



## VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILY PARTICIPATION IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES: A STORY OF BANGLADESH

<sup>1</sup>Sumaiya Khanam Chowdhury, <sup>2</sup>Mirza Md. Hasan, <sup>3</sup>Fahmida Mazid

<sup>1</sup>Education Specialist, Nari maitree, Dhaka, Bangladesh

<sup>2,3</sup>Freelance Researcher, Dhaka, Bangladesh

E-mail: <sup>1</sup>mim1288@gmail.com, <sup>2</sup>mirzamdhasan@gmail.com, <sup>3</sup>Fahmida.mazid@gmail.com

### Abstract

*The main objective of the study is to explore the involvement of vulnerable children as well as their families in their recreational activities. The total time spent for recreational activity is one of the objectives. For the study the researcher selects working children from Non-formal primary schools of Dhaka city as vulnerable children. The study is descriptive in nature. Only quantitative analysis is used to analyze the collected data. For collecting data the researcher uses semi-structured questionnaire. From the study it is found that, vulnerable children spent less than two hours for their recreational activity, like: sports and games, satellite visual media etc. Involvement of family member of their recreational activity is also very low. Their parents took them for outdoor trip twice in a year only. The researcher recommends schools to give more time and space for their vulnerable children by opening child club, parent's student's day in each month to enhance their recreational activity.*

**Key words:** Vulnerable children, Family participation, Recreational activity, Bangladesh

### 1. INTRODUCTION

According to National Children policy (2011) of Bangladesh it is said that, Measures shall be taken to ensure quality recreational, sport and cultural activity for the children. Each educational institution shall have playground, sports equipment. There shall be children park and sports center area wise. The town planning shall include compulsory playground for the children. Arrangements shall be made to have recreational facilities in disaster shelters during disaster and afterwards for the children. By this statement it is clear that, in any circumstances it is obvious to ensure children's recreational activity for their natural development. Moreover, we can see the light of article-31 of United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

(uncrcletsgetitright, 2013) on the above policy of Bangladesh. On UNCRC article-31, it is made noticeable that, '1. States Parties recognize the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts. 2. States Parties shall respect and promote the right of the child to participate fully in cultural and artistic life and shall encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural, artistic, recreational and leisure activity.'

But in a country where 31.51% (CIA, 2013) people live below poverty line and where 7.4 million children age between 5-17, 4.7 million children age 5-14, 1.3 million children engaged in hazardous work and 4,21,000 children engaged in domestic work (UNICEF, 2010), implementation of above policy is



really tough. However, as research shows that, children and adolescents with easy access to recreational facilities and programs are more active than those without (Sallis et al. 2000, p. 70). Moreover, Providing recreation facilities for urban and suburban children is especially important. Children need places where they can be outdoors and physically active on a regular basis, in their own neighborhoods; such places include both public parks and commercial facilities. Because children engage in such a variety of activities and because their recreational needs vary widely by age, providing many different types of facilities is a promising policy objective (Sallis and Glanz 2006, p.89). So we should try to serve a recreational environment to our future generation. The UNCRC committee is concerned by the poor recognition given by States to the rights contained in article 31. Profound changes in the world are having a major impact on children's opportunities to enjoy the rights provided for in article 31. The urban population, especially in developing countries, is increasing significantly, as is violence worldwide in all its forms – at home, in schools, in mass media, in the streets. The implications, along with the commercialization of play provisions, are influencing the ways children engage in recreation, as well as in cultural and artistic activities (uncrcletsgetitright, 2013).

Furthermore, though the children in high and middle class get the facility or have the ability of recreational activity it is quite harder to get the chance of recreation for our vulnerable children. The family affairs of vulnerable children are also poor. So, government should take step willing and necessarily to provide facilities of recreation to the vulnerable children. As a warning memorandum or supplementary note the researcher here tried to find the situation of participation of vulnerable children and their families in their recreational activity.

