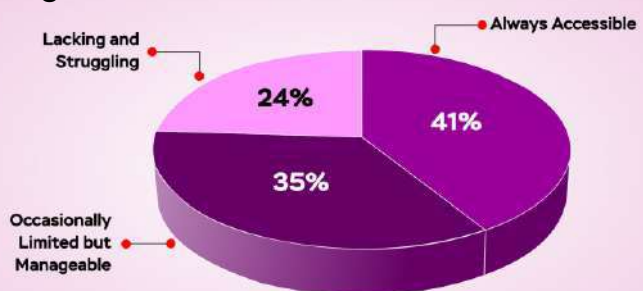


Fig. 1.12 demonstrates the depth of their current relationship with their parents and legal guardians. 11% of the respondents said that their relationship was not friendly.

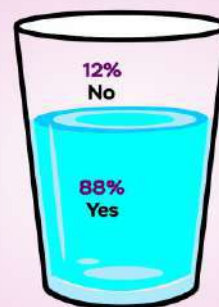


Fig.1.13



ACCESS TO FOOD, CLOTHING AND SHELTER AND FACED ANY CHALLENGES FOR BASIC NEEDS

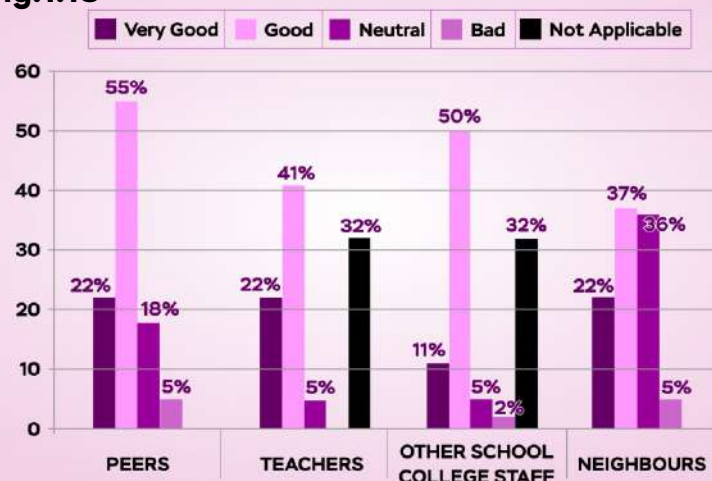
Fig.1.14



ACCESS TO CLEAN DRINKING WATER

Fig. 1.13 shows the ease or challenges of access to the basic needs. 41% said that the basic needs are always accessible whereas 24% said they faced challenges. Fig. 1.14 shows that 88% have access to clean drinking water.

Fig.1.15



BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS CHILDREN

Fig. 1.15 shows behaviour towards the respondents by different groups of people. In most of the cases behaviour towards them were found to be either very good or good. The Not Applicable category denotes respondents who are not going to school/college. As a result they do not have any interaction with teachers or college staff.

DIFFICULTIES IN LIFE

YES	20%
NO	80%

Fig.1.16

Fig. 1.16 Among the respondents 80% said they were not facing any difficulties in life. 20% however reported that they face difficulties.

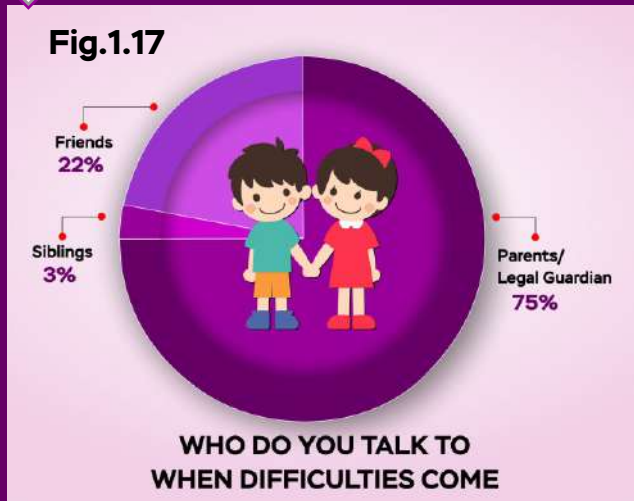
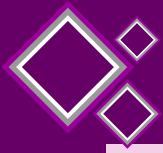


Fig. 1.17 shows to whom the respondents open up in difficult times. Three fourth said they resort to confiding to their parents.

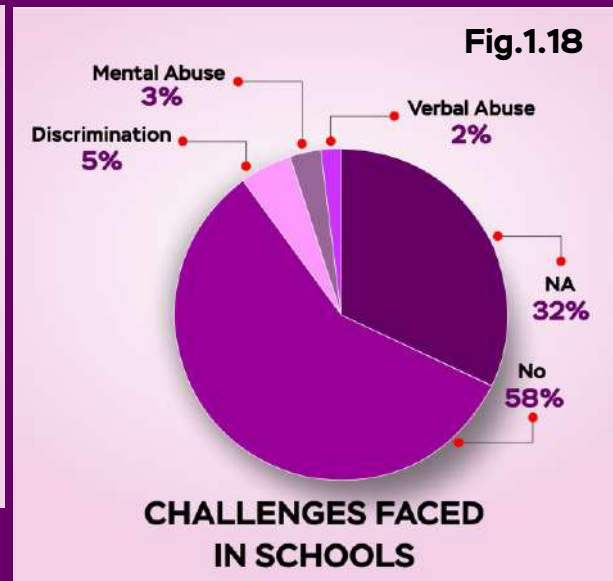


Fig. 1.18 shows 58% of the respondents do not face an challenge in schools. A total of 10% face discrimination and abuse. NA denotes those respondents who are not going to school, hence question of challenges faced in school does not arise.

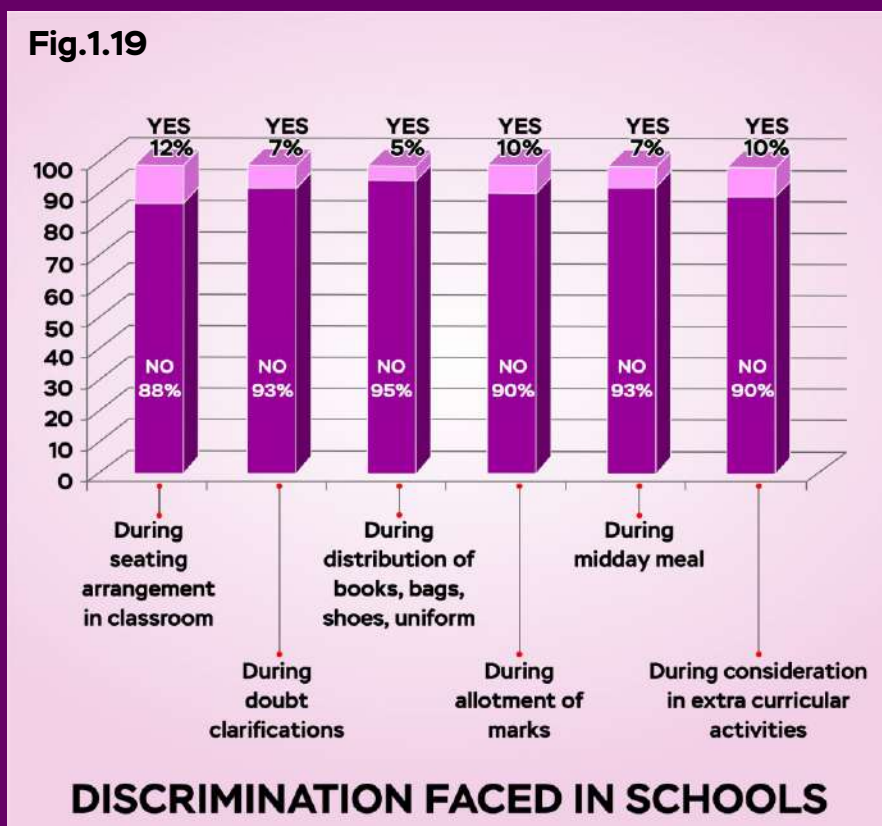


Fig. 1.17 shows what are the different situations in which they face discrimination. However most of them; over 60% said that they do not face any discrimination in all the situations mentioned.



