

Social Problem Of Transgenders In Dindigul City -A Case Study

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ABSTRACT

People who identity as Transgender or Transsexual are usually people who are born with typical male or female anatomies but feel as though they have born in to “wrong body” for example a person who identifies as transgender or transsexual may have typical female anatomy but feel like male and seek to become male by taking hormones or electing to have sex reassignment surgeries.

They face many more problems in their society and their family problems faced by them are such as isolation, depression and mental abuse, suicide thinking, job insecurity, unemployment and physical sexual harassment by rowdies and other people. Most of them faced to live alone, engage in begging and working as commercial sexual workers.

This paper deals with the matter of all aspects of transgender problems and externalizes their position in society. For this purpose, the researcher interviewed twenty respondents who residing in Dindigul city.

Introduction

In general an accepted definition of “Lesbian” or “Gay” is a women or men whose primary sexual and emotional attachments are to persons of the same sex. “Bisexual” refers

to men or women who have sexual and emotional attachment to both men and women, though only a small portion of people who identify as bisexual and simultaneously involved in both women and men (Rust,1992).

The term transgender refers to people who do not fit societal expectations for sex male/ female or masculine / feminine gender role. This term is often confusing because it encompasses many different identity expressions. This include , but are not limited to heterosexual cross-dressers, gay drag performer, people who live variously adopting male and female gender roles. Transgender may identify as heterosexual, lesbian, gay or bisexual (American Public Health Association, 1999).

The National centre for Transgender Equality and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force released a report in 2011 entitled injustice every turn, which confirmed the pervative and severe discrimination by transgender people. Out of the sample of nearly 6500 transgender people experience high levels of discrimination in employment, housing, education, legal system and even in their families.

Position of transgender other than India

The Bangladesh government made a historic decision provided its transgender citizen with a definite sexual identity by recognizing them as “third sex”. In order to fulfill the primary objectives of the identification system for enhancity access to services. (FDEA) Project launching in Bangladesh, the Election commission has introduced a separate column in the NID making their sex as “Transgender” with a symbol (T) allowing them access to all process that require an official endorsed identity. In 2009 Nepal recognized transgender as a separate gender category and granted equal citizenship to them. In 2009 and 2011 Pakistan recognizes third gender identity card to individuals as such more recently in Bangladesh.

Transgender in Indian Context

In India, however the transgender community continues to lack of legal recognition as they are treated as non-citizen. The 2011 census also had an “other” category allotted to gender column.

At the same time, Recently Maharashtra organized the first (in the state) conclave for the transgender community in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which was inaugurated by the former chief minister, Prithvi Chavan, while Chavan proposed a Transgender Welfare Board, there was silence on their basic and long-bending demands for training in income generating activities as also for provision of housing and proper enumeration.

Livelihood activities

Three types of activities chosen for their livelihoods.

1. This one is very top the hijira (Aravani) who engaged some activities in the matter of celebration and family function, a traditional Indian way of showing blessing in certain auspicious occasion including celebration like that of the birth of a child, wedding for fulfillment of expectation of a male child, success for a newly set up business venture or shifting to a newly purchased residence. From this earns monetary or kind, on such occasion, they not only pray but also sing and dance with their traditional songs.
2. Those who engage in sex work as a means of earning the livelihoods. This ranges from home-based sex worker to street based sex worker within different socio-economic group of customers.
3. The last in the ranking are those who engage in begging as means of earning a living.

Statement of the Problem

Transgender is marginal people of our society. They are facing much more problem in their daily life. They live very worst life in the society because of their birth. Both from society and from their family they are abandon people. The people not much more aware about the transgender so these people are treated slaves like neglected to all basic needs which includes do not give house for rent, street harassment, verbal abuse and sexual abuse.

Because of their birth, they lost their education and family members and living worst life like collection of money from shops or public place (begging). So to realize the magnitude of this problem the researcher has taken this topic as his study.

Objective of the study

1. To know the Socio economic condition of Transgender in Dindigul city.
2. To find out the social problem of Transgender in their daily life in Dindigul city.

Methodology

The study is restricted to Dindigul city. The sampling method that the researcher has followed is purposive sampling. The sample of this study is 20 respondents in Dindigul city. The sources of the data for this study is primary data and secondary data. The primary data was collected through direct personal interview with the help of questionnaires

Transgender means people who fell birth with wrong body like male organ. This people all activities are same as women. Some people known as Kothithose who are feel themselves as transgender but they not wearing female dresses because of fearness from their family and other people.

