

# USAID funded BC/TIP interventions addressing child marriage in Bangladesh (Cox's Bazar)

Duration : March to October 2020



# Causes to increase child marriage in the pandemic

- ❖ Due to lock down the closure of learning centers, child-friendly centers, girl friendly centers and other venues for children and women has resulted in further exposure of children to protection risks.
- ❖ Return migrants are spending leisure time at their home so, unmarried return migrants are deciding this time is perfect to get married.
- ❖ The reduced numbers of protection staff in the camps has opened the opportunity for community representatives (Mahjis) to play a greater role in mediating conflicts/violence and often time they do not play a fair role, which is resulting Child marriage.



- ❖ An extensive unemployment, job loss, and lack of opportunity for income generation in the pandemic.
- ❖ Parents think that the cost of marriage will be less in pandemic as they do not have to be invited others to the wedding due to avoid mass gathering in pandemic.
- ❖ The people from both host communities and Rohingya are largely unaware of the consequence of Child marriage and the nexus between human trafficking and child marriage.

## BC/TIP's major interventions to address CM issues in Cox's Bazar

### Strengthen the capacity of communities

PL, ANIRBAN and community leaders are capacitated and identifying at-risks and victims of CM

### Increase the responsiveness of duty bearers

Train locally elected bodies, marriage registrars, VAW, CTC members, partner staff and frontline law enforcement members

### Behavioral change communications and campaigns

Partnering with radio stations and broadcasting public service announcement and outreach through door-to-door campaign

### Improve access to assistance or services

At-risks and victims are provided with shelter support, psycho-social counseling and education support

# CM issues addressed among Rohingya refugees and host communities in Cox's Bazar

204 CM victims and people at-risk of CM received counseling services from Safe Space



50 peer leaders, 32 ANIRBAN members and 20 members of youth group trained on CM issues