Fig.1.20

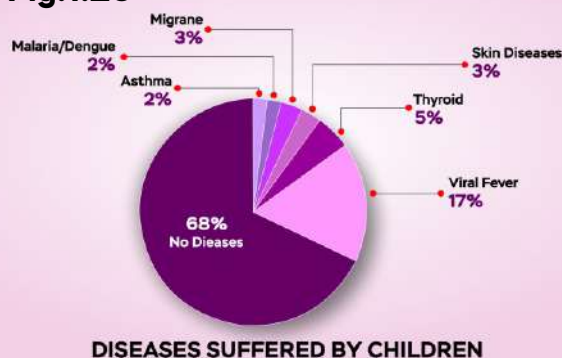


Fig.1.21

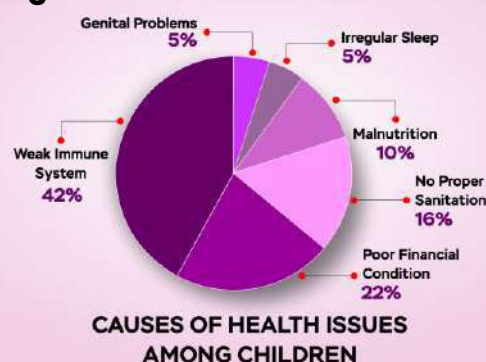


Fig. 1.20 shows the prevalence of different types of diseases the respondents suffer. 68% reported they do not suffer from any diseases. Fig 1.21 shows the root causes of these diseases. 42% of the respondents suffer diseases due to weak immune system.

Fig.1.22

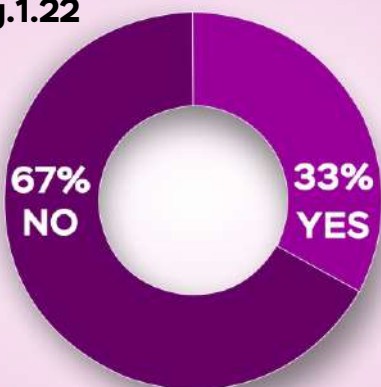


Fig.1.23

ALL 60 RESPONENTS OR 100% SAID THEY ARE NOT SUFFERING FROM STD

WHETHER SUFFERING FROM STD

67% of the respondents said that they have no knowledge about STD (Fig. 1.22). Whereas all the respondents said that they

are not suffering from any STDs (Fig. 1.23).

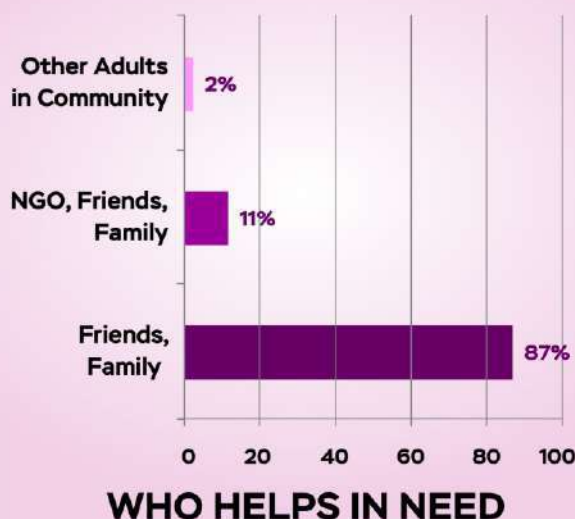
Fig.1.24



97% responded saying that they do not have any addictive habits (Fig. 1.24).

Fig. 1.25 shows who helps the respondents in times of need. 87% said it was family and friends.

Fig.1.25



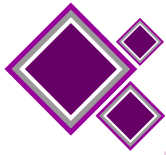
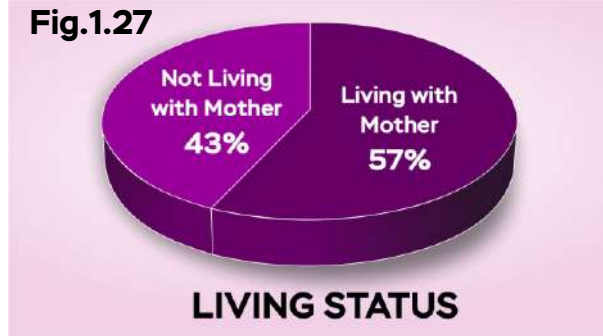


Fig.1.26



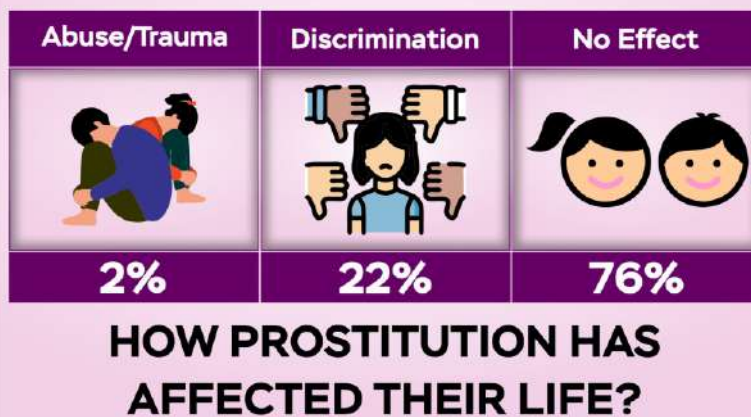
Fig.1.27



In matters of financial stability and access to resources 62% of the respondents said that they struggle occasionally and only 17% were financially stable (Fig.1.26).

Fig. 1.27 show the living status of the respondents, with 57% living with their mother.

Fig.1.28



76% says prostitution has not affected their lives. The rest suffered from abuse, trauma and discrimination (Fig. 1.28).

