

**A Quality of Life Study on Urban Slum Residents and its Effects on
Urban Poverty in Sri Lanka.**

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The purpose of the study was to identify quality of life in slum residents who are living in urban areas. Further, this research was attempted to identify the relation between slum dwellers and increasing urban poverty levels. The objective of the study is therefore to explore available opportunities to uplift the livelihood of dwellings through a successful programme. This would indeed reduce the urban poverty.

Observation of participants through case study was the methods widely used in the study. Meanwhile, several kinds of data collecting techniques such as interviews, questionnaires, and ordinary observations were intensively used. The sample was selected by multistage sampling method which was based on probability sample methods. The research is located in Colombo municipal council area. Research was carried out with the focus on two factors of quality of life i.e., social indicators comprised of health issues and general issues. In case of health issues, attention was paid on physical as well as emotional well-being and role functioning. With regard to the general issues, economic resources, human rights, freedom and living conditions are the areas on which the serious attention was focused. Intrinsically, lack of employment and income opportunities, violent and unhealthy environment, personal and tenure insecurity and disempowerment are the main problems investigated in association with these settlements. With regard to slum residents' well-being, policy makers should make a genuine attempt to improve their economic successes by reducing poverty levels. Community development to remove the poverty levels and re-house them in low cost shelters with security of land tenure is in top of the agenda. It should be noted that with the implementation of these measures slum dwellers could be transformed into an active social force which would uplift urban economy.

Key words: *slum dwellers, well-being, urban poverty, sub culture, socialization*