

**POST COVID COMMUNITY CARE PROJECT: A  
STUDY OF YOUNG GIRLS INVOLVED IN  
ENTERTAINMENT SECTOR IN POKHARA  
METROPOLITAN CITY**



**SURVEY REPORT**

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** In Nepal, venues such as cabin restaurants, dohori restaurants, dance bars, etc., are referred as "entertainment sector" which people visit for entertainment purposes and also to engage in sex trade. Due to rapid urbanization, this sector is expanding which provides a vulnerable environment for young girls exposing them to trafficking and sex exploitation. The main objective of this study is to identify the problems, needs and situation of girls working in the entertainment industry in Pokhara Metropolitan City.

**Methodology:** It was a pilot study with 120 participants engaged in entertainment sector. A semi-structured questionnaire was developed to conduct the survey, the responses were coded and analysis was done using SPSS.

**Results:** Majority of girls working were young with low level of education and had migrated from outside Pokhara. 84.2% girls were brought to this sector through friends and 118 out of 120 gave their informed consent before joining work. 61.7% girls entered this sector at age 14-19 years and almost half of the girls joined with their own interest willingly followed by easy job. 50.8% girls reported they were forced to work; majority being financially forced (45%). 98 girls experienced abuse at work where 97 were abused by clients. Major forms of abuse were request for sexual favors (41%), followed by inappropriate touching (40%). 82 girls communicated about abuse to others. 115 girls were free to leave their job at any given time and almost half girls did not feel their work to be dignified at all.

**Conclusion:** In Nepalese entertainment sectors, use of force or coercion, deception, allurements to include women and girls in forced prostitution, labor or other services is a never-ending process. As future of girls is in jeopardy, endeavors to provide a secure future for them and protect their rights should be strengthened.

## Table of Contents

<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>5</b>
1. Background: .....	5
2. Objectives: .....	6
<b>METHODOLOGY: .....</b>	<b>6</b>
1. Study Design and setting: .....	6
2. Study participants:.....	6
3. Data collection: .....	6
4. Statistical Analysis: .....	7
5. Limitation: .....	7
<b>RESULTS: .....</b>	<b>7</b>
A. Sociodemographic variables: .....	7
1. Age of girls in entertainment sector: .....	7
2. Ethnic group/caste of the girls in entertainment sector: .....	8
3. Educational status of girls: .....	8
4. Place of origin of girls: .....	9
5. Workplace of girls .....	9
6. Marital status of girls, age at marriage and children: .....	10
B. Work related situation: .....	11
1. Knowledge about the workplace: .....	11
2. Informed consent and nature of work promised when entered this sector: .....	11
3. Age of girls while entering this profession: .....	12
4. Reasons for engaging in this profession: .....	13
5. Force being used to work in this sector and type of force used: .....	14
6. Salary paid on time on monthly basis and keeping entire salary: .....	15
C. Experiences of abuse: .....	15
1. Experiences of abuse and abusers: .....	15
2. Types of abuse experienced at work: .....	16
3. Communicated about abuse to others and whom did you communicate to: .....	16
4. Asked to engage in intimate activities and thought to be part of job: .....	17
5. Freedom for girls to leave job at any time: .....	18
6. Girls with previous job experience and reasons for leaving: .....	18
7. Dignified the girls felt at work and no. of girls engaged in this sector: .....	19

<b>8. Other livelihood options preferred by girls if they quit this profession:</b>	20
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	21
<b>CONCLUSION</b>	23
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	24

### **List of tables**

Table 1: Other livelihood options preferred by girls if they quit this profession	21
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### **List of figures**

Figure 1: Age of girls in entertainment sector	7
Figure 2: Ethnic group of girls in entertainment sector	8
Figure 3: Educational status of girls in entertainment sector	8
Figure 4: Workplace of girls in entertainment sector	9
Figure 5: Girls having children and no. of children	10
Figure 6: Knowledge about workplace of girls	11
Figure 7: Informed consent and doing same work as promised before entering this sector	12
Figure 8: Age of girls while entering this profession	12
Figure 9: Reasons for working in this sector	13
Figure 10: Girls forced to work in entertainment sector	14
Figure 11: Types of force used on girls to continue work in this sector	14
Figure 12: Salary paid to girls on monthly basis	15
Figure 13: Experience of abuse by girls at work and abused by whom	15
Figure 14: Types of abuse experienced by girls at work	16
Figure 15: Ever communicated to others about the abuse	17
Figure 16: To whom you shared about the abuse	17
Figure 17: Asked to engage in intimate activities and thought to be part of job	18
Figure 18: Free to leave job at any time	18
Figure 19: Girls with previous job experience	19
Figure 20: Dignified girls felt at work	20

# INTRODUCTION

## 1. Background:

In Nepal, venues such as cabin restaurants, dohori restaurants, dance bars, massage parlors, guest houses and Khaja ghars are referred as "entertainment sector". People most likely visit these places for entertainment purposes like dance and singing performances, and consuming alcoholic beverages. This sector also includes venues engaging in the selling sex which may involve a mix of consensual, exploited and forced workers, as well as venues not associated with the sex trade at all.

Due to rapid urbanization and growing municipalities, the entertainment sector is also expanding not only in the capital, Kathmandu, but also in various provincial capitals and urban centers. This sector provides a vulnerable environment for young girls exposing them to trafficking and sex exploitation. As many girls working in this industry do not know about their rights, they tend to get exploited and are even expected to provide sexual favors to customers.

As a result of a decade long civil war started by Maoists, many poor people from rural areas were adversely affected and displaced, especially, children, women and girls. For better security and livelihood, they were forced to migrate from their rural setting to urban cities. Young girls looking for jobs joined entertainment sector as they were illiterate, unskilled and were from impoverished family. Although they entered this sector, girls were not aware of the activities that occurred inside.

Although private sector employers in the entertainment sector are obliged to adhere to the minimum standards in the newly passed Labor Act, 2074, and workers are entitled to the protections outlined in this act, this sector is largely unregulated, and the risk of sexual exploitation and human trafficking is high. Still there is no physical and social security for women working in this sector. When women are on their way to home from work at night, there is risk of running into police who usually harass them physically and sexually. Hence, women involved in the entertainment sector needs to be included in the Labor act and should be ensured a dignified environment to work. Social security, labor rights, human rights must be ensured, social discrimination and culture of dehumanizing women in the entertainment sector must be ended to make it a dignified workplace.

## **2. Objectives:**

The main objective of this study is to identify the problems, needs and situation of girls working in the entertainment industry in Pokhara Metropolitan City.

- (i) To identify socio-demographic variables of the girls working in entertainment sector.
- (ii) To identify the work place related situation of girls working in entertainment sector.
- (iii) To identify reasons for working in entertainment sector and type of force used at workplace to keep girls.
- (iv) To identify types of abuse, abusers prevalent in the entertainment sector and if it was ever communicated to others.
- (v) To identify other livelihood options preferred by girls if they were to leave this entertainment sector.

## **METHODOLOGY:**

It was a pilot study conducted in various venues of entertainment sectors available in Pokhara Metropolitan city. A semi-structured questionnaire was developed which included following sections: Socio-demographic characteristics, Work-related situation, Experiences of abuse, other livelihood options if girls would like to leave entertainment sector.

### **1. Study Design and setting:**

It was a cross sectional quantitative study done using purposive sampling.

### **2. Study participants:**

A total of 120 girls engaged in entertainment sector participated in this study. Any girl who was available through contact were interviewed by social mobilisers. The interview was conducted in nepali language so the interviewees would understand and be able to respond according to the questionnaire.

### **3. Data collection:**

A semi structured questionnaire was developed to conduct this study. 2 social mobilisers were mobilized to conduct this study. They were given orientation about our study, its aims and purpose and how to deal with the questionnaires so they would be clear when they interviewed the respondents.

