

The Impact of Social Services and Interventions on the Well-being of Children living in Slums

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ABSTRACT

This secondary research study explored the different kinds of social services and their impact on children living in slums. The primary research objectives of the study were to document the different kinds of social services and interventions catering to the children living in slums and the impact of the social services on the well-being of these children. The secondary research study was conducted using a systematic literature search by using the targeted keywords on different databases. Through this secondary research, it was found that there are several social services and interventions for the children living in slums such as education services including academics of the children, life skills, vocational training, computer literacy. There are health services encompassing the nutritional services, psychological interventions, and developmental services. Also, there are rehabilitation services in which the NGOs perform family tracing and reunification; reach out programmes, welfare meetings and reintegration, day care shelters, creches etc. for the children. These services are beneficial for the children in slums as the children are able to learn about the different skills, get nutritional food which is important for their development, are able to plan their future prospects and assure the children to enjoy their childhood freely.

Keywords: *Social Services, Slum Children, Slum Area, Education, Well-being of children in slum area*

Social Service:
Social services are a variety of public services designed to help and aid specific populations, frequently including the underprivileged. They may be offered by private, non-profit companies, individuals, or government institutions. The idea of welfare and the welfare state are linked because nations with extensive welfare programmes frequently offer a wide range of social services. To fulfil a society's diverse demands, social services are used. Prior to industrialization, the majority of social services were provided by for-profit businesses and charities, and their reach was therefore constrained. Today, social services are viewed as a "necessary function" of society and a way for governments to solve societal problems on a worldwide scale.

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The phrase "social services" is frequently replaced with phrases like "social welfare," "social protection," "social assistance," "social care," and "social work," many of which share similar traits and functions. A nation's history, cultural values, political system, and economic standing all affect what is seen as a "social service" in that nation. The most essential components of social services are those related to education, health care, housing, and transportation. Social services can be provided on a group or individual basis. This means that they may be used to help the community as a whole, such as financial aid for residents who are unemployed, or they may be used especially to meet the needs of an individual, such as foster homes.

Major areas of concern of Social Services:

Family Welfare:

Family life is typically viewed by social philosophers and caseworkers as the best setting for promoting social welfare. Programmes for family welfare work to maintain and build families by providing both financial aid, when available, and personal assistance with a range of services. Personal assistance services include marriage counselling in the majority of developed countries as well as in urban areas of developing nations; maternal, prenatal, and infant care programmes; family planning services; family-life education, which encourages both the improvement of family relationships and home economics; "home-help" or "homemaker" services, which provide household assistance to families burdened with chronic illness, handicaps, or other dependencies; and car rental services.

Child Welfare:

The welfare of children is a top priority in all programmes for family welfare. Children's services are provided as much as possible in the context of family life. Parental income support may contribute to ensuring the fundamental stability of the family unit. Programmes for maternal, prenatal, and child health are crucial in all countries, but they are particularly crucial in those where starvation and disease are pervasive; infant and mother death rates are, in fact, the most fundamental indicators of child welfare. Daycare services have evolved to include everything from basic custodial supervision to educational and healthcare programmes as a result of the rising number of working moms around the world. Because of the shifting economic strains on family life, some nations mandate businesses to offer these amenities to their employees.

Youth Welfare:

Apart from those that address immediate basic requirements, the main goal of the majority of social welfare programmes for youth is to prepare them for the assumption of responsible roles in the adult world. The majority of programmes include adult-supervised leisure-time group activities, which might include everything from sporting events to hiking and camping to cultural and social gatherings. In the majority of European nations, participation in these programmes is substantial. The largest youth organizations in the world were the former Soviet Union's Pioneers and Komsomol. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts or Girl Guides, Young Men's Christian Associations, and Young Women's Christian Associations are only a few of the programmes that have almost universally expanded, inspiring the creation of comparable organizations catered to regional needs. Group exercises are not the only thing that youth welfare programmes do.

