### CASE BOOKLET OF GIRL CHILD TRAFFICKING AND RUNAWAYS AT BEHRAMPUR RAILWAY STATION







Selected cases
are from
PROJECT
RAKSHYAK
BERHAMPUR

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Get in touch with us @ +91-674-2311444 info@sochforchildren.org/ https://sochforchildren.org/ In the current age and time, HUMAN TRAFFICKING is a big epidemic for our society. Human trafficking is the act of recruiting, transferring, harboring a person through force and other means for exploitation. Human traffickers create an unhealthy environment not just for children but for adults too. We can find out two forms of human trafficking in our society: trafficking for laborious work and trafficking for commercial sex business. According to official reports, in India, of the total 120000 women and children, around 80 percent are being trafficked for sexual exploitation. INDIA has a very high volume of child trafficking. Every year around 44000 children fall into the clutches of the traffickers. As per the NATIONAL CRIME RECORD BUREAU, many children are being trafficked from Nepal and Bangladesh. According to the CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation), more than 1.2 million children are involved in prostitution, and the girl children ratio is higher in this case.

In a state like Odisha, around three children are missing, which can be traced back to trafficking. According to the state police data, Odisha recorded about 700 cases in 2014, and now it has increased by around 44 percent. Among all states, Odisha has reported the maximum trafficking cases when the age factor is considered, particularly below 18 years category. Trafficking hubs in-state are Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Baleswar, Kandhamala, Sundergarh, Balangir, Nuapada, Koraput, and Ganjam. In comparison to other districts, Ganjam has a high rate of girl child trafficking cases. In particular, Berhampur is a place in Ganjam district, which is known for child trafficking. The railway station in Berhampur seems to be a transit point for child traffickers.

Many organizations and children's helpline are working to rescue children from these epidemics. But among all the organizations, the SOCH organization is doing marvelous work for abandoned children, the children who are victims of trafficking, and the sexually harassed children. The SOCH rescues and resettles them.

As we know, Berhampur is the place of child traffickers. In the year 2016, the SOCH had played a vital role in the field of rescuing children. Especially SOCH staff had rescued many girl children from traffickers. They saved them and reunited them with their parents. SOCH is only working for children who are below 18 years. SOCH's main objective is to protect children from traffickers and provide them with a healthy atmosphere. A place where they can study well and live their lives without fear, just like any other child in a typical environment. There are stories of many trafficked girls in this document, who were rescued by the SOCH team in 2016. They rescued them, counseled them, and reunited them with their family.

### "A sweet lie that almost ruined the girl's life."

Child name: Mamina Mallick (Name Changed)	Age: 13 years
Total members in family: 08	Siblings: 04
Father: Begadi Mallick	Occupation: Farmer
Contact and counselling date 20-09-2016	Referred to Utkal Balashrama
Address: Majagada, Kandamal, Odisha	P.S: Tikabali

#### **ENCOUNTERING THE CHILD**

The SOCH staff outreach team rescued the girl child from Berhampur Railway station on 20-09-2016. She was traveling by train along with an unknown man. At the platform, the group's staff approached them casually and questioned them. It was found out that the girl was traveling for labor purposes illegally. They didn't respond to the interrogation, and it was observed that the unknown man was behaving unnaturally. As the staff had a difficult time, they called the GRPF staff. The unidentified man who brought those girls had escaped. With the help of GRPF, they rescued the minor girl from the traffickers.

#### Case analysis of trafficked child:

- ❖ The child had run away from home without information to the family for work
- ❖ The child was brought to the SOCH

#### **Process of Counseling;**

#### 1. First Step of Counseling:

During the first Counseling, the child shared minimum basic

information about her family. She has both parents and two brothers, and a sister. The child later revealed that she dropped out of school following her own choice. As she was sitting idle at home, she decided to go to Chennai in search of work. It wasn't a challenging task for the counselor to collect the information.

#### 1. Second Step of Counseling:

The child's statement about the school dropout thing was a white lie. The counselor assured the child, and finally, she shared the reason as to why she had run away from home. She said that she left studying due to two reasons, The lack of interest in studies, and the financial issue at home.

The child had heard about Chennai's job, so she came to Berhampur for the train journey. She contacted the boy who was already in Chennai. Then she convinced her mother by saying that she would collect books and be late while returning.

#### Reason Analysis of run-away:

Her peer group influenced the child to go to Chennai.

#### **Decision over the child future:**

At last, the CWC members decided that the child must be reunited with her family. The child was taken back to her parents on 22-09-2019

Follow Up Status - when we did a follow-up on 7th December her contact number said not reachable.