## 2. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

According to Daniels (2013), Recreational activities for children are an important part of the educational experience for many children. After-school programs and extracurricular activities can offer our youth a safe and supervised haven as well as a chance to learn new skills such as conflict resolution, prepare for a successful career, improve grades, and help them to grow to become better adults. To find out the reality of Bangladesh The title of the study is 'Vulnerable Children and Their Families Participation in Recreational Activities: A Story of Bangladesh'. According to United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child 'Recreation is an umbrella term used to describe a very broad range of activities, including, inter alia, participation in music, art, crafts, community engagement, clubs, sports, games, hiking and camping, pursuing hobbies. It consists of activities or experiences, chosen voluntarily by the child, either because of the immediate satisfaction provided or because he or she perceives that some personal or social value will be gained by accomplishing them. Recreation often takes place in spaces specifically designed for it. While many recreational activities may be organized and managed by adults, recreation should be a voluntary activity. Compulsory or enforced games and sports or compulsory involvement in a youth organization, for example, do not constitute recreation.' In this study, by the term recreation define by only three sources of recreation. These are: sports and games, satellite visual media and the third is family excursion. Moreover, by the term vulnerable children the researcher tried to define the children within 8-13 years old, work for their family and also involve in primary level of the working children schools. By this study, the involvement of these working children and their family interest as in their children recreational activities will be explored. So that the title of this study is, 'Vulnerable Children and Their Families Participation in Recreational





Activities: A Story of Bangladesh' (uncrcletsgetitright, 2013).

### 3. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

For getting the materials supporting the study the researcher took the help of various related materials like books, journals, study, the researcher also went through many web pages so that it may enrich the study. A brief of the literature dealing with different aspects of this study is given below:

#### 3.1 Vulnerable children:

According to ACTION for Child Protection, Inc (2003) vulnerability is all about self-protection. Moreover, according to the White Paper for Vulnerable Children (unknown) Vulnerability can mean different things to different people. Our definition is: Vulnerable children are children who are at significant risk of harm to their wellbeing now and into the future as a consequence of the environment in which they are being raised and, in some cases, due to their own complex needs. Environmental factors that influence child vulnerability include not having their basic emotional, physical, social, developmental and/or cultural needs met at home or in their wider community. These are the children who, despite the huge public investment in health, education and welfare, remain at the greatest risk. Furthermore, According to U.K Parliament (2013) "vulnerable children" means children -(a) who are unlikely to achieve or maintain, or have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for them of social care services, (b) whose health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision for them of social care services, (c) who have a physical or mental impairment, (d) who are in the care of a public authority, (e) who are provided with accommodation by a public authority in order to

secure their well-being. Also by describing the type of vulnerable children, Chinyowa (2013) describe that, Children in the Forms of Child Labor also vulnerable children. According to the (ILO Convention 1982 as cited in Chinyowa, 2013) 'the so-called worst Forms Convention, the worst forms of child labor include:

- All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;
- The use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of porno Figure or for porno Fig ureic performances;
- The use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties;
- Work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

The last point more generally refers to children who are exposed to very long working hours and physical hazards, which in Africa most commonly includes children working in mines and quarries, some child domestic servants, and some children involved in agricultural tasks such as those involving the application of agrochemicals.' (Chinyowa. B, 2013)

#### 3.2 Vulnerable children and family relations:

According to ECEC (unknown), The family's composition, relationships between family members and family dynamics all help to shape a child's experience. The role of extended family members in a child's life will often be an important considerations in assessments, planning and service responses. Also MacElveen-Hoehn (2013) suggests





that, the interactions of adults and children with supportive members of their social networks are important in the development of essential cognitive and social skills, as well as for the promotion of security and comfort. Supports from individuals, families, and groups also are associated with more successful adaptation and favorable outcomes. Bonding, child development, and child rearing also reaffirm the need for and the utilization of social support. High-risk factors, such as low maternal age, poverty, single parenthood, and long-term health problems, increase the vulnerability of families and children. The more the families involve with their children the less the probability of vulnerability is occurs. From an Indian study, according to Francavilla and Giannelli (2007) it is found that, The presence of the mother increases the probability that the child studies by about ten percentage points, reduces the probability that the child works in the market by about 3 percentage points,

### **3.3 UNCRC, Article 31 (Leisure, play and culture): General comment No. 17 (2013)**

The importance of play and recreation in the life of every child has long been acknowledged by the international community, as evidenced by the proclamation in the 1959 Declaration of the Rights of the Child: “The child shall have full opportunity for play and recreation [...]; society and the public authorities shall Endeavour to promote the enjoyment of this right” (art. 7). This proclamation was further strengthened in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (the Convention) of 1989 which explicitly states in article 31 that “States Parties recognize the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts” (uncrcletsgetright, 2013).

Moreover, they suggested that, Article 31 must be understood holistically, both in terms of its constituent parts and also in its relationship with the

Convention in its entirety. Each element of article 31 is mutually linked and reinforcing, and when realized, serves to enrich the lives of children. Play and recreation are essential to the health and well-being of children and promote the development of creativity, imagination, self-confidence, self-efficacy, as well as physical, social, cognitive and emotional strength and skills. Both play and recreation can take place when children are on their own, together with their peers or with supportive adults. Children’s development can be supported by loving and caring adults as they relate to children through play. This committee, relate the Article-31 with other major articles.

