CHAPTER 3

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This study sought to investigate human trafficking in Jharkhand. The previous chapter reviewed the literature on human trafficking, conceptual dimensions, the phenomenon of human trafficking, and anti-human trafficking legislation. This chapter further reviews the literature on conflict theory, media framing theory, and social-ecological model - the theoretical framework adopted for the study. Besides, it briefly highlights the issues addressed by the conflict theory, media framing theory, and the social-ecological model concerning human trafficking. It then justifies the theory and model chosen to guide the data collection to explore the research objectives.

Table 3.1: Objective wise Theory/Model Used

Research Objectives		Research Questions	Theory/Model Used
1. Prevalence of human trafficking in Jharkhand	a. To Assess the Status of human trafficking in Jharkhand b. To analyze the purpose and possible factors behind human trafficking c. To determine the awareness among people about human trafficking.	1. What is the status of human trafficking in Jharkhand? 2. What can be the purpose and socioeconomic reason behind the prevalence of human trafficking?	Conflict Theory
2. Human trafficking in media	a. To determine the coverage given to human trafficking by Daily newspapers b. To examine the news frames used by newspapers in reporting	3. To what extent does the press cover issue of human trafficking in Jharkhand? 4. How do Newspapers in	Media Framing Theory

	human trafficking.	Jharkhand frame the coverage of human trafficking?	
3. Communication Response and Mitigation	a. To find out how far the society is sensitized about the implication of human trafficking in Jharkhand b. To analyze the Communication mechanism and policy initiation adopted by the government of Jharkhand in mitigating human trafficking.	5. How far are people in Jharkhand aware of the concept and implications of human trafficking? 6. What role can Media and Communication play in Mitigating human trafficking?	Social-Ecological Model

In this study, I apply the key notions of conflict theory to critically analyze the factors and purpose of the prevalence of human trafficking in Jharkhand. To Assess the Status of Human Trafficking in Jharkhand, to analyze the purpose and possible factors behind Human Trafficking, and to determine the awareness among people about human trafficking. I have applied media framing theory to investigate how the media have framed the stories of human trafficking in Jharkhand. The study has provided significant insight into how the media cover the issue of human trafficking in Jharkhand and how newspapers in Jharkhand frame the coverage of human trafficking.

Lastly, the study has also used the social-ecological model to understand the government initiative to curb human trafficking at different levels. The model has been used to explain or interpret the phenomenon of human trafficking because its basic tenets are fundamental to understanding the subject under study. The study has focused on the social-ecological model to define the communication response, awareness and mitigation. To find out how far society is sensitized about the implication of human trafficking in Jharkhand. To analyze the Communication mechanism and policy initiation adopted by the government of Jharkhand in mitigating human trafficking.

3.1 Conflict Theory

Karl Marx developed the concept of conflict. According to this view, there are two main classes in any society: the ruling class and the subject class. According to the conflict theory, societal inequality produced a system that resulted in the control of the weak and impoverished. It turned into an excuse for violating vulnerable people. Victimization, mental illness, drug misuse, homelessness, and other diseases, among other things, are also crucial. Therefore, human security is viewed as an idea concerning global security and offers a fresh perspective. In the same vein, it broadens to include understanding risks and their security (Alm, 2013). Robert Owen concurred that safeguarding life from the grave and pervasive threats constitutes human security (Owen, 2004). This idea is essential because it helps us comprehend the underlying causes of modern slavery, such as threats, the economic downturn, and other issues.

According to Hutchison (2008), the conflict perspective shows how power is unequally distributed within a group. The conflict viewpoint emphasizes conflict and the factors that lead to dominance and oppression in the economic, political, and even cultural spheres (Hutchinson). In human trafficking, the dominant group, the traffickers, manipulates and exerts control over a subordinate group, the trafficked individuals. Additionally, it is argued that exploitation will result if a conflict is not made public (Hutchison, 2008). The non-dominant group's members become social outcasts. The recruiters and victims are at odds, which leads to economic and social inequity, which is explained by the conflict perspective (Hutchison, 2008). Excessive ambition leads to human trafficking, which involves selling men, women, and children for money in exchange for their forced labour in various industries like agriculture, domestic work, construction, sweatshops, and sexual exploitation. Traffickers, the illicit sex business, trafficking victims, and all those who utilize them for personal gain to create demand are the factions at odds.