Reassignment surgery (SRS) is important one for transgender. Some of them who took that kind of surgery either traditional Daamma or medical surgery. Some of them do not take that kind of surgery because of the reason of their health condition and unable to spend too much money. They believe that application of the blood in their face which is coming at the time of that kind of surgery will stop the growth of hair in their face then they will believe that they would be more beautiful than female after the surgery. If they go to that kind of surgery it takes much more amount so they are having a saving habit from their collection money (like begging). After thirty days of from the operation they are arranged big festival, during that time all transgender those who are participating on such occasion and blessing the who underwent surgery. That time they sing and dance happily, Good Quality and variety meals served to all.

Most of the transgender including north and south those who are worshipping Santhosha Matha god are now in tamil nadu, Kuthandaver kovil famous for transgender worship. Another temple is situated in annamalai nagar and many transgender people are worship this god, Lord Shiva. Most of the transgender who prepare north than south because of their safety. Now, transgender who are going either to Mumbai to Delhi. They stay with other transgender. Some of them misused they are using new one for sexual work some of them give some money some of not give any money. After some years they come separately then they do sexual work separately.

Most of the transgender to come out their house because of the torture faced from their parents and other family members. They felt themselves as a female so they do female activities, like wearing their sister's sarees and use cosmetics as women use for them. They were prefer to play with females not like boy. Not allow boy to touch them and they do not sit along with them. They are like to do female activities like cleaning in front of house and washing utensils and carry water with their hips. They are attracted towards men.

Jenifer a transgender told that who identify as a transgender in her age of 12th that time she was very much attracted by boys. When she was 15 years old, she was felt in love with one driver. She liked him very much due to the reason she took operation in Bangalore. Then after some years he left her. She faced lot of street torture in her previous location so she moved her house another place where she lives peacefully.

Another transgender chose her name as Mahima, her previous name is Kathar. Now she is forty, in her earlier days in the age of fifteen she had sexual relationship with many men in her residing areas. At the time of her seventeenth she went to Mumbai then she came back at the age of 20. Her main work is collection of money and sexual work. Ten years before she is living with her husband after that he left her. Now she does her previous work for her survival.

Another, transgender's present name is Yamuna previous one is Paul raj who came from Ramanathapuram district. When she was 14 years old she left her house, now she is settled with her fellow men. Before she underwent surgery. Yamuna use to wear saress.

Another transgender name is Shanmuga priya age is 41. She took operation in Government Hospital at free of cost. When she was studying 6th or 7th Standard she and sexual relation with a police man. But, now she is married and lives with her husband.

Rasiya transgender aged twenty six. Seven month before she had married with press worker. She is a B.E graduate in Electrical. In her earlier days she was very much like to play with girls. One day she saw transgender at native place, she liked them to and them joined with them. Five years before she came from her house and them begging for many. Now she was living with her husband who is a press worker. Three years before she took operation now also taking silica treatment. Her native place is Kundur in Andra Pradesh.

Kokila a transgender her age is 40. She did ITI her native place is Virudhunagar. Her previous name is Murugan. When she was young she was doing sexual work now changed her job as cook. In young age she had the feeling to wear the female dress. At the age of her twenty two, she came out her family. Her family members were not allowed to live as transgender because of this reason she moved from her family. Now she is living lonely. She doesn't take operation because of her health condition and lack of money to spent be for operation. She was asked to do sexual work with one person but then she was forced to sex work with many persons. At the time her sexual work with many persons she faced lot of pain and bleeding that time she went to hospital for the treatment.

Princhi age of thirty two her previous name is Pravin. She took her operation when she was 30 years old in Singanallur private hospital which took fifty five thousand for operation. Now she is working in an office and doing catering work also. She already finished her graduation in Botany. At the time of her ninth standard she used to dress like girls, for example wearing, Nail polish, lipsticks, eye brow and wearing female dress. She told that implementation of supreme court judgments is enough for transgender.

Items	Up to Eighth	9 to 10 th	11 to 12	UG /PG / Diploma	Total
Frequency	8	5	5	6	20
Percent	40%	25%	25%	30%	100%

Out of these twenty respondents only thirty per cent of the respondents who did their graduation. Another sixty per cent of the respondents educational level is below than tenth standard.

Occupation

Items	Construction Work	Livestock rearing	Collection	Cook	Total
Frequency	1	2	15	5	20
Percent	5%	10%	75%	25%	100%

They do not get employment opportunity because of their birth or bad opinion about the transgender which reasons motivate themselves to collect money (like begging) from shops and other areas. According to the data received from respondents only sixty per cent of them doing money collection work from shops and other areas. Only twenty per cent of the respondents were doing both like collection of money and work as cook. Very few of them particularly fifteen of them doing other activities like going to construction work and rearing livestock activities.

Age group of the respondents

Items	20 to 30	31 to 40	Above 41	Total
Frequency	11	7	2	20
Percent	55%	35%	10%	100%

Received data from the respondents deals that fifty five per cent of the respondents who came from the age group of below than thirty. At the same time thirty five per cent of

the respondents came from the age group between thirty one to forty and very few of them like ten percent of the respondents who came at the age group of above forty one.