Like: Article-2,3,6,12,13,15,17,22,23,24,27,28, 29, 30, 32,34,37,38,39. They also find out the challenges regarding Article-31. These are: Lack of recognition of the importance of play and recreation, Unsafe and hazardous environments, Human factors can also combine to place children at risk in the public environment, Resistance to children’s use of public spaces, The exclusion of children, Balancing risk and safety, Lack of access to nature, Pressure for educational achievement, Overly structured and programmed schedules, Neglect of article 31 in development programs, Lack of investment in cultural and artistic opportunities for children, Growing role of electronic media, Marketing and commercialization of play. About vulnerable children the described that, Lack of access to facilities, inability to afford the costs of participation, dangerous and neglected neighborhoods, the necessity to work and a sense of powerlessness and marginalization all serve to exclude the poorest children from realizing the rights provided for in article 31. For many, the risks to their health and safety outside the home are compounded by home environments which provide no or little space or scope for play or recreation. Children without parents are particularly vulnerable to loss of their rights under article 31; children in street situations are not afforded play provisions, and are commonly actively





excluded from city parks and playgrounds, although they use their own creativity to utilize the informal setting of the streets for play opportunities. Municipal authorities must recognize the importance of parks and playgrounds for the realization of the rights provided for under article 31 by children living in poverty and engage in dialogue with them in respect of policing, planning and development initiatives. States need to take action to ensure both access to and opportunities for cultural and artistic activities for all children, as well as equal opportunities for play and recreation.

### 3.4 Bangladesh perspective:

According to National Children policy (2011) 'Measures shall be taken to ensure quality recreational, sport and cultural activity for the children. Each educational institution shall have playground, sports equipments. There shall be children park and sports center area wise. The town planning shall include compulsory playground for the children. Arrangements shall be made to have recreational facilities in disaster shelters during disaster and afterwards for the children. Moreover, ample opportunities shall be ensured for the children cultivating different areas of performing arts like child affable movies, drama, paintings etc to grow and have a clear understanding of the life and ideals of the Father of the nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the life and works of 4 national leaders and the contribution of the freedom fighters to imbue the children with the spirit of War of Liberation, patriotism, human and social sense of values. And each school shall have recreational programs wherein the idea of a library shall be inculcated. The disabled children shall have appropriate recreational facilities.'

However the real scenario is, 31.51% % (CIA, 2013) people live below poverty line and where 7.4 million children age between 5-17, 4.7 million children age 5-14, 1.3 million children

engaged in hazardous work and 4,21,000 children engaged in domestic work, (Ahmed, Uddin and Hossain, 2009). They also depicted that Child work is less valued (few child labour are paid for their work), so it does not necessarily work as a poverty coping strategy. Among households who send one or more children under 15 to work 56% still live below poverty. Among all children aged between 4 and 14 years 13% are engaged in child labor and 97.5% of them are unpaid laborers. Moreover, According to, () the majority of child domestics tend to be 12 to 17 years old (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), 2002-2003 as cited in 382. pdf). But children as young as 5 or 6 years old can also be found working and a survey of child domestic workers found that 38 percent were 11 to 13 years old and nearly 24 percent were 5 to 10 years old (BBS 2002-2003 as cited in 382.pdf). Child domestics work long hours, getting up well before their employers and going to bed long after them and 50% domestic workers work 12 to 14 hours a day. About this Ahmed, Uddin and Hossain, (2009) describe that, working more than five hours a day; work that creates undue pressure on physical and psychological wellbeing and development; work without pay; work where the child becomes the victim of torture or exploitation or has no opportunity for leisure. Moreover, according to Aktar and Abdullah (2013) Child labour in Bangladesh is not a new issue as children remain here as one of the most vulnerable, exploited, underprivileged, dominated and subservient groups. Indeed, child labour in Bangladesh is alarming in various sectors which can be observed in a survey of 2002-2003 conducted by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. At present, 62% of all working children are employed in agriculture, 149,000 children are engaged in the worst forms of child labour. Besides, the highest proportion of working children, some 49.5 percent, was found involved with informal sector that means, unpaid economic activities in family farms or business (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2002-2003). It was also found that 28.6% were employed as paid day





labourers, 14% were sales workers while transport sector engaged 25.4% of them (BBS, 2002-2003).

Moreover, according to this Ahmed, Uddin and Hossain (2009) Social norms and economic realities mean that child labour is widely accepted and very common in Bangladesh. Many families rely on the income generated by their children for survival, so child labour is often highly valued. Additionally, employers often prefer to employ children because they are cheaper and considered to be more compliant and obedient than adults. When children are forced to work, they are often denied their rights to education, leisure and play.

