



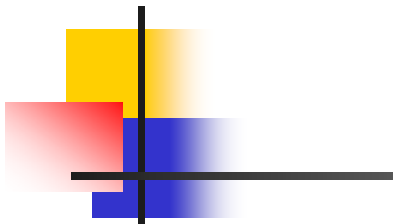
# Street Children in Pakistan

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Presented By

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Pakistan



# Map





# Population

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- Pakistan's estimated population was 172,800,000 in July 2008.
- **Age structure**
- 0-14 years: 42% (male 33,293,428; female 31,434,314)
- 15-64 years: 54.9% (male 48,214,298; female 46,062,933)
- 65 years and over: 4.1% (male 3,256,065; female 3,542,522) (2006 est.)



# Definition

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- **Street children** is a term used to refer to children who live on the streets of a city. They are deprived of family care and protection.
- In Pakistan we have more than 1,5 million Street Children and majority of them Migrant from Afganistan and Kashmir.

# Street Children





# Main Reasons

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- Poverty
- Have no choice
- Family breakdown
- Released from Jail
- Natural and man-made disasters
- 'Runaway' children
- Physical and sexual abuse
- Armed conflict
- Dislocation through migration
- Urbanization and overcrowding



# Factors

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- Poverty clearly was an important factor. Most street children came from large families which had recently moved to the city in search of economic opportunities/migrant from Kashmir and Afghanistan. Their parents had low education levels and were either unemployed or employed in unskilled occupations. The majority of the children moved to the street to augment family income.





# Factors

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- Children are turning to the streets amidst increasing poverty, unemployment, rise family size and social collapse seen in abuse in schools, as well as domestic violence, neglect and family breakdown.



# Type of Work

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- Begging
- Car washing and watching
- Drug trafficking and dealing
- Fighting
- Juggling
- Performing music
- Selling blood
- Sex
- Sex work
- Shoe shinning
- Stealing
- Using alcohol and other drugs
- Vending (selling items often in the market)

# Children at Work





# Problems

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- Street Children beg and search around rubbish dumps or industrial waste sites or take on unskilled jobs as cart pushers or dish washers, working 12-15 hours a day to earn around 50 rupees or EURO = 0.5- if they are fortunate.



# Social problems

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- **Poverty.**
- **Illiteracy.**
- **Discrimination and lack of accessible resources.**
- **Violent Environment.**
- **Stigmatization.**



# Physical problems

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- **Lack of adequate nutrition.**
- **Injuries.**
- **Sexual and reproductive health problems.**
- **Common diseases.**
- **Psychological problems.**
- **mental problems.**



# Problems

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- Child 'rental' for begging is a new and increasingly popular phenomenon among poor households. Parents 'rent' their children out to an individual or group and both parties share the child's earnings. The inhumane treatment drives children to drugs and into the arms of criminal gangs who promise protection, food and a better life



# Problems (Health)

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- Most survive by prostituting themselves, stealing or smuggling, making them vulnerable to contracting sexually transmitted infections, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Jaundice and liver or kidney disorders. A large proportion sniffs cheap, readily available solvents to starve off hunger, loneliness and fear.



# Problems (Legal)

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- The main problem in Pakistan is that street children are 'particularly vulnerable to abuses in juvenile justice systems; they are more likely to come into (actual or perceived) conflict with the law, and they are less able to defend themselves from abuse once within the system, they need to earn money or food to survive.



# Problems ( Legal)

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- Street children are Common subject to physical abuse by the police. They are frequently detained arbitrarily, simply because they are homeless, or criminally charged with Petty offenses such as loitering, Charse or petty theft. They are tortured or beaten by police and often held for long periods in poor conditions.



# Problem

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- Homeless children on the streets are one of the most disadvantaged sectors of urban youth. Their circumstances leave them without access to many of their human rights and excluded from mainstream society. In Pakistan we have some special laws for the street children, but due to lack of funds we are unable to help them.



# Role of Government

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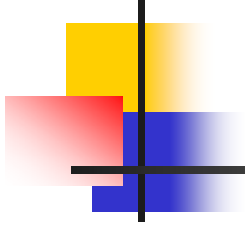
- The rights of street children are often ignored by governments even though nearly all of the world's.
- Pakistan also ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- In Pakistan we have some special laws for the street children, but the problem is implementation on that .



# Government Responsibility

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- Food
  - medical services
  - legal assistance
  - Free education
  - financial support
  - family reunification
  - Night shelters
- outreach programs designed to bring the children into closer contact with the agency



Thanks