According to Karl Marx's social conflict theory, there is always the conflict between different factions. There is no more significant source of conflict than a victim being oppressed by a perpetrator. Gender has historically been one of the most considerable status categories influencing a person's chances in life across all societies. When it comes to having greater access to income, power, autonomy, and other highly prized resources than men, women are nearly never superior (Wallace and Wolf, 1999).

According to conflict theory, the wealthy and powerful can rob the rich of their possessions without using force or manipulative economic methods.

Contrarily, human trafficking has the capacity to do both. The victims are usually women and children in cases of human trafficking, while the traffickers are almost always men. As with human trafficking, the emphasis is on separating the wealthy from the less fortunate and severing the latter's ties to their families, traditions, and entire communities. The underlying premise of social conflict theory is that human trafficking is a global problem. Because they are a stronger group than other groups, the traffickers take advantage of weaker groups. Because of the ongoing class distinctions, society has only further divided the classes regarding the victims of trafficking (Wallace and Wolf, 1999).

Conflict theory discusses how the elite governs the weak and the poor on a micro, mezzo, and macro level and the competition for limited resources. According to conflict theory, a struggle for control results from a power struggle. According to Karl Marx's conflict theory, there is a power struggle between capitalists and the favoured, economically disadvantaged groups. The parties involved in this situation would be the group of traffickers and the victims. The unfairness exists throughout the entire process, from beginning to end.

Human trafficking can also be explained by conflict theory since the oppressors utilize their power to take advantage of the weak (victims). Due to their lack of authority, females and children are frequently targeted, and organizations with more clout abuse the vulnerable during forced labour and human trafficking. In this situation, men would want to utilize women and children as their supply, maintaining a healthy human trafficking market. Although the needs and wants of these two groups may differ, the factor that brought them together and continues to do so is what will ultimately lead to human trafficking. It is how economic inequality is produced.

Any form of trafficking results from the overbearing ambition that permeates the area and generates a market for women, children, and even men. Who are sought after and in demand for commercial sex, sexual exploitation, and forced labour in agricultural, household labour, construction, and sweatshops? A never-ending cycle of supply and demand exists for people.

The conflict sociological approach focuses on the dominance of one group of people over another group. It would investigate human trafficking from the perspective of organizations that wield authority and utilize it to oppress and take advantage of the weak. Each country has its dominant groups, including those who belong to the majority religion, the upper socioeconomic class, the racial class, the nationality, or a position of authority. In addition, patriarchal civilizations foster ideas that promote gender violence and the belief that women are inferior, which helps sex trafficking and domestic servitude spread. Children are also victims of human trafficking, and since they lack authority and control, groups of adults can take advantage of them for forced labour and sex trade.

Conflict theory holds that "certain people and organizations in society have more power than others, and the fight for power is essential to social life" (Stokes, 2019). According to the conflict hypothesis, persons of higher status significantly impact those of lower class by convincing them that they are worthless or by guilting them into acting in a way that is advantageous to themselves.

Since traffickers have so much influence over their victims, many previous studies have argued that conflict theory applies to human trafficking the best. Many tremendous prospects, such as a love connection, a well-paying career, a fresh start in life, etc., may be promised by traffickers to their victims. The reason the traffickers fall for these strategies is that they are weak, come from underdeveloped societies, and are looking for comfort and any method to make a livelihood.

The traffickers will attempt to acquire access to the victims' minds to identify their weaknesses, so they can achieve dominance and use it against them. They have discovered a means to take control and wreck lives in the worst way imaginable. They are more than likely to do it by using their emotional power, erasing their identities (burning birth certificates and making new ones, for example), and threatening their families. When victims are informed that their views are false, traffickers believe they are worthless, which causes them to experience intense emotional stress and a fear of being exposed. The targets may be too terrified to disclose what is happening to them owing to all the threats against them, which is advantageous for the traffickers in many ways (Corrigall-Brown, 2016; Stokes, 2019; Carlson & Kay, 2018; Kelly, 2019; News Staff, 2019).