#### 4. Statistical Analysis:

For the purpose of analysis, SPSS was used. All the responses were coded, entered in SPSS and descriptive statistics was performed.

#### 5. Limitation:

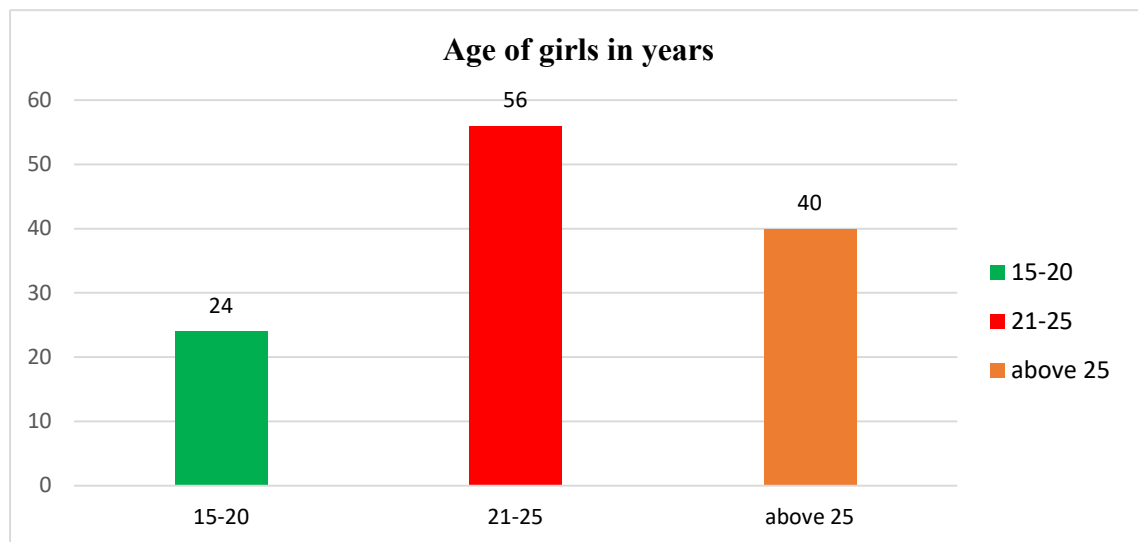
As we had to complete the survey within certain timeframe, time was a limitation for our survey. Due to their unavailability, informants were also another limitation. Girls working in this sector were hard to identify and when identified, they were uncomfortable and some even left interview halfway. There might be under reporting of negative and abusive behaviors as girls feel uncomfortable revealing these kinds of intimate things or they believe this kind of abusive behavior as normal at this entertainment sector.

### RESULTS:

#### A. Sociodemographic variables:

##### 1. Age of girls in entertainment sector:

56 (46.7%) girls interviewed in this survey were found to be in-between 21-25 years of age followed by girls above 25 years (n=40, 33.3%) and then 24 girls were from 15 to 20 years of age.



*Figure 1: Age of girls in entertainment sector*

## 2. Ethnic group/caste of the girls in entertainment sector:

According to the findings shown below, majority of girls i.e., 52(43.3%) engaged in entertainment sector were from Dalit ethnic group. 45 girls engaged were from Janajati while only 23 girls were from Brahmin/Chhetri ethnic group.

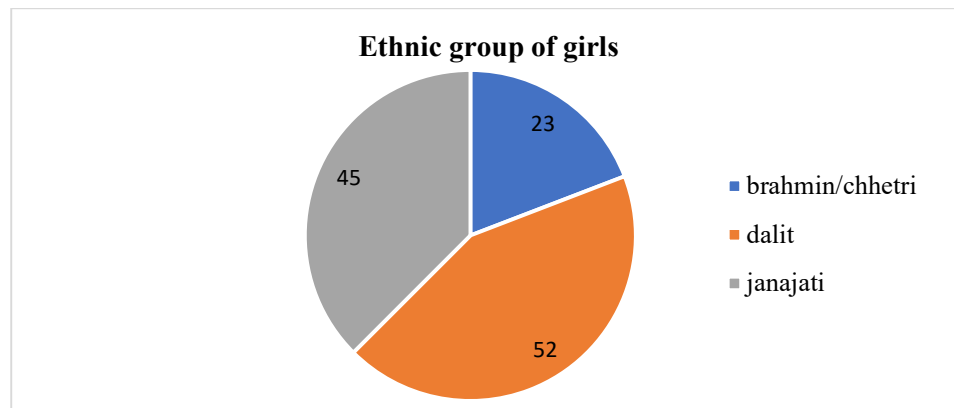


Figure 2: Ethnic group of girls in entertainment sector

## 3. Educational status of girls:

The bar diagram below showed that most of the girls (28.3%) involved in entertainment sector were illiterate, 21.7% were literate, 19.2% had studied till secondary level, 16.7% had studied till primary level while 14.2% had completed lower secondary education.

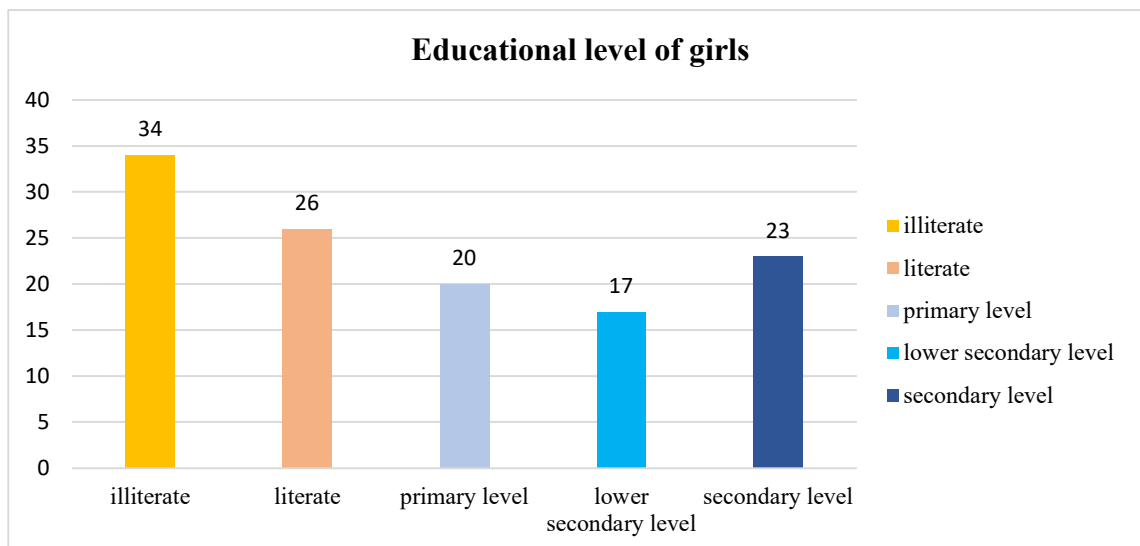


Figure 3: Educational status of girls in entertainment sector

Many girls in this sector wanted to study further but were not able to continue their studies where one shared:



My parents always used to get drunk and when I asked money for school, they used to yell at me saying they don't have any money. My dream of studying further was ruined and was forced to leave my studies. I realized that my parents would not do anything for me so I started looking for jobs. As I did not have good education and skills, I was forced to engage in entertainment sector.

#### 4. Place of origin of girls:

Majority of the girls i.e., 78(65%) were from outside Pokhara, Kaski district while only 38(35%) girls were from Pokhara. Most of the girls had migrated to Pokhara from Myagdi (15), followed by Tanahun (14), Syangja (11), Parbat (8), Baglung (6). Only few girls had migrated from Chitwan, Dhading, Kavrepalanchowk, Nawalparasi, Lamjung and Gorkha as well.