However, a light of hope is found in the activity of UNICEF that, Article 31 of the Convention of the Rights of the Child recognizes the right of children to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities - Adolescent girls enjoy winning a game of cricket in Chittagong (uncrcletsgetitright, 2013).

#### 4. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The general objective of the study is to explore the involvement of family members in the recreation of the vulnerable children and also find out the sources of recreation of the vulnerable children of Bangladesh. To achieve the purpose of this study the following specific objectives are addressed:

- To explore the involvement of vulnerable children in the sources of their recreational activities.
- To explore the involvement of family members in recreational activity of vulnerable children
- To find out the total time of recreation of vulnerable children.

#### 5. METHODOLOGY

The purpose of the study is to explore the involvement of vulnerable children in their recreational activities and also the involvement of their family members in the recreation of these

vulnerable children in Bangladesh. The population of the study is vulnerable children and their families of Bangladesh. The study area is basically the Dhaka district. From the huge population to complete the research perfectly and thoroughly with the assigned time only Non-formal schools of working children, age between 8-13 are chosen for the study. Five non-formal schools from 5 thana of Dhaka city are taken as a sample area purposively. Then 10 working children are selected by simple random sampling from each of the non-formal primary schools of each area. The study is descriptive in nature based on quantitative approaches. Data and evidence are gathered from non-formal Primary school students who are known as working children by using a semi structured questionnaire tool. In total 20 questions are there. Only descriptive statistics are used to analyze the collected data. Researchers also followed some basic ethical issues while conducting the research.

#### 6. LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The basic limitation of this study is the sample size. More than 7.4 million children of Bangladesh are working children. But only 50 children are chosen as a sample from only Dhaka District. Another limitation of this study is whenever, the researcher went to schools, students are in hurry of giving answers, which could affect the data of the children. Also data are collected only from children not from parents though the study deals with parents' activity also.

#### 7. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Analyses of results and interpretations of obtained data and evidences from semi structured questionnaire are presented here. The analysis is divided into four major themes on the basis of research questions and collected data. First theme is about Basic information of respondent so that it could be made clear about the status of parents and children of this study, second theme is about, children's involvement in their recreational activity, the third theme is about parent's involvement in their children's recreational activities and the fourth theme is about the total time spent for recreational activity by the vulnerable children. The third research



objective could be found within second and third theme. As it is quantitative research the data are presented in table and Figure manner.

**7.1 Basic information about the respondents:**

Most of the children’s age is between 8 to 12 years and the average age of them is 10.45 years. All of them are involved in different types of work. Some of them serve in a shop or market, some of them work in garage and home, another some of them work in boutique factory and few of them work in street to collect wastage things. The working status of them are given below

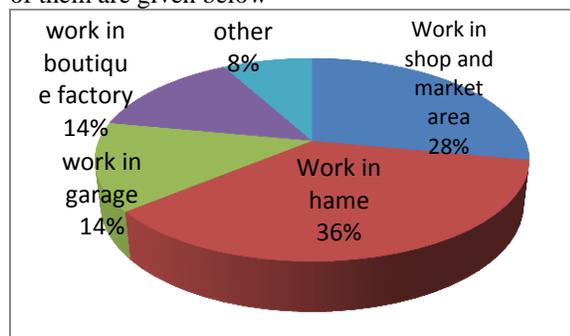


Figure-1: Working status of the children

Table-1: Income and living status of children

Subject	wings	number	Percentage
Working hour	less than 2 hour	15	30%
	2-4 hour	27	54%
	More than 4 hour	8	16%
Income (per month)	\$13.07/ less than \$13.07	44	88%
	More than \$13.07	6	12%
Living status	Slum	35	70%
	Building	15	30%
Parents working status	Working	48	96%
	Non-working	2	4%

From the above table it is found that, half of the working children work for 2-4 hours and some of them work for less than 2 hours or more than 4 hours. However, only 12% children earn more than 13.07 dollar (1000 taka) and 88% of them earn less than 13.07 dollar (1000 taka). That means the average

income per hour of these children is .11 dollar (8.33 taka) which is very poor. But these children go for their work and income to contribute their families though 96% of them have working parents.

**7.2 Children’s involvement in their recreational activity**

The recreational activity of this study is divided into three parts, these are: sports and games, satellite visual media and the third is family excursion.