Welfare of the Elderly:

The majority of people who use personal social services globally are now elderly. Although they make up a small minority of the retired population in all sophisticated industrial cultures,

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the proportion of elderly people who are infirm is rising, and their demand on social services is disproportionately high. Most nations fully support the development of family care as well as the extension and rationalisation of informal care on a voluntary or quasi-voluntary basis because social care for the elderly is frequently labor-intensive. Transportation, cordial visits, hot meal deliveries to homes, nurse visits and reasonably priced medical supplies are all provided. Senior centres frequently fund group events including crafts, entertainment, outings, and meals.

Welfare of the Sick and Disabled:

Many of the issues that social services try to solve are caused by serious sickness and disability. The sick and disabled frequently face ongoing care in the form of medication, therapy, and the observation of dietary or other precautions in addition to the need for adequate primary care, disruption or loss of income, inability to meet family obligations, and the long-term process of recovery or adjustment to handicaps

Welfare of the Mentally ill:

Early in the history of social work, the societal effects and implications of mental illness were understood. In metropolitan locations, psychiatric social work was initially created as an adjunct to hospital care. These services have also been offered under military control, particularly during times of conflict. Today, psychiatric social workers serve at all levels of patient care in developed nations. Social casework may help with diagnosis and course of treatment. Educational and counselling services assist other family members in coping with the difficulties of hospitalisation, treatment, and aftercare. Close collaboration with housing authorities and employers may help patients transition back into community life through foster care, halfway houses, and sheltered workshops.

Three Rings of Social Work:

There are three basic concepts in social work that are necessary for knowledge, values, and skills in practice. "Three Rings of Social Work" is the name of the programme.

Knowledge:

- Basic social work information
- Understanding of a certain practice environment
- Understanding of a specific practice organization
- understanding of a specific client understanding of a certain contact

Skills:

- Basic Assistance,
- Interactional Skills
- Observational abilities
- talents in communication
- Empathy abilities

Values:

- Recognizing the value and dignity of each individual
- personal initiative
- A commitment to social responsibility and equal opportunity
- life in its entirety Individual freedom
- Mutual respect and tolerance

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- political right
- Own initiative
- Mutual support
- Respect for labor and efficient use of resources

Importance of Social Services:

Social services are designed to assist underprivileged, defenseless, and struggling people and families. Helping those who are poor, disabled, or ill is at the core of social services and welfare. Typically, children and parents are the most significant social service recipients. Without social services, it would be impossible for families, kids, and people who needed assistance with basic needs to exist. All people in need, including low-income families, kids, and women, who are abused or homeless, are assisted by social services.

Because jobs are harder to get and life is getting more expensive, more families and individuals are now living in poverty. Social services offer the information required to aid physically and emotionally. They can offer these families and individuals the fundamental information, assistance, or resources they need to advance in life. One of the largest issues in the world is the abuse of women and children in homes that consume alcohol frequently. Women and children who are trapped in violent households might receive shelter from social services. Numerous programmes are available to help individuals overcome their addictions to alcohol and other substances while also better supporting their families. The importance of social service is multifaceted.

Mentioned below are the reasons:

1. It encourages social harmony by bringing people from all backgrounds together and cultivating a feeling of community. People gain a sense of unity and purpose when working together towards a common objective, which aids in fostering social peace.
2. Social service programmes deal with a range of social concerns, including poverty, homelessness, unemployment, illiteracy, and healthcare. Social service serves to raise social justice and improve people's quality of life by addressing these challenges.
3. Social service activities give people the chance to meet with people from different backgrounds and comprehend their difficulties, which helps them develop empathy and compassion. In order to create a culture that is more compassionate and caring, it is vital to foster empathy and compassion.
4. It fosters personal development: Participating in social service projects gives people the chance to learn new things, expand their horizons, and improve their confidence and self-worth. This may result in personal development and growth, which can be advantageous to people in both their personal and professional lives.
5. It fosters a sense of accountability: Social service projects inspire people to be accountable for the welfare of others and society at large. This promotes a sense of civic duty and motivates people to make significant contributions to their communities.
6. Builds strong communities: By encouraging a sense of solidarity and togetherness among members, social service activities help to establish strong communities. People who engage in social service activities grow to have a sense of civic duty and strive to make the lives of others better.
7. Promotes personal development: Self-discovery and personal development can also be achieved through social service. People can learn new abilities, views, and social networks by volunteering or taking part in philanthropic endeavors.

