

Poor quality of life: an associate of socially stigmatized scavenging children

Authors:

Abid Jan¹,
Ashfaq U. Rehman²,
Ihsan Ullah Khan³ and
Majid Khan¹

Institution:

1. Department of Rural Sociology, The University of Agriculture Peshawar, Pakistan.
2. Department of Political Science, Women University Swabi, Pakistan.
3. Department of Sociology, University of Peshawar, Pakistan.

Corresponding author:
Rehman AU

ABSTRACT:

The present study was aimed to find the association between social stigma associated with scavenging life style and quality of life of scavenging children in unhealthy environment . The study was conducted in Canal Town, Board Bazar, Tahkal Payan and Gulbahar Town, Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. A sample size of 196 respondents was proportionally allocated to each town and selected through simple random sampling. The data was collected on a three level likert scale covering the measurement of dependent variable scavenger's quality of life and independent variable social stigma associated with scavenging life style in unhealthy environment . Association of variables was tested by using chi square test. The results form our study revealed a significant association of scavenger's Quality of life with family forced children to perform scavenging (P=0.000), hostile attitude towards scavengers (P=0.008), feelings of inferiority (P=0.002), feeling of segregation from mainstream society (P=0.041), avoiding meals with scavengers (P=0.000), non participation in game with other children (P=0.000) and people pay attention towards needy scavengers (P=0.002). A healthy environment should be provided to scavenging children where they feel secure physically and mentally through the implementation of child protection policies in its true spirit and active involvement of all related stakeholders. The study suggested that besides the implementation of child protection policies I required in its true spirit to protect the children against physical, psychological and economic harms, especially at workplace.

Keywords:

Quality of Children's Life, Deprivations, Social Stigma, Scavengers.