Fig.1.29

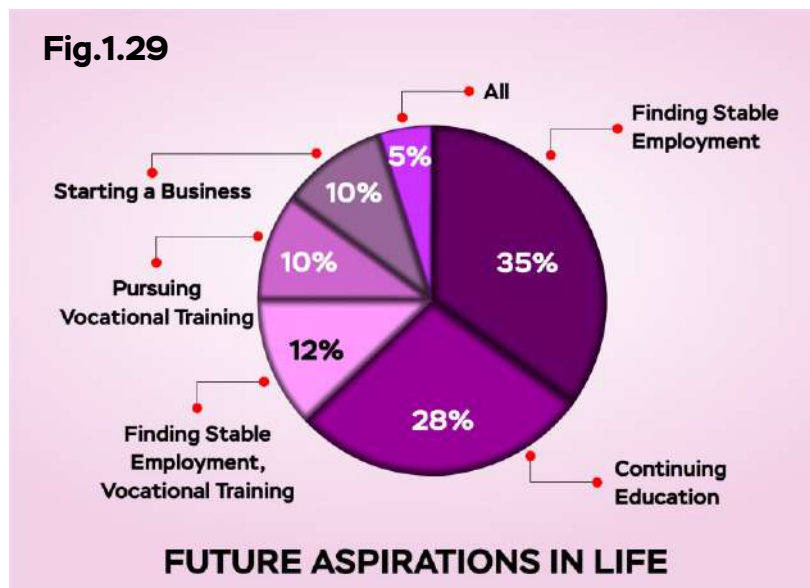


Fig. 1.29 shows the different aspirations the respondents expressed, the highest being finding a stable employment, which is at 35%.

The next highest response by 28% was to continue education.

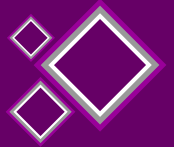


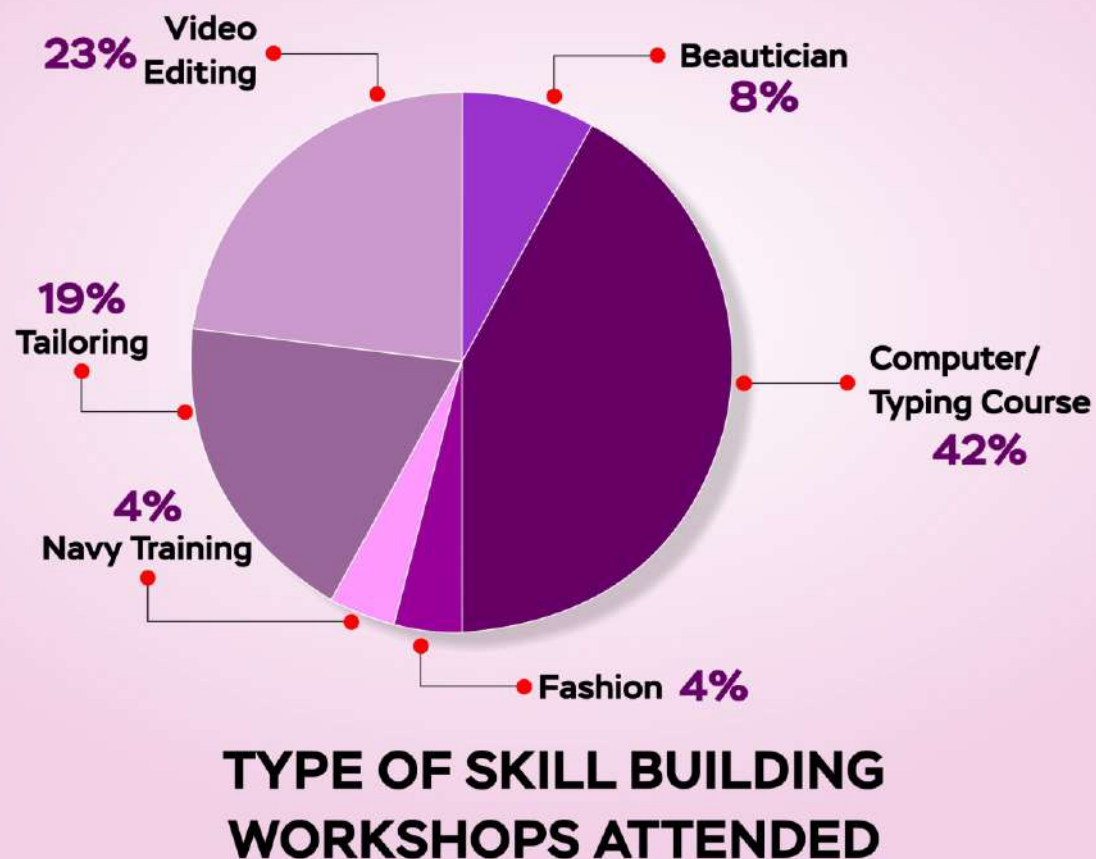
Fig.1.30

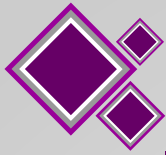


Fig. 1.30 shows that only 56% of the respondents attended any type of skill building workshop. The rest did not.

Among those who attended these skill building workshops 42% participated in computer and typing course and 23% attended video editing sessions. 19% took tailoring classes (Fig. 1.31)

Fig.1.31





2. Women in Commercial Sex Work/Mothers

Fig.2.1

20 Women	20 Women	20 Women
KRISHNA DISTRICT	GUNTUR DISTRICT	PALNADU DISTRICT
TOTAL 60 WOMEN WERE INTERVIEWED		

Total 60 women were interviewed in three districts (Fig. 2.1). Fig. 2.2 show the age band of the women who were interviewed. 68% of them belonged to the age group of 21-30 years.

Fig.2.2

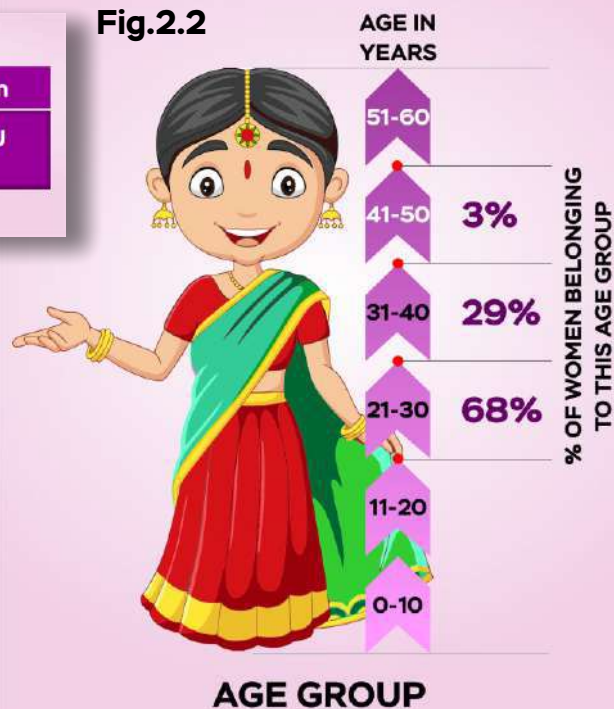
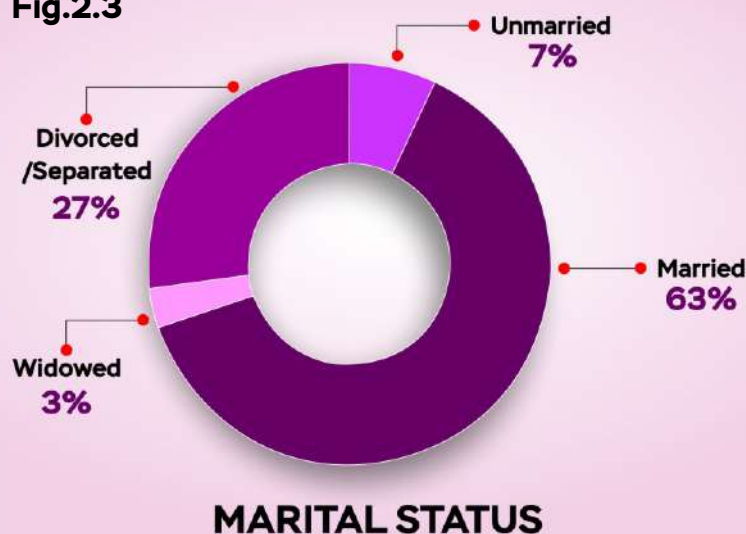