"Don't worry that children never listen to you; worry that they are always watching you."

— Robert Fulghum, author

### "Desperate conditions made her take the wrong step."

Child name: Anupama Majhi (Name Changed)	Age: 16 years
Total members in family: 06	Siblings: 04
Parents: Late. Groda majhi, Mrs. Sinfurai Majhi	Occupation: Farmer
Contact and counselling date 18-07-2016	No. of times left home: 2
Address: Hadapadar, Gajapati,, Odisha	P.S: Adwa

#### THE HUNGRY CHILD

The staff of SOCH interrogated a child on the railway platform in Berhampur Railway station. She was on her way to Mumbai for labor purposes. SOCH staff found her hungry and seeks, and brought her to the shelter home.

#### **Family Background**

The child had a single parent. The child had three elder brothers. When she was alone at home, she ran away, without her mother's knowledge.

#### Reason for run-away from family:

✓ She ran away due to financial problems.

#### **Education dropped out:**

✓ Due to financial issues.

#### **Counseling note: 1**

She is the child of late Mr. Gruda Majhi, mother Sundurai Majhi. She has three brothers, one staying with mother and the others living in Bangalore for work purposes.

#### **Counseling note: 2**

The child said that she left studying due to financial problems. And she had started a journey towards Mumbai for labor. She was very cooperative with SOCH staff.

#### Circumstances made her flee home:

- **✓** Lack of financial support
- **✓** Influenced (trafficked) by a relative by motivating her urban working style.

Follow Up Details: We tried to call them on  $7^{th}$  December but her number didn't work.

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Child name: Namita Mandal (Name Changed)	Age: 14 years
Total members in family: 05	Siblings: 03
Father: Samra Mandal	Occupation: Farmer
Contact and counselling date 11/12-07-2016	Referred to: Parents
Address: Gira, Gajapati, Odisha	P.S: Guma

"For a noble cause, but at a wrong age and in a wrong way."

Namita Mandal is the daughter of Mr. Samra Mandal and Mrs. Demanti Mandal. She grew up in her family, which is below the poverty line. She is the only girl child in the family and has two siblings. Though she was a single girl child in the family, she could not afford to go to school ever due to lack of a stable income.

#### First Counseling note by SOCH;

Namita had a keen interest in supporting her brothers, who are studying with minimum financial support. As per the SOCH's first counseling note, she said she was away from home with prior permission from her parents to solve some of the family's financial problems, notably to support her two brothers' education. While she added that she had been working earlier in Kanya Kumari and had short holidays at home and presently that she was returning to her regular job.

The fact of her first counseling note seems to be drowning in the fake. With some professional counseling methods, she confessed that she was away from her family without her parents' knowledge. She said that "she came out from home while her parents were away for work. She took advantage of it and contacted her friend and another

unknown broker. They had told them to be at Berhampur railway station. She said that she came away from home without saying anything. The reason for coming out was to support her family financially.

**Trafficker note**: He said he would be coming late to Berhampur station (relative) and will pick up. But before the traffickers, SOCH staff noticed the children, and they rescued them at the Berhampur railway station.

Child Background and the circumstances that made the child flee



home:

- ✓ The child has not received any education, and she has faced an extreme financial crisis in the family.
- ✓ Since she is illiterate, she was easily influenced by the other person by speaking about the good salary and the lifestyle in the city area.
- ✓ She has noticed the family's hunger and poverty at an early age and had a keen interest in supporting her siblings in a school with limited financial support.

#### **Decision over the child future:**

Upon analyzing the issues that the child faced, the decision had been made with help from CWC that the child must be reunited with her family. Hence, the child was handed over to her parents on 16.04.2016.

#### A note from the Parents:

The parents view this great work from the SOCH, and in their own words, their response was, "thanks for saving my child, and it's a great work, keep the good work."

#### **Decision given by the counselor to Parents:**

Parents are being explained the conditions in the society outside and not sending them out without proper guidance while still a teenager.

**Follow up Details:** On 7<sup>th</sup> December we did a phone up follow and got to know that she's working at home with knowledge of her parents.

We might consider the people working with and for SOCH as the happiest people a person can ever see. As the saying goes as "the happiest people are those who lose themselves in others' service." The staff here at SOCH work relentlessly to curb child trafficking and help the misguided teens and children who run away from their families for one reason or the other. As we saw earlier, such as others being influenced by others over the lifestyle in the cities, supporting their family financially, and in some cases school dropouts who are misguided and misinformed about the harsh reality of the world we live in

#### "An orphan trying to make a life of her own."

Name: Saraswati Majhi (Name Changed)	Age: 14 years
Total members in family: 03	Siblings: 01
Parents:Late. Utam majhi, Late.Labita Majhi	Guardian: Grandparents
Contact and counselling date 02-06-2016	Referred to: Kandamal CWC
Address: Kotagarh, Kandhamal, Odisha	P.S: Kotagarh

Saraswati Majhi, a docile girl, lost her parents in her childhood and grew up under her grandparents' shade. She hardly had any education in her life. She studied till the fourth standard some six years ago and has since been living with her grandparents. Helping her

grandparents and fighting poverty while being in a small village of Kandamal district called Kotagarh in Odisha.