498 CTC members, 63 locally elected officials mobilized to prevent child marriage during COVID19 pandemic

# CM issues addressed among Rohingya refugees and host communities in Cox's Bazar



7,50,000  
audiences  
have become  
aware



29,650  
audiences  
have become  
aware



500 vulnerable  
received  
livelihood support



187 girls  
trained



158 religious  
leaders  
sensitized



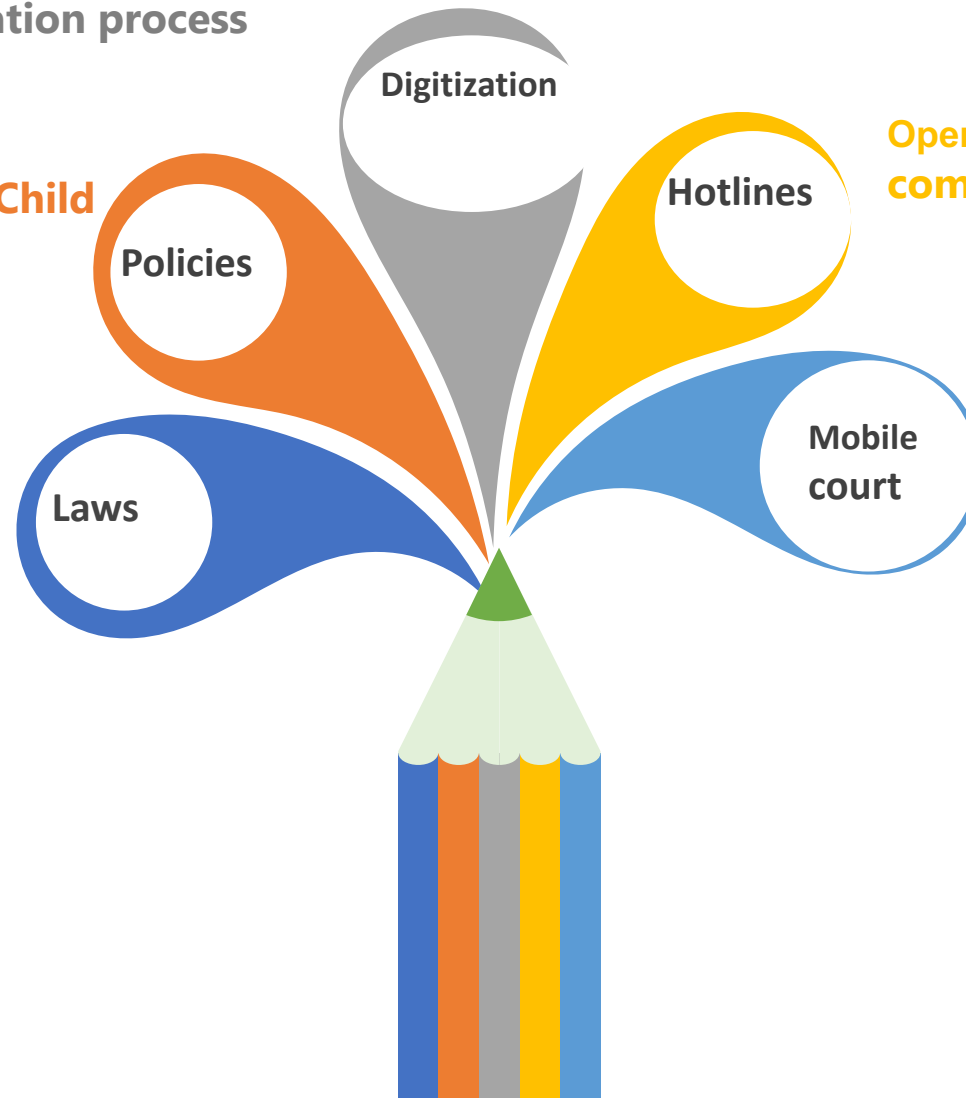
164 CTC members  
mobilized

# Government initiatives to reduce prevalence of CM

Digitization of birth registration process

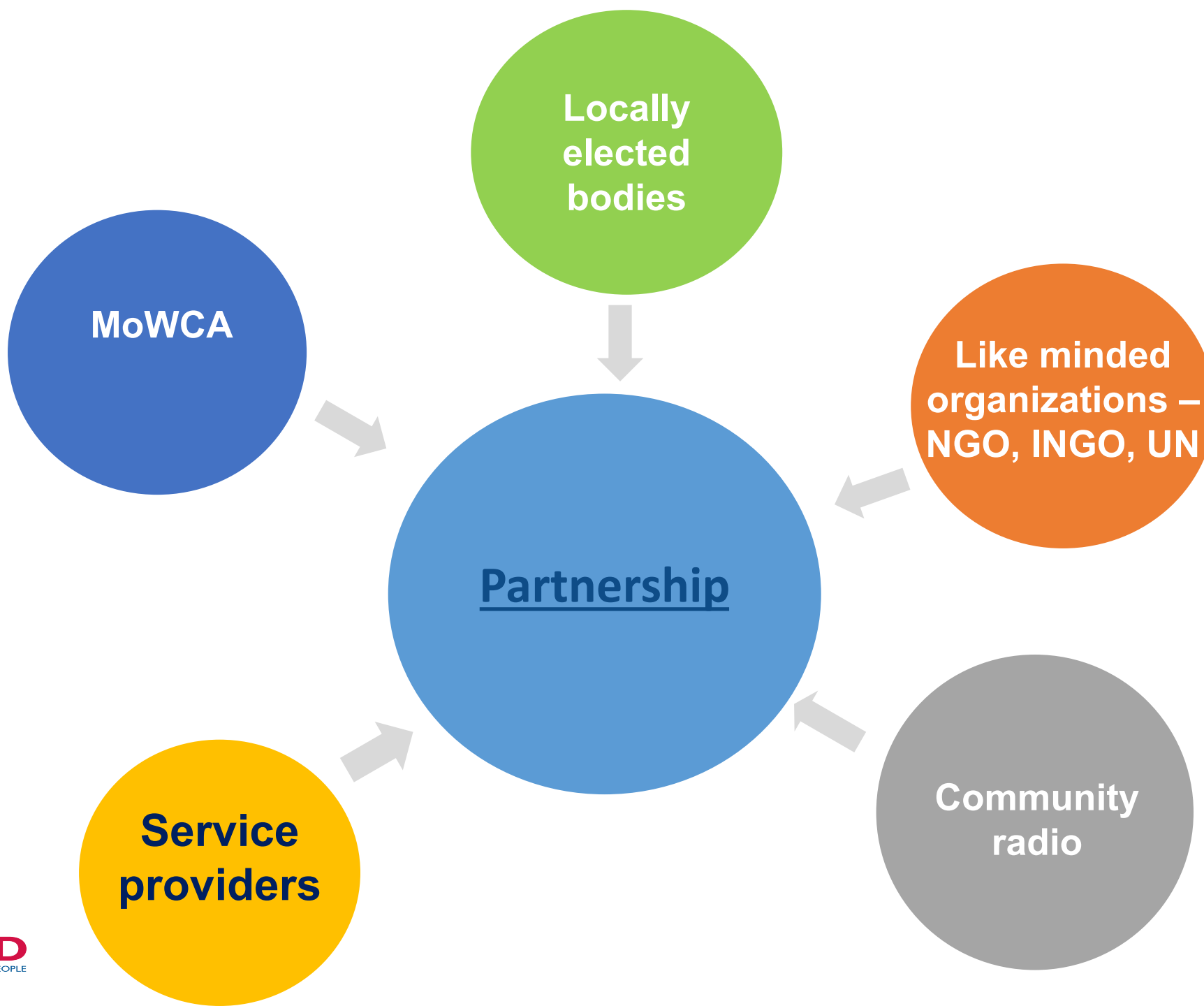
National Action Plan to End Child Marriage, 2018-2030

Repealed the colonial law and enacted CMRA, 2017 and its Rules, 2018



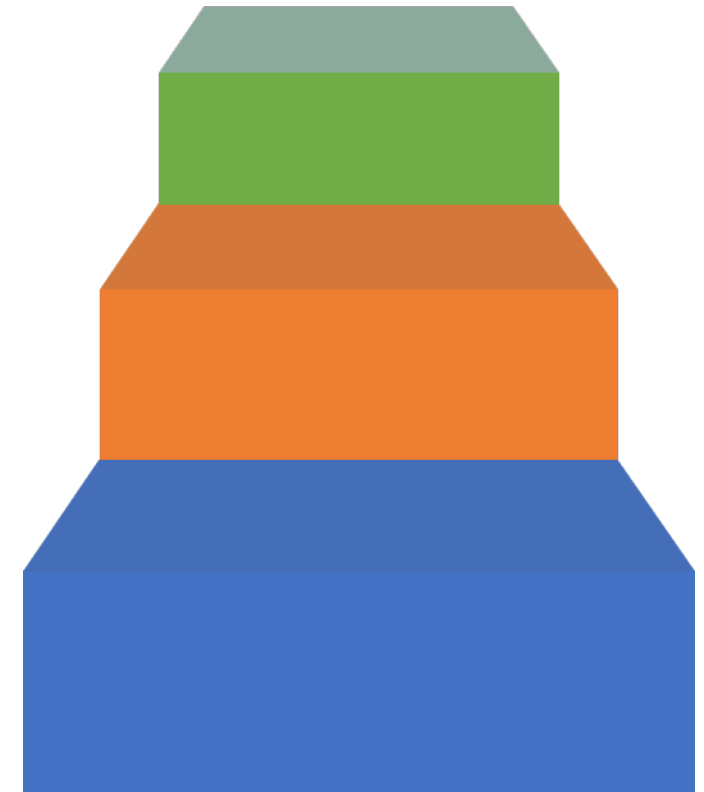
Operating hotline numbers to complain CM incidents

Incorporated mobile court into current CRMA, 2017 to try the perpetrators of CM



# Challenges to implement the program activities

- Delivery of services addressing CM, TIP and GBV has drastically changed in the pandemic.
- It was difficult to use digital mode of intervention and to reach the maximum program participants of the remote area of Cox's Bazar .
- Some parents see marriage proposals as an opportunity to affluence the financial burden of Covid-19.
- Many people tried to take advantage of the special provision of child marriage restrain act-2017 in the host communities.
- People change location in the camp for child marriage to avoid CIC.
- There is not enough entertainment facilities and earning scope for men and women in the Camp for Rohingya communities to engage them. That's why adolescent Girls and boys are attracted to each other and feeling interest to do marry in their early age.





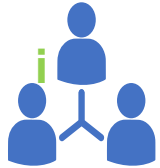
# Recommendation



Need to emphasize to use low-cost technology



Need to increase capacity of women and girls to use technologies to meet this gap due to pandemic.



Collective response is needed from all the stakeholder



Necessary to conduct comprehensive and cross-sectoral programming



Need to engage youth through youth club, child club and organize awareness program more and more to sensitize community people



**Thank  
You!!!**

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# New and Emerging Trends of Human Trafficking in Entertainment Sector in Nepal (Jan-March, 2020)

For PPR

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Manas Wagle (Data Analyst)

Study Facilitated by

Nepal Institute for Training and Research

# BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

- There is no official recognition or definition of ‘adult entertainment sectors’ in Nepal.
- These terminologies have been used to refer to cabin restaurants, massage parlors, dance bars, *khaja ghar* (tiffin homes), and the *dohori* (Nepali folk song and music) restaurants.
- the Supreme Court of Nepal quoted ‘cabin dance bars’ and ‘massage parlors’ as entertainment sector in a writ in 2005
- growth of entertainment sectors in Nepal
- Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare estimated that between 30,000 to 40,000 female workers were employed in the entertainment sectors in the country.
- Previous study suggested that there is exploitation in these sectors, including forced labour and sexual exploitation.

# OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To identify emerging trends and dimensions of people being trafficked into the entertainment sector and delineate the risk factors that make them vulnerable;
- To identify available services and mechanisms for delivery of services to trafficking survivors;
- To identify viable livelihood options for young people working in entertainment sectors or find options for making these work sectors dignified;
- To recommend for amendment of laws, regulations and policies, reforms in service to improve the identification, investigation and prosecution of human trafficking cases in the entertainment sector.