#### 5. Workplace of girls:

In this study, most of the girls (n=48, 40%) were seen working in dance bars, 43(35.8%) girls were working in Dohori saanjh, 23(19.2%) girls were working in other entertainment sector, 5(4.2%) girls were working in khaja ghar and only 1(0.8%) girl was working in a massage parlor. Out of 23 girls who reported that they were working in other entertainment sector, 21 girls were working freely on contact basis while 2 were doing either modelling or working as a dancer.

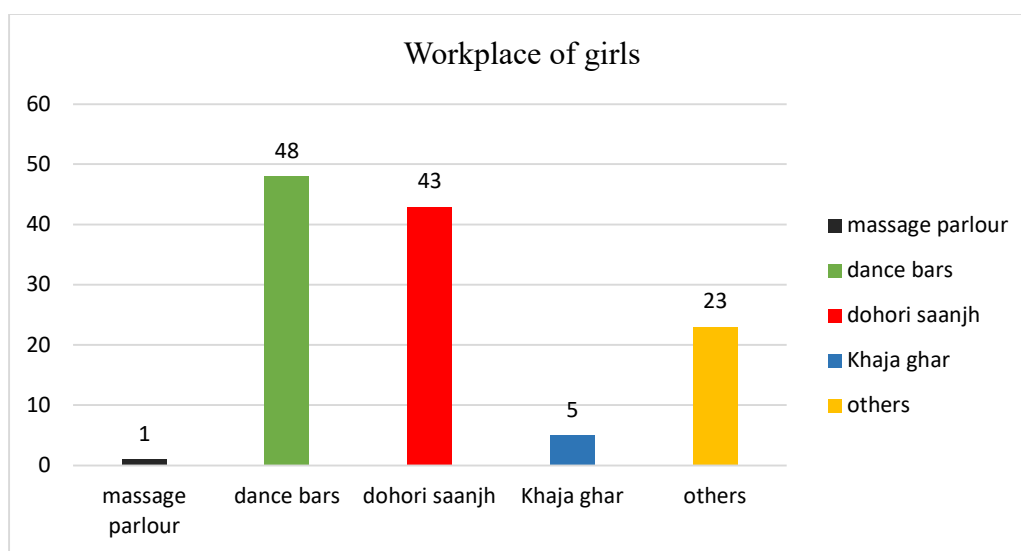


Figure 4: Workplace of girls in entertainment sector

## 6. Marital status of girls, age at marriage and children:

According to the bar diagram shown below, 54(45%) girls each reported to be either married or unmarried. 5(4.2%) girls were seen living separately without divorce, 3(2.5%) each were either divorced or living together and only 1 girl was a widow.

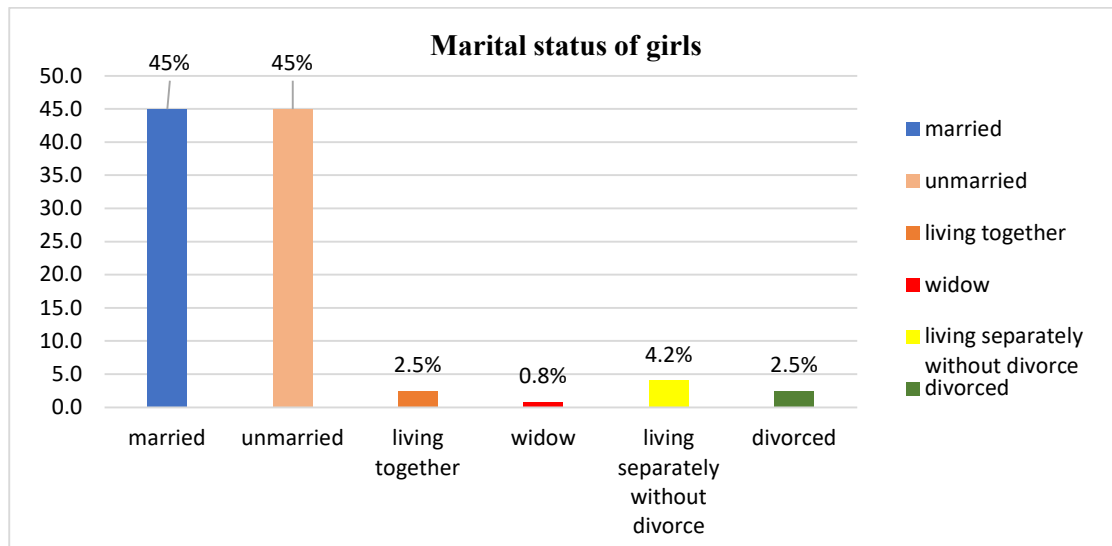


Figure 5: Marital status of girls in entertainment sector

Out of 54 married girls, majority of girls involved in the entertainment sector reported to be married at an early age. 18(33.3%) girls were married at an age of 19 years and 12(22.2%) girls were married at an age of 18 years.

35(29.2%) girls in this study reported that they had children while 85(70.8%) girls were without any children. Out of 35 girls having children, majority had only a child i.e., 21(60%), 12(34.3%) girls had 2 children while only 2(5.7%) had given birth to 3 children.

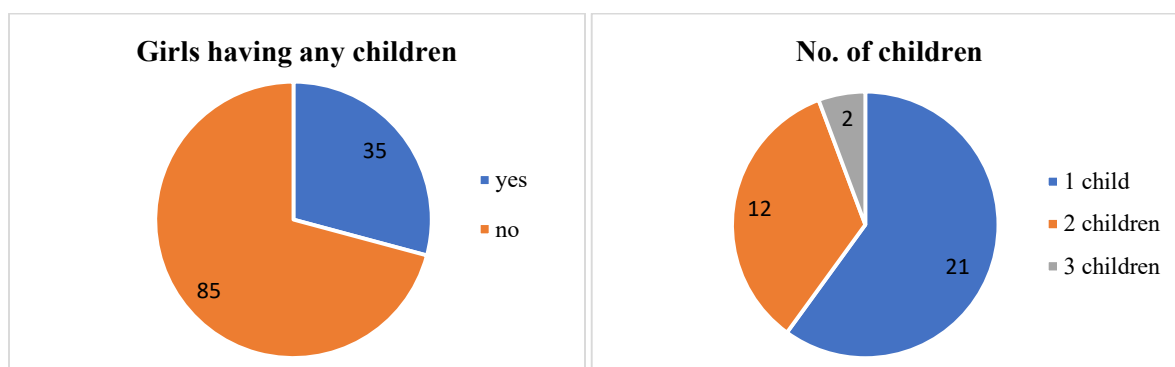


Figure 5: Girls having children and no. of children

## B. Work related situation:

### 1. Knowledge about the workplace:

Friends were the most common source who introduced or brought these girls into entertainment sector. 101(84.2%) girls were brought to this sector through friends, while 12(10%) girls entered this sector on their own and only 7 girls came to know about this sector through family members.

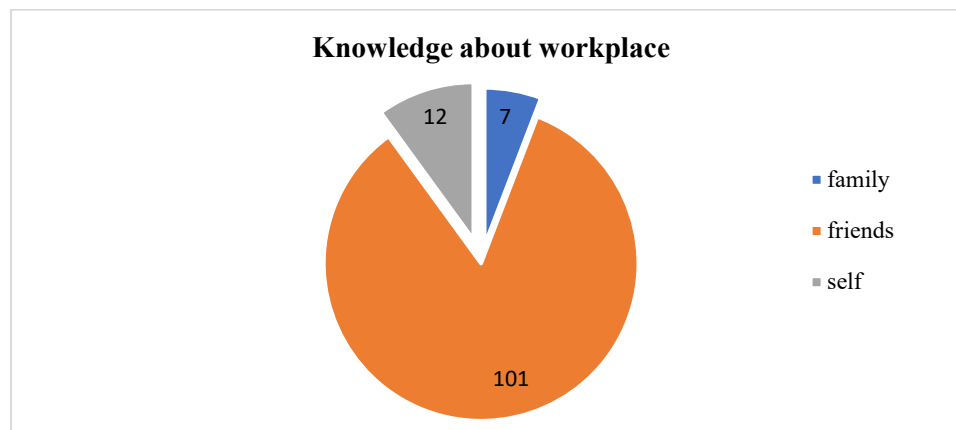


Figure 6: Knowledge about workplace of girls

As seen in this study, a girl supported that her friend was the reason for entering this entertainment sector where she stated that:

I left home after a fight with my family at a small age. I had nothing and no money with me so, I asked my friend to help me. My friend introduced me to the dance bar she was working at that time. If I had knowledge about social organizations and had done training provided by them then I would have been doing a nice job at good institution.