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8. Contributes to social and economic growth: By giving those in need essential services like healthcare, education, and disaster relief, social services can help to promote social and economic development. These services can aid in lowering poverty, enhancing health outcomes, and fostering economic development.

Overall, doing social service helps to foster social cohesion, address societal problems, foster compassion and empathy, encourage personal development, and instill a feeling of duty. People and communities can collaborate to build a better, more just, and more compassionate world by doing social services.

Statistics:

In India, marginalized people are helped and supported in large part by social service NGOs. The following data give a general picture of the situation facing social service NGOs in India: In India, there are more than 3 million registered NGOs (NITI Aayog, 2021).

- These NGOs engage in social and economic development initiatives to the tune of over 80% (NITI Aayog, 2021).
- According to the Ministry of Home Affairs' 2020 report, foreign donations to Indian NGOs in 2019–20 came to almost Rs. 16,902 crores.
- According to the Ministry of Home Affairs' 2020 report, the top five sectors that received foreign aid were disaster management, rural development, environment and conservation, and health.
- According to annual revenue, the top ten non-profit organization in India in 2020 were Akshaya Patra Foundation, Smile Foundation, Save the Children India, Helpage India, CRY-Child Rights and You, Oxfam India, CARE India, Plan India, Pratham Education Foundation, and Give India (IndiaCSR, 2020).

In India, where the vast majority of the population struggles with issues connected to poverty, healthcare, education, and social injustice, social services are essential. These numbers give a general picture of the social services situation in India.

Education:

- The literacy rate in India was 77.7% in 2019 (National Statistical Office, 2019).
- In 2019-20, the government of India allocated approximately 4.6% of its budget to education (Ministry of Finance, 2020).

The gross enrollment ratio in primary education was 94.7% in 2018-19 (Ministry of Education, 2020).

Healthcare:

- In 2017-18, the government of India spent approximately 1.28% of its GDP on healthcare (National Health Profile, 2019).
- The doctor-population ratio in India was 1:1,457 in 2019 (National Health Profile, 2019).
- The infant mortality rate in India was 32 per 1,000 live births in 2018 (National Health Profile, 2019).

Poverty and Employment:

- In 2019-20, the unemployment rate in India was 6.1% (National Statistical Office, 2020).

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- In 2019-20, the poverty rate in India was 9.2% (National Statistical Office, 2020).
- In 2019-20, the government of India allocated approximately 2.7% of its budget to poverty alleviation schemes (Ministry of Finance, 2020).

According to a report by the Corporation for National and Community Service (2020), approximately 77.4 million adults in the United States volunteered a total of 6.9 billion hours of service in 2018. According to the Corporation for National and Community Service (2021), in 2020, approximately 77.4 million adults volunteered their time, providing an estimated 6.9 billion hours of service to their communities. This volunteering was valued at approximately \$167 billion in economic benefit to the United States.

Different Social Services provided by NGO:

In India, NGOs offer a wide variety of social services, such as health care, education, eradicating poverty, empowering women, protecting children's rights, and environmental preservation. Here are a few instances of social services that NGOs in India provide:

Health Services:

NGOs that provide healthcare services are aiming to increase access to those services in both urban and rural locations. They are organizing health fairs, giving free medical aid, and raising awareness of health problems. The Sankara Eye Foundation is one such organization that offers free eye operations to the impoverished and underprivileged.

Educational Services:

Children who are unable to attend school because of poverty or other factors are given education by NGOs. They are establishing schools, planning after-school activities, and giving young people career training. The Pratham Education Foundation is one such group that works to give disadvantaged kids access to high-quality education. Over 60 million children have been influenced by Pratham to date.

