



A Study on Sexual Exploitation of Child and Reason behind it in India

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ABSTRACT-

The purpose of this research is to know about child sexual exploitation and its reason in India. The underlying causes of child sexual exploitation are poverty, inequality between women and men, high population growth and migration. Victims are predominantly, women and children with lower socio-economic status. When a child or young person is exploited they're given things, like gifts, drugs, money, status and affection, in exchange for performing sexual activities. This ruthless exploitation of children can be found throughout the world. Children, mainly between the ages of 6 to 14 years, are trapped in a vicious battle between large impoverished families who are dependent on their support, and a society that ruthlessly exploits them. In line with the trend in increasing child exploitation, there is, also, increasing exploitation of children for the purposes of child sex tourism. The public were very much aware about child sexual exploitation and the reason behind it in Indian society were the people also suggests some of the ways to eradicate child sexual exploitation providing punishment, Spreading awareness, Educating the warning signs to the children. The researcher also wants to know about the causes of child sexual exploitation and its impact in society. Keywords: Child Sexual Exploitation, Children, Reasons, Age, Prevention.

INTRODUCTION:

Sexual exploitation of children is a fundamental violation of children's rights. The child is treated as a sexual object and as a commercial object. The sexual exploitation of children constitutes a form of coercion and violence against children, and amounts to forced labour and a contemporary form of slavery. Child sexual exploitation is a type of sexual abuse. When a child or young person is exploited they're given things, like gifts, drugs, money, status and affection, in exchange for performing sexual activities. In India, only 3 % of Child Sexual Abuse related offenses were reported to the police. It happened because of the social stigma associated with such abuse, the criminal justice system consistently fails to adequately address the needs of children who have experienced sexual assault. Child sexual exploitation is a serious and persistent global issue affecting up to 5% of the child and youth population worldwide; yet there is no universally accepted definition. Key findings demonstrate that CSE nomenclature is widely inconsistent, and despite growing awareness under 18 with Asia alone accounting for 24% of this severe form of abuse, language continues to perpetuate stigma and criminalisation, utilising terms such as 'adolescent or child prostitute'. Government initiatives: In 1992, when India ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, it pledged to safeguard its children from all types of sexual exploitation and abuse. The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 was amended by the Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Act, 1983, which added section 114(A). POCSO Act 2012, Creation of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Integrated Child Protection Scheme. Factors affecting: Domestic Abuse, Misunderstanding Boundaries, Neglect, Poor Communication, loneliness, Stressful Home Environment.

Current trends: India is home to over 19% of the world's children or 42% (more than one-third) of India's total population. Among them approx 50% of these children are in need of protection and care. As per the latest census of 2011, the total child population in India is 4441.5 lakhs. As per the NCRB data, in 2020, a total of 28.9% of the total child population faces some kind of crime against them but only 65.6% of the total crime committed is reported. Comparison: Africa and Asia are among the regions with the highest rates of child sexual abuse (CSA) in the world. They also share the highest proportion of children of children under 14 years of age and about 41% of the African population are under the age of 15. The Aim of the paper is to study about the reason of child sexual exploitation in India.

Sexual exploitation can take many forms including these examples:

- Child sex trafficking/the prostitution of children;
- Child sex tourism involving commercial sexual activity;
- Commercial production of child pornography;
- Online transmission of live video of a child engaged in sexual activity in exchange for anything of value.

Sexual exploitation in tourism places:

Tourism is one of the most important industries in the world and in several developing countries the only industry. Tourism has become an important development and business opportunity for most countries around the world and is constantly growing. Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse in which a person(s), of any age takes advantage of a power imbalance to force or entice a child into engaging in sexual activity in return for something received by the child and/or those international children in these two places are also engaged as child labour, forced to drop out perpetrating or facilitating the abuse. The sexual exploitation of children is a fundamental violation of children's rights. The child is treated as a sexual object and as a commercial object. The sexual exploitation of children constitutes a form of coercion and violence against children, and amounts to forced labour and a contemporary form of slavery. Child Sex Tourism is part of the global phenomenon of commercial sexual exploitation of children. It involves the sexual abuse exploitation of both male and female children, usually but not always, in tourism destinations. The victims of child sex tourism are children who come from poor socio-economic areas, and many of them come from ethnic minorities. The victims are both girls and boys with low levels of education, most come from neglected families where physical and psychological violence is present.

Factors affecting: Poverty, Dysfunctional family background, Migration or unemployment, Illiteracy or out of school children.

Current trends: Sexual exploitation of children by tourists in India is commonly associated with states like Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Goa. The study, titled 'Exploitation of children in tourism Child sexual abuse and child labour in tourism in MP', The study said that apart from sexual abuse by tourists both domestic and of school, face physical violence, are pushed into criminal activities and forced to beg.