Fig.2.3



Of those interviewed 63% are married and 7% were unmarried. 30% were either divorced, separated or widowed (Fig.2.3)

Fig.2.4

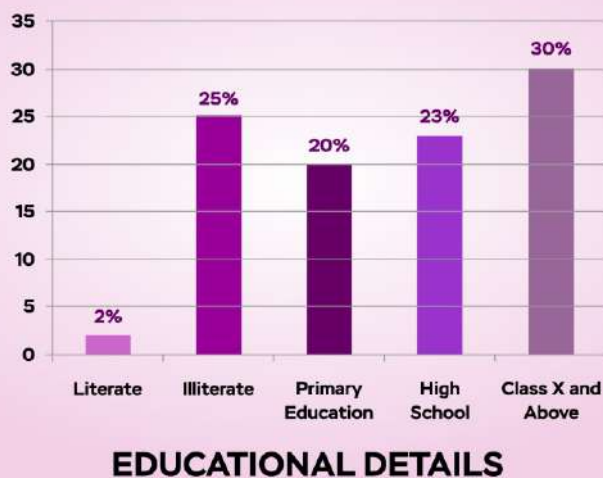
CHRISTIAN	HINDU	MUSLIM
+	ॐ	☾★
27%	63%	15%

RELIGION

63% of the respondents were Hindus, 27% Christians and 15% were Muslims (Fig. 2.4)



Fig. 2.5



30% of the respondents were educated up to Class X and above, whereas 2% were Literate. (Fig. 2.5)

Fig. 2.6

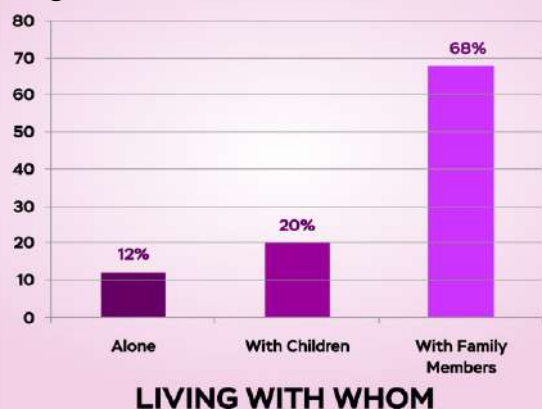


Fig. 2.6 shows the living status of the respondents. 68% said they live with their family members. 12% live alone.

Fig. 2.7

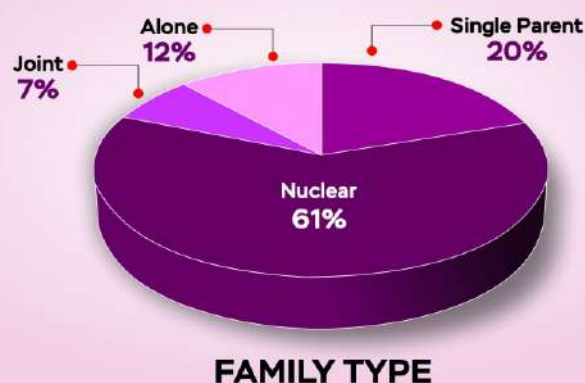


Fig. 2.7 shows the type of family they live with. 61% live in a nuclear family, 20% live as single parent and only 7% as joint family.

Fig. 2.8

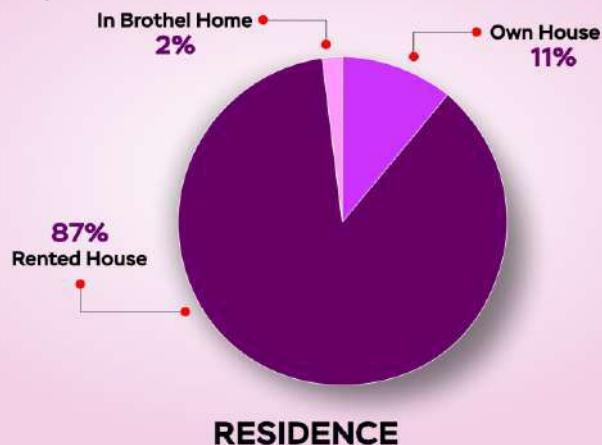
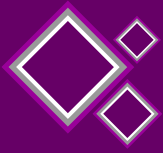


Fig. 2.7 shows the type of residence they live in. 87% live in rented house and just 11% live in their own house. 2% live in their brothel home.



83% of the respondents said that their earnings were not sufficient. Only 2% felt it was sufficient (Fig. 2.9)

Fig. 2.9



27% of the respondents said that they are involved only in sex work Whereas 73% were involved in other works too (Fig. 2.10).

Fig. 2.10



Fig. 2.11

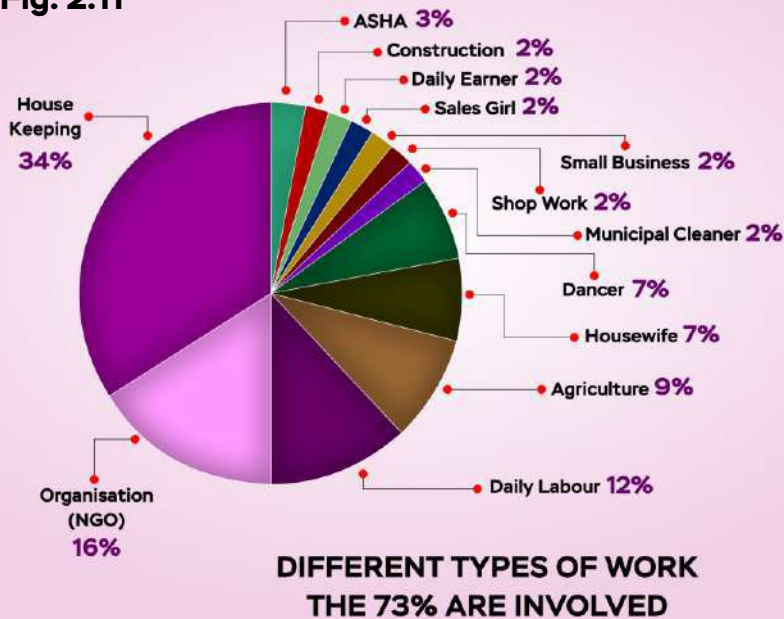


Fig. 2.11 shows the different types of works the 73% of the respondents were involved in. The highest number of them were involved in house keeping (34%). 16% were involved in NGO works. Other were involved in works like construction, daily labour, sale girls etc.