### 2. Informed consent and nature of work promised when entered this sector:

Almost all girls i.e., 118 provided their informed consent before joining this sector and knew what work they would be doing there while only 2 girls did not give their informed consent and were also unaware of the work they would be doing after entering this sector.

118 out of 120 girls were doing the same work as they were promised when they provided their informed consent before joining work while only 2 reported that they were not doing the same work as they were promised in the beginning.

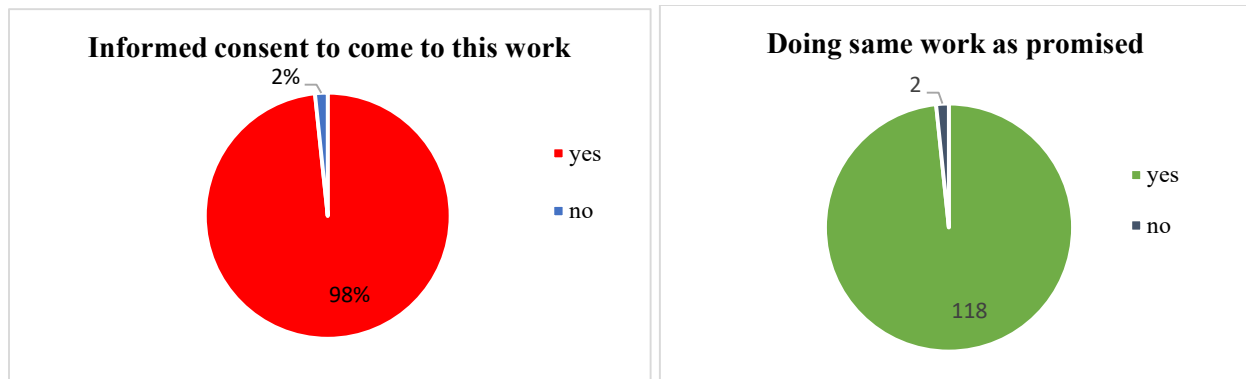


Figure 7: Informed consent and doing same work as promised before entering this sector

### 3. Age of girls while entering this profession:

From this study, it can be seen that most of the girls joined this profession from an early age. More than half of the girls i.e., 74(61.7%) started this profession at an age between 14-19 years while 46(38.3%) girls started this profession between 20-25 years of age. And, no any girl responded to have started their profession before age of 14 years.

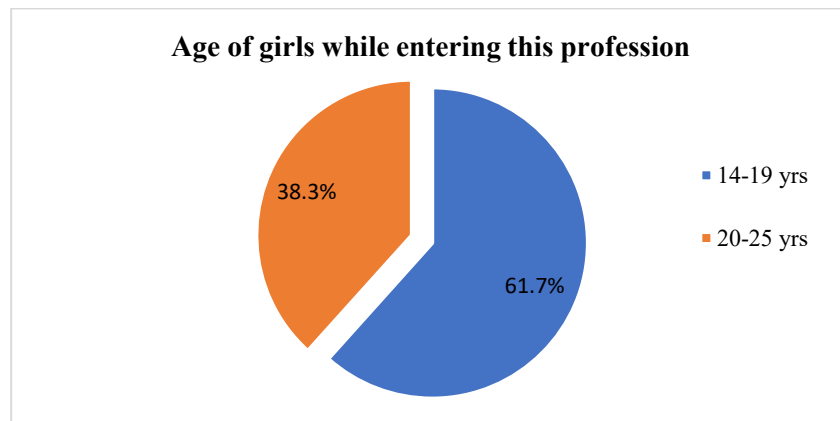


Figure 8: Age of girls while entering this profession

Due to low economic status and various problems at home girls are forced to work since young age. One of the respondents said that:

In my family, I live with my small brother and a handicapped mother. As there is no one to take care of us, I am responsible for them and have to earn for them as well. I started working since small age and even left my studies. As I had no proper education or skills and no any support, I was forced to work in entertainment sector to earn a living for my family.

#### 4. Reasons for engaging in this profession:

Almost half of the girls (47.4%) joined this profession due to their own interest willingly. 68(31.9%) girls entered this profession thinking it as an easy job, 31 girls joined due to force/coercion, 8 were in this profession due to no education or skills for other job while 5 girls were working there because they had no other job opportunities even after education.

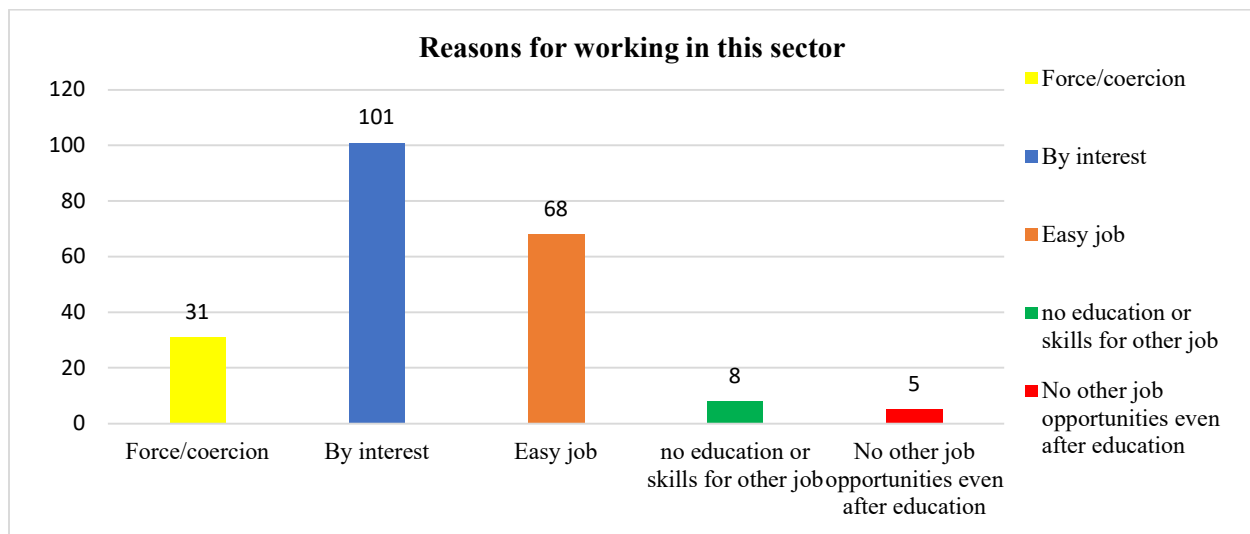


Figure 9: Reasons for working in this sector

One of the girls stated their reason for joining this sector:

My friend brought me to Pokhara from village deceitfully. At first, I worked in a dance bar but later due to an accident I became disabled and was not able to dance anymore. Then I started facing many challenges like I did not get any job, people started discriminating me. I can't return to my village in this situation and I don't even have a place to stay. So, I am forced to stay with whoever wants to spend a night with me. Now, I am so gravely trapped in this sector that even though if I want my past experiences don't let me leave this sector.

An 18-year-old girl shared her story of joining entertainment sector:

When I saw my friend wearing expensive clothes and carrying mobile phone, I wanted the same for me as well. Then I asked my friend how was she getting all these luxuries. She told me what she did for work and took me with her one day. Then I started going alone with old men to spend 2-3 hours with them and they got me whatever I wished for. This is the main reason for working in this sector.

