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"The Dark Side of Charity: How Social Service Perpetuate Begging"

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Outline

1- Introduction

Thesis statement: Charity is considered as a noble act, while in unchecked form, it perpetuates begging and systemic poverty. Conscious acts at an individual level and drastic reforms at government level are needed to combat this growing concern.

2- Charity: A Noble Act with Unintended Consequences

3. How charity perpetuates begging?

a- Target symptoms not causes

b- Undermine self-reliance

c- A temporary relief: Fail to bring the equality to the a society

d- Divert the attention from comprehensive welfare reforms

e- Allows states to escape its responsibilities

f- Begging mafia exploit citizens and do not let the funds reach to the actual poor

4- Negative impacts of begging

- a- Foster the culture of dependency
- b- Lead to street crimes
- c- Encourages unproductivity and romanticizes ease
- d- Project negative image of the state
- e- Deters tourism

No
Need

5- How to combat the growing culture of begging in Pakistan?

- a- Awareness Campaigns
- b- Empowering masses through inclusive education and vocational trainings
- c- Implementation of anti-vagrancy laws

6- Conclusion

Charity is considered as a noble act aimed to uplift the poor and underprivileged lot of the society. It is a self-less act, while in certain circumstances it perpetuate begging, dependency and cycle of poverty. Charitable organizations and individual workers pull a remarkable job by helping those in need but under certain circumstances it brings unintended consequences. According to Asian Human Rights Commission Pakistan has approximately 25 million people being professional beggars that accounts to the 11% of the population. Studies reveal that begging has transformed into a profession. Individual donors aid people in need but unintentionally foster the culture of begging. The growing phenomena of begging hinders the socio-economic development of state. Charities offer a short-term solution and act as a band-aid, while the root causes of the problem remain unattended. Theorists

also argue that large scale level of charities let governments escape from their responsibilities. Therefore, it is the collective responsibility of individuals and governments to consciously act and bring about reforms to empower masses. The situation also calls for strict implementation of anti-vagrancy laws to minimize the occurrence of begging and to discourage the begging mafias.