### Child Background and the circumstances that made the child flee home:

Her friends had trafficked the child by influencing her tender mind about the city's lifestyle, work, and earning potential. While Saraswati Majhi, a teenager, had hardly seen the harsh reality of the real world and



mostly had her experiences in the village itself. She was influenced quickly by the fraudsters' fake and attractive words and agreed to go to the city for work. They came with a group of teenagers to the Berhampur railway station to go to Mumbai. But the staff of SATHI, who are always active and exclusively working in the railway station at Berhampur, identified them as some helpless teenagers. They rescued and gave them shelter at SATHI shelter home in hill Patna Berhampur by politely approaching them.

#### **Counseling note by SOCH:**

As per the process of SOCH, the group of teenagers rescued are counseled. The others tried to tell lies, while this girl frankly said that she is an orphan who lived with her grandparents. And since the family condition is very poor, she travelled to Mumbai with friends for work. She was frank enough to give the main reason for running away from home. She said that due to poor condition and not being interested in her studies, she was going to Mumbai.

There was no new input at the second Counseling. The primary information remains the same. Easy to give Counseling.

#### Factors Made her to run-away from home:

- ✓ Due to the extreme poverty in the family
- ✓ Lack of interest in studying
- ✓ Being an orphan, the child had not received enough care in her study and financial support.
- ✓ Lack of education, unable to think rationally, she was overtaken by her friends.

#### **Decision over the child future:**

The decision for the child was made based on her family. Since she has no parents, she was being decided to refer to Kandamal CWC, and she was handed over on 02.06.2016 to Kandamal CWC.

<u>Follow up</u>: We did a phone follow up on 8th December her parents shared that she is idle at home.

# "Seeing her mother work alone to support the family, she thought of working in Mumbai"

Name: Sumati Pradhan (Name Changed)	Age: 17 years
Total members in family: 07	Siblings: 05
Parents: Mrs. Madan Pradhan	Occupation: Farmer
Contact and counselling date 28-05-2016	Referred to: CWC Kandamal
Address: Kotagarh, Kandamal, Odisha	P.S: Kotagarh

Sumati Pradhan belongs to a single parent. Family economic status is extremely poor. Due to the family's extremely poor condition and lack of interest in studies, the child had decided to go to Mumbai for work. The family status is she has two brothers and two sisters at home.

#### Factors affecting child to run-away from family:

- The poor condition of the family
- Lack of interest in studying
- The child met friends who are working outside and earning little money.

#### First counseling note from SOCH:

During the first Counseling, she said that she has a relative in Mumbai, so she had been going for leisure roaming in Mumbai.

Later by the force of professional Counseling, she said that she is going to Mumbai for work, because of her disinterest in her studies and the family's poor financial condition. She left home; while her mom was away from the family for her work, she came with Mumbai's peers and one of the village leaders. The Counseling initially was a bit tough because she had been lying that she has a relative in Mumbai.

#### **Decision over the child future:**

The decision was made together with the CWC that the child must be handed over to the Kandamal CWC. The child was handed over to CWC Kandhamal on 02.05.2016.

#### Counselor advice to the child:

The child is being encouraged not to go out while still being in her teenage years. She is being explained by the harshness and condition of the outside work.

Follow Up Details: We tried to call them on 8<sup>th</sup> December but her number didn't work.

# "Even though her heart was at the right place, her age and time wasn't right."

Child name: Madhavi Pradhan (Name Changed)

Total members in family: 07

Parents: Mrs. Madonna Pradhan

Contact and counselling date -2016

Address: Katagarh, Kandamal, Odisha

Occupation: Farmer

Referred to: Kandamal CWC

The child belongs to a single parent. She is the daughter of Late. Pasanger Pradhan, mother Madana Pradhan from Kotagara village Kandamal district. The child's family economic condition is poor. Due to that, the child was on the way to Mumbai for work.

#### Factors led the child to leave home:

- The poor economic condition of the family
- Influenced by the peer group
- Lack of interest in the study.

