

# Adolescents Behaviour In Slums Of Kerala: An Insight into the Challenges



Living conditions and societal dynamics significantly influence adolescents' behavior and development. While there is a considerable body of research focusing on various aspects of adolescence, a specific exploration of adolescents' behavior in slums of Kerala is deserving of attention. The unique circumstances presented by slum living require a nuanced understanding of the challenges experienced by adolescents and the implications on their behavior.

## The Reality of Slum Life

Stepping into the slums of Kerala reveals a world of complexity and adversity. Slums are characterized by inadequate housing, limited access to basic services, and a lack of proper sanitation facilities. These challenging living conditions contribute to an environment where adolescents face numerous obstacles in their daily lives.



## ADOLESCENTS' BEHAVIOUR IN SLUMS OF KERALA

by Roger Priddy (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 196 pages



### Exploring the Impact on Behavior

The pressing concerns of poverty, overcrowding, and limited resources create a breeding ground for various behavioral issues among adolescents in slums. These issues include substance abuse, involvement in criminal activities, early marriage, and risky sexual behavior.

### Substance Abuse

The deprivation and hopelessness experienced in slums often drive adolescents towards substance abuse. The lack of recreational facilities and positive outlets for self-expression make them vulnerable to the allure of drugs and alcohol. Substance abuse not only affects their physical and mental health but also hampers their educational and future prospects.

## **Involvement in Criminal Activities**

The adverse living conditions and limited opportunities for growth can push adolescents towards criminal activities as a means of survival. Engaging in petty crimes becomes an attractive option, leading to a reinforcement cycle that perpetuates antisocial behavior.

## **Early Marriage**

Within slum communities, early marriage is a prevalent practice, influenced by cultural norms, lack of education, and economic hardships. Adolescents often find themselves forced into matrimony, prematurely ending their educational pursuits and increasing their vulnerability to numerous health and social risks.

## **Risky Sexual Behavior**

Slums are rife with inadequate sexual health education and limited access to contraceptives and reproductive healthcare services. This combination exposes adolescents to a higher risk of engaging in risky sexual behavior, leading to unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, and perpetuating the cycle of poverty within the slum community.

## **Addressing the Challenges**

Efforts to tackle the behavioral challenges among adolescents in slums of Kerala require a multi-faceted approach. Here are some key interventions:

### **Education and Awareness**

Providing quality education within the slum communities can empower adolescents to become agents of change. By imparting knowledge and life skills, students can develop a sense of purpose, critical thinking abilities, and the capacity to make informed decisions.

## Access to Youth-Friendly Services

Establishing youth-friendly centers within the slums can create safe spaces where adolescents can seek guidance, support, and access essential services related to their physical and mental health. Such centers can also offer vocational training opportunities to enhance their employability.

## Community Engagement and Advocacy

Working closely with the slum communities, engaging parents, and involving various stakeholders in advocating for improved living conditions, education, and healthcare services can bring about sustainable change. Empowering the community to take ownership of their children's well-being is crucial.

The challenges faced by adolescents in the slums of Kerala have far-reaching implications for their behavior and future prospects. Understanding their unique circumstances is essential for designing effective interventions that address their needs. It is imperative that stakeholders work together to provide opportunities, support, and a conducive environment that enables these adolescents to break free from the cycle of poverty and realize their potential.

## References:

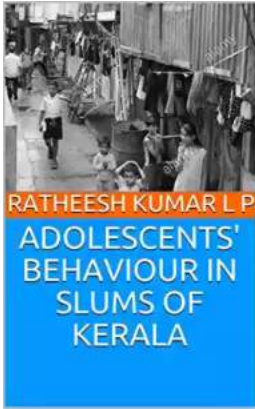
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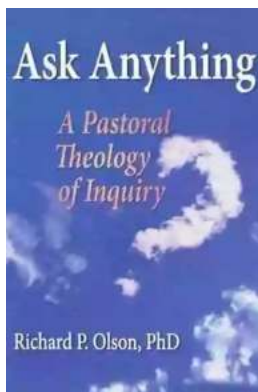
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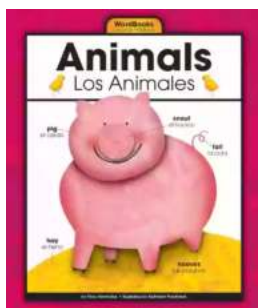


Slum is a myth in India. It is obviously a pre fabricated, conspired and Lower caste low income settlements. in the sense the present study etymologically approach the cause and consequences of Adolescent deviance in terms slum so called socio-cultural determinants. It brings out the actual truth behind the crime,premarital sexual relations, substance abuse and gay life. A new paradigm and approach on Adolescent deviant behaviour in Kerala



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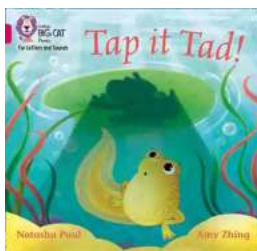
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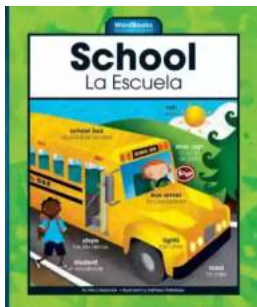
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