**7.2.1 Children’s involvement is sports and game:**

Most of the children attend in sports and games as a part of their recreational activity. Most of the time, they play in their schools and homes with their friends. But their duration of involvement with this activity is very low. The status of children’s involvement in sports and games are given below:

Table:2 Status of children involvement in sports and games:

Subject	Wings	Number	Percentage	
Involve in Sports and Games	yes	41	82%	
	No	9	18%	
Duration of involvement	½ hour	20	48.78%	
	1 hour	15	36.58%	
	2 hours	6	14.63%	
Play if the field	Yes	Boy	14	34.14%
		Girl	5	12.19%
	No		22	53.65%

From the above table it is found that, most of the children (82%) involve in sports and games activity daily though they are involve in different types of work. However, though they do participate in sports and games activity and the duration of involvement is very low. Only 14.63% of them play for 2 hours and 85.36% of them play for only 1 hour or ½ hour a day. Interestingly among these 82% more than half of children (53.65%) do not play in the playground or in the field. Moreover, among rest 46.33% children, who have the chance of playing on the field only 12.19% are them are girls. So the girls between age 8-12 getting less chance of playing in

the playground then boys. However, the variation of sports is higher in girls' activity. They share about 16 types of games and sports they love to play. Among these, most of them talk about: stone game, ludu, haripatil game, doll etc. Whereas, boys share only 4 types of sports and games. These are: cricket, ceram, kite and football. As most of the children do not get chance properly they were asked about playing with toys in their home. Children status of having toy is given below in the Figure:

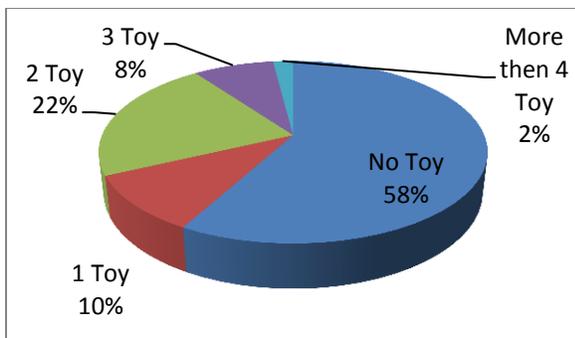


Figure-2: Children status of having toy

From the Figure above it is found that, most of the children (58%) have no toys in their home. Those who have toys have only one (10%) or two (22%) toys. However, though they have toys the duration of involvement is very low. (shown in previous table).

### 7.2.2 Children's involvement in satellite visual media:

As a part of recreation children are asked about using satellite visual media. Children like satellite visual media more than playing in the field or schools. Most of them watch cartoon and drama in satellite channel. To watch cartoon and drama they prefer Indian channel rather than Bangladeshi channel. The status of children in satellite visual media is given below:

Table-3: Status of children in satellite visual media

Subject	wings	Number	Percentage
Watch Television	Yes	48	96%
	No	2	4%

Have Television	Yes	31	62%
	No	19	38%
Items Watched	Drama	43	86%
	Cartoon	33	66%
	movie	21	42%
Channel of drama	Bnagladesh	9	18.75%
	Indian	39	81.25%

From the above table it is found that, 96% of children are involved in watching different items on television. This is 14% over than involvement in sports and games (82%). However, though 96% of them watch television only 62% of them have television of their own. Those who have no television have another source like: neighbor's house, aunt's house, employer's house. All of them have shared about only three items of television channels. These are: drama, cartoon and movie. Among these most of them prefer to watch drama, then cartoon and then movie.

However, a smell of concerning topic is also found while collecting the data about the televisions channels. Only 18.75% of children who watch television admit that, they watch Bangladesh channels. But it is also true they have no satellite connection in their home. And 81.25% of children are used to watch drama and cartoons in satellite channels. (Indian channel) Most of them utter about Star jalsa, Z Bangla and some of them said about Star Plus and Sony channel.

Moreover, the children also give data about the time duration of their involvement in satellite visual activity. Their involvement in satellite visual activity is given below through a Figure:

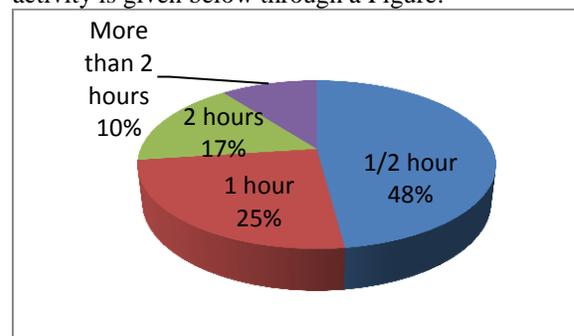


Figure-3: Duration of involvement in Visual Satellite media

From the Figure above it is found that, half of children (48%) who watch television have only watched television for ½ hour. 25% children have watched television for 1 hour and only 27% of children have watched television 2 or more than 2 hours daily.