## 5. Force being used to work in this sector and type of force used:

As shown in the figure below, more than half of the girls i.e., 61 (50.8%) were forced to continue their work in this sector while another near to half i.e., 59 (49.2%) girls were not forced to work.

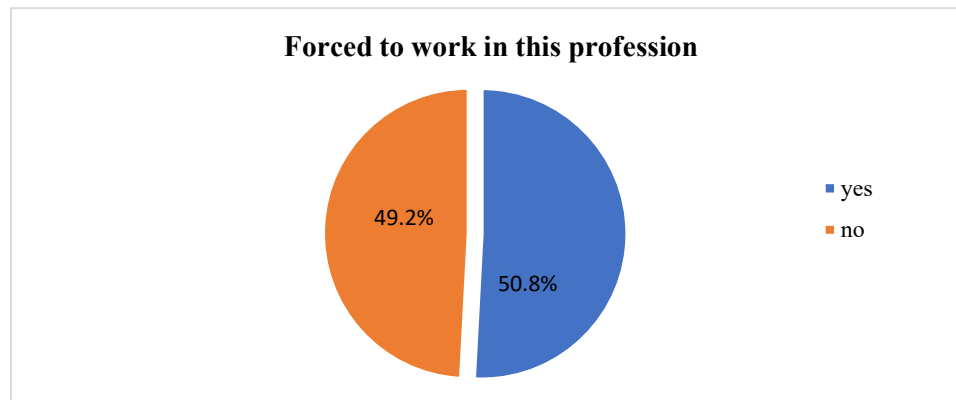


Figure 10: Girls forced to work in entertainment sector

Out of those girls who were forced to work, 49(45%) girls were financially forced to work in this profession, followed by 25(22.9%) girls who were emotionally forced, 23(21.1%) girls were verbally forced, 3(2.8%) were physically forced and 9(8.2%) girls were forced to work in all the ways mentioned above.

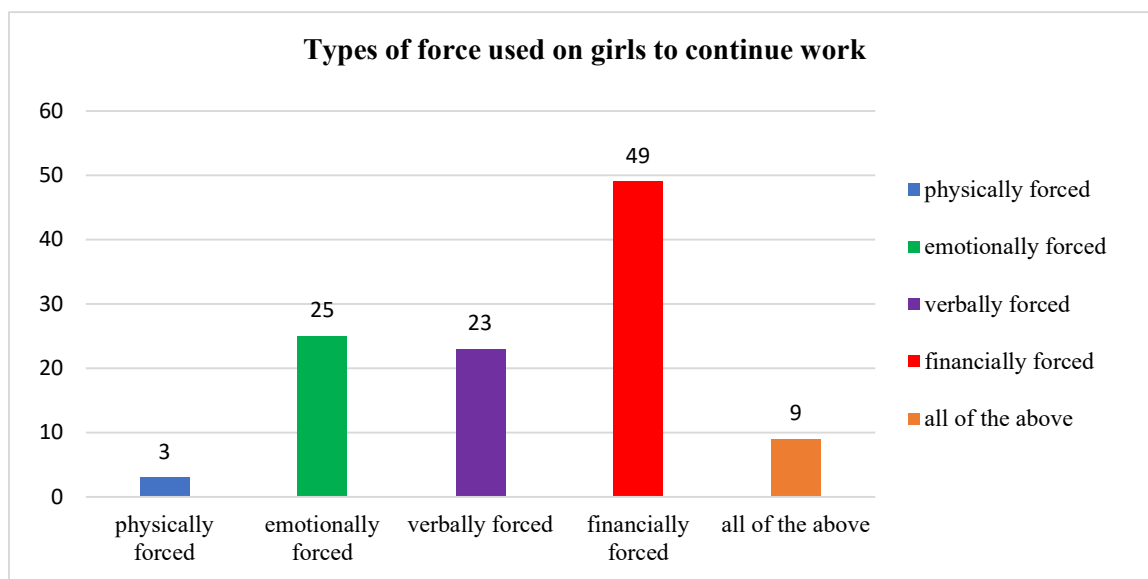


Figure 11: Types of force used on girls to continue work in this sector

## 6. Salary paid on time on monthly basis and keeping entire salary:

The figure below represented that more than three quarters of the girls (n=96, 80%) got their salary paid on time on monthly basis, 22(18.3%) girls got their salary paid sometimes on monthly basis while only 2(1.7%) girls reported that they were not paid on time.

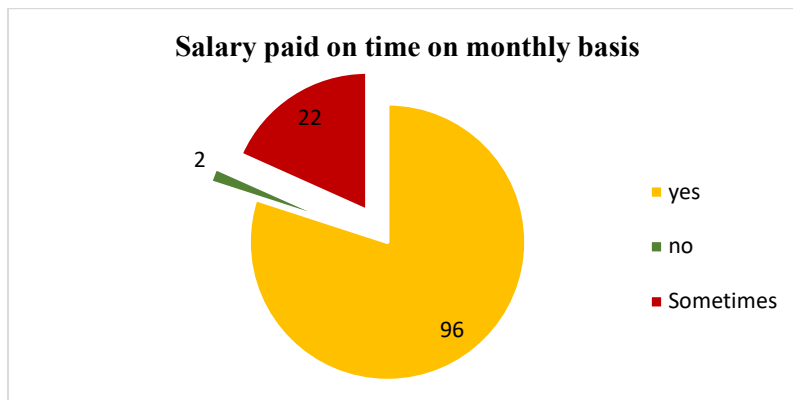


Figure 12: Salary paid to girls on monthly basis

All 120 girls reported that they were allowed to keep their entire salary whenever they got it.

## C. Experiences of abuse:

### 1. Experiences of abuse and abusers:

As shown in the figure below, 98 (81.7%) girls working in entertainment sector experienced abuse at work while only 22 (18.3%) girls reported that they did not experience any kind of abuse at work.

Out of 98 girls who were abused, almost all (97) girls reported that they were abused by their clients while only 1 girl was abused by her owner or employer.

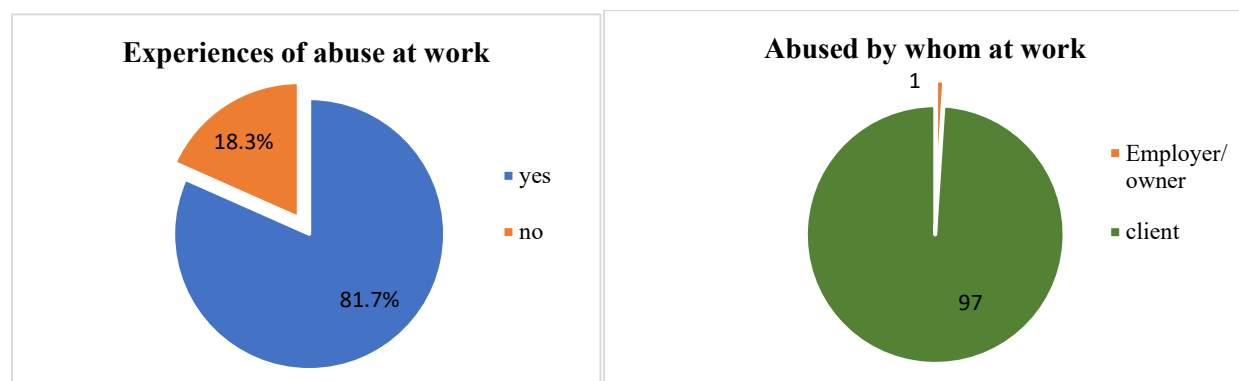


Figure 13: Experience of abuse by girls at work and abused by whom

## 2. Types of abuse experienced at work:

According to the figure shown below, most girls (n=80, 41%) reported that request for sexual favors were the major type of abuse occurring at work, followed by inappropriate touching (n=78,40%). Some girls (n=31, 15.9%) reported that negative remarks or verbal abuse was also another type of abuse they experienced at work and hitting, beating or slapping was also experienced by girls (n=5,2.6%). Only 1 girl reported that they experienced rape or attempted rape during work.