Fig. 2.12

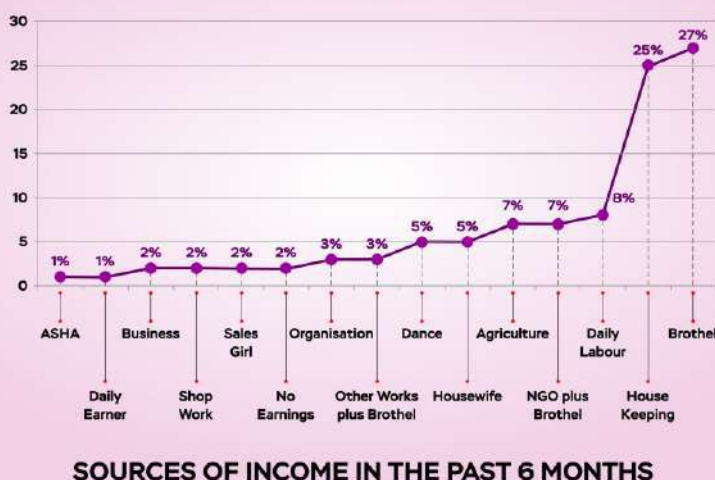
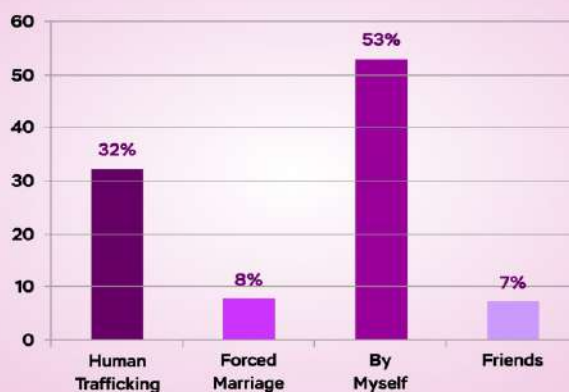


Fig. 2.12 shows the different sources of income of the respondents in the past 6 months. Brothel generated highest income for 27% of the respondents, next was house keeping at 25%.

53% of the respondents said that they entered into prostitution on their own. 32% were forced due to trafficking. 7% said that it was their friends who brought them in the profession. 8% entered by way of forced marriage (Fig. 2.13)

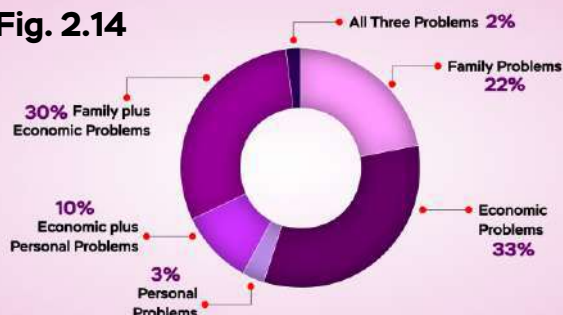
Fig. 2.13



HOW DID YOU ENTER PROSTITUTION?

Fig. 2.14 show the main reason behind taking up prostitution as a profession. Economic problems stood highest with 33% respondents saying that it was the main reason. 22% said family problems was behind their decision.

Fig. 2.14



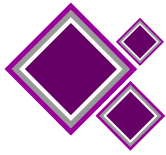
THE MAIN REASONS BEHIND THEIR DECISION TO ENGAGE IN PROSTITUTION

Fig. 2.15

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ABUSED?

YES	50%
NO	50%

Half of the 60 respondents said that they were abused. The other half said they were not abused ever (Fig. 2.15).



Amongst those respondents who said they were abused, 53% said they were abused by the client
3% said they were abused by clients, brothel owners and pimps (Fig. 2.16).

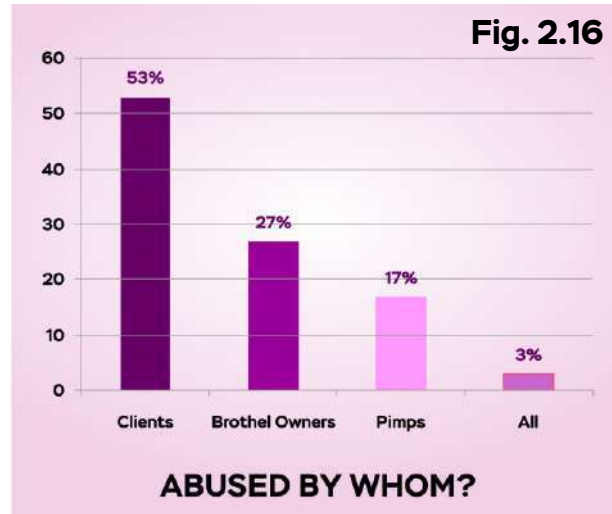
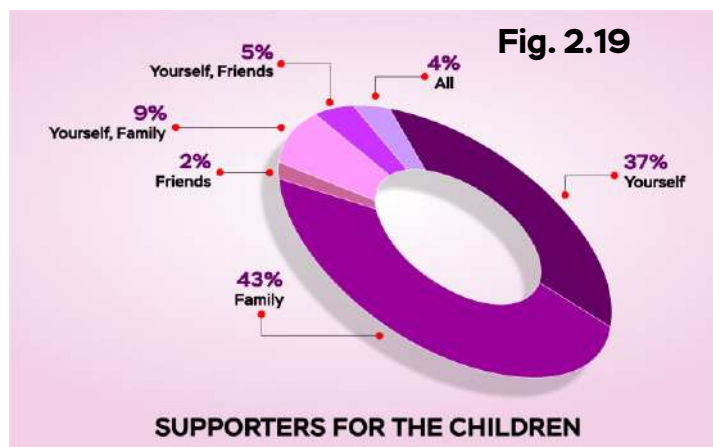
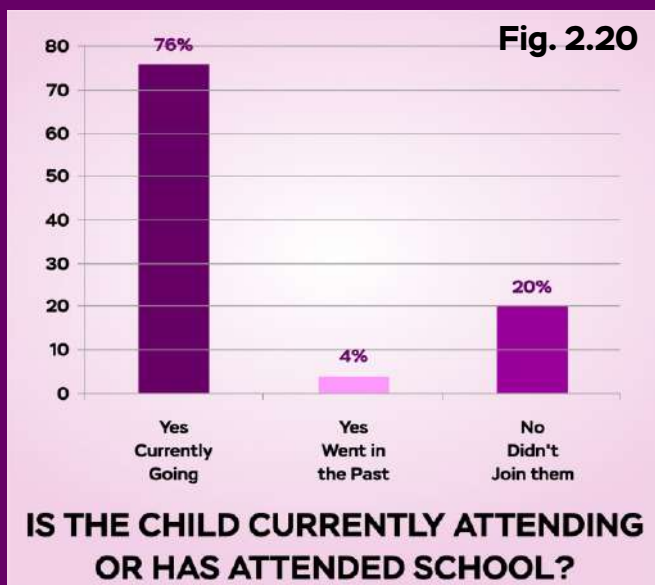


Fig. 2.17 show how the respondents dealt with the abuse. Majority (40%) dealt it with the help of their co-workers. 27% dealt it on their own by using their self defense.

