

CHAPTER 49

SOCIAL WORK

Doctoral Theses

01. AROKKIARAJ (H)
Impact of International Migration of Men on their Wives in Tamil Nadu.
Supervisor : Dr. Archana Kaushik
Th 24060

Abstract
(Not Verified)

Migration between countries as a strategy for survival has been one of the most important and researched phenomena of recent times. The present study was conducted with the main aim to collect data on male international migration from the state and to analyse its social, economic and psychological impact on their wives who are left-behind. Specifically, its objectives are to study the social and economic characteristics of the migrant households including caste dynamics and understand the profile and financial aspects of husbands' international migration; to examine the process, management and impact of remittances on international migrants' families and wives and to locate the challenges faced by left-behind wives in administering household activities and their coping strategies. It also aims to assess the factors influencing the socio-psychological implications of husbands' international migration on wives. Mixed method approach was used with sample size of 132 using interviewing. The overall findings of the research highlighted that wives in migrant family face challenges in the initial phase of their life. To cope with problems like loneliness, added responsibilities, financial adjustments and insecurity arising from their husbands' international migration, wives needed substantial family support. Migration of husbands has made the invisible economic efforts of wives visible by highlighting the role they play in reducing livelihood pressure and struggling for a better life. Single parenting is one of the challenges faced by wives during husband's migration. Besides positive outcomes like schooling, healthcare, food, and clothing for children, issues like children's academic interest, discipline and disobedience resulting from fathers' migration heighten mothers' parental stress levels. Wives have largely found involving themselves in income generating activities and saving remittance sent by their husband on daily needs. Social work interventions are highlighted to ensure wives' well-being.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Review of literature 3. Research methodology 4. Socio-economic profile of migrants' households 5. Men's international migration: Profile and financial aspects 6. Remittance: Process, management and impact 7. Left-behind wives: Challenges and coping strategies 8. International migration and local caste dynamics 9. Husbands' international migration: Psychosocial implications 10. Conclusions and suggestions. Reference and annexures.

02. GUPTA (Pankaj)
Sustainability, Transparency and Accountability in CSR Initiatives: A Study of Stakeholders in Select Private Sector Organizations in Delhi.
Supervisors : Prof. Sanjai Bhatt and Dr. Atul Pratap Singh
Th 24064

Abstract
(Not Verified)

The origin of the term Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) can be searched in altruistic and philanthropic concerns for the betterment of the society. All the major religions have the mention of doing something for the society, especially by those who have resources and for those who do not have it. Started as a voluntary initiative, now the CSR has become mandatory with the enforcement of the Companies Act, 2013 in India. Now, it is important to look at different aspects of the CSR programme sufficiency and efficiency. Therefore, it is essential to look into the elements of sustainability, transparency and accountability in CSR in its broader sense and the same was studied in the present research. The study has used descriptive research design and both quantitative and qualitative information was collected from a total of 244 respondents by using interview schedule and interview guide. These respondents comprised of 15 significant others, 38 personnel from CSR Department, 50 staff from NGOs and 141 were the beneficiaries. The study found out that stakeholders' involvement was missing to a very large extent, as the flow of CSR programme planning starts from the top and the same is implemented at the ground. It has been revealed in the study that continuous support is still required to run the projects by the NGOs in the community and it is unlikely that the community would own the programme in today's context. The corporates needs to be more transparent. Both corporates and NGOs generally share information however the same is not taking place in context of communities and beneficiaries. The study reflects and touches many aspects of CSR discourse in the context of its viability and relevance for the people, for whom the CSR activities are designed.

Contents

1. Corporate social responsibility (CSR) and relevance of sustainability transparency and accountability (STA) 2. Review of literature 3. Research Methodology 4. CSR initiatives: profiles and projects 5. Sustainability, accountability and transparency in CSR initiatives 6. Perceptions of the significant others (key persons) on CSR initiatives and STA 7. Major findings, suggestions, integration of CSR with social work. References and Appendices.