Environmental Services:

NGOs are encouraging sustainable practises and trying to protect the environment. They are raising awareness of renewable energy sources, waste management, and climate change. The Centre for Science and Environment is one such group that seeks to advance sustainable development. Various papers and essays on environmental issues have been published by the organisation.

Disaster Relief Services:

NGOs offer assistance during natural catastrophes including earthquakes, cyclones, and floods. The impacted people are receiving food, housing, and medical care from them. One such group is Oxfam India, which offers disaster relief on a humanitarian basis. Over 7 million people in India have received assistance from the group (Oxfam India, n.d.).

Poverty alleviation:

NGOs such as Akshaya Patra Foundation and ActionAid India work to alleviate poverty and improve livelihoods for marginalized communities in India (Akshaya Patra Foundation, n.d.; ActionAid India, n.d.).

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Women's empowerment:

NGOs such as SEWA and Self-Employed Women's Association work to empower women by providing them with education, training, and employment opportunities (SEWA, n.d.; Self-Employed Women's Association, n.d.).

Child rights:

NGOs such as Save the Children India and Childline India Foundation work to protect and promote the rights of children in India (Save the Children India, n.d.; Childline India Foundation, n.d.).

Rationale of the Study

The reason for doing this study emerged from the researcher's internship experience at a leading NGO working with the slum children which made us wonder about the variety of social services. Social services are important for the underprivileged section of the society as they fill the missing gaps in the lives of the underprivileged people. Over the years, several NGOs have come forward and are working for the people at the ground level. So, this study throws a light on the different social services provided by the NGOs and their impact on the slum children. This study will help in providing an overview of the social services and interventions by the NGOs.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Sonawat and Sikh (2023) conducted an exploratory study to investigate NGOs' services for children in Mumbai from the standpoint of child rights. The study was exploratory in nature, with the goal of examining the implementation of child rights by the NGOs. The sample consisted of 35 NGOs working for children in Mumbai, and it was investigated using a questionnaire and a rating scale as instruments. According to the findings, the most common issues of the organizations were education (74%), followed by health (54%). Only 17% of the NGOs were concerned about child rights. The right to participate was better implemented by NGOs than any other right. However, the right to survival was badly ignored. It was determined that there are various gaps and areas of deficiency in the services provided to children. There is also an urgent need to raise awareness among NGO employees about the importance of including child rights in organizational mandates.

McCarthy (2021) looked at the slum communities in Delhi, India. She examined what occurs when many development traditions are combined, showing how parents, children, and NGO workers negotiate the vastly divergent values, histories, and collectivises that serve as the foundation for their goals. In her essay, she ethnographically explored the value(s) and risks connected with this type of development in particular by concentrating on development organizations that strive to involve kids through extracurricular activities.

Andrew et. al. (2020) examined a psychosocial stimulation intervention consisting of weekly home visits for 18 months in urban slums of Cuttack, Odisha, India, using a cluster randomized controlled trial. The intervention was intended to supplement existing early childhood programmes in India and was implemented and administered by a local chapter of a national NGO. The research was conducted from August 2013 to July 2015. 421 children between the ages of 10 and 20 months from 54 slums were enrolled in the program. Slums were assigned to intervention or control groups at random. The Bayley-III was used to examine children's cognitive, receptive language, expressive language, and fine motor development. An intent-to-treat analysis was used to explore the effects and heterogeneity by

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gender. This study demonstrates the effectiveness of a potentially scalable home-visiting intervention in low-income urban regions.

Chowdhary and Perry (2020) did a study about the NGO contributions to community health and primary health care. The author looked at the case studies of BRAC and the Jamkhed Comprehensive Rural Health Project (CRHP), the two leading NGOs of the world. These NGOs empower communities to address their health problems and the social causes of those problems, in part by training illiterate women to serve as community health workers. The Jamkhed CRHP had a significant impact on the primary health care vision that evolved at the 1978 International Conference on Primary Health Care in Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan. It's Institute for Training and Research in Community Health and Population has trained 45,000 people from 100 different countries in community health.