#### **Counseling Note:**

The child was with friends, and they were on the way to Mumbai for work. She said that she has a relative over there in Mumbai. And they are going to Mumbai for leisure roaming purposes.

The first statement given by the child about her relative in Mumbai was not the truth. She lied for her safety from SOCH. But later, she confessed that she had been going to Mumbai to work with her friends, and leader from the village who led them to Mumbai.

#### **Decision over the child future:**

With the help of the CWC, the child was referred to place to the CWC kandamal. And she was transferred to Kandamal CWC on 30-05-2016 by SOCH staff.

#### Counselor guidance to the child:

The child has been explained professionally that not to go out. At the same time, they are just young and being explained about the harshness of city life. The child also is encouraged to stay at home and to help parents.

**Follow-Up Details**: when we did a follow-up on 8th December her contact number said not reachable.

### "A rather bold move for such a tender age."

Name: Chandana Swain (Name Changed)	Age: 16 years
Total members in family: 05	Siblings: 04
Parents: Mr. Prasanta Kumar Swain	Occupation: Farmer
Contact and counselling date 29/30-04-2016	Handover to: Parents
Address: Gohora, Barapulli, Odisha	P.S: Gangapur

The child belongs to a typical family, having both parents, but having an extremely poor economic condition. The approximate family monthly income is 5000 per month. She has one younger sister and one elder brother. She has reached the 10th standard, and she has been a dropout for the last one year. The reason for dropping out is due to her disinterest in studying.

#### Reasons for leaving home:

- ❖ The child was idle at home without study
- ❖ Poor financial support
- ❖ She wishes to help her sibling's education through working and earning.

#### First counseling note by SOCH:

During the Counseling, she said that she is interested in studying. Still, due to financial problems, she could not continue her study. At first counseling she was on her way to Chennai to search for



work. She left home to support her family and help her siblings, who had left for Chennai for work.

The child was frank enough, to tell the truth. The notes of the first Counseling were the same. Working for five months. She had come for the home holidays for the festival.

#### Counselor's Guide to the child:

Parents are being told not to leave the child for work outside while they are still teenagers; instead, try to educate them if possible. With the help of the CWC, the decision was made to reunite her with the family. She was reunited with her parents on 30.04.2016.

#### **Parents Note to Organization:**

Parents were happy with that act and expressed that they were also unwilling to send the child for work outside, but the child had gone out on her own with an adamant attitude for work.

Follow Up: when we did a follow-up on 8th December her contact number was Switched up.

#### "Thanks for your help SOCH, we will try our best to take care of her" - from a parent

Child name: Sameera Nayak (Name Changed)	Age: 14 years
Total members in family: 07	Siblings: 05
Parents: Mr. Narendra Nayak, Mrs. Gelli Nayak	Occupation: Farmer
Contact date: 31-05-2016	Counselling date: 01-06-2016
Address: Moahana kariguda, Gajapati, Odisha	P.S: Moahana

The child belongs to an ordinary family. Both parents were alive. But as per the child's statement, her father does not work but remains idle. But his mom worked hard as a laborer and was part of a poor family. She is not interested in the study and dropped out while she was on 5th standard. She wants a kind of living girl and wants to have a type of luxurious house for living. She has three elder sisters, all married, one brother married and

#### The reason behind to leave home:

- The child is not interested in study but has more interest in her leisure with friends.
- She is a kind of luxurious seeker girl.
- Poor economic background

settled

• She received a type of critique from her friends for the poor house condition.

#### **First Counseling Notes:**

During the first Counseling, she said that she came with the parents of knowledge. And she was on the way to Surat for work with friends. She said that her brothers and sisters and father are not working, but mom works as labor. (Traffickers).

The same notes of the first Counseling were repeated. The counseling process was not easy because she could not share the details and the right reason for run-away. The parents were being contacted, and they were informed and invited. Later, her parents came to know the main reason. Needless to say, she came out from home without the parents' knowledge.

#### **Decision over the child:**

The child was handed over to her parents with help from CWC Berhampur and reunited with her family on 01.06.2016.

#### The Counselor's advice to the child:

Do not go out of the station because you are not agedly grown up and physically fit for work. Obey your parents and support them; they love you.

Note to parents: parents are guided to take care of the needs of the child and do not allow the child to go out; instead, they try to solve the problem of the child.

#### Parents note to the organization:

Parents noted to the origination that the organization is beneficial and thanked for the safety given to the child. And since they had been looking for their missing child, they felt pleased about getting back safely to their child. They promised that they would give the necessary guidance and care for the child.

**Follow up Details:** On 8<sup>th</sup> December we did a phone up follow and got to know that she's working at home with knowledge of her parent's.