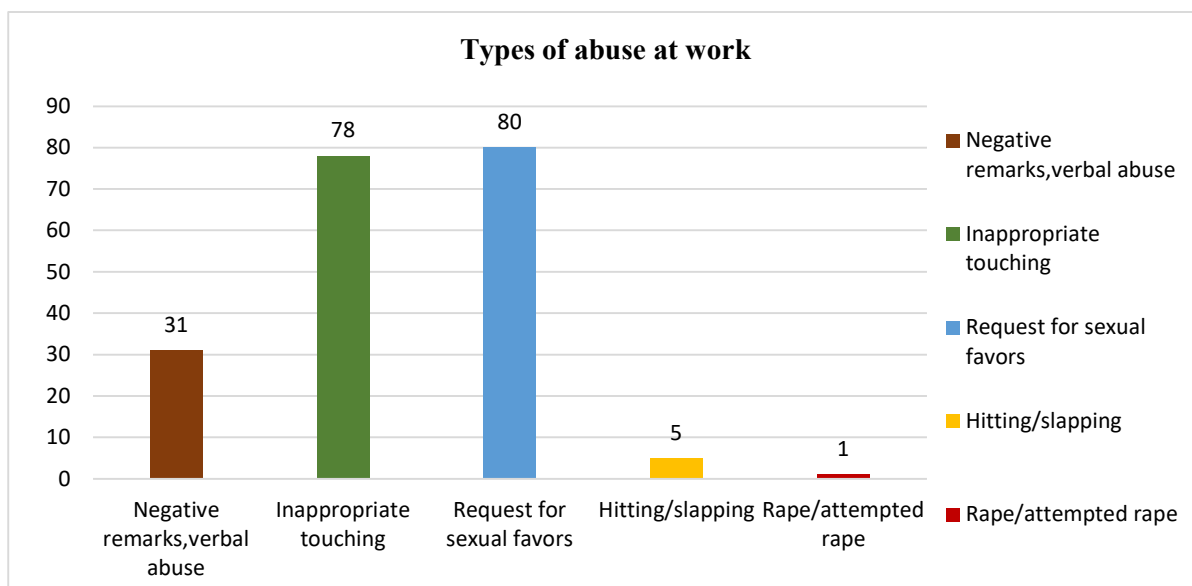


Figure 14: Types of abuse experienced by girls at work

One of the girls who was abused at work shared her experience:

At work we are obliged to wear short, revealing clothes and entertain the guests. Some guests are good but some are bad, who try to get intimate and touch us inappropriately. Some even ask for sexual favors and want us to go to hotels after work at night.

## 3. Communicated about abuse to others and whom did you communicate to:

82 (83.7%) out of 98 girls who were abused at work communicated about the abuse to others while 16 girls did not tell anyone about the abuse they were experiencing at work.



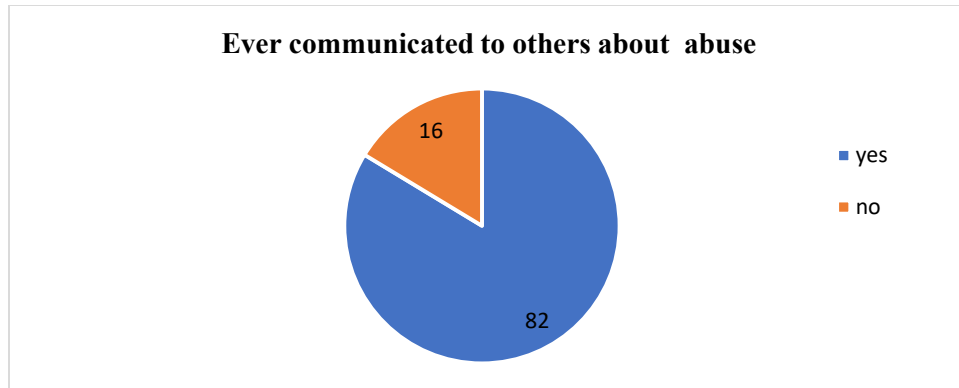


Figure 15: Ever communicated to others about the abuse

Majority of the girls (n=68, 81.9%) reported that they communicated about the abuse with their co-workers. Few girls communicated to others i.e., friends (7.2%), few reported about the abuse to NGOs/Social organization (4.8%), 3 girls informed about the abuse to their owners and only 2 girls shared about their abuse to their family members.

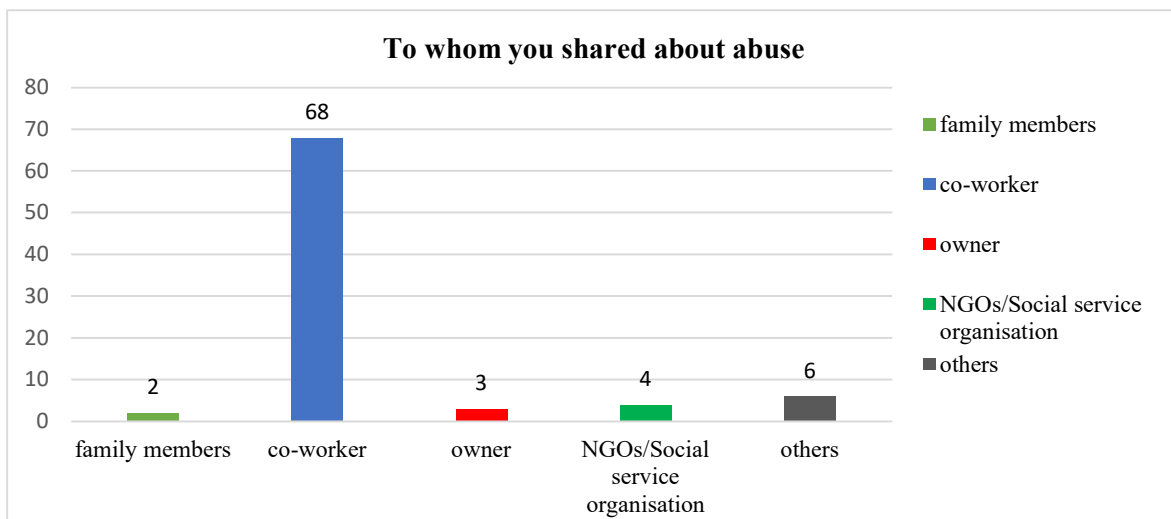


Figure 16: To whom you shared about the abuse

#### 4. Asked to engage in intimate activities and thought to be part of job:

From the figure below, it can be seen that many girls 89 (74.2%) were expected or asked to be intimate at work while 31 (25.8%) girls were not asked to be intimate during their work.

According to the girls who were asked to be intimate, only 18 (20.2%) girls thought it to be part of the job while most of the girls i.e., 71 (79.8%) did not think that being intimate was their part of job as well.