# Methods of Study

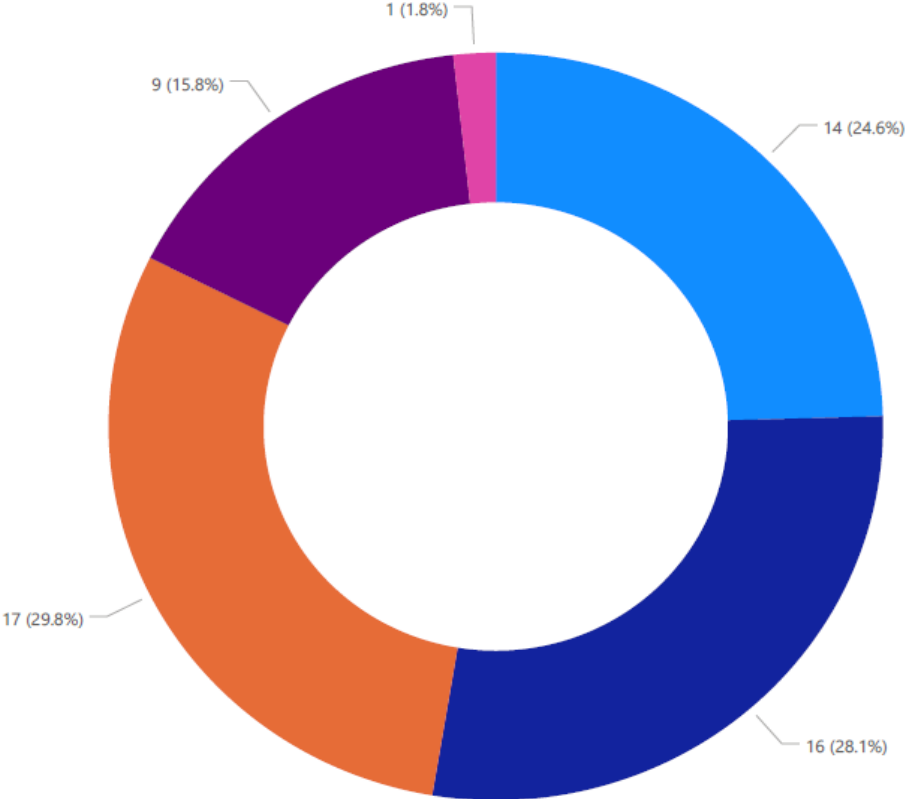
- *Key Informant Interview (KII) – 26*
- *Focused Group Discussions (FGD) – 3, Consultative workshop – 1 (Total 48 participants)*
- *Field Survey – 57 respondents*
  - Boudha-Chabahil-Gaushala
  - Koteswor-Jadibuti
  - Thamel
  - Balkhu-Kalanki-Sitapaila
  - Balaju-New Bus park-Sorhakhutte
- *Secondary Information*
- *Case Studies*
- *Legal review*

# Number of respondents

|                   | Frequency | Percent       |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Cabin Restaurants | 13        | 22.8%         |
| Massage Parlors   | 5         | 8.8%          |
| <b>Dance Bars</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>28.1%</b>  |
| Khaja Ghar        | 11        | 19.3%         |
| Dohori Restaurant | 12        | 21.1%         |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>57</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Female: 56  
(98.2%)  
Male: 1 (1.8%)