Alone we can do so little; together, we can do so much. That is what most organizations working for society believe in. And SOCH also believes the same thing. All they need in order to do that is support from the people who want to bring a change in society. As most people in society want to do things that organizations like SOCH do, they lack resources, guidance, and time to do all the work. So, all such people can do their part by supporting organizations like SOCH by showing support and donating money, which is required for the organization to function and to keep up the good work that they are doing.

#### "A desperate girl's attempt to support her brother's education."

Child name: Keerti Pradhan (Name Changed)	Age: 15 years
Total members in family: 03	Siblings: 01
Parents: Late. Groda majhi, Mrs. Sinfurai Majhi	Occupation: Farmer
Contact and counselling date 18-07-2016	No. of times left home: 2
Address: Hadapadar, Gajapati, Odisha	P.S: Adwa

Keerti Pradhan is an orphan child. She was the daughter of late Sanjinga Pradhan and Mrs. Bikari Pradhan. She lost her parents in her childhood and lives with her Auntie. Since the child had extreme poverty conditions at home, she decided to go out of the city and work. The child had been traveling to Surat with her friends for work.

#### The factors influenced the child to flee home:

- ❖ The extremely poor economic conditions in the family.
- ❖ No proper guidance in the family to motivate her for a good life.
- ❖ She was very interested in studying, but her uncle and Aunt forced her not to continue studying due to the lack of financial support.
- ❖ She wants to support her young brother's education.

#### **First counseling note:**

In the first interaction with the counselor, she said that she came with the family's knowledge. Also, she was interested in studying, but since she doesn't have parents, her Auntie was forced to leave her studies to work at home. She confessed that she had come to work in Surat for work and help her brother to study. In second counseling, she said that she had one younger brother studying, and in fear that they will stop his education, she left home for the working. She informed the family that she is going to work.

The counseling process was challenging because she was not willing to share any information. She wasn't even ready to share the reason for going out for work, but she revealed the truth with the counselors' force.

#### Advice to the child:

The child had been encouraged not to go out for work. Since she is from Gajapati, she was encouraged to approach Gajapati CWC.No parents visited, but the staff had handover the child to Gajapati CWC. The child was handed over to the Gajapati CWC on 01.06.2016.

**Follow up Details:** On 7<sup>th</sup> December we did a phone up follow and got to know that she's working at home with knowledge of her parent's.

"The grass on the other side is always greener, and she learnt it the hard way."

Child name: Sanjana Nayak (Name Changed)	Age: 14 years
Total members in family: 07	Siblings: 05
Parents: Tileshwar and Padmini Nayak	Occupation: labor
Contact date 28-08-2016	Counselling date: 29-08-2016
Address: Kirma, Brahmanigaon, Odisha	P.S: Brahmanigaon

#### Case of Miss Sanjana Nayak:

Sanjana Nayak is the kind of girl who looks for the luxurious and a kind of easy-going life pleasure-seeker in the family. She is the daughter of Mr. Tileswar Nayak, Mother Mrs. Padmini Nayak. Sanjana had dropped out of the school due to her lack of interest in studying. She has two elder brothers and one younger sister at home. Her father works as a card painter, and her mother works as a H/W.

#### Factors influenced her to run away home:

- Poor economic condition at home.
- Her lack of interest in studying.
- She was influenced by the other people who had been working outside.

#### **Counseling note:**

She was fair enough to tell the actual reason for running away from home. She said that she is not interested in studying and stays idle at home. Due to the idle life without study at home, she interacted with her sister-in-law from her village and went out to work working a job of child-caring in Pune. She was going to the goa out without the knowledge of her parents. The information from both the child and her parents' statement was the same. The process of Counseling was easy Counseling.

#### **Additional note from Parents:**

When the child's parents came to the shelter, they informed that she was roaming around in the village and was scolded not only for not studying but also for wandering around. And finally, she had contact with her one of sister in law in the village and had gone for work to goa. The statement given by the parents and the child was the same.

#### **Advice to the child from SOCH:**

SOCH advised the child not to go out for work and outside the state without informing the parents. The child was reunited with the parents on 29.08.2016.

**Follow up Details:** On 7<sup>th</sup> December we did a phone up follow but her number is Switched off.

#### "Grief and pressure from the loan sharks made her take the dangerous step."

Child name: Nithya Nayak (Name Changed)	Age: 14 years
Total members in family: 05	Siblings: 03
Parents: Mrs. Babita Nayak	Occupation: Farmer
Contact: 29-04-2016	counselling date: 30-04-2016
Address: Naguda, Ganjam, Odisha	P.S: Buguda

#### **Child short family sketch:**

Nithya Nayak was one of the most grieved children in the family, due to which she had to leave home though her mother didn't agree to send her away for work outside. She belongs to a single parent. She lost her father just a few months back. And now the family had been deeply grieving over the financial problems at home and the loss of the guardian. She studied up to 9th standard and had to drop out due to the family's financial situation.