03. MALIK (Bhawna)
Disclosure and Coping: A Study of the Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse.
Supervisor : Prof. Archana Kaushik
Th 24061

Abstract
(Not Verified)

Child Sexual Abuse is a social problem which is rampant not just in India but all over the world. It is the use of a child for the sexual gratification of an adult or an older child. The present study aims to study the instances of child sexual abuse as experienced by the survivors along with the effect the abuse had in the short term as well as the long term. It also aims to explore the coping mechanism used by the survivors of abuse and the factors affecting disclosure. Autoethnography as a research methodology was used where the researcher is also the researched along with interviewing eight research participants, three cases from the book 'bad touch' and the movie 'Highway'. The research found that the survivors of CSA experience various emotional problems and use different coping styles. These coping styles change over time. Most survivors try to distance themselves from the abuser or completely deny the occurrence of abuse, repressing the memories completely. The research found that the survivors go through a series of steps in order to heal completely. The first step is of denial or suppression when the victims do not accept the occurrence of abuse, followed by feelings of self-blame or helplessness. The next step is acceptance that the abuse happened but it is only

to oneself. The next step is disclosure about the abuse. However the final stage i.e. healing only happens if one finds support upon disclosure otherwise the hurt remains inside and healing becomes difficult. The effects of abuse can be ameliorated and the survivors can heal with the help of an understanding and supportive family environment and strong social support. The research also provides recommendations for social workers to help the survivors of CSA.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Reviewing literature on child sexual abuse 3. Research methodology 4. Child sexual abuse: Onset and response 5. Child sexual abuse: Effects, coping and disclosure 6. Resilience and healing from child sexual abuse 7. Conclusions and suggestive interventions. References and annexure.

04. MUHAMMED JABIR M. M.
Return Migrants in Kerala : Post Return Living Difficulties and Coping Strategies.
Supervisor : Prof. Pamela Singla
Th24268

Abstract (Not Verified)

The dissertational work explores the post-return living experiences and coping strategies of return migrants in Kerala. Since the last many decades, there has emerged a robust migration pattern to Gulf from Kerala reflected in the huge socio-economic transformation of the state. However, the situation has changed adversely in recent years due to an explicit decline in emigration owing to a cumulative effect of factors such as localization policies, decline in oil prices and the recently introduced family taxes in Gulf. The impact of sudden and large-scale return flows is beginning to reflect severely in the state as the remittance oriented economy of Kerala is finding it difficult to sustain in the absence of a regular flow of money from overseas. Moreover, the impact of return on the returnees is also noteworthy amidst a highly challenging socio-economic scenario of Kerala. Amidst this specific context, using a mixed method of research, the study unravels the post-return life of returnees. Evidence was drawn from interviews conducted across 250 return migrants and key informants. The study critically examines the lived realities of returnees and it suggests that the phenomenon of return should be properly understood as a diversified process according to the structural context of home country and composition of migrants as these components have relevant implications on the life of returnees. The study depicts that returnees in Kerala are amidst a lot of problems related to their income, occupation, health, family and community and there exists lack of opportunities for enhanced reintegration. The study suggests that return migration can be considered to increase at a faster rate in coming days and the existing policies and schemes should be expanded in accordance with the needs and strength of returnees together with the support of stake holders.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Migration: Conceptual overview 3. Return migrants: A review of literature 4. Kerala: Profile and dynamics of migration 5. Research methodology 6. Data analysis and discussions 6. Conclusion and recommendations. Bibliography. Annexures. Appendices.

05. SHARMA (Namami)
Narratives of Conservation : A Study of Ecosophy.
Supervisor : Prof. Neera Agnimitra
Th 24062

Abstract
(Not Verified)

