

# The Dark Side of Charity: How Social Service Reputates Begging.

## OUTLINE

### 1- Introduction

#### Basic Background:

Social Service and charity are integral part of societal progress, as it is a critical way of reducing the sufferings of underprivileged people - It is practiced globally for the betterment but if not conducted carefully may result in long-lasting negative impacts especially in under developed / developing countries like Pakistan. These can cause a habit for people to ~~meet~~ <sup>fulfill</sup> the needs in a easier way. Furthermore, if they are left unaided and welfare system can cause unfair distribution of the resources. Education, vocational trainings and international collaboration is necessary to overcome this growing problem.

### 2- Defining the core concepts

### 3- Historical Dynamics of charity and Begging

d: Early charitable practices and almsgiving rooted in religious traditions.



b. The role of charity in medieval societies, primarily managed by religious institutions such as churches, mosques and temples -

c - Transition to modern welfare systems and the emergence of NGO -

#### 4. Underlying causes of Begging

a - Unregulated and indiscriminate charitable practices contributing to the problem -

b - Lack of social welfare frameworks in developing countries

c - Exploitation through organized begging gangs under the name of social services

d - Psychological dependency through continuous aid -

#### 5. Impact of Charity on the Begging Phenomenon -

##### Global Perspective

a - Expansion of professional begging in urban centres

b - ~~Mistrust~~ Growing mistrust toward genuine charitable efforts

c - Weakening of self-reliance among communities receiving continuous aid.

##### Pakistan's growing issue

a - Widespread begging due to poverty and high unemployment rates



- b- Presence of organized begging mafias manipulating public empathy.
- c- Ineffective governance in managing charity and social welfare program.
- d- Adverse effects on country's socio economic development.

### 6. International Approaches to address the issue -

- a- Key lessons Pakistan can draw from these successful international models.
- b- **Bangladesh**: Initiatives like "Grameen Bank Model", empowering the poor through small loans.
- c- **Brazil**: "Bolsa Familia program", linking financial aid to education and healthcare for sustainable development.
- d- **India**: Implementation of government monitored welfare programs and enforcement of anti begging laws.

### 7. Recommendations to address the problem

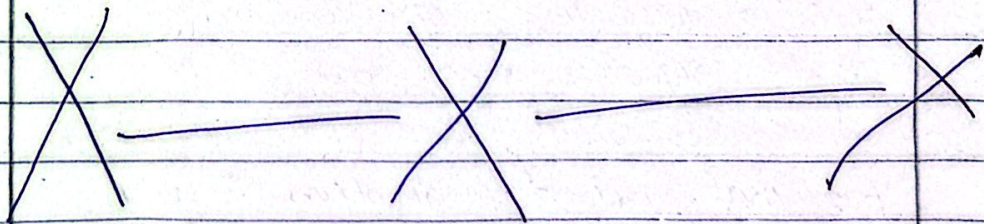
- a- Promoting vocational trainings and education
- b- Implementing the strict rules and regulations for social aid, charity and anti-begging
- c- Encourage micro-finance programs and entrepreneurship programs to empower underprivileged.
- d- launch public awareness campaigns encouraging sustainable and responsible giving.



e- Strengthen government welfare programs aimed at poverty alleviation and social uplift.

## 8- Conclusion .

Charity and social services no doubt a great way to reduce the suffering of underprivileged, but not a permanent solution. The continuous aid gives birth to dependency and numerous consequences to creating a life long problem for the society. This issue must be dealt through various measures approach, the help can be taken by the various models across the global that includes Bangladesh, Brazil and many more -





On a very busy day of the week, while travelling to my destination, my car stopped at a signal. I heard a knock on my window, when I turned to the noise, I met a very pretty girl not more than 9 years age. ~~the~~ After pulling rolling down the window, she extended her hand and asked for the money. I asked her name and she told me it is "Fariba", she again asked for money and when I looked into her eyes I saw huge and hopelessness. After few more questions she informed that this her daily life routine not only hers but her fellow children who were begging on the both sides of the road. The pretty eyed girl also mentioned she was forced into it as her family is very poor and they live in some parts of slums in Kavathi. As the signal turned green, I hurriedly gave her a 50 rupee note and left, but that raised a question in my mind that during these times of high inflation what really can a 50 rupees do, but when I saw the number cars on the road of this hustling bustling society. I realized it is an easier way of them earning, that ~~made me~~ raised another question that



are we ruining the future of these little children through charity? Are we really doing our job as a responsible citizen or leading the country to more difficult situations? So to overcome this global issue undisting complexity of this issue through its historical roots, the underlying causes and global impact seems reasonable. With that well developed plans and ~~lessons can be learnt~~ initiatives of other countries is also essential.

Social services and charity are well organized practices done globally to overcome the poverty and help the people suffering. This is a short term way of dealing with the problem. ~~With~~ the charity is a voluntary act to help the people in need, mostly through financial aid. Social services, on the other hand are well organized programs developed to improve the society. They are mostly led by government or non profit organizations, through various schemes such as shelter homes, food drives, etc. The challenge arises when charity becomes an unhelped means of aid, leading to dependency rather than empowerment.



Charity has deep roots in ancient civilizations and has always been associated with the religious teachings - In many societies, almsgiving was encouraged, it was part of a sacred duty, a way of earning spiritual merit. For example; In ancient Greece citizens specifically wealthy used to sponsor public works and welfare activities - In Hinduism, "daan" (donation) was promoted as a moral responsibility - While in Islam, Muslims are encouraged to do yearly "Zakat" (mandatory almsgiving), as it is an integral part of the faith aimed at redistributing the wealth to reduce the imbalance in the society - These practices did the part of helping, but also encouraged the dependency in the communities -