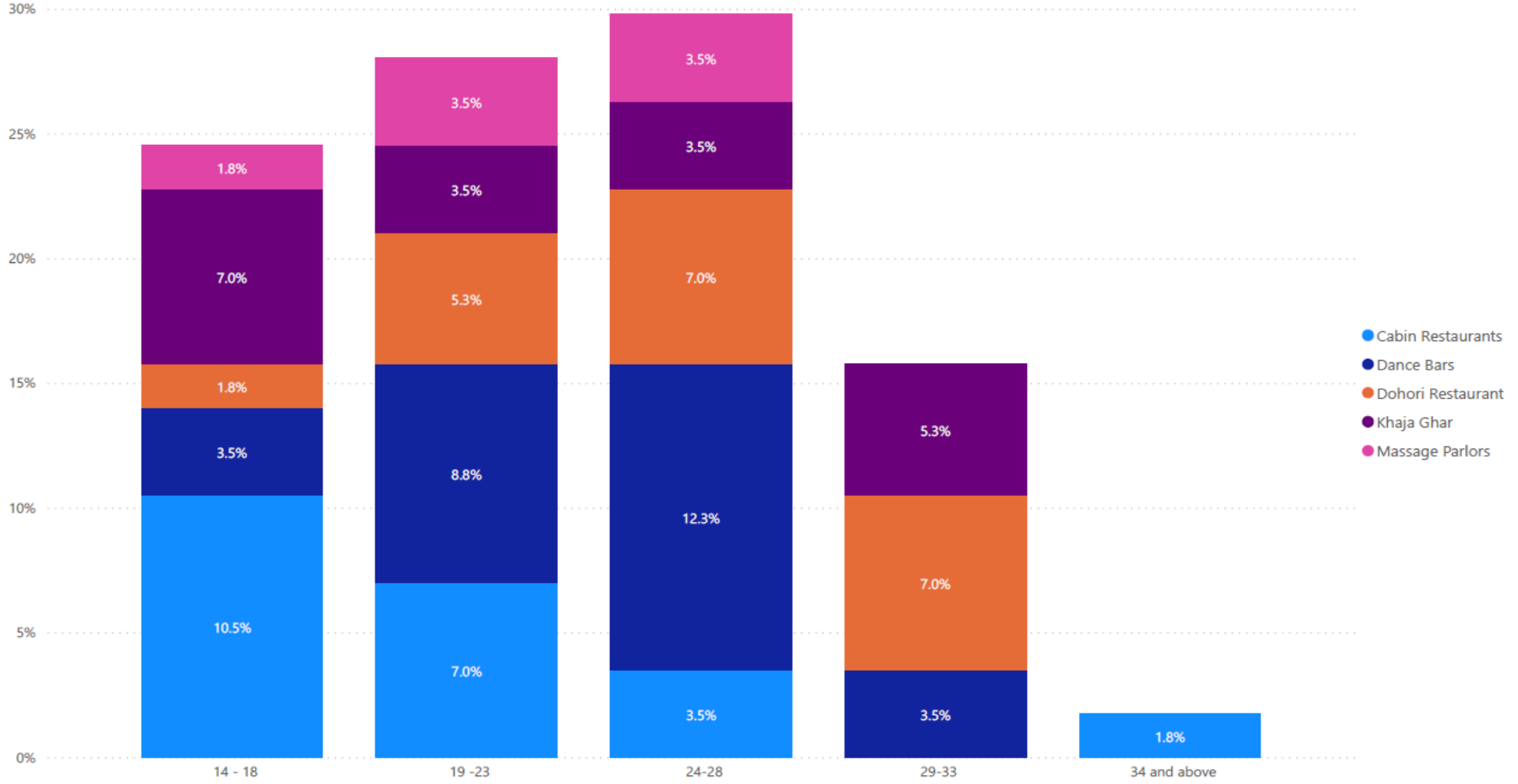
### Age Breakdown



- 14 - 18
- 19 - 23
- 24 - 28
- 29 - 33
- 34 and above

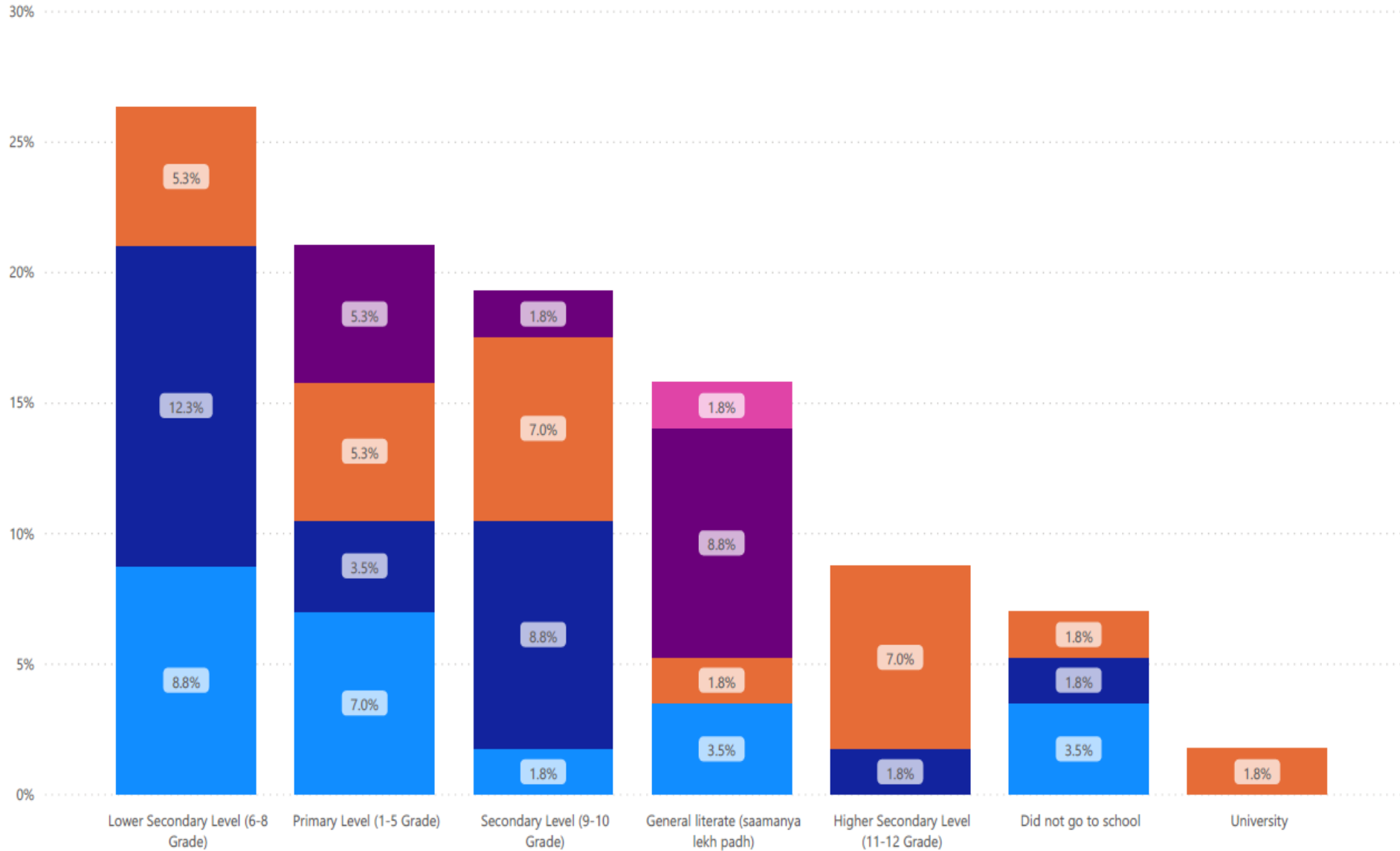


Age vs Nature of Venue (%)



### Age vs Education Level

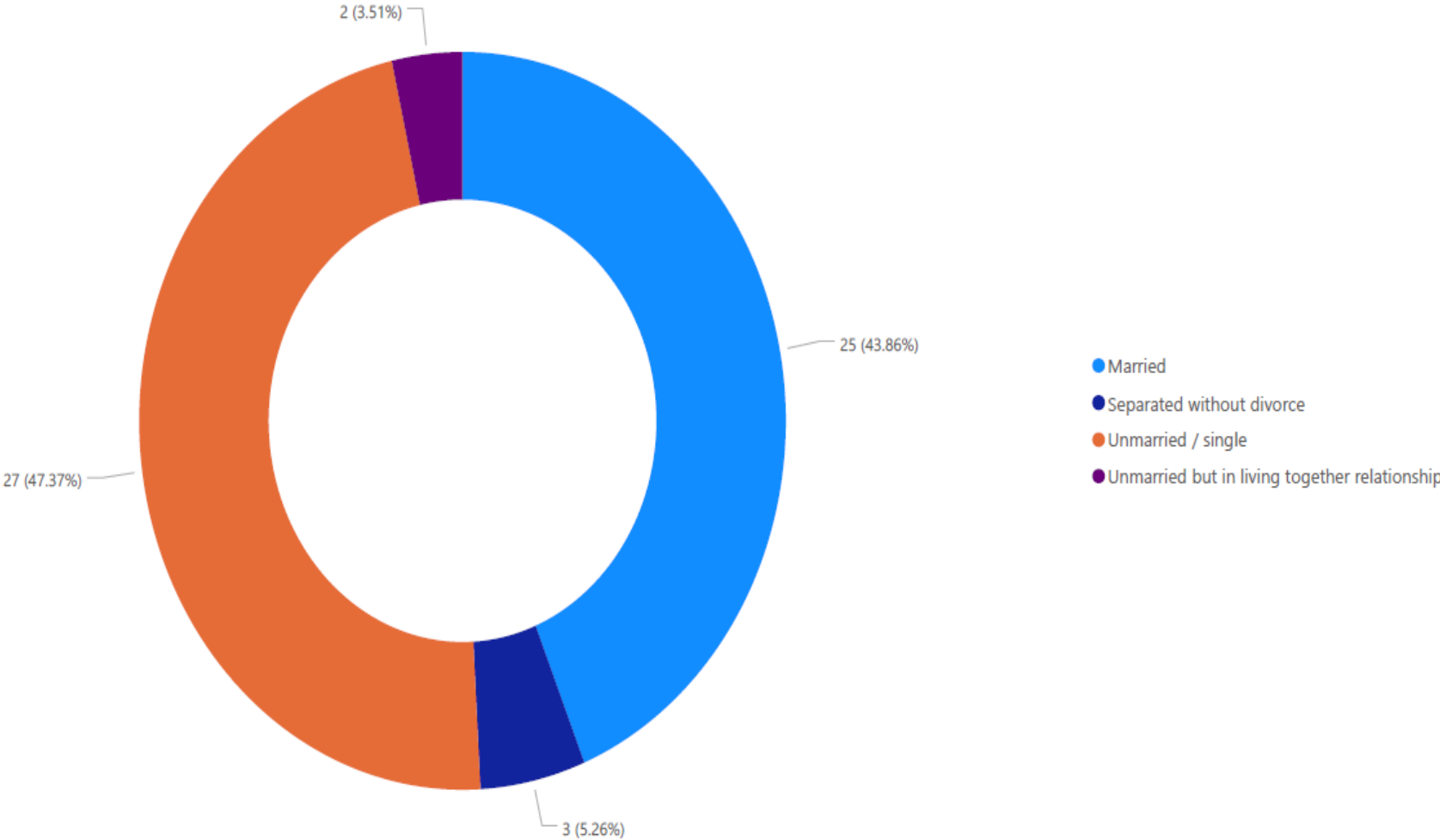
● 14 - 18 ● 19 -23 ● 24-28 ● 29-33 ● 34 and above



