

## Determinants leading children to street : A case study approach

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■ **ABSTRACT** : The paper aimed to determine the causative factors leading children to street and to investigate their daily life experiences. The study was based upon 160 street children (9-12 years) equally distributed over gender. Data were collected by administering a self-structured 'Interview schedule' for in-depth understanding of their daily life experiences. The sample was selected from various crowded places viz., railway station, bus depots, traffic lights, markets places, temples, etc. using a snowball sampling technique. One of the criteria for sample selection was that the street children should be home based. The reasons for being a street child are varied and sometimes a mix of the 'push and pull' factors. The children were experiencing different forms of abuse and neglect in varying frequencies and intensities from their parents and police personnel. Based on their daily life experiences, seven children who were experiencing such type of abuses in higher intensities were taken up for in-depth understanding of their daily life experiences. The analysis of the study indicated that majority of the children came to street seeing the prospect of income to help in the family finances as being insisted upon by their parents.

■ **KEY WORDS**: Abuse, Causal factors, Magnitude, Street children

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