Conflict theory (Usman, 2014) is founded on the core sociological tenet that society's economic and social forces are what lead to crime. Conflict theory can be used to explain the motivations and justifications for human trafficking. It makes the case that conflict theory best describes class conflict, human trafficking, and the battle between the victims and the traffickers. The conflict view on society emphasizes several value systems and norms that affect people's attempts to create rules and control their behaviour (Shoemaker, 2009).

3.2 Framing theory

In the literature about how human trafficking is portrayed in the media, the idea of framing is widely examined. According to the American Political Science Association, Framing is

> "the process by which politicians and policymakers relay their messages to attract media attention and put the best face on the events, the way journalists construct messages under organizational guidelines and professional values, and the way audience members interpret, think about, and reassess those media messages" (Zhang, 2000, p. 5).

Thus, individuals who provide information to the news media, such as decision-makers, interest groups, journalists, and editors, impact how the news media frame a story. The information journalists communicate to their audience, and the interpretations of that information they include are decisions that journalists and their sources make. Investigative journalism typically seeks to examine issues more thoroughly and draws from a broader range of sources and viewpoints, unlike straight news reporting, where a single "authority" may be the only source. It can provide a more detailed and impartial view of an issue than traditional news reporting (Berry, 2009; Kovach & Rosenstiel, 2007).

News media are crucial in determining whether issues warrant public and governmental attention because of the selection procedures involved. Entman (2007) interprets this to indicate that biased news reports and editorials that "frame favour one side over the other in the present or impending dispute" can "distribute political power to particular parties, causes, or individuals" (p. 165–166). The research into this claim has concluded that most news reports repeat what policymakers have said rather than presenting different

viewpoints and actively promoting discussion (Bennett, 2009; Jones & Baumgartner, 2005; Larson, 2006). It may be a result of the organizational structure of reporting, as journalists who cover the same subject or area ("beat reporting") frequently have to rely on official or readily available sources to fulfil deadlines (Gans, 2005; Poler Kovacic, 2004). Additionally, because they are "instantly believable" and "have a legitimizing influence on news items," official sources may be preferred by journalists (Fogarty, 2012, p. 276).

Without a widely agreed-upon definition, the news media choose how to define the issue, identify the reasons, assign moral standing, and offer solutions. The functions of frames are made up of these elements (Entman, 1993). According to framing theory, the media choose certain subjects and situate them in a sphere of meaning (McCombs & Shaw, 1993). According to framing research, by emphasizing particular features of an issue, frames make those parts more accessible and, consequently, more likely to be used in a person's decision-making process (Entman, 1993; Scheufele, 2000).

Some academics contend that humans are cognitive misers by nature, meaning we seek out information-processing shortcuts and prefer to think as little as possible (Fiske & Taylor, 1991). By using mental filters known as schema to comprehend incoming messages, frames provide audiences with a straightforward information processing method (Entman, 1993). It gives the framer a lot of power to use these concepts to shape the audience's understanding of the information. Entman's (1993) four-part typology states that frames characterize issues, identify their root causes, assess their morality, and offer solutions. Entman (2005) states that the most crucial tasks are defining the problem and offering solutions. For that reason, those will be the main areas of this study's attention.

Like agenda-setting theory, framing theory holds that particular subjects or issues are made more salient by increasing media coverage. Agenda-setting is based on the premise that we only care about issues (like Harambe) if we know their existence. Framing supports this by stating that media coverage is crucial for spreading the news and giving it meaning.

In the context of my research, examining how human trafficking is depicted in the media is an excellent way to find out what knowledge about it is easily available to the average

audience and how that knowledge is conveyed. Do media outlets portray reports of human trafficking as bizarre crimes? Who appears to have the most significant impact on how news is reported? What voice does the person being cited use? The framing theory makes it possible to investigate these issues.

In the past, press reports on human trafficking have reflected the tone, themes, and subjects of statements made by prominent law enforcement officials (Gulati, 2010). In other words, elites have a lot of influence on how stories about human trafficking are framed and what the agenda is. Elites are sociological and political figures who play important leadership positions, such as politicians and law enforcement officials. These elites have demonstrated a significant amount of influence on framing and agenda-setting surrounding many issues, especially those related to recent wars, based on the theory that they frequently have access to media sources and can, as a result, get their words published more regularly than non-elite sources (Cottle, 2006). With this knowledge, we can infer which actors are receiving the most significant attention for their sex trafficking advocacy efforts based on who is being referenced in news articles.