Corburn, J. et al (2020) which concluded that The Global South's informal communities are the least prepared for the COVID-19 epidemic. Its effects on lives and livelihoods will be both immediate and long-lasting. Multiple actors, including national and local governments, bilateral and multilateral international organisations, CBOs, NGOs, and foundations, will need to be a part of the response. The inhabitants of settlements where enduring trust has been built will require the requisite training, outreach, and services. Since the urban poor regularly have their rights violated, all suggested interventions must uphold human rights laws [86]. These resources are required to meet the communities' urgent needs and to foster social and economic resilience that lasts beyond the current crisis.

Kolleck (2019) further conducted a study analyzing the power of foundations - a specific form of third sector organization or NGO in education - to address school-NGO interactions. A quantitative survey, qualitative interviews, official documents, reports, and websites are used to collect data. The data is analysed using social network analysis and grounded theory in order to establish a theoretical framework. The study posits three dimensions of power: relational, structural, and discursive. The paper illustrates the significance of foundations in framing educational contexts, concepts, and structures of the education system as a whole, based on an analysis of an exemplary multi-stakeholder effort.

Mohapatra, et. al. (2019) did a study to analyze the true foundation of a partnership model among government, non-governmental organizations, and the community has been developed to improve health standards in urban communities (especially slums) by increasing the availability and accessibility of health service in Odisha. 'Interview, focused group discussion (FGD), case analysis, and field observation methodologies were employed to conduct a comprehensive examination of the project's impact and sustainability. The findings suggest a missing link in the development of a strong database, "tech-led disease surveillance system," "telemedicine," and interactive video conferencing with voice, video, real-time diagnosis, and data transmission technologies. The study also identifies the need for governmental action to institutionalize collaboration among various departments and stakeholders.

Chanani, Waingankar et.al. (2018) aimed to look at the effectiveness of the NGO-government collaboration in urban India to treat and prevent child wasting. They evaluated the community-based nutrition programme among young children under the age of three in India's urban informal communities. The programme (ICDS) was implemented by a non-profit organization and the government at the national and city level. For this initiative, 7759 kids were screened between May 2014 and April 2015 and during this time, the programme admitted 6,820 not wasted children into the prevention group, 705 moderately wasted and

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189 severely wasted children into the treatment group. Community health professionals provided growth monitoring, referrals to public health facilities, and home-based counselling to both the preventative and therapy groups. Additional home-based counselling and access to medical checks were provided to treatment groups. Children who were very malnourished also had access to therapeutic food that was ready to use. The study evaluated weight increase averages three months after admission, default rates, and wasting status. Using logistic regression, the causes of growth stalling in the preventative group were investigated. The study found that severe waste, moderate waste, and preventative groups had default rates of 12.7%, 20.4%, and 22.1%, respectively. Recovery rates for those who were moderately and severely exhausted were 61.3% and 42.4%, respectively. The report offers suggestions for effective community-based acute malnutrition programming integration between MCGM and ICDS.

Nanthagopan et. al. (2018) did research to comprehend and identify the nature of evaluation criteria, levels, and correlations among levels of project performance in development projects carried out by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Sri Lanka. It is based in Sri Lanka, home to a high number of national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) participating in development projects. A quantitative survey was used to collect data, and 447 people responded. Confirmatory factor analysis and structural equation modelling were used in multivariate data analysis. The study found that total project performance in non-governmental organizations (NGOs) could be measured on three levels: project management (PM) success, project success, and NGO success. The findings indicate that there are considerable correlations between project management (PM) success, project success and NGO success.

Subramanian (2018) in her article, highlighted the work of Teach for India (TFI), a notable non-governmental organization (NGO) engaged in Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) with struggling urban municipal government authorities in a number of Indian towns. The author through in-depth interviews with TFI members, certain municipal school instructors, and information obtained through Right to Information (RTI) petitions. It investigated the intervention in institutionalizing parallel governance systems, highlighting class conflicts, and increasing pedagogical disparities in these long-neglected institutions.

