



Sociology

Explore—Journal of Research for UG and PG Students

ISSN 2278 – 0297 (Print)

ISSN 2278 – 6414 (Online)

© Patna Women's College, Patna, India
<http://www.patnawomenscollege.in/journal>

The Street Children at the Railway Platform and their Rehabilitation in Patna

• Kumari Kusum • Anima Gidh • Spriha Tiwari
• Chandni Sinha

Received : November 2014

Accepted : March 2015

Corresponding Author : Chandni Sinha

Abstract : India has an estimated one million or more street children in each of the following cities – New Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, etc. The republic of India is the 7th largest and 2nd most populated country in the world where 32% of the population lives below the poverty line. “The Street children” is a term used for children experiencing homelessness and who live on the streets of a city. Homeless children are often called street kids and street youth. Some street children, notably in more developed nations are part of a subcategory called ‘thrown away children’ who have been forced to leave home. Street children are often subject to abuse, neglect,

exploitation, or in extreme cases even murder by “clean-up squads” that are at times hired by local business people or police. In Western societies, such children are sometimes treated as homeless children rather than criminals or beggars.

Key words: Sexual abuse, Victims, Poverty, Unemployment, Illiterate, Breakdowns, Domestic violence, Drugs, Begging.

Kumari Kusum

B.A. III year, Sociology (Hons.), Session: 2012-2015,
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,
Bihar, India

Anima Gidh

B.A. III year, Sociology (Hons.), Session: 2012-2015,
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,
Bihar, India

Spriha Tiwari

B.A. III year, Sociology (Hons.), Session: 2012-2015,
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,
Bihar, India

Chandni Sinha

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology,
Patna Women's College, Bailey Road,
Patna – 800 001, Bihar, India
E-mail : chandnisinha2011@gmail.com

Introduction :

The phenomenon of street children has been documented as far back as 1848 by Alan .M. Ball, in the introduction to his book on the (Alan M. Ball, 1848) “History of Abandoned Children, *And Now My Soul Is Hardened: Abandoned Children in Soviet Russia, 1918–1930*. Street children differ in age, gender, ethnicity, social class and these children who live on the street without family support have different experiences throughout their lifetime. Push factors that force children out of their families and into streets and railway stations include poverty, physical and psychological abuses in homes, some level of family breakdown, migration, difficulties in school or abuse in school