## To which case/ethnic category do you belong?

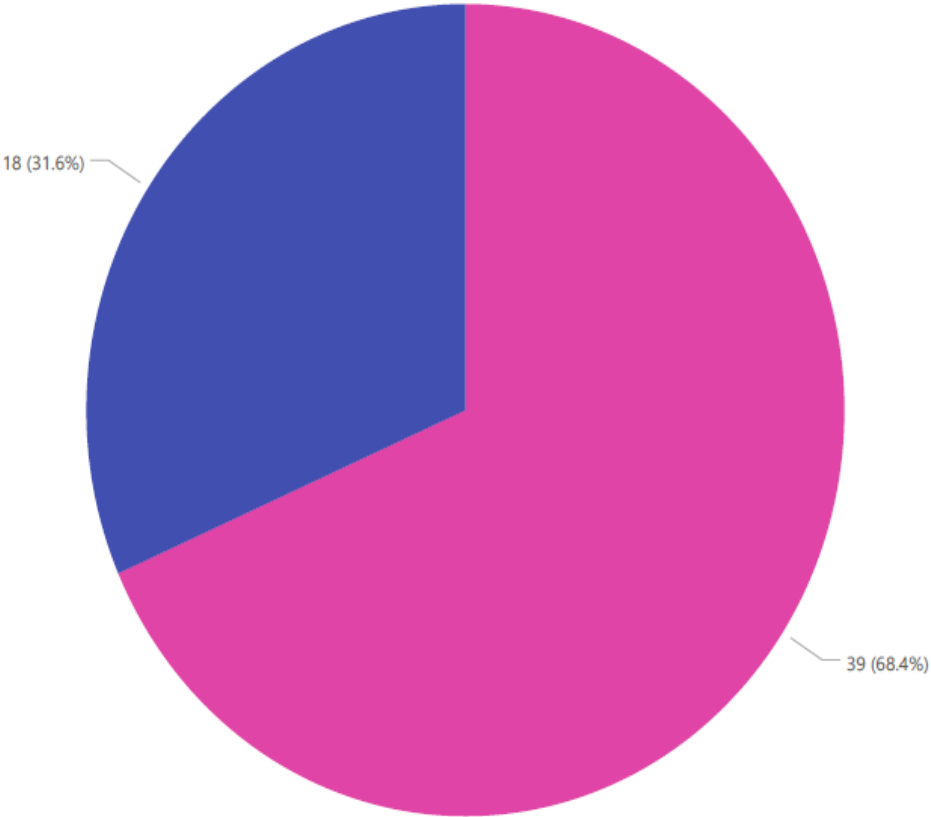
|                  | Frequency | Percent       |
|------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Brahmin/Chhetri  | 12        | 21.1%         |
| Dalit            | 8         | 14.0%         |
| <b>Tamang</b>    | <b>19</b> | <b>33.3%</b>  |
| Rai/Gurung/Magar | 13        | 22.8%         |
| Newar            | 3         | 5.3%          |
| Others           | 2         | 3.5%          |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>57</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Marital status?



Have you ever been abused at work?

● Yes ● No



## With whom did you come to this workplace? Who brought you to this place?

|                   | Frequency | Percent       |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Recruiter / Owner | 1         | 1.8%          |
| Family            | 11        | 19.3%         |
| <b>Friend</b>     | <b>34</b> | <b>59.6%</b>  |
| Unknown person    | 2         | 3.5%          |
| Self              | 7         | 12.3%         |
| Other             | 2         | 3.5%          |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>57</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

## Did you have consent to come to this work?

|              | Frequency | Percent       |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes          | 45        | 78.9%         |
| No           | 12        | 21.1%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>57</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

## Did you know what work you were going to do?

|              | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| Yes          | 16               | 28.1%          |
| No           | 41               | 71.9%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>57</b>        | <b>100.0%</b>  |



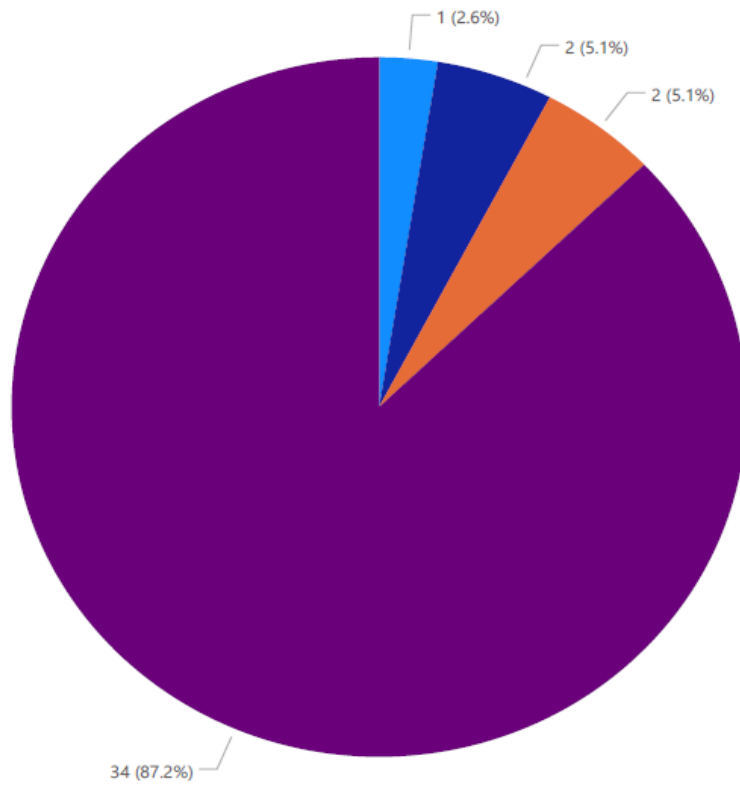
## Are you doing the same work that you were promised?

|              | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| Yes          | 26               | 45.6%          |
| No           | 31               | 54.4%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>57</b>        | <b>100.0%</b>  |

## What was your age when you first entered into this profession?

|                | Frequency | Percent       |
|----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Below 14 years | 6         | 10.5%         |
| 14 - 18        | 20        | 35.1%         |
| 19 -23         | 13        | 22.8%         |
| 24-28          | 13        | 22.8%         |
| 29-33          | 5         | 8.8%          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>57</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