#### **Counseling note:**

As she was in grief, she didn't say the fake information to the counselor. She said that she came to work in Tamilnadu, her father was sick for around six months, and finally, he passed away. For her father's treatment, they had borrowed some money, which they couldn't repay, and were pressured by the lenders. At this moment, she had asked her Mother that she would come out from home and to



go to Tamilnadu for work. She later came away from home with another friend's help while her Mom was away from the family.

The child didn't lie in her first statement. She said that she came to work due to her family condition. Her initial statement about her mother knowing about her traveling was a lie. She later confessed that she was out without her mother's knowledge.

#### **Decision over the child:**

The child had been reunited with her family with CWC's help. Nithya Nayak was handed over to her mother on 30.04.2016

<u>Follow up Details</u>: On 8<sup>th</sup> December we did a phone up follow and got to know that she's studying at home.

Child name: Jhanvi Padar (Name Changed)	Age: 14 years
economic status: poor	father: Karteek Padar
mother: LT. Lata Padar	Occupation: Farmer
Contact and counselling date 16/18-01-2016	Handed over to: CWC Kandamal
Address: Braminika katinga, Kandamal, Odisha	P.S: Braminika

#### "All it takes is one wrong 'step' to make a rash decision."

#### Case of the Miss JhanviPadar

JhanviPadar is the daughter of Mr. Karthik Padar's step Mother Lata Padar. She was traveling alone to Mumbai for work. She was all alone, sitting over the Berhampur Railway station in a depressed mood. While the SOCH outreach staff observed that she had been here for a long time, the team had approached her in a friendly manner. She said that she has been traveling for work to Mumbai. To avoid the crowd on the platform, she was brought to the SOCH office for further interaction.

#### The environment faced by the child at home:

- The child had been given less love with her stepmother. As her birth mother is no more alive.
- She also experienced extreme poverty in the family.
- She felt a kind of rejection at home due to her stepmother.
- Due to being emotionally rejected in the family and the harsh experience of the poverty line at home and less care, she leaves Home for Mumbai to earn her livelihood.

#### **Counseling note:**

The child had been too depressed and anxious since the child had been met with staff. But she was docile and frank enough to share her real problem during the Counseling. She said she has no birth mother; she lost her approximately five years ago. She lives with her father and stepmother, and three siblings. She was always kept behind in terms of love and care by her stepmother. While her other siblings always got sufficient love from parents. She stated that "my stepmother never loved me." She had teary eyes during interaction with counselors. With all of those problems, she had decided to leave Home for Mumbai for work.

The information at the first Counseling was enough and useful information from the child. The process of Counseling was easy because the child 0revealed the truth at the beginning itself.

#### **Decision over the child:**

The SOCH team couldn't contact the family due to the remote area and network issue with the girl's parents. Therefore, the child was being decided to hand over to the GRPF Berhampur that evening itself. On 2nd Feb 2016, the team made a telephonic follow-up through the childline. The information was received that the child had been reunited by 18th Jan 2016 itself to the family. She is being taken care of well by the family member.

Follow up Details: Her Contact number is not available.

You may choose to look the other way and pretend that nothing is wrong but, you can never say that you didn't know about it. That is one of the major problems in the society which the people involved in trafficking and for that case any other illegal activities take advantage of and do their work in broad daylight.

This is where the organizations like SOCH are working towards, where there would be no more taking advantage of the girls who are innocent and tender-minded.

## "A case where desperate times made a young and innocent child take the wrong step."

Child name: Sravya Mallik (Name Changed)	Age: 15 years
Total members in family: 05	Siblings: 04
Parents: Late Pratulla Mallik Mrs. Rajani Mallik	Occupation: Farmer
Contact date 23-06-2016	Counselling date: 24-06-2016
Address: Kradiguta, Gajapati, Odisha	P.S: Moahana

#### Family background of the child:

Sravya belongs to a single parent, no father. She is the eldest at home, followed by two brothers and one sister in the family. She had to drop her study while she was at 3rd standard due to the family's poor financial support.



#### **Counseling note:**

She said the poor economic condition at home due to which she had to stop going to school while in 3rd standard. She had to take that step due to the loss of her father and poor condition at home. Her whole family was deeply moved by the grief and the poor conditions of the family made her mother send her out for work in Mumbai.