Lilford, R. et al. (2017) research studies broaden the notion of so-called community effects in this study. Slums provide a high return on investment since they benefit a large number of people in densely populated areas. Neighbourhood impacts can contribute to the understanding of how and why the outcomes of interventions differ between slums and non-slum areas. We base our argument that census tracts in all low- and middle-income countries should now be classified as slum or non-slum in order to guide local policy and serve as the foundation for research surveys that build on censuses on this spatial idea of slums. We contend that slum health ought to be encouraged as a research area alongside poverty and health.

Kumar (2016) examined the history of public engagement and its current application in policy making. Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) and civil society organisations are widely acknowledged as important organisational mechanisms of ensuring involvement. Urban development programmes, such as the Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and Rajiv Awas Yojna (RAY), also praise NGOs for assuring public engagement while ignoring slum people' realities. Meanwhile, public unhappiness with the state has given rise to an alternative mechanism for involving citizens in the formulation of programmes

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impacting their lives. The author illustrated the NGOs' technique of assuring people's participation, slum dwellers' perceived requirements, and the relationship between the two. The findings imply that the state's over-reliance and people's trust in electoral politics and civil society organisations has been eroded by the reliance of development agencies on NGOs. Civil society, which is traditionally recognised for bringing people together to raise their voices against an authoritarian regime, has been tamed in certain ways by the neoliberal version of civil society. This study calls for an alternative system to assure people's participation in keeping the poor and marginalized concerns intact.

Morgan (2016) investigated the perceptions of young people in Sub-Saharan Africa on the services offered by one NGO. Semi-structured interviews and discussion groups were conducted with 71 young people aged 10 to 18 who lived and worked on the street. Volunteer facilitators (n = 26) who ran the groups and had previously lived on their street or in the 'informal slum neighborhoods' also participated in the talks. Discussions revealed a number of obstacles and tensions, including concerns with capacity building, empowerment, participation, and the depoliticized nature of social action.

Park et. al. (2015) explored the aspects of government-funded educational development cooperation initiatives managed by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the Republic of Korea (hereinafter Korea). The study examined the national and international ODA figures, as well as got information from the NGO worker interviews conducted. It was found that these programmes take a child-centered integrated community development approach and are typically chosen to create short-term, measurable effects. They placed a greater emphasis on the field than on international agendas or national policies, recognising a gap between these throughout execution. Based on this discovery, we propose that global and local development activities could interact and influence one another, thereby achieving equilibrium.

According to Cotton, C. (2013) many children who live in slums are marginalised by urban life and have limited access to its advantages and benefits. Slums in sub-Saharan Africa house a sizable - and increasing - population of children and youth, making them locations in need of child-focused interventions to better the lives of young slum residents. Focusing on these especially vulnerable young people requires a child-centered strategy to slum interventions that aims to enhance children's rights, well-being, and engagement in urban life. CIDA may use its experience to adopt a child-centered approach through investments to promote health, education, and well-being in Africa's slums, building on the experience, skills, and information acquired from prior initiatives and partnerships.

Niboye (2013) did a report based on a study that intended to determine the efficacy of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in rehabilitating street children in Dar es Salaam City. NGOs use a variety of ways to discover and choose children off the streets for rehabilitation. Among these are conducting interviews in picking children off the streets to drop-in centres in order to get to know them better, conducting medical check-ups and screenings to determine the children's health status, and finally conducting counselling in order to improve their streetwise behaviours. Furthermore, as a means of rehabilitating the picked-up street children, NGOs perform family tracing and reunification, reach out programmes, welfare meetings and reintegration, as well as day out programmes. Aside from standard social services like shelter, food, and medical care, rehabilitee children are exposed to both official and informal education through vocational training and talent development programmes. All of these services are made possible by the different non-governmental organisations, which

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are generously supported by donor agencies, private enterprises, people, and, to a lesser extent, the government. A number of issues have been identified that are impeding the NGO's efforts to fulfil their objective. Some of the issues include a shortage of cash. Lack of community support, insufficient government support, a poor working environment, the rehabilitates' poor educational background, and the children's initial faith in their carers. This study contends that street children, like other children, have the capacity to be primary agents of change.