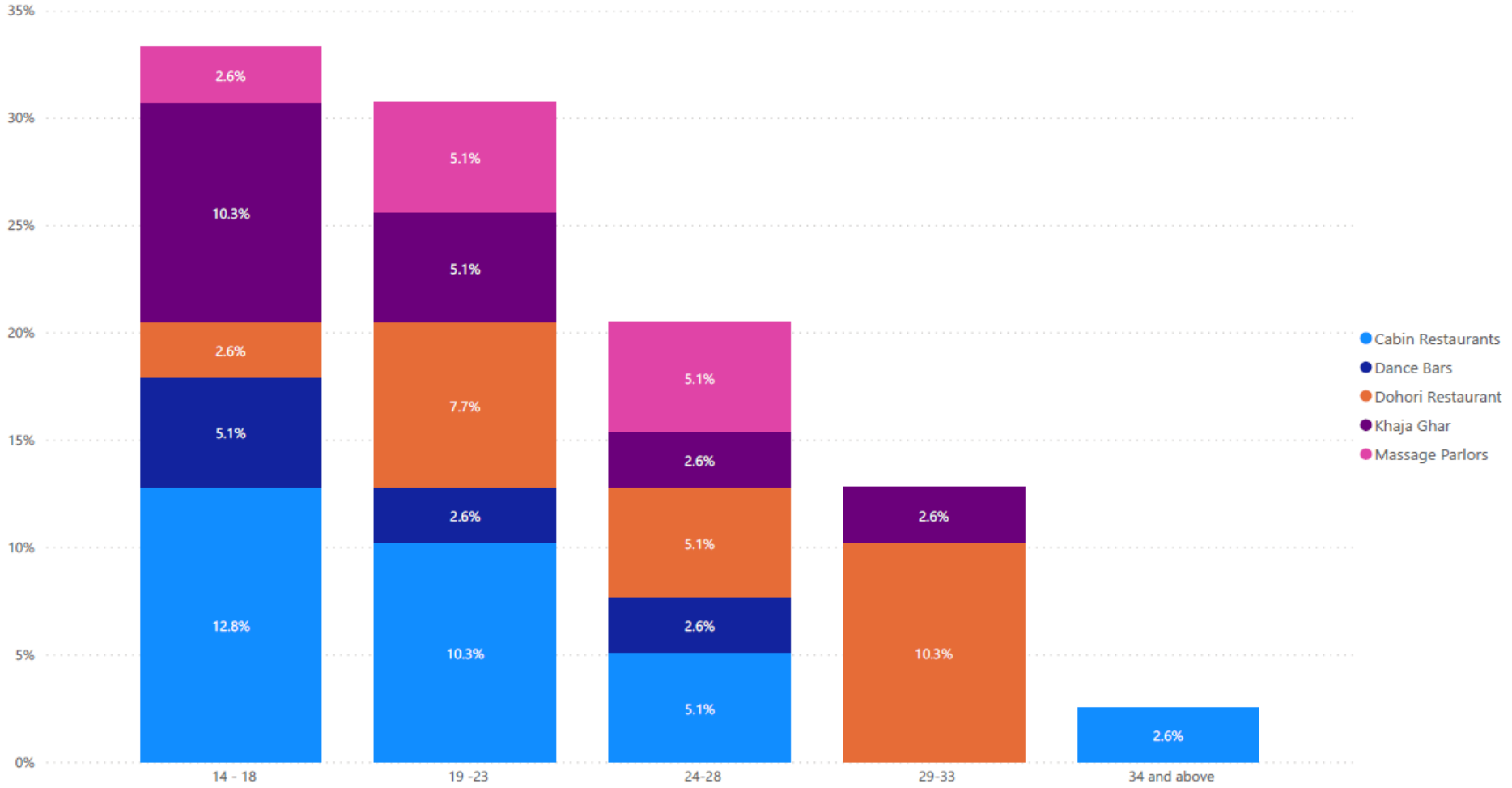
Abused at work (Yes) v Type of Abuse



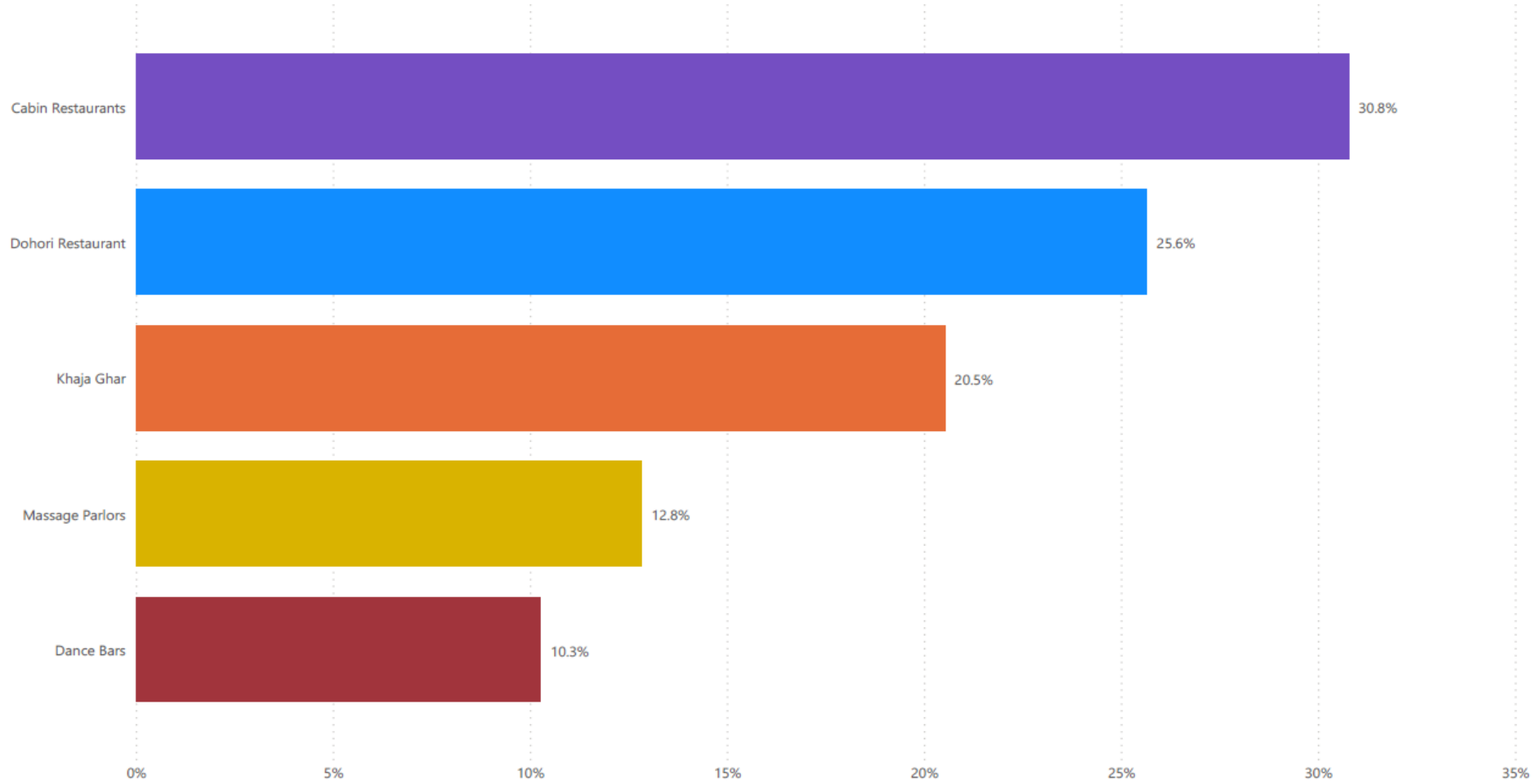
**If you were ever abused at work, what type of abuse was that?**

- Attempted rape
- Inappropriate touching
- Request for sexual favors
- One or more of the above

Abused at Work (Y) - Age vs Nature of Venue (%)