While in the second Counseling, she changed her earlier statement to a certain extent. What she said about her coming from home was wrong. Second, from the Counseling the staff came to know that she ran away without information, but she correctly said she went for work. She asked her mother three times, but faced rejection every time. But she came away with some neighboring unknown person.

#### Guidance to the child by a counselor:

Since she is a young teenager, she is encouraged not to go out to work but to help her mom, brother, and sister.

#### Parents words:

She had been away since the two days from home, and her mother was suffering from anxiety. While her mother got the call, she came to know that her daughter ran out, and was delighted to get her back safe.

<u>Follow up Details</u>: On 7<sup>th</sup> December we did a phone up follow and got to know that she's working at home with knowledge of her parent's.

### "Her heart and soul were at the right place, but the path she chose was not the right one."

Child name: Vaijayanti Mallik (Name Changed)	Age: 17 years
Total members in family: 08	Siblings: 06
Parents: Mr. Basudev, Mrs. Gundringa Mallik	Occupation: Farmer
Contact date 23-06-2016	Counselling date: 24-06-2016
Address: Badipanka, Gajapati, Odisha	P.S: Moahana

#### **Short family sketch of Vaijayanti Mallik:**

She hails from a typical family, both parents alive. She has three brothers and two sisters in the family. Two brothers work, and one brother in class 8th. She came away from home with one of her sisters. She requested to join college, but the family couldn't support her education financially. She was on the way to Mumbai with her neighbor (male).

- Extremely low financial support for her further studies.
- Her wish to study further was rejected, and she planned to go out and earn money for her to continue her studies.

#### **Counseling:**

She stated that she had recently completed her class 10th and wants to go to college for her further study. But due to the poor condition at home, she was not getting chances to study. Even though she has an interest in studying, the family economic condition couldn't bear the load. She added that she has friends in Mumbai and will work there, and once she gets some money, she will come back for studies again.

She said that she came away without the knowledge of her parents for her study. She said that if she informs her parents, they didn't allow it, so she took advantage of her parents' run-away absence. Parents said the same information that she came without the knowledge of parents. Parents were guided to give her the care need in the study.

#### The guidance given to the child:

She was encouraged not to go out for work while she is a young teenager. But she was encouraged to do a job, like tailoring and to earn money from her locality.

#### Parents feedback:

After getting the call from SATHI, parents were extremely happy and thanked that their child is safe. And the child had decided to get back to her parents.

Follow up Details: Her Contact number is not available.

### "She was an illiterate, but also a loving daughter and a caring sister who took the desperate step to support her siblings."

Child name: Ritika Mallik (Name Changed)	Age: 15 years
Total members in family: 06	Siblings: 05
Parents: Bimala Mallik, Late. Mr. Kartik Mallik,	Occupation: Farmer
Contact date 30-01-2016	Counselling date: 31-01-2016
Address: guchapada, Ganjam, Odisha, P.S:Badagada	Handover to: Utkal Balashrama

#### **Short family sketch of the child:**

The child belongs to a single parent. The economic status of the family is extremely poor. The approximate monthly income of the family is 3500/-. In the family, she has two

sisters and two brothers. ritika Mallik has a keen interest to help her brothers' study.

#### **The process of Counseling:**

She confessed that she has no education, and the family's economic status is extremely poor. Due to the financial problem, she had gone out for work to support her two brothers' study. She said that mom sent her to work for earning money purposes. The child was going out of state for work.



During the second Counseling, she said that she came without knowledge of her mother. She met a girl who had been working outside. She approached her about how to go out and work out of state. She was influenced by her friends and was making a trip out of state.

#### The decision over the child's placement.

Later a decision on the child was taken to send a childline. Childline had made the home placement. A SATHI telephonic call was done on 17.02.2016, and the information received was that she is back at home with her family.

Follow up Details: Her Contact number is not available.

#### "A strong and courageous girl who took a step too early for her age."

Name: Sandhya Bordoahito (Name Changed)	Age: 15 years
Total members in family: 05	Siblings: 03
Parents: Tomaso bodoahito and Kuni Bodorahito	Occupation: Farmer
Contact and counselling date 16-01-2016	Handover to: parents
Address: Jirikua, Gajapati, Odisha	P.S: Jirikua

Sandhya belongs to an average family. She has both parents, also has one elder sister and brother. She had education up to 5th standard, had dropped out of school for five years back, and was idle at home supporting parents. She is the daughter of Mr. Tomas Bodorahito, mother KuniBodorahito. Family is very poor financially. Both parents are uneducated and were farmers.

- ❖ No study and idle life at home for five years,
- ❖ Friends influence over the city's lifestyle.
- ❖ She wishes to support her family financially by working outside.
- ❖ She was a strong, courageous girl, self-initiative girl. Rational.