97% respondents said that their children does not know that they are involved in prostitution (Fig. 2.18).

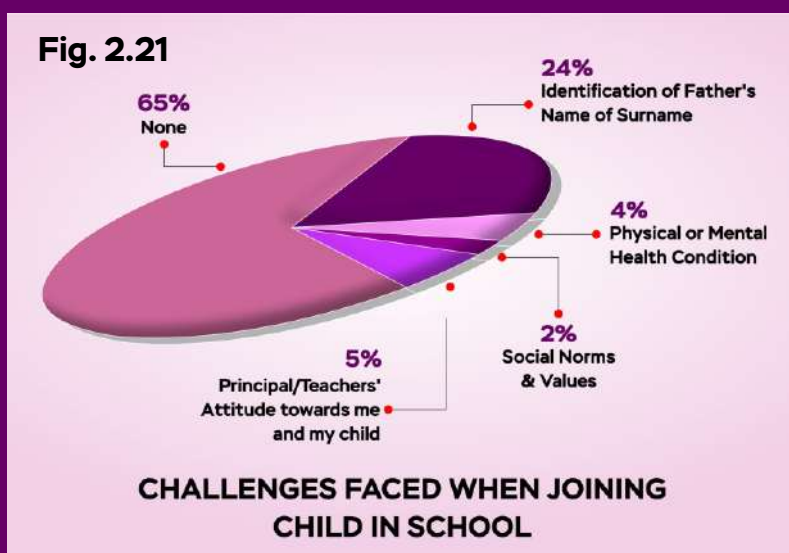


43% respondents said that the main supporter for their children is the family. 37% said it is they themselves (Fig. 2.19).



76% of the respondents said that their children are going to school. 4% went to school in past and 20% did not join school (Fig. 2.20).

Most (65%) of the respondents said that their children did not face any challenges while joining school. However 24% had problems with identification of father's name and surname (Fig. 2.21).



89% of the respondents said that their children did not face any physical or mental abuse. 11% faced such abuse in different places.

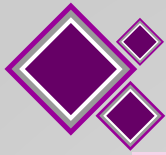


Fig. 2.23

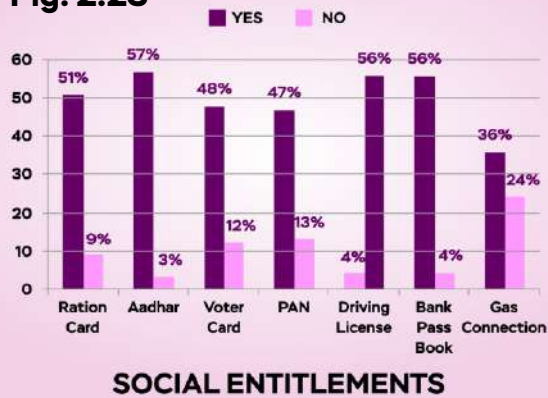
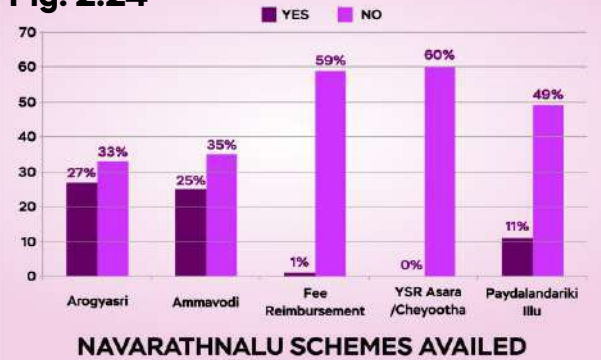
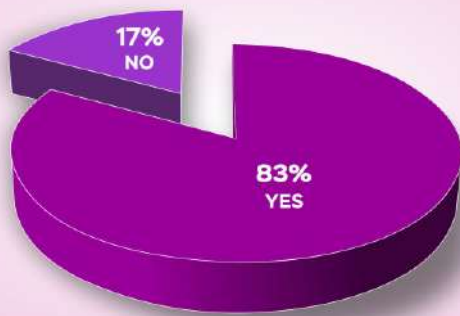


Fig. 2.24



The Fig. 2.23 shows the number of respondents who have ID cards for availing social entitlements. Fig. 2.24 shows the degree to which the respondents availed Navarathnalu schemes.

Fig. 2.25



ACCESS TO CLEAN DRINKING WATER

Fig. 2.26

Scarcity of Water	40%
No Regular Timing	60%

REASONS FOR NO ACCESS OF WATER

83% respondents said they have access to clean drinking water (Fig. 2.25).

Fig. 2.26 shows, out of 17% who said that they did not have access to clean water elaborated the reason for the same with 60% saying there is no regular timing for water.

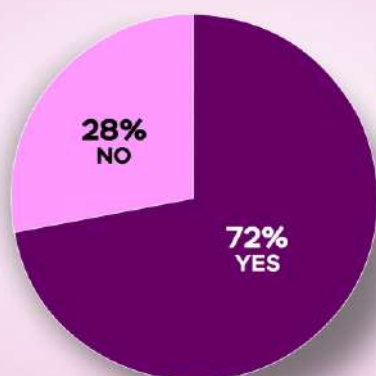
Fig. 2.27



81% of the respondents said that they do not have any bad habits. The rest 19% is addicted to some habits like alcohol, drugs, gutka and smoking (Fig. 2.27).



Fig. 2.28



KNOWLEDGE ABOUT STDs

Fig. 2.29



ARE YOUR CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM STD

Fig. 2.28 shows awareness on STD with 72% saying they have knowledge about it. 98% respondents said their children are not suffering from STDs (Fig. 2.29)

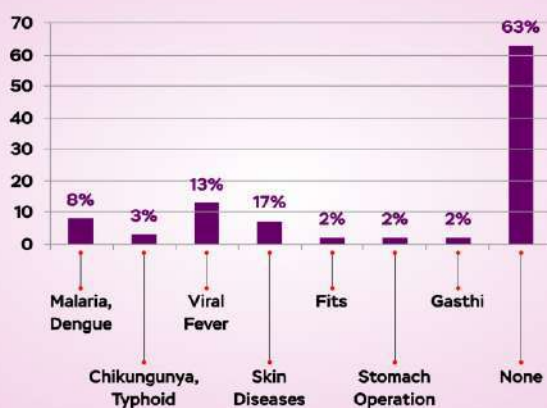
93% of the respondents said that they are not suffering from any STDs. 7% said they are suffering (Fig. 2.30).

Fig. 2.30



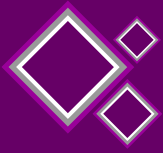
SUFFERING FROM STDs

Fig. 2.31



HAVE YOU SUFFERED/ ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

Fig. 2.31 shows the different types of ailments the respondents are suffering or have suffered. However 63% said that they are not suffering from any ailments.



5. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Introduction

Findings underscored the urgent need for intervention. Collaboration between government, NGOs, and civil society is imperative to integrate these children into mainstream society, as revealed by the field study's discussion. Addressing their issues requires concerted efforts from all stakeholders.