The study titled “*Narratives of Conservation: A Study in Ecosophy*” is an enquiry into the ecosophy of the Monpa community. This study derives from Arne Naess’ use of the term ‘ecosophy’ wherein it translates as the ‘wisdom of the dwelling place’ (‘Ecos’ means ‘home’, and ‘sophy’ connotes ‘wisdom’). With this philosophical perspective the study attends to a set of objectives using an ethnographic modality. The objectives of the study seek to verify into the social structure and resource distribution in the community; role of religion, cultural practices and belief systems of the local population translating into patterns of resource use and protection; and ultimately, to decipher the relationship shared by the Monpas with their ecosystem. On the basis of these objectives that I purposively selected the village Thembang which is situated in the West Kameng District of Arunachal Pradesh. Thembang is home to a 635 sq. km. contiguous plot under community based conservation at the behest of the Monpas. This provides the appropriate site for the examination of how the ecosophy of the Monpas translates into appropriate conservation measures. The study makes a note how the ecosophy is altered by NGO interventions and imposed institutional mechanisms. It emphasises that a ‘user use’ relationship between nature and people is necessary to sustain conservation efforts as opposed to creating ‘inviolate spaces’ of nature devoid of human presence. The thesis offers a concept of ‘subsistence utilitarianism’ which best explains the ecosophy of the Monpas which otherwise remains embedded in the local customs, oral traditions, dialect and religion. It proposes a way forward in which the core values of the Monpas are not lost sight of.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Research methodology 3. Thembang and Monpas 4. Religion and rituals: Exploring ecocentrism 5. Farms, forests and the yak: Translating and reflecting ecosophy 6. ‘NGO’isation of a forest 7. Conclusion. Bibliography.

06. SHARMA (Varun)
Crime, Tribe and Nature in India : A Case Study.
Supervisor : Prof. Neera Agnimitra
Th 24063

Abstract
(Not Verified)

The thesis takes issue with the manner in which Pardhis, a hitherto ‘criminal tribe’, are situated in current-day modes of activism and development. What adds dimensions to this concern is the arrangement of academic literature in certain set terms. Scholars who attend to the dark chapter of the criminalisation of tribes, beginning with the legislation of the Criminal Tribes Act of 1871 in colonial India, forego any analysis on matters of environment and ecology; while those who attend to the historicity of pro-people environmentalisms with the tribes at the heart of it, tend to ignore the parallel dimension of implied criminality. Meaning to state, either “tribe” and “nature” are appended for analysis, or “crime” and “tribe” are collapsed for study. Crime, tribe and nature are rarely interpolated in togetherness. In bringing concerns over all three aspects under one roof, this thesis throws light on a glaring anomaly. Fresh archival evidence gleaned to understand the criminalisation of the Pardhis in historical terms reveals that the Act of 1871 never gained a toehold in the Chhattisgarh feudatory during the colonial period. Despite which the Indian nation state has generously “extended” the colonial programme to such communities

in the post-Independence period. By way of examining how “Independent” India diffuses the colonial programme of implied criminality to geographies that were relatively unaffected by it in the past, this thesis demonstrates how the colonial logics come to be owned in the post-colonial stage. This thesis serves to instantiate how existing discourses on tribal indigeneity and contemporary brands of environmentalism reproduce Pardhi criminality in renewed, yet-colonially styled, terms. In conclusion, this thesis submits a template for social workers to think *along with* the Pardhis for the purpose of larger reform.

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1. Introduction 2. Method and theory 3. Arriving at the pardhis: Stories, gestures, and early incidents 4. (Re)constructing criminality in the post-colony: the "soft hands" of hardened criminals 5. Normalising the NOMAD: The missing "history" of 'historical injustices' 6. Decoy livelihoods: Imitative practices on the stage of (tribal) development 7. Ecologies of vision: The role of images in control societies 8. Conclusion of connections. Bibliography.

07. SRIVASTAVA (Swati)

Demystifying Adolescence : Narratives from an Urban Slum of Delhi.

Supervisor : Dr. A. Malathi

Th 24059

Abstract (Verified)

The present study aims to provide a detailed and descriptive presentation of the life of adolescents in an urban slum through their own perspectives using rich narratives. Employing a strengths-perspective, the study throws light on how individuals experience adolescence in slums. Key findings of the study reveal that despite living amidst various deprivations adolescents in slums hold a positive outlook towards future. They view slums not just from a risk perspective but as sites of hard work and industry and optimal use of available resources. According to adolescents and their families, slums also offer certain other advantages such as strong social networks and help and support from neighbours. Living in slums adolescents feel they developed certain strengths including resilience, street smartness and motivation to learn new skills. On a daily basis adolescents negotiated with their families and communities for freedom of movement, access to education and interaction with friends. These patterns of negotiations are gendered in nature varying considerably for girls and boys. Adolescents recognise family interaction plays an instrumental role in helping them understand their parents' expectations from them and vice versa. Faulty or impaired family interaction due to intergenerational gaps and prevalent social norms are identified as major problem by adolescents. They explicitly articulate the need to strengthen family communication patterns to bridge this intergenerational gap. The study recommends a paradigm shift in designing adolescent-centric interventions from deficit-focus model to strengths-based perspective. There is a need to begin with what adolescents 'have' rather than what they 'lack'. Further parents and community need to be sensitised on evolving needs of adolescents. To ensure contextual sensitivity, greater acceptance and sustained change, community-based interventions for adolescents must involve parents and key community gatekeepers as important stakeholders.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Review of literature 3. Research methodology 4. Space, context and life in an urban community 5. Social control and challenges yet bubbling with life 6. Strengths, opportunities and possibilities. References and Annexure.