### 7.2.3 Children’s involvement in outing:

All the respondents were asked about their involvement in outing. None of them said that, they go for daily outing or monthly outing. For outing places the researcher selected only three places as places of outing for Dhaka city. These are, National child park, National Zoo, Ramna park. The researcher also asked about their excursion in their relatives and trip in two major occasions, named: Eid-ul-fiter and Eid-ul-Aza/ puja. Children status about outing is given below in Figure and tables.

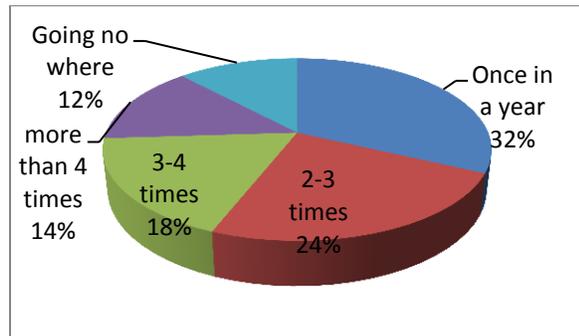


Figure-4: Children outings in a year

From the Figure above it is found that, 12% of children going nowhere in a year and they always stay in their home and go only to their neighbor’s. Among the rest children, 32% only go for trip or relatives house once in a year. 24% children go for excursion twice or thrice in a year. And only 12% children go for trip more than 4 times in a year.

Table-4 Children trip in National Child Park in their life time

Subject	Wings	Number	Percentage
went to NCP	Yes	17	34%
	No	33	66%
If yes,	Once	8	47.05%
	Twice	5	29.41%

	Thrice/ more than thrice	4	23.53%
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Only 34% of total children went to National Child Park (NCP) in their life time. Among them most of them (47.05%) went to the NCP only once in their life time. And only 29.53% and 23.53% went to NCP respectively twice or more than twice in their life time.

Table-5 Children trip in National Zoo in their life time

Subject	Wings	Number	Percentage
went to NZ	Yes	16	32%
	No	34	68%
If yes,	Once	8	50%
	Twice	4	25%
	Thrice/ more than thrice	4	25%

Only 32% of total children went to National Zoo (NZ) in their life time. Among them half of them (50%) went to the NZ only once in their life time. And half of them (50%) did not go to the National Zoo in their life time.

Table-6: Children trip in Ramna Park in their life time

Subject	Wings	Number	Percentage
went to RP	Yes	8	16%
	No	42	84%
If yes,	Once	5	62.5%
	Twice	2	25%
	Thrice/ more than thrice	1	12.5%

Only 16% of total children went to Ramna Park (RP) in their life time. Among them most of them (62.5%) went to the Romna Park only once in their life time. And only 25% and 12.5% went to Romna Park respectively in their life time.

Table-7: Children’s outing during major occasion

Subject	Wings	Number	Percentage
Went for	Yes	35	70%



excursion	No	15	30%
Type of place	Grandfather's house	31	88.57%
	Relatives house	4	11.42%

From the above table it is found that, 70% of the children go for excursion in their major occasions. However, 30% of them do not go for any excursion in their major occasions also. The children who go for excursion most of them (88.57%) go to their Grandfather's house rather than any other relative's house.

### 7.3 Family involvement in their children's recreational activity:

The second objective of this analysis study is to find out the involvement of family member in their children's recreational activity. Before analysis the involvement it is important to know about the status of children's parents of this study. The status of children's parents is given below in the table

Table-8: Status of children parents

Subject	wings	Number	percentage
Parents working status	Working	48	96%
	Non-working	2	4%
Income	\$130/ less than \$130	26	52%
	More than \$130	24	48%

From the table above, it is found that, 96% of parents of working children worked for their livelihood. Moreover, 56% of parents earn \$130 (10000/- taka) or less than \$130. And other 48% earn more than \$130.

Moreover, children spent not too much time with their parents. The status of spending hours of children with their family is given below

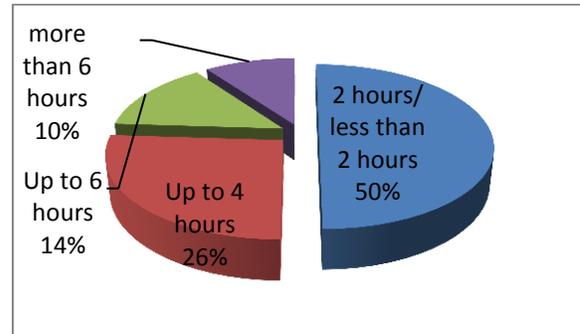


Figure- 5 Status of daily spending hours of children with their family

From the Figure above it is found that, 50% of children meet their parents only 2hours/ less than 2 hour a day, especially at night. Another 26% children meet their children parents up to 4 hours, especially in night and afternoon. Only 10% of children meet with their parents more than 6 hours a day.