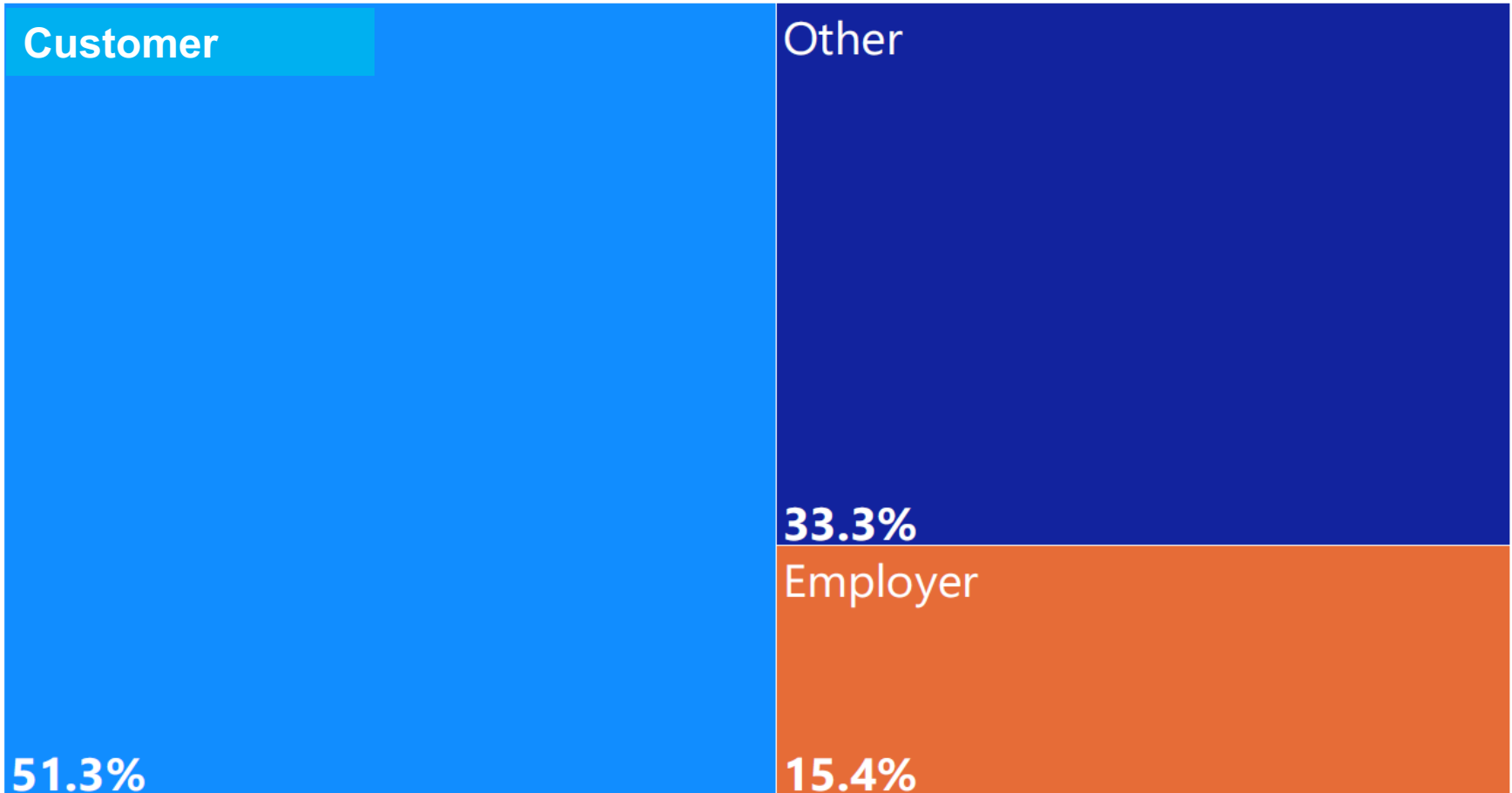
Abused at Work (Y) vs Nature of Venue



## Do you know whether your colleagues have been sexually exploited or at risk of exploitation?

|              | Frequency | Percent       |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes          | 40        | 70.2%         |
| No           | 17        | 29.8%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>57</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Abused at Work (Y) vs by whom?



### Abused at work (Yes) - Communicated to other person?

|              | Count     | %             |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| No           | 10        | 25.6%         |
| Yes          | 29        | 74.4%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>39</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

### Abused at work (Yes) & Communicated to Another Person (Yes) - Breakdown

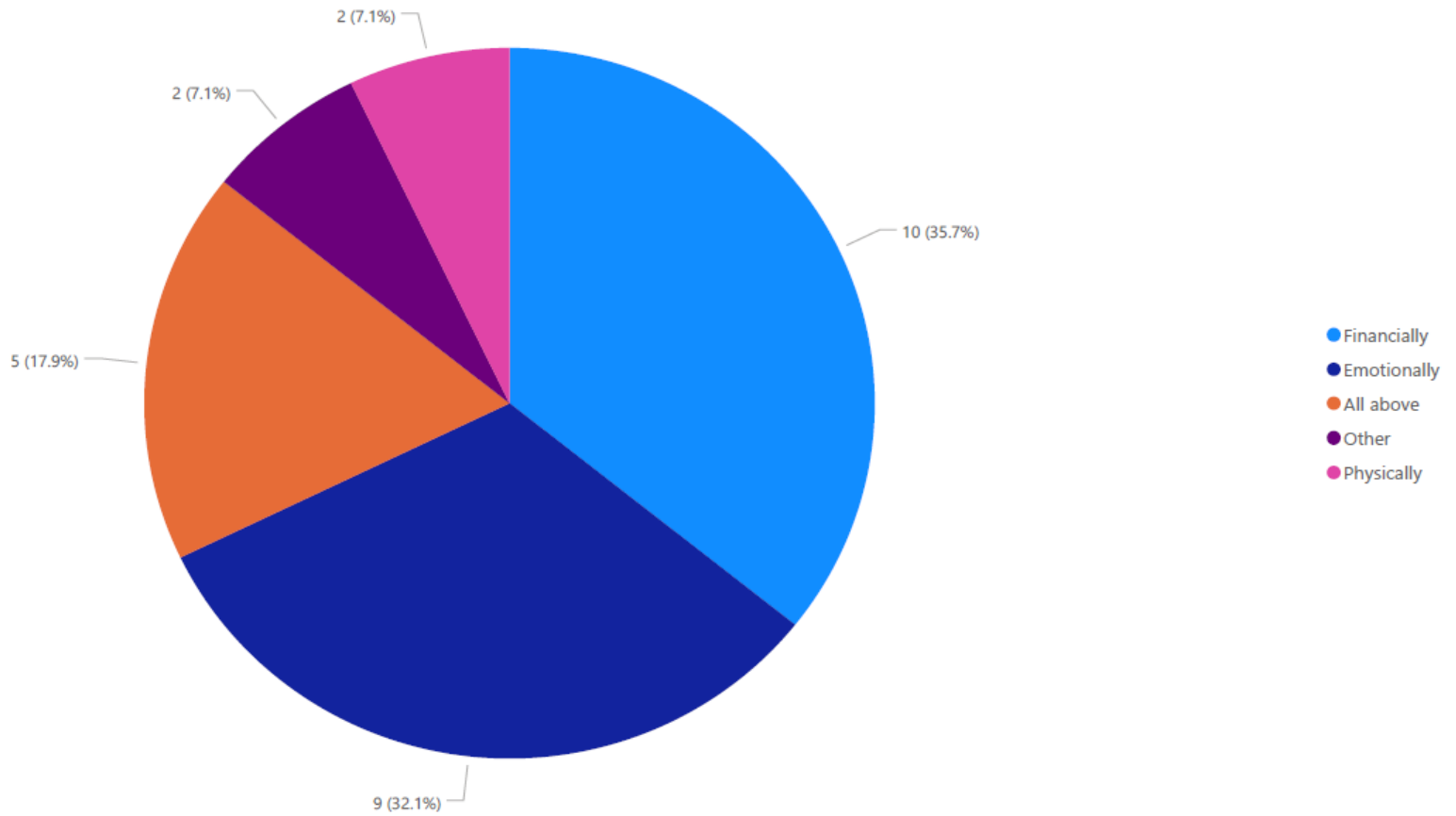
|                                     | Count     | %             |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Family member                       | 3         | 7.7%          |
| Coworker                            | 17        | 43.6%         |
| Owner/Boss                          | 1         | 2.6%          |
| NGO's/ Social Service Organizations | 5         | 12.8%         |
| Police                              | 2         | 5.1%          |
| Hospital                            | 0         | 0.0%          |
| Other                               | 1         | 2.6%          |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>29</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |



## Are you forced at work even when you do not want to?

|              | Frequency | Percent       |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| No           | 29        | 50.9%         |
| Yes          | 28        | 49.1%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>57</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Forced at Work (Y) - by what means?