08. TULSYAN (Arpan)
Hidden Curriculum and Its Gendered Outcomes in Elementary Schools.
Supervisor : Prof. Pamela Singla
Th 24267

Abstract
(Verified)

This doctoral research sought to understand how schools reinforce, reproduce or challenge existing gender norms and roles through their hidden curriculum, resulting in what gendered outcomes. The study concludes that gender norms and roles continue to be legitimised in the educational context through a range of processes and forms like gender based division and role allocation, unequal classroom participation, biased interpretations of textbooks, use of sexist language in class and different behavioural and conduct standards for girls and boys. Findings show that self-reported attitudes of teachers are largely positive particularly as they show support for non-traditional subject choice, encourage their girl students to get jobs and show excessive concern towards prevention of child sexual violence. However, several contradictions and limitations as well as nuanced complexities of actual practice are brought out by the qualitative data. These are further emulated through peer group norms and interaction patterns. Students mirror gender relations of the adult world in their friendships and play and gender and employ different ways of expressing gender, for instance, through aggression and humour. Comparative assessment shows that gender attitudes among girl students were found to be reliably better than boys. Single sex schooling has benefits for girls, while this is may be reverse for the boys. Coed school reported a particular type of covert sexism which privileged boys both in classrooms and playgrounds and relegated girls to passivity.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Education and gender-Theoretical concepts 3. Hidden curriculum and its gendered outcomes in elementary schools-Review of literature 4. Education in Delhi: An overview 5. Research methodology 6. Findings and discussion 7. Conclusion and recommendations. Bibliography. Annexures.

09. VINAY KUMAR
Climate Change and Livelihood: Impacts and Actions : A Study of Theog Block of Shimla District, Himachal Pradesh).
Supervisor : Prof. Sanjay Bhatt
Th 24065

Abstract
(Not Verified)

Climate Change has become a harsh visible reality in today's world and will have a long term effect on the human civilization with its bearing on forests, lands, rivers and people across cultures and national boundaries. It is influencing livelihoods of communities along with the necessities of life to sustain on this planet; be it agriculture, food security, water resources, health, diverse flora fauna and ecosystems. The objective of the research is to highlight social-ecological dimensions of the impacts of climate change on the livelihoods of the communities living in the laps of western Himalayas with focus on Himachal Pradesh and the actions taken by communities to adapt to these changes, in congruence with government policies to enhance adaptability in light of the international discourses on climate change. Suggest appropriate social work interventions helpful in future climate change adaptation strategy for sustainable livelihoods. Research methodology adopted was descriptive with multi modal research design

and conducted through semi-structured interviews, questionnaire, narratives, oral histories, FGDs with various stakeholders and scrutiny of other secondary documents. Field study was undertaken in the five gram panchayats: Dharampur, Kalinda-Matiyana, Fagu-Banni, Sainj, Ghodna of Theog Block in Shimla District, H.P. The findings ascertain climate change, and the region is experiencing rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, decrease in snowfall, shortening of winters and prolonged summers spanning over three decades. Drying of water sources; emergence of new kinds of diseases and pest, changes in cropping patterns, and forced migration due to loss of livelihood are few major impacts. To adapt to climate change and preserve their livelihoods, communities need to improve upon traditional knowledge through scientific integration; social capital and conservation of environment with maximize usage of renewable technologies, supported by national and global partnership towards committed agreements on climate change adaptation; to develop climate resilient communities.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Climate change and livelihood: A review of literature 3. Research methodology 4. Climate change and India 5. Climate change and Himachal Pradesh 6. Climate change and livelihood: Conclusions and suggestions. Bibliography and Appendices.