Sex Reassignment Surgery

Items	Sex Reassignment Operation taken	Sex Reassignment Operation not taken	Total
Frequency	10	10	20
Percent	50%	50%	100%

According to the statement received from the respondent that those who underwent that this kind of surgery either Daivamma(traditional surgery) or modern medical surgery is essential one for transgender. But most of them favors with traditional method. Only half of the respondents who did that kind of surgery another half of them who did not took such kind of surgery because of the reason of their health condition and unable to spent more money for the surgery.

Parents Opinion about the transgender

Items	Parents feel shameful	Parents not feeling anything	Total
Frequency	15	5	20
Percent	75%	25%	100%

Data received from the respondents told that only seventy five per cent of the respondent's parents who felt that very shameful about their children activities because of the fearness faced from their relatives and society. So they ordered their children do not do such kind of activities. These reasons motivate themselves to move out from their house. Only twenty five per cent of the respondents recognize their children later.

Unemployment feeling

Items	Do not get employment because of their birth	No relation between employment and their birth	Total
Frequency	13	7	20
Percent	65%	35%	100%

According to the statement of respondent only sixty five per cent of them felt that those who are not get employment because of their birth (transgender) another thirty five per cent of the respondents says that there is no relation between their birth and their employment opportunity.

Residing Problem

Items	Residing Problem because of their birth	Not faced residing Problem	Total
Frequency	13	7	20
Percent	65%	35%	100%

According to the statement of respondent only sixty five per cent of them felt that those who are not get house because of their birth (transgender) another thirty five per cent of the respondents says that there is no relation between their birth and their residing.

Domestic Violence

Items	Faced Domestic Violence	Not faced residing Problem	Total
Frequency	19	1	20
Percent	95%	5%	100%

Transgender never like to take advice. They felt advices a torture. They felt that that kind of torture from their parents and their relatives. Only ninety per cent of the respondents faced such kind of torture from their family members and relatives another five per cent of them who do not felt such kind of torture because who is only child of her parents his father also dead her only mother living with her.

Street harassment

Items	Faced Street Harassment	Not faced Street Harassment	Total
Frequency	13	7	20
Percent	65%	35%	100%

According to the data received from the respondents deals that only sixty five per cent of the respondents faced and facing street harassment in their daily life another thirty five per cent of the respondents who did not faced such kind of street harassment.

Faced verbal Abuse

Items	Faced Verbal Abuse	Not faced Verbal Abuse	Total
Frequency	10	10	20
Percent	50%	50%	100%

Only half of the respondents faced or facing verbal abuse on the way of their daily activities another half of the respondents did not face or facing such kind of verbal abuse activities.

Isolation and Insecurity thinking

Items	Facing Isolation & Insecurity Thinking	Not facing Isolation & Insecurity Thinking	Total
Frequency	14	6	20
Percent	70%	30%	100%

From the data, most of the respondents to come out their house and live with their fellow men. During the time most of them felt with isolation and insecurity thinking. Only seventy per cent of the respondents who felt that those who are isolated and living with insecure another thirty per cent of the respondents do not felt that anything about their life.

Feel shameful

Items	Feel Shameful Because of Their Life	Not Feeling Anything About Their Life	Total
Frequency	15	5	20
Percent	75%	25%	100%

According to the data, only seventy five respondents who felt that shameful because of their activities and living conditions another twenty five per cent of them do not felt with any other shameful.

Conclusion

Sixty per cent of the respondents educational level is below than tenth standard. According to the data received from respondents only sixty per cent of them doing money collection work from shops and other areas. Only twenty per cent of the respondents were doing both like collection of money and work as cook. Received data from the respondents deals that fifty five per cent of the respondents who came from the age group of below than thirty. Only half of the respondents who did Sex Reassignment surgery. Data received from the respondents told that only seventy five per cent of the respondent's parents who felt that very shameful about their children activities because of the fearness faced from their relatives and society. According to the statement of respondent only sixty five per cent of them felt that those who are not get house because of their birth (transgender). Only ninety per cent of the respondents faced such kind of torture from their family members and relatives. According to the data received from the respondents deals that only sixty five per cent of the respondents faced and facing street harassment in their daily life. Only half of the respondents faced or facing verbal abuse on the way of their daily activities. Only seventy per cent of the respondents who felt that those who are isolated and living with insecure. According to the data, only seventy five respondents who felt that shameful because of their activities and living conditions.

Suggestions

Government should be take steps to recognize their identity as third gender as like the decision taken by our neighborhood countries. Government should create awareness about the transgender people in society like advertisements of HIV announcement and family planning announcement. Government should be provide counseling centre in every health centre which promote the special health care and psychological treatment for transgender

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