#### The counselor's note:

She was going with an unknown person. She said that her sister's marriage needs money and needed money for family maintenance. She was helped and supported by the person who had already been working outside. She was courageous enough to fight against the staff; she said to the team, "why are you catching me while I am going with my relative". She said that she came with the knowledge of her parents and was on her way to Mumbai. In second counseling with the parents' help, it was identified that she came without information from the parents.

#### **Counselors guide:**

She was guided not to take too much responsibility as her parents are there to look after her.

#### Parents note:

They said that they had not known anything about her coming out of the home. She is the elder, and has all responsibility for the family.

The final decision for the child was taken with the help of CWC. She was placed back with her Parents and was reunited that day itself.

**Follow up:** We did a phone follow up on 8th December her parents said that she is idle at home.

#### TRAFFICKED GIRLS CHILDREN OF BERHAMPUR

#### "Better safe than sorry"

Child name: Sravani Mallik (Name Changed)	Age: 16 years
Total members in family: 04	Siblings: 03
Parents: Mrs. Mini Mallik, Late. Ganda Mallik	Occupation: Farmer
Contact date 12-02-2016	Handover to: Utkal Balashrama
Address: Nidikia, Gajapati, Odisha	P.S: Adwa

#### Family Sketch of the child:

The child belongs to a Single Parent, and a father who passed away. She has two younger sisters. The family status is extremely poor after her father's demise.

#### Factor influenced the child to flee home:

- > The extremely poor economic condition
- ➤ Due to the lack of education, unable to think rationally.
- > Friends influenced her about working outside.

#### **Counseling Note:**

During the first Counseling, the child revealed that she had come out from home for work. She was traveling to Gujarat along with one of her friends with the unknown person on the train. She said that she informed her mom and came for work.

In second counseling, she said that since 12 pm, she came out with friends to go to Gujarat for work. She did not know any type of work or any friend any salary information but just followed her friends' influence. She came out to work to maintain the house, without the knowledge of her parents.

#### **Decision on the child future:**

With the help of CWC, the placement has been decided to refer to the Utkal Balashrama. She was handed to Utkal Balashrama on dated 13-02-2016.

#### The guidance given counselor to the child:

She was advised that she should not go out with unknown people, rather stay at home and help the family. She was also reported to inform the family while she was going out with friends or anyone.

<u>Follow up:</u> We did a phone follow up on 8 th December we got to know that she is Bala ashram.



### "A 'thousand' ways to make money, but it's the wrong time and place to start working for it."

Child name: Sravanthi Mallik (Name Changed)	Age: 17 years
Total members in family: 07	Siblings: 05
Parents: Mr. Basudev Mallik,Gundringa Mallik	Occupation: Farmer
Contact date: 12-02-2016	Counselling date: 13-02-2016
Address: Adapanka, Gajapati, Odisha P.S: Odava	Handover to: Utkal Balashrama

#### **Short family Sketch:**

Sravanthi belongs to a Single parent, no father. She has two elder brothers and two elder sisters. Her family condition is extremely poor and she could not get any education since childhood. She was found sitting alone at Berhampur railway station for a long time, waiting for the Puri to Ahmedabad express to travel Gujarat. After a long observation, the child interacted with SOCH staff in a friendly manner. As the team approached her, she was ready to share her personal information. She was taken off to the temporary shelter.

#### First counseling session:

During the first Counseling, she revealed the truth. She came with some 1000/- rupees on her hand, without any prior knowledge about the place and the type of work she was supposed to do. They were going to Gujarat along with some unknown person. The second Counseling also was the same, but only she revealed that she hadn't informed her parents about her coming to work.



#### **Decision upon the child:**

With the help of CWC, the child was asked to refer to the Utkal balashrama, and she was produced at Utkal Balashrama.

#### Guidance to the child:

The child was advised never to travel with an unknown person and not go out for work without knowing correctly about the place and work. Instead, help the parents at home.

The SOCH team made a telephonic follow up to the ChildLine on 12 Feb 2016. ChildLine's feedback is that the child had been reunited with the family and the family taking care of the child.

**Follow up:** We did a phone follow up on 8th December but no one received the call.

\*

Project Rakshyak:
It is all about rescue and resettlement of runaway, missing, abducted and abandoned children majorly focusing at railway stations.



# In pictures

### In words

Activities
1.Outreach and
networking

- 2. Counselling center activities
  - 3. Counselling
  - 4. Address tracing
- 5. Child resettlement
  - 6. Referral to other institutions
- 7. Follow up support











#### **Head office**

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