Observations

1. The study findings indicate that 37% of children are not attending school, while 10% have completed 10th grade and discontinued their education.
2. Among children going to school, 44% are in grades 8-10, emphasizing the importance of focusing on this group for further education.
3. Reasons for non-attendance or discontinuation varied: 37% cited family problems, 21% financial issues, 16% disinterest, 11% Aadhar-related problems (problems with father's name), 5% health issues, 5% societal discrimination, and 5% documentation issues.
4. Approximately 47% of respondents (children) are working, with some balancing work and school. Jobs include shop keeping, labor, electrician work, cable network jobs, painting, and mechanical work.
5. An overwhelming 83% of respondents live with their parents, potentially exposing them to their mothers' profession, which could have psychological effects.
6. Regarding parent-child relationships, 11% reported unfriendly relations, and 4% described ambivalent ties, indicating potential mental health impacts. Counseling for families is recommended.
7. Regarding basic needs, 35% occasionally struggle with food, clothing, and shelter, while 24% lack these necessities, highlighting concerns for their well-being.
8. Observations on significant others' behavior revealed neutral interactions with peers (18%), teachers (5%), and neighbors (36%), necessitating sensitization for better personality development.
9. Difficulties in life affected 20% of children, hindering their personality development.
10. Stigma and discrimination were faced by 5%. Another 3% experienced mental abuse and 2% verbal abuse. Half sought support from family or friends, while others dealt with abuse independently.
11. Regarding discrimination in school, 8% faced seating arrangement issues, 7% marking allocation problems, and 7% extracurricular activity considerations, among other issues.
12. Health issues affected 32% of respondents, including viral fever (17%), thyroid problems (5%), and others, often due to weak immune systems, poor sanitation, or malnutrition.
13. Awareness programs on STDs, STIs, HIV, and AIDS are essential, as 67% lacked knowledge about STDs.



14. Three percent admitted to smoking, indicating the need for intervention in harmful habits.
15. Financial stability was a concern for 62%, with 21% facing financial difficulties.
16. Psychological aspects were significant, with 10% facing discrimination and 2% experiencing abuse or trauma due to their mother's profession. These findings highlight the need for comprehensive support and intervention strategies for the well-being of these vulnerable children.

Recommendations

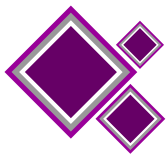
The recommendations made here are based on consultation with the respondents; namely the children and the mothers.

A. Education and Skill Development

1. Investing in residential educational facilities is imperative for children of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution to break free from traditional practices.
2. Programs must be developed to offer educational opportunities for those who have discontinued schooling, especially considering the vulnerability of 15-16-year-olds.
3. Strategies are needed to prevent children, regardless of caste, from entering the same profession as their families.
4. Vocational training should be provided alongside the standard curriculum to empower older children for self-sustainability.
5. Collaboration with NGOs, businesses, and educational institutions is essential to create inclusive learning environments. It may be mentioned here that one of the developmental agendas of VIMUKTHI is socio-economic empowerment through small scale livelihoods/petty businesses. Hence, such collaborations would help them.
6. Additionally, specific educational programs and scholarships should target children affected by their mothers' profession.
7. Sensitizing teachers to the needs of these children can foster inclusivity in schools, encouraging their integration.
8. Entrepreneurship opportunities should be promoted to deter involvement in prostitution, especially among girls who have completed their education. These measures aim to uplift and integrate children from stigmatized backgrounds into mainstream society, fostering their holistic development.

B. Access to Government Welfare Schemes

1. Regular awareness campaigns are crucial for children, ensuring they benefit from Government Welfare Schemes like Navaratnalu.
2. Ensuring equal educational opportunities for children of women involved in prostitution requires the support of teachers and effective enforcement of RTE.
3. State schemes should prioritize these children, ensuring they receive the benefits.
4. Networking among stakeholders, including NGOs, PRI Members, and teachers, is



essential for accessing these schemes.

5. Mission Vatsalya, a sponsorship program, should prioritize these vulnerable children, acknowledging their circumstances.

C. Awareness about Legal Rights and Protection

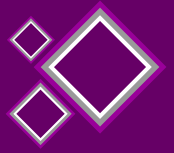
1. Increase awareness among children of victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution regarding their legal rights, including the Right to Education and protection under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.
2. Achieving equal education requires active involvement from teachers and academics alongside proper law implementation.
3. Encourage participation, of the women in prostitution in decision-making to ensure interventions' effectiveness and relevance, empowering them to positively impact their children's welfare.
4. Conduct stigma-reduction campaigns for victims and their children. Sensitise law enforcement, community members, healthcare providers, teachers, and the public to the rights and challenges faced by these individuals, fostering understanding and empathy towards their circumstances.

D. Healthcare Services

1. Ensure accessible and unbiased healthcare services, including counseling, to address the mental health concerns of children of victims of commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution.
2. Promote safe sex practices and STI prevention through education.
3. Strengthen health services by providing special cards and priority access to schemes like Arogyasri through APSACS.
4. Implement vaccination programs and collaborate with local organizations to address malnutrition and related health issues, catering to both school-going and non-attending children.
5. Facilitate regular health check-ups and vaccinations for all affected children, and establish mobile health clinics for broader accessibility.
6. Educate on preventive measures and healthy living for improved health outcomes.
7. The APSACS/NACO-HIV interventions should be in convergence with other programmes from other departments like education, nutrition, health, child development, skills etc.

E. Community Support Centers

1. Establish community centers for women to address their concerns regarding societal stigma, children's education, and access to government social welfare schemes. These centers should be closely linked with ASHA and Anganwadi workers to promote a healthy lifestyle for both mothers and children.



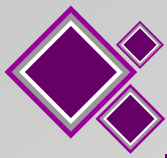
2. Address stigma and discrimination, particularly targeting adolescent girls, considering their vulnerability.
3. Incorporate childcare services to assist parents impacted by commercial sexual exploitation/women in prostitution.

F. Child Protection Services

1. A fraction of children from families involved in commercial sexual exploitation reside in hostels, highlighting the need for dedicated hostel reservations to enhance their holistic development, encompassing education, safety, and overall welfare.
2. Ensuring the rights and welfare of these children, along with establishing helplines for reporting abuse or exploitation.
3. Collaboration with child welfare agencies is essential to guarantee their protection and proper care.
4. There is a need for proper investigation by police to check whether the children are also engaged in the family trade.

Conclusion

Implementing these recommendations can significantly improve the lives of victims and children of commercial sexual exploitation in Andhra Pradesh, providing them with brighter prospects and enhanced security. Given the absence of dedicated welfare schemes for such children in Andhra Pradesh, akin to those in Maharashtra and West Bengal, it's imperative for the state government to initiate similar measures. This will ensure the comprehensive development of children, deterring them from entering the same profession as their mothers and fostering a more fulfilling life.



CASE STUDIES

1. P. Adi Lakshmi (Name Changed)

P. Adi Lakshmi, is a 15 year old SC girl. She along with her father, mother and a younger sister is living in Ranigari Thotta at Vijayawada region. Her father works as contractual employee at housing development department. Her sister is studying at a local private school in class 9.