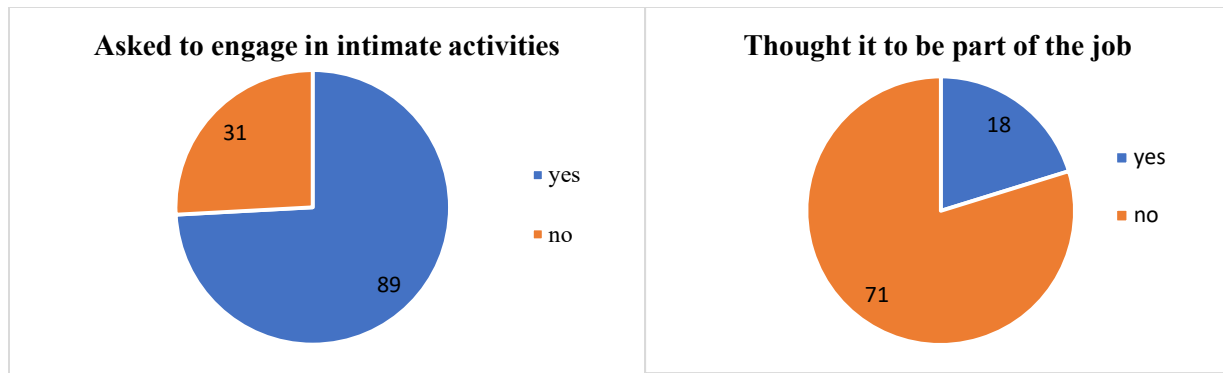


Figure 17: Asked to engage in intimate activities and thought to be part of job

### 5. Freedom for girls to leave job at any time:

As shown in the diagram below, majority of girls (n=115,95.8%) were free to leave their job at any given time while only 5(4.2%) girls said that they were not free to leave job at any time. 5 girls who reported that they were not free to leave their job gave their home being far away as a reason for not leaving the job. A girl working on contact basis in this study revealed that:

Many girls in entertainment sector have similar social, economic and family backgrounds. They live far away from their home and have no other support so; they have to work in any condition to survive.

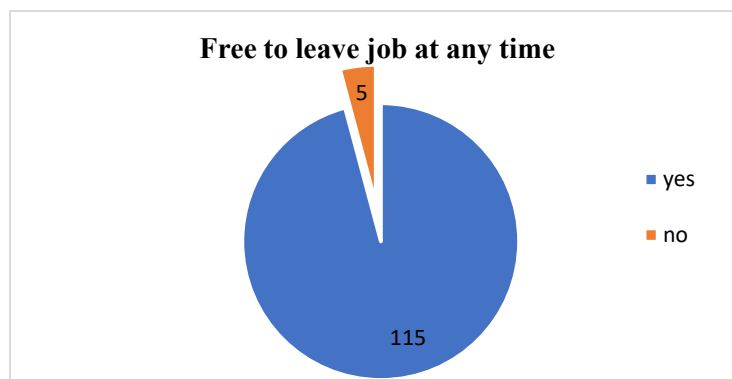
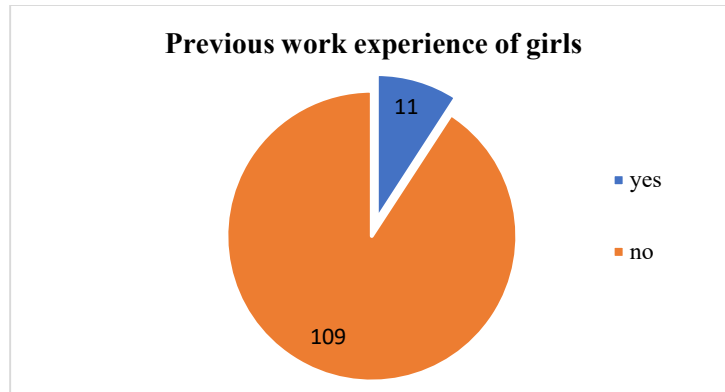


Figure 18: Free to leave job at any time

### 6. Girls with previous job experience and reasons for leaving:

As shown in the figure below, only 11(9.2%) girls had previous job experience while all other girls reported that this was their first job.



*Figure 19: Girls with previous job experience*

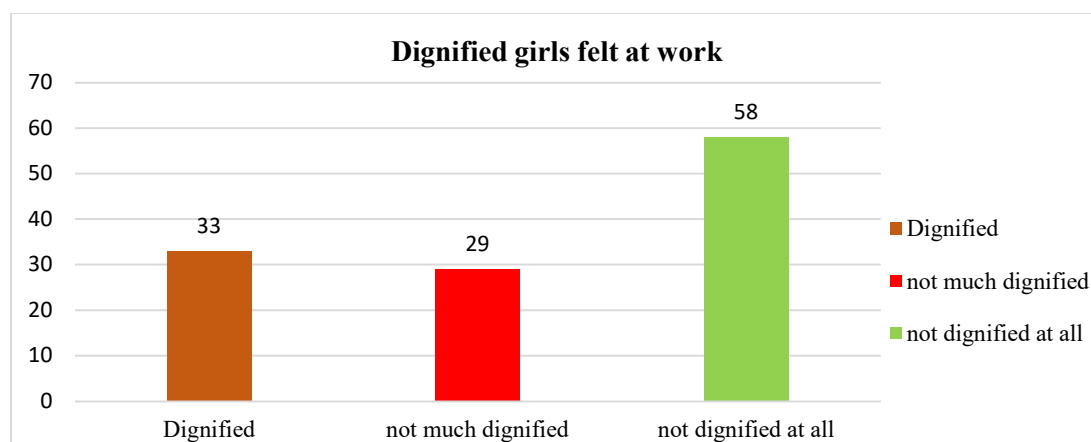
Out of 11 girls who had previous job experience, 3 worked as a household maid, 2 worked as labor worker while 1 girl worked as waiter, 1 worked in housekeeping, 1 worked in foreign country, 1 worked as ticket collector in parking, 1 girl sold street foods and 1 worked as salesperson in a fancy store.

Major reasons provided by girls for leaving their previous jobs were low income (5) and hard physical work (4) required in the job. One of the respondents elaborated their reason for leaving previous job:

I used to work in streets selling vegetables and fruits but it was not even enough for fulfilling basic necessities. So, I started working in dance bars where I can work and earn decent income. I don't have to work very hard every day like before to save money as working in dance bar is an easy job .

#### **7. Dignified the girls felt at work and no. of girls engaged in this sector:**

Almost half of the girls (n=58, 48.3%) reported that they did not feel dignified at all at their work whereas more than a quarter of girls (n=33, 27.5%) felt dignified at work and the other quarter of girls (n=29, 24.2%) said that the work they do is not much dignified.



*Figure 20: Dignified girls felt at work*

Many respondents who reported this work as undignified were still working there as they felt that they did not have any rights to reject unwanted activities at work and had no other livelihood option. A respondent who reported their work as being undignified, in the field survey said:

Many girls work in entertainment sector unwillingly due to various hardships and problems. As the society sees this sector and girls in a negative way, girls are forced to lie when they want to rent a place and they lie about their profession to their parents and society also. Even though girls feel uncomfortable wearing short revealing clothes, they have to wear it and entertain guests as well. Thus, government should legalize this sector and state it as a dignified work so the girls do not have to hide their identity in the society.

According to 120 girls interviewed in this study, there were 1009 other girls working with them in same workplace making a total of 1129 girls which is close to the current estimated number i.e., 1200 girls working in entertainment sector in Pokhara.

### **8. Other livelihood options preferred by girls if they quit this profession:**

Foreign employment (31) was the most commonly preferred livelihood option reported by girls if they wanted to leave entertainment sector, followed by opening grocery store (24), 14 girls wanted to learn some skills and work. Other livelihood options preferred by girls were beautician training and opening beauty parlor (9), to do their own business (7). 5 girls wanted to learn tailoring and open tailor shop while other 5 girls did not know what other livelihood options they would prefer

if they had to leave this profession. 4 girls were interested in animal husbandry if they could leave the entertainment sector.