### On an average, how many hours do you work in a day?

|                   | Frequency | Percent       |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Less than 8 hours | 32        | 56.1%         |
| More than 8 hours | 25        | 43.9%         |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>57</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

### Are you paid for the overtime work you do?

|              | Frequency | Percent       |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes          | 4         | 7.0%          |
| No           | 50        | 87.7%         |
| Sometimes    | 3         | 5.3%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>57</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

## Do you get to keep the entire amount you earn here?

|              | Frequency | Percent       |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes          | 40        | 70.2%         |
| No           | 17        | 29.8%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>57</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

## How dignified do you feel in your current work?

|                      | Frequency | Percent       |
|----------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Dignified            | 3         | 5.3%          |
| Not much Dignified   | 13        | 22.8%         |
| Not Dignified at all | 41        | 71.9%         |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>57</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

**Do you think you are free to leave this job at any time on your own choice?**

|              | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| Yes          | 42               | 73.7%          |
| No           | 15               | 26.3%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>57</b>        | <b>100.0%</b>  |

# Definition of Human Trafficking (Palermo Protocol Article 3)

TABLE 1

| ACTIVITIES<br>(any of these) | MEANS/METHODS<br>(any of these)                 | PURPOSE/INTENTION<br>(any of these)            |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Recruitment                  | Threat  | For the purpose of exploitation <sup>8</sup> - |
| Transportation               | Force   | Prostitution of others                         |
| Transfer                     | Other forms of coercion                         | Other forms of sexual exploitation             |
| Harbouring                   | Abduction                                       | Forced labour or services                      |
| Receipt<br>... of persons    | Fraud   | Slavery or practices similar to slavery        |
|                              | Deception                                       | Servitude                                      |
|                              | Abuse of:<br>Power<br>Position of vulnerability | Removal of organs                              |
|                              | Giving or receiving of<br>payments or benefits  |  |

The 'consent' of a victim of trafficking shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth above have been used. 'Consent' is irrelevant in case of children even if this does not involve any of the means set forth above.

Source: UNODC

# Major Findings

- 68.4% reported that they have been exploited at work
- 21.1% did not have informed consent before coming to the work
- 71.9% did not know what work they were going to do
- 54.4 % were working something else other than they were promised
- 10.5% started working in this sector before the age of 14 years
- Attempted rape, request for physical relation, inappropriate touching are most common types of abuse at work
- Most abuses in cabin restaurants (38.8%)
- 49.1% were forced to work even when they did not want to work
- 43.9% were working more than 8 hours a day while they were not getting over time payment
- 26.3% thought that they were not free to leave the job at the time they wanted to do so



# Emerging trends and dimensions of people being trafficked into the entertainment sector

- no informed consent, unknown of their work
- different work than promised
- Underpayment, no payment on time, holding of payment
- Control by threat, physical, financial and emotional means
- Easy recruitment of girls for the purpose of exploitation
- Transportation/transfer from one place to another
- Prostitution of others and other forms of sexual exploitation
- Forced labour or services
- Acceptance of the situation and planning to operate one by herself

# Risk factors that make them vulnerable

- Nature of business, job, imbalanced power exercise, work environment
- No or low level of formal education, no skills
- Poor economic background
- Obligation to earn for the family or for their own livelihood
- Unemployment, no information,
- No one to help/support in big cities
- No written job contract
- Inadequate payment

# Available Services and Mechanisms

- **Government Agencies:** MoWCSC, Ministry of Labor and Employment and Social Security (MoLESS); Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA); Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and Office of the Attorney General (OAG).
- **National Committee on Controlling Human Trafficking (NCCHT):**
- **District Committee on Controlling Human Trafficking (DCCHT)**
- **Local Committee on Controlling Human Trafficking (LCCHT) in local levels**
- **Independent Human Rights Monitoring Body:**
- **Nepal Police (Anti-human trafficking Bureau)**
- **Civil Societies and Loose Networks:**
- **Development Partners:**

# Making these work sectors dignified

- Written job contract with ToR;
- Guarantee of minimum wage;
- Monitoring from authoritative body

## Recommendation to Federal Government

- **Amend Human Trafficking and Transportation Control Act** in line with Palermo Protocol
- **Enact specific law** to regulate dance bar, dance restaurants, *gazal* restaurants, *dohori* restaurants, *rodhi ghar*, cabin restaurants, *hookka* bars, tiffin homes, resorts, massage parlors, spa, sauna etc. and to ensure safety and protection of workers
- **Prescribe standard** for these business and venues
- **Consider ILO and WHO standards while defining worst form of child labour** and sexually exploitative work environment

# Recommendation to the Provincial Government

- Prescribe mandatory provision of registration. Ensure that no such business is run without registration Prescribe specific office to register these types of business.
- Prescribe that such office should keep record and update of such business periodically.
- Prescribe specific office and authority or a Committee for the monitoring and regulation of these types of business.
- Prescribe complaint handling mechanism within the workplace.
- Ensure safety and protection against reprisal for complaining against owners and customers
- Prescribe forbidden activities and duties of owners and customers

# Recommendation to the Hospitality and Entertainment Sectors

- **Mandatorily register** the business.
- **Comply with labour laws** and other gender equality laws.
- **Arrange complaint handling mechanism** within all small or big scale entertainment or hospitality businesses.
- Make sure that **no action of reprisal** would be taken against complainant.
- **Display forbidden activities and duties of owners and customers** in the installments or venues.

# Recommendation to the Civil Society Organizations

- **Ensure meaningful engagement** in the full spectrum of the anti-trafficking response.
- **Strengthen capacity and provide training to staffs** for effective anti-trafficking responses.
- **Sensitize members of the organizations and staffs** while responding and providing services to victims / survivors.
- **Watch government's performance** in providing services and justice to victims/ survivors.



# COVID-19 Pandemic and Human Trafficking: Nepalese Context

- GoN announced nation-wide lockdown effective from March 24-31, 2020 and it was renewed several times
- Hotels, restaurants, catering, similar services and entertainment sector were hardly hit, complete closure for 4 months and reopened from July 31.
- Anti Human Trafficking Bureau rescued 41 trafficking victims during 3 months of strict lockdown (28 from India, 13 from Nepal) [as of July 20, 2020]
- Business closed or not fully operational, no employment and many returned from foreign labour,
- Entertainment sector workers had no option than to shift to other jobs or to accept whatever job they got
- Women and girls from financially vulnerable families were targeted by traffickers during pandemic



अविभेद र समानताका लागि कार्यरत



# THANK YOU



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