Walker, J. et al. (2013) analyzed how gender intersects with other social relations to differentiate the effects of urban transformation on the wellbeing of men and women, as well as children living in cities. After that, it analyses how intersectionality may affect organisations that work to advance. By examining the results of Leonard Cheshire's Asha project, which works with girls and boys with disabilities in Mumbai, it is possible to understand the interests of particular social groups (such as women or individuals with disabilities) in relation to urban change. The study comes to the conclusion that organizations working to advance the interests of identity-based constituents should both base their strategies on research that acknowledges the intersectionality of social identities and also develop agendas for change that create platforms for social justice that unite, rather than divide.

Kyobutungi, C. et al. (2010) conducted research in two Nairobi slums, this study aims to describe the health and wellbeing of senior residents. By October 1st, 2006, information was gathered from residents of the Nairobi Urban Health and Demographic Surveillance System (NUHDSS) who were 50 years of age and older. The brief SAGE (Study on Global AGEing and Adult Health) form was used to evaluate health status. A composite health score and the mean WHO Quality of Life (WHOQoL) were calculated, and binary variables were created using the median as the cut-off. The factors connected to poor health status and poor quality of life (QoL) was discovered using logistic regression. Data were gathered on 2,072 of the 2,696 senior citizens who resided in the NUHDSS monitoring region during the study period.

METHODOLOGY

The researchers adopted a second research methodology in which systematic literature search by using targeted keywords was used. Initially the focus of the study was determined and the major aspects to be focused upon were identified. Since the aim was to explore the different social services for the children in slums, the researchers decided upon the following keywords: Social Services, Slum Children, Slum Area, Education, Well-being of children in slum area.

The researchers also searched for specific articles that explored the different social services, interventions, NGO works, and their results on underprivileged slum children. Further, major databases such as Scopus, PubMed, Science Direct by Elsevier, JSTOR etc. were fed with the decided keywords and year specification. Several studies were found and they were shortlisted based on its relevance and contribution to the identified research questions.

DISCUSSION

Through this secondary study, we aimed to look at the impact of the different social services and interventions on the Well- Being of Children living in Slums. Social services play an important role in the lives of the underprivileged children across the world.

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The first research question focused on the different social services catering to children living in the slum. After reading the different researchers, it was found that the NGOs provide different social services and interventions to the slum children.

Some of the major ones include health services such as nutritional services run by the NGOs in partnership with the government programmes such as ICDS in India. It is at several places handled by the NGOs. These nutritional services are provided to the children in general as well as during the disaster relief programmes. In addition, other health services provided include medical services such as medical consultations, telemedicine, medicines etc. These medical programmes also include psychological interventions such as counseling, therapy, and for the younger children the focus is psychosocial intervention and on their development.

Furthermore, NGOs provide education services for the slum children. Some of the education services are in public private partnership with the municipal corporation schools such as the famous Teach For India programme. These education services focus on the academics of the children, life skills, vocational training, computer literacy etc.

Moreover, the NGOs also provide rehabilitation programmes for the underprivileged children. The NGOs perform family tracing and reunification; reach out programmes, welfare meetings and reintegration, day care shelters, crèches, as well as day out programmes to the children.

The second research question revolved around the impact of the services and intervention on the children who live in slums. After reading the relevant literature, we were able to decipher that the above mentioned different social services and the intervention programmes are beneficial for the children in slums. These services provide the slum children a platform to learn about the skills which they aren't able to learn due to the lack of resources. The children are able to get the nutritional services in which they get nutritional food from a young age which is important for their development, abstaining them from developing physical and mental illness as they are predisposed to them. Moreover, the educational services are also advantageous to the slum children as most of these children are first generation learners, and do not get the assistance at their homes. However, the interventions by the NGOs give them the opportunity to learn and get assistance in broad aspects of education. These services are broad at times, including vocational, and career which helps them in their future prospects. Rehabilitation services are also important as they help in reintegration of the children and tracing their families and others. These services assure the children about getting a suitable place to live and being in contact with the known and enjoy their childhood freely. These services also provide counseling, which helps in psychological support.

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