The framing theory has been constructive in examining how media and consumers interact. Templeton uses the term "framing" to describe the purposeful or accidental process by which a communicator develops a perspective that moulds the message recipient's interpretation of a specific issue, event, or problem (2011). This method is employed to highlight some features of a subject while underscoring or disregarding others. In turn, how an event is framed influences how an issue is described, what is thought to be the problem's cause and its effects, and whether solutions are considered successful in fixing the entire problem or just a portion of it (Gulati, 2010). The media frequently employs specific words, phrases, or images to convey a succinct interpretation of a subject, forming a point of view by which actions taken in the future to address that issue may be assessed (Templeton, 2011). In an inductive logical process, authors look for specific frames or categories, including issue foci, sources, causes, and remedies, before searching for those codes. According to research, news outlets frequently repeat the narratives put forth by the key players in the policy process rather than provoking debate, reinforcing the prevailing viewpoints (Gulati, 2010). Because of this, framing theory may be constructive in determining dominant values and how they are implemented in policy. Several academics have employed frame theory to investigate the

methods used in attitudinal and governmental reactions to human trafficking. Although this theoretical approach to trafficking is still in its infancy, it holds promise for enhancing our understanding of the relationship between public policy and attitudes toward trafficking.

3.3 Social-Ecological Model

The growth of human trafficking in India cannot be attributed to a single cause; instead, numerous environmental elements give rise to this complex crime. The World Health Organization used an ecological model to study the causes and effects of violence in a report on violence and health published in 2002 (Krug, Mercy, Dahlberg, & Zwi, 2002). The four tiers of systems that comprise the ecological environment—individual, relationship, community, and society—are grouped in a nested structure. Individually speaking, a child's biology and family history contribute to an increased risk of becoming a victim of crime (Krug et al., 2002). For instance, a physical or mental handicap can change how family members interact with the child. The second level, relationships, examines how an individual's interpersonal ties, including those with family, friends, instructors, intimate partners, and peers, affect their likelihood of becoming a victim (Krug et al., 2002). The third level, the community level, examines the social interactions in neighbourhoods and schools and the elements of these environments that raise the likelihood of violence and victimization (Krug et al., 2002). The final level, society, examines the more extensive social and cultural settings that influence social identities and connections among people, families, and communities, such as socioeconomic possibilities, racial and ethnic distinctions, and societal policies (Krug et al., 2002). The ability of the family to support the child's physical, emotional, and cognitive development is severely hampered by poverty.

The emphasis on person-context interactions in Bronfenbrenner's (1979) social-ecological model of human development promotes the analysis of many viewpoints to gauge how various systems interact. Because there are so many people, organizations, and procedures engaged in social concerns like human trafficking, a social-ecological view is beneficial. Factors at the personal level, such as family, peers, and individual traits or qualities, are directly related to the person. Organizational level elements are related to the more extensive system, like the advocacy group or other groups the advocate works with. At the highest level, system-wide variables relate to community

structure, attitudes, and legislation. Each of these three levels—personal, organizational, and systemic—presents its own difficulties or opportunities for advocates.

The ecological model essentially separates four environmental systems that offer a framework for understanding how people interact and look at the connections between people's settings within communities and the larger society.

3.3.1 Environmental Systems and DMST Risks

Understanding the complex interactions between sex trafficking victims and their social environments can be achieved by looking at human trafficking through the lens of an ecological model. These various influences throughout life and across historical time include changes in family structures, socioeconomic status of the environment, and employment from a young age (McIntyre, 2014). According to Busch-Armendariz, Nsonwu, and Heffron (2014), the multisystem approach improves knowledge of victims' exposure to risk factors for sex trafficking, violence, vulnerability, the effects of trauma and assault, and resources for their reintegration into society and recovery.