*Table 1: Other livelihood options preferred by girls if they quit this profession*

S.N.	Other livelihood options	Frequency (N)	Percent (%)
1.	Foreign Employment	31	25.8%
2.	Opening grocery store	24	20%
3.	Learn some skills and work	14	11.7%
4.	Do beautician training, open beauty parlor	9	7.4%
5.	Do their own business	7	5.8%
6.	Learn tailoring, open tailor shop	5	4.1%
7.	Did not know which livelihood options they would prefer	5	4.1%
8.	Animal husbandry	4	3.3%

## DISCUSSION:

Almost half of the girls interviewed in our study were between 21-25 years of age while a study done in minors in Kathmandu, 2019 revealed that more than half i.e., 55% of girls were between age of 18-21 years. In another study done in Kathmandu by Aryal K in 2020, about a quarter of girls were between the age of 24-28 years. In our study, majority of girls (43.3%) were from Dalit ethnic groups whereas 48% girls were from Janajati ethnic group in study done in 2019. Study done in 2020 also showed similar results, Girls from janajati (35%) ethnic group were in majority as well. Majority of the girls were illiterate (28.3%) in our study whereas majority of girls were reported to have completed lower secondary level in study done in Kathmandu, 2020.

In our study, more than half of the girls (65%) were from outside Pokhara where majority of them were from Myagdi. In a study done in minors in Kathmandu, around 55% were from outside Kathmandu as they initially came with the intention of continuing their further studies. But due to lack of enough resources, they had to drop out and engage in entertainment sector for income. Dance bars (40%) were the most common venue in our study, followed by dohori saanjh (35.8%) where girls worked. Similar result was seen in other study done in 2020 where majority of girls were working in dance bars whereas khaja restaurant was the most common place where girls worked in a study done in minors. 45% girls were married and other 45% were unmarried in our

study while majority of respondents were unmarried/single (47.4%) in other study in Kathmandu, 2020. Out of 54 married girls, 35 girls had children with majority of girls (21) having just one child.

Majority of girls currently active in this sector were first introduced in this entertainment industry by their friends. Similarly, friends were also the major source in both the studies done in Kathmandu. 98% (118) girls provided informed consent and knew what they were doing when they entered into this profession. Similarly, same number of girls reported that they were doing the same work they were promised when they joined this sector. According to the findings, most of the girls (61.7%) entered this profession at an early age between 14-19 years while some girls started between 20-25 years of age and, no any girl started working before age of 14 years. Similar findings were seen in a study done in Kathmandu, 2020, where more than one-third girls (35.1%) started working in this sector between 14-18 years of age.

According to our study findings, majority of girls (47.4%) were seen joining this sector by their own interest, followed by easy job (31.9%), force/coercion (14.6%), no education or skills for other job (3.8%) and no other job opportunities even after education (2.3%). No education or skills for other job (31.6%) was the most common reason for entering entertainment sector followed by easy job (17.5%) in the other study. Although girls knew what they had to do at work, still there were things which were forced upon them. In our findings, out of 61 girls who were forced at work, majority of girls were financially forced followed by being emotionally forced and verbally forced. Similar result was also seen in the previous study, where almost half of the girls (49.1%) were forced to work in this sector. 96 girls got their salary paid on time on monthly basis, 22 girls got paid sometimes on monthly basis while only 2 girls were not paid on time.

Regarding experiences of abuse at work, out of 98 girls who were abused 97 were abused by their clients while only 1 girl was abused by her owner or employer. Previous study done in Kathmandu also presented similar findings as in our study where more than two-third of girls were abused at work and were mostly abused by their clients (51.3%). According to our findings, request for sexual favors (80) were the major type of abuse occurring at work, followed by inappropriate touching (78), negative remarks or verbal abuse (31), hitting, beating or slapping (5) and rape or attempted rape (1). Request for sexual favors, inappropriate touching and attempted rape or rape were the major forms of abuse occurring at work in the other similar study. In our findings, 82

girls abused at work communicated about the abuse to others while remaining 16 girls did not tell anyone about the abuse they faced at work. More than four-fifth (81.9%) of girls communicated about abuse to their co-workers as this same abuse was experienced by these co-workers as well. Similarly in the other study, most of the girls (43.6%) also shared about the incident with their co-workers.

Almost three-fourth (74.2%) girls were asked to engage in intimate activities during work while 25.8% girls were not asked to be intimate during their work. Out of those asked to be intimate, only 18 girls thought it to be part of the job while most of the girls (71) did not think that being intimate was their part of job. In comparison to our study, lesser girls were asked to be intimate during work (66.7%) and even lesser girls (7.9%) thought it to be part of job in a study done in Kathmandu. Majority of girls (115) were free to leave job and 5 girls who were forced to work revealed their home being far away as a reason for not leaving their job whereas more than a quarter of girls were not free to leave job in the other study. Main reasons girls presented for staying in the entertainment sector were them being far away from home and threat of physical violence. In our findings, only few girls (11) had previous job experience where major reason for leaving it were low income and hard physical work. Contrasting results were presented in the other study where more than half girls were seen with previous job experience.

In comparison to other similar study, around half of the girls (n=58, 48.3%) in our study reported that they did not feel that their work was dignified at all whereas majority of girls (71.9%) considered their work not dignified at all in other study. More than a quarter of girls (n=33, 27.5%) felt dignified at work in our study whereas only few thought their work to be dignified in other study. Regarding preferred livelihood option, girls reported foreign employment (31) as the best option if they wanted to leave entertainment sector, followed by opening grocery store (24), 14 girls wanted to learn some skills and work accordingly. Beautician training and opening beauty parlor (9), doing own business (7) were some other livelihood options preferred by girls.

## **CONCLUSION:**

In Nepalese entertainment sectors, use of force or coercion, deception, allurements to include women and girls in forced prostitution and forced labor or other services is a never-ending process. From the study, it can be clearly seen that low sociodemographic factors significantly increase the chances of girls' vulnerability to higher degree of exploitation leading to entering entertainment

industry at a younger age. Most of the girls working in these sectors were seen providing informed consent and were aware about the nature of the work when they were employed. As girls were in desperate need of job and money, they accepted any kind of job they were offered at that time even after having knowledge about their job's nature.

Many girls were abused in various ways mostly by their clients at work. Request for sexual favors and inappropriate touching were major forms of abuse experienced by girls. Almost three-fourth girls were asked to be intimate and out of them many thought it not to be part of the job. Majority of girls were free to leave job at any time and reasons for not leaving were home being far away. As girls had migrated from their village and did not have support from anyone, they were bound to this work and did not have anywhere to go. As our society has negative perspective towards this sector and girls involved, they felt this work was not dignified at all. Those who are already involved in this sector were seen interested in leaving this sector if they were provided with other preferred livelihood options.

Nowadays, Nepal is making decent efforts to create better future for girls and provide equal opportunities for all children, through changes in laws and with several authorities and social organizations being established. With these efforts, girls will grasp the opportunity to access social security, social protection and receive both education and necessary information. In Nepal, future of girls is unsure and in jeopardy, especially those from rural areas, hence, endeavors to provide a secure future for them and protect their rights should be strengthened.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

On the basis of the study findings, following recommendations could be drawn:

1. Due to impoverished families, low socio-economic status and lack of education facilities, girls were seen migrating from rural areas for better security and livelihood. Hence, young girls at risk should be provided with quality education, life skill trainings and employment opportunities at their place of origin before they find their way into entertainment industry at a young age.
2. As customers were the most abusive person in our findings, campaigns should be conducted to change behavior of customers towards girls working in this sector.



3. NGOs and INGOs should also bring their focus on owners of these entertainment sectors. Owners should be given orientation regarding their rights and duties towards their employees. They should provide legal contracts to girls with wages mentioned for workers under Labor Act 2074 instead of exploiting them with minimum wages.
4. According to Child Right Acts 2018, children are prohibited to enter and work in entertainment sector. But many girls were seen involved in this sector at younger age i.e.,14-19 years, therefore, continuous and detailed monitoring should be done to identify minors in this sector.
5. As society sees this sector as undignified and girls in negative perspective, this sector should be properly legalized and made dignified as other sectors. Girls in these sectors should not be forced to engage in sexual activities. Therefore, sexual exploitation and prostitution should be strictly prohibited in Nepali entertainment sector.