OBJECTIVES:

- *To Provide a comprehensive overview of the current situation of the sexual exploitation of child.
- *To examine the government initiatives, roles and responsibilities to protect Child.
- *To analyse the causes and effects of child sexual exploitation
- *To know about child sexual exploitation
- *To analyse the reason behind it in India

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Child sexual exploitation is a serious and persistent global issue affecting up to 5% of the child and youth population worldwide; yet there is no universally accepted definition. Key findings demonstrate that CSE nomenclature is widely inconsistent, and despite growing awareness of this severe form of abuse, language continues to perpetuate stigma and criminalisation, utilising terms such as 'adolescent or child prostitute'. Beckett and Pearce(2017). The sexual abuse and exploitation of children rob the victims of their childhood, irrevocably interfering with specific circumstances, CSEC may also occur in the context of internet-based marriage brokering, early marriage, and children performing in sexual venues Hanson(2019). The Sexual emotional and psychological development. Ensuring that all children come of age without being impacted by sexual trauma or exploitation is more than a criminal justice issue, it is a societal issue Bernard(2019). Child sexual exploitation is a form of sexual abuse where offenders use their power, (physical, financial or emotional) over a child or young person, or a false identity, to sexually or emotionally abuse them Caffo(2021). Adolescents, even those who can legally consent to have sex, can be victims of abuse where their experience of sexual activity occurs in situations characterised by exchange, a power differential and/or an absence of freely given, informed consent Coleman(2019). Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse in which a person(s), of any age takes advantage of a power imbalance to force or entice a child into engaging in sexual activity in return for something received by the child and/or those perpetrating or facilitating the abuse Drejer et al.(2023). This paper reviews the literature on the nature and incidence of child sexual abuse, explores the link between child sexual abuse and later sexual exploitation, and reviews the literature on prevention strategies and effective interventions in child sexual abuse services Hallett(2017). The threat of child sexual exploitation remains very real, and can occur in the home, on the street, over the Internet, or overseas. Depending on the

Offences (Scotland) Act 2009 also includes a range of sexual offences that can be used to protect young people after they turn 18 where sexual activity is non-consensual, through force or incapacity for example [Hickle\(2019\)](#). Any child under the age of 18 can experience CSE. While younger children can also experience CSE, this form of abuse is most frequently documented amongst those of a post-primary age, with the average age at which concerns are first identified being 12-15 years of age [Luxmoore\(2019\)](#). Child or young person has been or is being sexually exploited, the NSPCC recommends that you do not confront the alleged abuser. Confronting them may place the child in greater physical danger and may give the abuser time to confuse or threaten them into silence. Instead, seek professional advice [Mariaca Pacheco et al.\(2022\)](#). Poverty, classism, racism, social isolation, marginalisation, peer pressure, past abuse and trauma, sex-based discrimination, mental health issues, neurological and developmental disorders, systemic gaps, inaccessible services and other social and financial inequalities are the causes of child sexual exploitation [McAlinden\(2018\)](#). Any child or young person can be a victim of sexual exploitation, but children are believed to be at greater risk of being sexually exploited if they are;homeless,have feelings of low self-esteem,have had a recent bereavement or loss, are in care,are a young carer Meza et al.(2023). People often think of child sexual exploitation in terms of serious organised crime, but it also covers domestic violence and abuse and some children are "groomed" through "boyfriends" who then force the child or young person into having sex with friends or associates Nodzinski and Davis(2023). Young males also experience CSE, although their abuse can more often be overlooked. The same identification challenges can be observed in relation to black and minority ethnic children, disabled children and

those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex Pearce(2019). Sexual exploitation happens to children of any age, background, socio-economic status, gender, sexual orientation and vulnerability. Offenders can be from an ethnic background; they can be women, men or other young people Pearce and Jenny(2019). The findings propose a scientifically and trauma-informed definition and conceptualisation of child sexual exploitation, based on the following four-dimensional components: A child/young person; sexual acts; abuse; and exploitation (abuse + exchange) Pearce and Beckett(2018). Each year in England thousands of children and young people are raped or sexually abused. This includes sexual exploitation of children and various sexual abuses that frequently occur in India.

Exploitation refers to any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, perpetrated by aid workers against the children and families they serve Phoenix(2019). Survivors of child sexual abuse are more likely to have multiple sex partners, become pregnant as teenagers, and experience sexual assault as adults. Prevention strategies for child sexual abuse are examined including media campaigns, school-based prevention programmes, and therapy with abusers “Some Psychodynamic Understandings of Child Sexual Exploitation”(2019). The Department of Health and Social Care, together with young people’s charity Brook, has produced an online course called Combating CSE, to help health professionals identify children who are at risk of sexual abuse or who have been sexually abused Trinidad(2022).

METHODOLOGY:

This research method followed here is non empirical research. Samples have been taken through various sources of data and various sources of books, articles, research papers etc. The dependent variables are the impact of sexual exploitation, major reasons for the

2. Bernard, Claudia. “Using an Intersectional Lens to Examine the Child Sexual Exploitation of Black Adolescents.” *Child Sexual Exploitation: Why Theory Matters* The statistical tools used by the researcher is graphical representation like pie charts and bar charts.

CONCLUSION:

From the result it is evident that the child sexual exploitation are increasing nowadays which causes an impact in the society. Most of them in the society agreed that the child between the age of 12-15 years are most likely to be a victim of child sexual exploitation. The general public were also suggested some of the ways to eradicate child sexual exploitation in Modern India that is spreading awareness, Educating the warning signs, Enhancing accountability in investigations. The suggestion from the research is that even though there is an particular law which dealt with child sexual exploitation is an offence and which was punishable with imprisonment it was still prevailing in the society and the people lost the faith on laws and justice hence the new law to be enacted to curb the offences with regards to child sexual offences.

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