The model's applicability in coordinating reintegration, adding trust-building techniques, developing survivor-centred approaches for reintegration, and fostering resilience in victims and survivors was validated by a study on trafficking survivors and the people who support them (Busch-Armendariz et al., 2014). Because of the complicated victimization that victims experienced, interactions between victims and their settings were constant. These interactions can either be understood or disregarded. Every ecological system that victims engaged with provided a strategic perspective to comprehend their many complicated, urgent, and long-term demands, which was essential for creating victim-centred policies and services by legal, social, and medical professionals as well as public authorities (Busch Armendariz et al., 2014).

Individual Level Factors

As adolescents shift from childhood to young adulthood, accompanied by an internal developmental struggle with concerns of independence, identity, sexuality, and relationships, the chances of victimization rise individually (Varma, Gillespie, McCracken, &Greenbaum, 2015). Adolescents typically demonstrate their independence

by defying authority and perhaps flouting the law. Due to their children's increased independence and ability to travel without adult supervision, parents have less direct physical control over their children. Lack of parental guidance exacerbates an adolescent's identity conflicts, self-esteem problems, and bad life experiences (Reid, 2014; Varma et al., 2015). Children and adolescents lack the physical and mental fortitude to resist traffickers, lack credibility among adults in society, and are easily accessible in communities, placing them at a higher risk simply under being young (Cole & Sprang, 2015; Countryman- Roswurm & Bolin, 2014). As a result, they are already at a higher risk.

The prevalence of Internet access and sexual services advertising has grown over time, contributing to the rise of DMST among teenagers (Cole & Sprang, 2015; Greenbaum, 2014). A surge in sex trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of women and children can be attributed to Backpage's adult section advertisements for youngsters (Musto, 2013). Teenagers' vulnerability has also grown due to their usage of Facebook, chat rooms, Myspace, and other web-based communications.

Relationship Level Factors

Choi (2015) conducted a review of the literature on the vulnerability of kids to sex trafficking and found numerous risk factors at the relationship level, including an unsupportive or dysfunctional family environment. Teenagers who lack parental support are more likely to feel isolated and helpless (Clawson et al., 2009). Girls who have experienced abuse or dysfunctional families may give in to a sex trafficker's demands to satisfy their intense emotional needs for approval and belonging within a family (Reid, Huard, & Haskell, 2015).

Having family members who engage in sex work and coercive peer influences are both strongly linked to DMST (Jimenez et al., 2015). According to Hargreaves-Cormany and Patterson (2016), young female victims of sex trafficking were seduced by young people their age who they mistook for real friends. Being a victim of family trafficking or having a family member who is a victim of trafficking feeds the cycle of child maltreatment and abuse, both physically and sexually. Young people frequently flee harmful situations or as a method of survival. Ironically, they could leave their vulnerability to being seduced by a trafficker for commercial sexual exploitation (Reid et

al., 2015). Numerous familial risk factors, such as parental substance abuse and intimate partner violence, increase the likelihood that a family will become involved with the child welfare system. Due to unstable family relationships and a lack of a secure home environment, children and adolescents are more at risk (Hargreaves-Cormany & Patterson, 2016).

Community Level Factors

Because of their limited power to respond to organized criminal networks and pre-existing adult prostitution markets, poor communities—many of which are made up of single-parent families—are severely harmed locally (Reid & Jones, 2011). People living in extreme poverty are especially vulnerable because of their environment and desperate families. They face violence, abuse, and threats of being reported to the police or immigration officials and are targeted by traffickers to engage in the sex trade to pay off debts (Logan, Walker, & Hunt, 2009).

The prevalence of transitory male adults in a town and gang participation are examples of broader community influences (Mitchell, Finkelhor, & Wolak, 2010). To complete an initiation procedure or to secure financial security for gang members, it is reasonably uncommon for young people to be forced into sex trafficking (Mitchell et al., 2010). Sex trafficking rings were shown to be more likely to affect communities with transient male adults, such as military personnel, truck drivers, conference attendees, and tourists (Miller-Perrin & Wurtele, 2017). Due to their propensity for using the Internet, teenagers are easy prey for traffickers who take advantage of their vulnerabilities and emotional tactics to satisfy their desires for attention and love (Greenbaum, 2014).