### 7.3.1 Family involvement in Sports and Game activity:

All of the children were asked about their family involvement in their sports and games activity. Most of them said that that their parents do not play with them, neither outdoor games nor indoor games. Only 2 children admit that, sometimes their mothers play ludu with them when they have no work that day. But whenever the question of toys were came, the children who have toys, said that the toys are bought by their parents. But there is difference in percentages among father mother and other relatives of buying toys. The difference is given below in the Figure

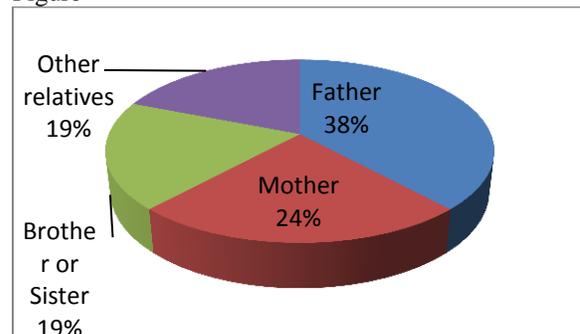


Figure-6 family involvement in buying toys



From the Figure above it is found that, most of the time children's father (38%) buy them toys to play. And interestingly sometimes other relatives 19% also buy them toys. But this involvement happens not in direct way.

**7.3.2 Family involvement in satellite visual media:**

The rate of family involvement in satellite visual media is much higher than involvement in sports and games. Though most of the time children do not get both the parents with them but with their brothers and sisters and sometimes also with their mothers they watch televisions. However, the medium of this recreation is always bought by their fathers. The status of family involvement in their children's satellite visual media recreation is given below

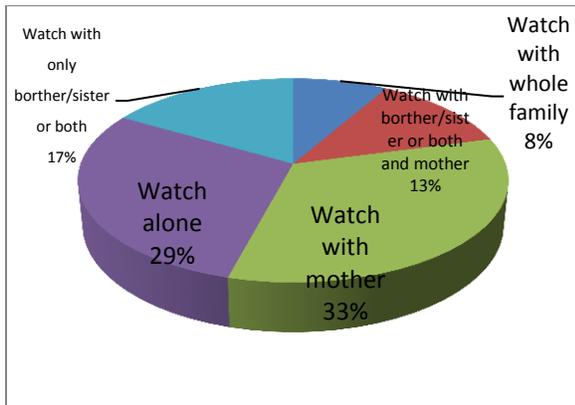


Figure- 7: Family involvement in their children's satellite visual media recreation

From the above Figure, it is found that, most of the children watch television whether alone (29%) or with their mother (33%). Some of them also watch television with their brother/ sisters or both. But, interestingly only 8% children watch television with their whole family.

**7.3.3 Involvement of family in outing of their children:**

From the above analysis it is found that, children mostly went for outing yearly. And most of them did not go to National Child park, national Zoo

and Ramna park. Also, they went for their relatives' house mostly on major occasions. The involvement of families in outing of their children is given below in the table.

Table-10: Involvement of families in outing of their children

Subject	wings	Number	Percentage
Go for yearly trip	With family	41	93.18
	With other	3	6.82
Go for NCP, NZ and RP	With family	35	79.55
	With other	9	20.45

From the above table it is found that, most of the children (93.18) go for any trip in a year with their families. Basically in two major occasions they go with their family to their grandparent's house. Moreover, in the case of NCP, NZ and RP they also go with their families but the percentage is less than yearly trip. 79.55% children go to these places with their families. And the other go with their aunts/uncles.

**7.4 Total time of recreational activities**

Allover, the third objective of this study was to find out the total time of recreational activity of children. The average hour of recreation and times of children are given below in the table

Table: The average hour of recreation and times of children

Subject	Average time/number
Duration of sports and games activities	.74 hour
Duration of satellite visual media recreation	1.11 hour
Go for yearly outing	2.18 times
Go to NCP in life time	.64 times
Go to NZ in life time	.54 times
Go to RP in life time	.24 times

From the above table it is found that, on an average working children do not spent full one hour in their sports and games recreational activity.



