

A Preliminary Study on Child Labour in Bagadageri Brick Kilns

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The Backdrop

- 4 Graduates in the village , 2 live outside
- 10 student studying for graduation
- Highest educated women-No idea 😞
- Harijan Status, 18 Houses, All the more at risk
- 8th-9th 60-70 % Study , Rest 30% House and Field Work
- People with Less land get 40 rs per day
- Different wages different villages -a local System of Differential Wages

Factfile Bagadageri

- **Population**-1405 ppl,300 Households
- **Sex ratio**-57:43
- Predominantly Hindus(997) and Muslims(200)
- **Primary Castes**-Kudumvokkil more,Panchamasali, Kuruba,Thadwar
- **Relationships**-Complex,Marriage within Relations
- **Transportation**-Buses 5 times a day-Fair enough
- **Nearest Growth Center**-Kalgatti
- **Sorrounding villages**- Kamdehenu,Ganjigatti,Harugeri,Ramnala,Bagriedi,Inusgeri,Jemur
- **Livelihood**-Predominantly Agriculture and labour work.I,rregular work at Brick Kilns

The Hidden Causes

- Child Marriages-→Make education unimportant->Work more important
 - Parents not interested in Schools
 - Adult education center not functioning—who understand what studying means
 - No education seen in marriage
 - Education not important as they themselves are not educated
 - No girls in Harijan community move out for studying
 - Culturally Helping Parents has been seen by Development workers in a very social context overlooking the bigger picture
- eg If no electricity no water...its not a child's job to help parents and get water for the home each day.

Methodology

Discussions with

School Teachers in a Group & person

farmers in the field

Chai wallahs and local shop owners

PHC staff

Anganwadi Teacher

Brick Kiln owner

Brick Worker

Shepherd

Focussed discussion in the Harijan Colony

Kids ,Students and Parents

Bosamappa Baugadi Panchayat member



The Truth

Daily (official) wages 60-70 way below standard

1. Parbhu Saukar Bahigari
40 M-30 W, 10-12 Children

Deepwali-Holi Rain

2. Bosannapa Honealli
Biggest -3 yearss 20 ppl
Men 75 Wage W 50

3. Akbar Baddegeras



Conflicting Opinions

The Principal of the School Says "No Dropouts"
"No Child Labour"

I ask "Why no 100% Literacy in x years

The Brick Kiln owner does not want to reveal details and is scared

The Spherd casually gives it all

Sanju(name changed) says 40-50 children work as Child Labour

The wage rates quoted by owner and villagers are different

Education and Child Labour

- School Drop outs
- Child Marriages
- Not fit for Further Employment
- The Beggar Problem stems from this vital Chord
- The Education Schemes are always at Threat
- All the more blockages for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
- The youth pool that must be harnessed is at complete risk.
- If nothing else there is 100% Vulnerability of them falling prey to unfortunate activities.

Gross Violations

- **Minimum wages Act**

<http://labour.kar.nic.in/labour/minimumwages-1948.htm>

- **The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986**

The Bigger Picture & Repurcussions

Child Labour in Villages has got little attention

The Brick Kilns in many village may have similar situation

The region as a whole is vulnerable to Child Labour

Extrapolating to the adjoining district especially Bellary the Mining Hub is a region that might be the severe affected areas.

Children run away cases.

Recommendations

- Ration card should be given to only parents who sent student to school
- A full fledged investigation to address the issue
- Visits to Bagergatti between Deepawali –Holi the peak Brick Making season
- Review National and International
- Schemes for Honoring Parents who send to school so that they understand Importance of Education
- Importance of Education while selecting potential brides and grooms
- Culturally this will turn things around

Thanks!! Questions if any 😊