Societal Level Factors

Women's social and class positions in the global economy create a power gap at the societal level and make women more vulnerable. Women make up 66% of the workforce globally, but they earn far less than males and are required to labour in less favourable conditions. Women have higher rates of poverty than men around the world, which makes them appealing to human traffickers (Cecchet & Thoburn, 2014). Williamson and Prior (2009) found that poverty was a significant risk factor for Midwest adolescent female victims; as a result, runaway adolescent victims were enticed by traffickers and

forced to engage in sex to survive. Flowers (2001), in contrast, discovered that girls who were forced into prostitution in the United States came from a variety of socioeconomic and racial backgrounds and weren't just those from low-income households.

Feminist researchers have characterized sex trafficking as a manifestation of gender inequality and gender-based discrimination—a process known as "sexual colonization," in which women and girls are the devalued species (Reid, 2012). The danger of DMST is increased by the media sexualization of children and a lack of societal reaction to crimes against children (Jimenez et al., 2015). Children and adolescents are at greater risk in various U.S. demographic segments where prostitution and pimping are culturally accepted (Orme & Ross-Sheriff, 2015). The media, including periodicals, music videos, the entertainment and fashion sectors, and the erotic dance industries, encourage tolerance of sexism toward women. Media representations of girls facilitate the normalization of girls' sexualization in society as "sexy" and "cute" (Miller-Perrin & Wurtele, 2017). Gender prejudice is exacerbated by the frequent verbal and physical abuse of young women that is shown in video games with an adult rating but are nonetheless marketed to children.

3.3.2 Ecological Approaches towards DMST Prevention and Victim Care

To provide essential support and assistance before, during, and after exploitation, child survivors and victims of sex trafficking require support plans based on a thorough ecological system approach (Cecchet & Thoburn, 2014; McIntyre, 2014). In order to support an action plan for the healing and rehabilitation of victims, the ecological model offers a multilayered approach to treat DMST across several levels simultaneously. At many levels, forensic nurses can have a substantial impact. Forensic nurses can encourage trust and empowerment by building victims' and survivors' capacities for self-esteem, coping, and adaptation (McIntyre, 2014).

Nurses can cooperate with community-based teams and participate in interagency task forces and technical working groups as authorities on the victims' physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being, as well as educators and trainers of other multidisciplinary team members. Treatment and comprehension of the unique victim will be facilitated by the cooperation of members of the interdisciplinary team who will use a victim-centred approach. Nurses can also participate in research to better understand

health outcomes and test efficient nursing care techniques and tactics (Dovydaitis, 2010; Sabella, 2011). To holistically address the needs of victims of human trafficking through an ecological approach, forensic nurses know the environments surrounding the nursing practice, forensic science, and the law. They are also uniquely positioned to influence positive change across healthcare practices relating to people caught up in human trafficking environments (Sanchez & Stark, 2014).

Interventions on the Individual Level

By creating an effective plan of care that incorporates trauma-informed care principles and acknowledges each victim's unique trauma (Cecchet & Thoburn, 2014), forensic nurses can take the lead in the care of the sex trafficking of minors on an individual level. It includes social, mental, and physical health services. This can be achieved by offering a thorough, tailored medical assessment and treatment (e.g., for gynaecological, infectious, nutritional, dermatological, and dental issues; Cole & Sprang, 2015; Kalergis, 2009). Additionally, since many victims have post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and anxiety and have a high risk of committing suicide, mental healthcare programmes are essential for their recovery (Greenbaum, Dodd, & McCracken, 2018). Programs should analyze the victim's developmental stage and offer skill-building opportunities such as self-esteem programmes, education, and employment skills (Clawson & Goldblatt Grace, 2007). Cecchet and Thoburn (2014) assert that the duration of victimization affects the severity of trauma endured by survivors.

According to Newby and McGuinness (2012), those who have experienced significant trauma have described it as feeling numb and detached from others. Understanding their life experiences, such as how they became victims and how long they were victims, can give important insights into the psychological impacts of sex trafficking. This information is essential for creating and promoting a personalized approach to care that includes resilience and recovery techniques (Cole, Sprang, Lee, & Cohen, 2016). Additionally, employing screening tools like the "Trafficking Victim Identification Tool" for the assessment and identification of victims depends on the forensic nurse's capacity to sensitively establish rapport with victims while acknowledging their fears and the trauma they have likely experienced before attempting to learn details about trafficking crimes and/or their long-term needs (Simich, 2014). Individual risk factors should be addressed, and actions should be taken to change service plans and raise

awareness. Trauma-informed care principles should be encouraged in primary care clinics, emergency rooms, and other healthcare facilities where forensic nurses work.