Moreover, they spent more time in watching television, which is 1.11 hour. That means, more than one hour. In total every day they spent 1.85 (1.11+.74) hour, not fully 2 hours in their recreational activity. Furthermore, they go for outing or excursion twice in a year. And on an average one third of children never went to National Child Park (NCP), half of children never went to National Zoo (NZ) and three fourth of children never went to Ramna Park (RP)

## 8. MAJOR FINDINGS

From the above analysis the researcher has found the major answer of this study. The findings of the study of this research are given below under the specific research objectives.

- To explore the involvement of vulnerable children in the sources of their recreational activities.

Most of the children (82%) involve in sports and games activity daily though they are involve in different types of work. However, though they do participate in sports and games activity the duration of involvement is very low (average: .74 hours) only. Interestingly among these 82% more than half of children (53.65%) do not play in the playground or field. However, the variation of sports is high in girls' activity then boys. Despondently, most of the children (58%) have no toys in their home. Nevertheless, 96% of children are involved in watching different items on television on an average 1.11 hour per day. They mainly watch drama, cartoon and movie on television. Furthermore, they go for outing or excursion averagely twice in a year mainly in their relatives house. And on an average one third of children never went to National Child Park (NCP), half of children never went to National Zoo (NZ) and three fourth of children never went to Ramna Park (RP)

- To explore the involvement of family members in recreational activity of vulnerable children

Most of the parents do not play with them, neither outdoor games nor indoor games. But

whenever the question of toys were came, the children who have toys, said that the toys are bought by their parents. Most of the time children's fathers (38%) buy them toys to play. And interestingly sometimes other relatives 19% also buy them toys. Moreover; about family involvement in satellite visual media, most of the children watch television whether alone (29%) or with their mother (33%). Some of them also watch television with their brother/ sisters or both. But, only 8% children watch television with their whole family. Furthermore, most of the children (93.18%) go for any trip in a year with their families. Basically in two major occasions they go with their family to their grandparent's house. Moreover, in the case of NCP, NZ and RP they also go with their families but the percentage is less than yearly trip. 79.55% children go to these places with their families.

- To find out the total time of recreation of vulnerable children.

In total children spent 1.85 (1.11+.74) hour every day, not fully 2 hours for their recreational activity. Furthermore, they go for outing or excursion twice in a year. And on an average one third of children never went to National Child Park (NCP), half of children never went to National Zoo (NZ) and three fourth of children never went to Ramna Park (RP)

## 9. DISCUSSION

Vulnerable children are in worse position in our country. Though it is said that, children need more care and have more right than any other else but the situation of vulnerable children is shoddier then any part of people of our country. Recreation made by them is one source which could help then to survive well.

But from the study it is found that, the total time of recreation of them is not more than 2 hours. Among 24 hours of a day they only get 2 hours for their recreation. In another 22 hours they live for their parents and work for their parents. It is also found that they in average only go for trip twice in a year. Basically there are two major occasions in our country. One is Eid-ul-Fiter and another is Eid-ul-





Azha. Children most of the time go for excursion in these occasion with their family. But extra trip without occasion is also necessary for them. As it is said that, change of air or sometimes go for excursion help children to increase both physically and mentally.

Additionally, children spent less time in sports and games rather than satellite visual media. However, it is necessary to play in open field rather than watching television in home. Sports and games are more necessary for working children as they spent some of their times in working environment, which is obviously not preferable for them. Furthermore, these children only watch Indian channel which already started to create impact on our culture. We should keep it seriously in our mind.

Families of these children are not also really involved in their children's recreational activity. As most of them are working parents they could not give time properly. And also the culture of this social class does not make parents concern about their children's activity. But we should keep a great concern in this.

These children are the future of our society. Well upbringing can help them to become a cognizant citizen of this country. Therefore, beside take all the rights of children consciously we should also think about their recreational activities. Because we know recreation can make a person more delightful and lively.

## 10. RECOMMENDATION

The major recommendation of this study is given below:

- Families should take care about their children's recreational activities. Thus the educated people should make concern the parents about the recreational importance of their vulnerable children.
- Schools of vulnerable children should also be concerned about the activity and duration of their children's and give more space to spent more time in their recreational activity.

- Employer of working children should also concern about the importance and present situation of recreational activity of their working children
- This study is for making consciousness among people about describing the actual scenario of recreational situation of vulnerable children. So people should take concern about actual situation and take steps according to this study.
- Policy makers should concern more about the implementation of their policy about recreation of vulnerable children
- New policy could be taken under schools that schools could open child club and Parent's Students' Day in each month to enhance children's recreational activities.

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