Her mother is engaged in brothel activities, besides doing other odd jobs to earn for the family. "She is hard working and very friendly in nature," says Adi Lakshmi. But because of her mother's association with the brothel, they face painful situations in the community. Adi Lakshmi studied till class X and wants to study higher, but she is afraid, their poor financial condition may not support that. She

narrates how during her school days she would be subject of discrimination in different activities of the school, due to her mother's involvement in prostitution. Since her father is a contractual employee, their family does not enjoy any benefits government employee do.

Adi Lakshmi aspires to be a professional in medical services. If that's not possible then she wants to be in police force.

She has two wishes. First, she wants her family's financial condition to improve and second, her mother comes out of the prostitution work.

2. Ch. Pavan (Name Changed)

14 year old Ch. Pavan hails from Chilakaluripeta of Palnadu District. He lives with his sister, mother and grandmother in a rented house.

Pavan's mother is divorced and is involved in prostitution. "My mother does not show interest in me," says Pavan, "it is my grandmother who looks after me and my sister."

Pavan dropped out of school after Class V and currently works in a grocery shop. "I could not continue my studies, since my mother did not provide support," he says. He wishes he could complete his class X.

Pavan aspires to earn a lot of money and improve his and his family's living conditions.

3. D. Anand Kumar (Name Changed)

D. Anand Kumar lives in rented house at Varadhi colony in Vijayawada city with his father, mother and 8 year old brother. 15 year old Anand studies in class 9 at a local school. His parents go out to work early morning and return in the evening. His father is an Auto driver and mother works in house keeping. But his mother is very caring and spends lot of time in the family.

Anand is in good health condition and does not face any major challenges in life. He is good in sports and dance and has a habit of reading too.

His parents provide the family with whatever support needed, yet he admits that their financial condition is not good. The house they stay in becomes very difficult to live in rainy season, due to poor maintenance by the owner.

Anand aspires to be dance choreographer and work in the film industry. But that's in future. In the meantime he wants to study well and get a decent job so that he can uplift the condition of his family. "Then I will set out to fulfill my dream," he says.



4. Devi Venkat Shiva Nag (Name Changed)

Devi Venkat Shiva Nag, a 14 year old boy lives with his mother in rented home at Guntur City. His mother, Lavanya, works in HELP organisation and also runs a small business of pickle and homemade food items. Lavanya separated from her husband 12 years ago. So Shiva Nag lives with her mother alone.

Shiva Nag dropped out of school after class VII and enjoyed that time. But now he is working in air conditioner repair shop and loves to play cricket and has a hobby of photo editing.

He loves his mother very much and his mother too provides him with all the guidance needed. Shiva Nag wants to start a Net business and want to take up family responsibilities alongside his mother. But to start a business he needs money. "Financial problem is the biggest barrier," he says, "but I will save and make my dream come true."

5. P. Vijay Swapna (Name Changed)

P. Vijay Swapna, a 15 years old girl from the OBC community lives with her brother and mother in a rented house at Narasaraopeta of Palnadu district. Her mother is a widow and works in function hall. She looks after them and takes very good care of them too.

Swapna studies in class VIII in a government school and has a very pleasant social life in the community. She is interest in NCC and

playing Kho-Kho. She is also receiving Amma Vodi and Mid-day meal too at school.

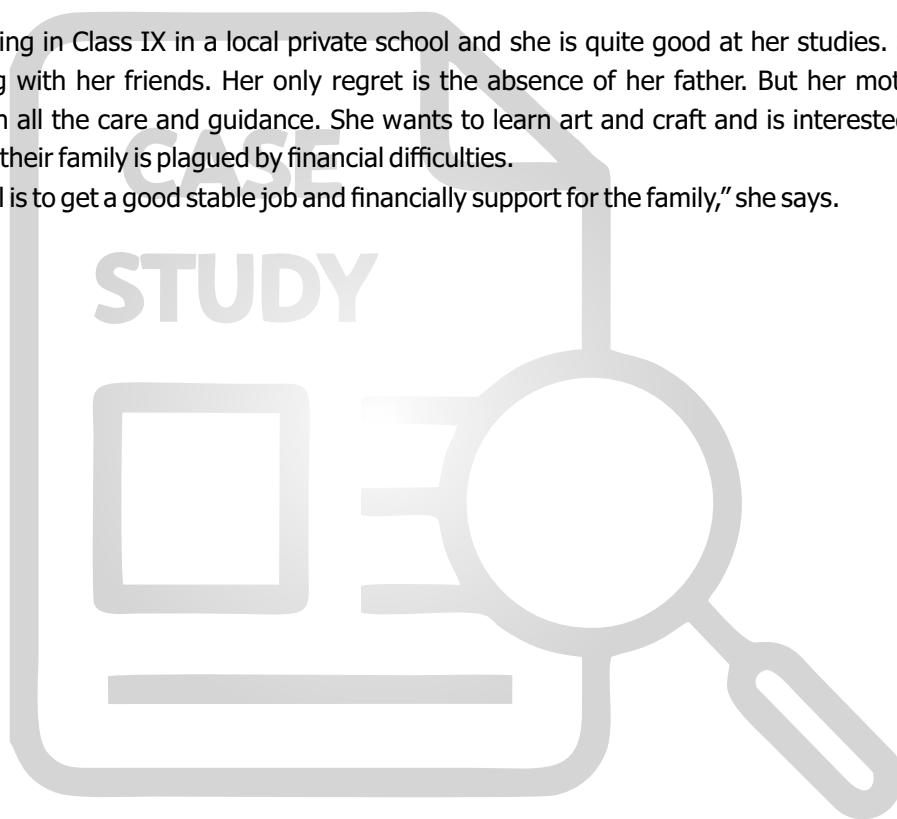
She aspires to become a Police Inspector but they have their financial struggles in their family. "I want to study hard and get scholarships by which I will not be burden to my mother," she says.

6. Sanjitha (Name Changed)

15 year old Sanjitha is from the OBC community and lives in a rented house with her mother, elder brother and grandparents in Hayath Nagar at Tenali town. Her mother, Swathi is separated from her husband and functions as the guardian of the family. She works as a daily labor and in housekeeping.

Sanjitha is studying in Class IX in a local private school and she is quite good at her studies. She enjoyed studying with her friends. Her only regret is the absence of her father. But her mother provides her with all the care and guidance. She wants to learn art and craft and is interested in painting too. But their family is plagued by financial difficulties.

"My ultimate goal is to get a good stable job and financially support for the family," she says.



Society for HELP Entire Lower and rural People (HELP) is an award-winning developmental organization committed to the protection of women and children from violence, sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking. Started by a group of service-minded professionals in 1994, HELP has been recognized as an important policy influencing organizations in the country. HELP envisions a stigma free society for survivors of trafficking and victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (women in prostitution) where they could be able to access and enjoy their rights and entitlements. Strengthening accountability of the criminal justices system to survivors of human trafficking including efficient investigation by the police and prosecution of traffickers in source and destination areas by the court of law in protecting survivors rights to rehabilitation and Elimination of all forms of violence and discrimination against survivors of human trafficking in families, communities, institutions.



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