Relationship Level interventions

As part of victim care, nurses should promote healthy peer and family networks at the relationship level. In a Pierce (2012) study, survivors frequently cited the absence of a responsible adult in their home as a reliable sign that they had been trafficked. Peer support systems in schools and localities, especially in high-crime regions, provide children and adolescents with a lot of security. Forensic nurses can assist in reducing risk factors by offering supportive educational programmes for families, schools, and communities that emphasize strengthening family ties, positive social support networks, safety, and resources to help with housing stability (Cecchet & Thoburn, 2014).

Building relationships with service providers who offer assistance and support to troubled and dysfunctional families, as well as putting in place educational initiatives to raise awareness of the importance of strong family ties for safer behaviour and defence against human trafficking, should be the focus of prevention efforts.

Interventions on a Community Level

At the neighbourhood level, forensic nurses can educate local governments, civic groups, and residents about human trafficking and help them create protocols to watch over their area and deal with issues like local homelessness and crime. In exchange for a place to remain off the streets, 48% of homeless children, according to a 2013 research by Covenant House, engage in sexual activity. Crisis shelters are, regrettably, highly few. The housing placement of female victims after the rescue was the subject of a study by Clawson and Goldblatt Grace in 2007. They discovered that few residential treatment centres, group homes, foster care placements, and juvenile corrections facilities were specifically designed for the sex-trafficking population.

A U.S. survey discovered 2,173 shelter beds for victims of human trafficking (Polaris Project, 2012). As a result, forensic nurses can create a list of service providers, such as churches, shelters, and charity groups, that support efforts to combat human trafficking and provide services in their particular locality. At the societal level, prevention must

raise awareness of residential housing with all-encompassing supportive services, including medical, mental health, substance abuse, counselling, and positive skill building tailored to the needs of victims. These services can improve their reintegration into the community and promote healing, recovery, and resilience. Victims should have a place to call home, thanks to residential facilities (Clawson & Goldblatt Grace, 2007).

Societal Level interventions

Forensic nurses can use an inter-professional platform to create a comprehensive, societal, supportive infrastructure to address local and state regulations. They can collaborate with stakeholders, law enforcement, and social service providers to establish educational programmes addressing all aspects influencing DMST victims. The intricate interaction of various impacts from family, community, and society on children and adolescents can be uncovered by nurses through either initiating or taking part in evaluations of policies and initiatives already in place. Understanding these relationships can help develop dynamic evaluation techniques and efficient victim and survivor responses. It is essential to assess how well laws and policies protect children and victims/survivors, such as the Safe Harbor Laws' increase in the minimum age from 15 to 18. (Connor, 2016). The more significant cultural, societal, and economic variables that contribute to DMST should be addressed as part of prevention efforts.

For instance, the variances in the Safe Harbor Laws among the states continue to be an issue when it comes to addressing the assessment processes, treatment plans, and interventions for DMST victims, which frequently result in uneven and insufficient victim protection and support services. Policy awareness is yet another possible area. Forensic nurses can take the lead in prevention by submitting petitions to their congressional representatives, asking them to support laws and other measures that advance anti-trafficking efforts. A change in or the development of anti-trafficking policies at the national level can also be supported by the start of research collaboration with other disciplines.

In the researcher's opinion, the notion of the problem serves as a foundation for the study to comprehend the problem of human trafficking. The conceptual aspects of the human trafficking problem have been discussed in this chapter, including definitions of the crime in various national and international legal frameworks, its causes, its effects, etc. A

thorough examination of the issue has shown the necessity for a human rights-based strategy to address it. Only a broad viewpoint can encompass all the newly developing aspects of the problem. Such a strategy will protect the victims of human trafficking to a greater level and punish the violators and traffickers.

The participants selected for the study are paid staff or volunteers at Jharkhand, a community-based group fighting human trafficking. Executive directors, speciality directors (such as communications directors, programme directors, and volunteer directors), interns, and volunteers acting on councils or coordinated teams are just a few of the people who represent a variety of roles inside these organizations.