

Public Opinion on Impact of Unemployment on Crime Rate in Tamilnadu

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ABSTRACT

Crime rates of various countries reveal the correlation between employment and crime. Individuals without jobs and accommodations are forced to violate the law in order to survive. Thus, many people consider poverty as the main cause of crime worldwide. The objectives of the research is to find out the relationship between unemployment and crime rate, to find out the measures taken by government to prevent unemployment issues, to determine the kinds of crime committed by unemployed people and to find out measures for reducing crime rates that are related to unemployment in Tamilnadu .The primary information for the research was collected from the general public of different age groups with well framed and structured questionnaires. The secondary source that the researcher used was books, articles, case laws, journals. The study was based on the primary and secondary sources together. Government measures include Schemes for Unemployed and Poor. Atal Pension Yojana - The Co-contributory Pension Scheme by Department of Financial Services aims to encourage people from the unorganized sector to voluntarily save for their retirement There are certain measures which can be taken: Change in industrial technique, Dealing with seasonal unemployment, Changes in the Education system, Introduction of new governmental measures, Population control. The main aim of the study is to analyse the relationship between unemployment and crime rate. This paper concludes that Different types of criminal activities are carried out, and not all can be directly linked to the lack of employment. Studies have shown that property crime can be connected to unemployment. However, violent crimes such as murder and rape are not strongly related to poverty.

Keywords: Unemployment; Crime; Measures; Poverty; Education; Desperation; Financial strain; Social exclusion; Economic inequality.

1. Introduction

Crime rates of various countries reveal the correlation between employment and crime. Individuals without jobs and accommodations are forced to violate the law in order to survive. Thus, many people consider poverty as the main cause of crime worldwide. However, it is hard to say whether unemployment is responsible for the crime in our country. The situation differs from area to area, making it impossible to draw an unambiguous conclusion. Different types of criminal activities are carried out, and not all can be directly linked to the lack of employment. Studies have shown that property crime can be connected to unemployment. Yet, violent crimes such as murder and rape are not strongly related to poverty. In the 1990s, the rate of unemployment was low and so was the rate of property crime. In other studies, it shows that where the rate of unemployment is high, the rate of crime is like to be high too. It is not easy to conclude this matter because there are different studies carried out which have given contradicting results. One may indicate that unemployment and crime are linked, whereas, another will suggest that the two are not connected. Most people believe that the steady rise of unemployment leads to a relative increase in crime. An individual lacks a source of legitimate income when he/she is unemployed. This occurs when people are laid off at the closure of a company or not able to be employed at all after training. Some people resolve to criminal activities such as burglary, drug peddling, and other crimes to make an income. Unemployment is high among young people. People who have completed training and are ready for the job market stay unemployed. Another group of young people affected by unemployment is those who are laid off because of lack of college education. When young people are unemployed for a long time, they lose hope of getting employment. Therefore, unemployment and crime affect people who are under the age of 40, and these are mostly young men. This is

because most criminal activities are carried out by people; thus, unemployed people over 40 years are not likely to enter into criminal activities. GOVERNMENT MEASURES includes Schemes for Unemployed and Poor. Atal Pension Yojana - The Co-contributory Pension Scheme by Department of Financial Services aims to encourage people from the unorganized sector to voluntarily save for their retirement and to lower the cost of operations of the New Pension System (NPS) for such subscribers. Ayushman Bharat- This provides information about Ayushman Bharat, a flagship scheme of Government of India that aims to achieve the vision of Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Grameen Udyami Yojana- Provides information about Grameen Udyami Yojana that imparts functional skills to them for enabling livelihoods. Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi Yojana- Provides information about PM-DAKSH (Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi) scheme of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. When it comes specifically, Tamil Nadu Government provides assistance to unemployed youth through Employment and Vocational Guidance Centre. Unemployment drives Tamil Nadu graduates to hard labour: The Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission (TNPSC) received more than 20 lakh applications — when it called for applications for 9,351 vacancies in Group-IV category in the year 2018. This means that 213 applicants were competing for each vacancy, which sheds a light on the desperate status of unemployment in the state. Several policies have been initiated by the government to reduce the unemployment problem in the economy. The policies to reduce unemployment are highlighted below: In 1979 the government launched TRYSEM – Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment The objective of this scheme was to help unemployed youth of rural areas aged between 18 and 35 years to acquire skills for self-employment. The priority under this scheme was given to women and youth belonging to SC/ST category. The Government launched the IRDP – Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) in the year 1980 to create full employment opportunities in rural areas. The government launched the Start-Up India Scheme in 2016. The aim of Startup India programmes was to develop an ecosystem that nurtures and promotes entrepreneurship across the nation. The factor affecting the topic would include state policy and its laws, privileges to certain sections and communities, poverty, corruption, terrorism, health issues and illiteracy. The current trends would include Mercer's 21st annual Quality of Living survey 2019 shows that in the 105th place, Chennai ranks as Southern Asia's safest city. Warm and welcoming, the city has become home to many communities that moved here in the hope of opportunities. Some of the lowest crime rates in the world can be seen in Switzerland, Denmark, Norway, Japan, and New Zealand. Each of these countries has very effective law enforcement and Denmark, Norway, and Japan have some of the most restrictive gun laws in the world. Countries such as Austria do see more petty crimes such as purse snatching or pickpocketing. The main **aim** of the study is to analyse the relationship between unemployment and crime rate.

1.1. Study Objectives

The following are the objectives of this study:

- (i) To find out the relationship between unemployment and crime rate.
- (ii) To find out the measures taken by government to prevent unemployment issues.
- (iii) To determine the kinds of crime committed by unemployed people.
- (iv) To find out major causes of unemployment.

2. Review of Literature

Srivastava P. Undergrad. Econ. Rev. 2018; 15(1): in his journal "Crime, unemployment and society in India: insights from rape data" stated Three significant results. First, there exists a negative association between rape and unemployment in India. Second, literacy rates have a positive coefficient with the reasonable interpretation being literacy increases reported rape not actual rape. Third, positive gender developments have a crucial bearing on violent crime against women.

Steven Raphael and Rudolf Winter-Ebmer, in his journal "Identifying the Effect of Unemployment on Crime" found significant positive effects of unemployment on property crime rates that are stable across model specifications. Our estimates suggest that a substantial portion of the decline in property crime rates during the 1990s is attributable to the decline in the unemployment rate. The evidence for violent crime is considerably weaker.

Shyam Sundar, Agraj Tripathi, Ram Naresh in their research on Does Unemployment Induce Crime in Society? A Mathematical Study found out that Today unemployment has become a global phenomenon which may be instrumental in forcing unemployed persons to earn their livelihood in an illegal manner resulting in a crime. It is possible that unemployed individuals may become more prone to develop a tendency of committing a crime when they come in contact with persons involved in criminal activities but are still unexposed.

Marvin D. Krohn in his study on Inequality, Unemployment and Crime: A Cross-National Analysis, It was hypothesized that nations having a high rate of unemployment and an inequitable distribution of income would have a high crime rate.

Boobalan, K in his research on "A Study On Increasing Crime Rate In Society Among Youth With Special Reference To Unemployment And Poverty In Tamilnadu." Analysed that When people earn low wages, they are likely to resolve property crime such as burglary because they will make money even if it is illegitimate. Assault and robbery are also related to the high rates of unemployment because money is the primary motivator. Poverty and lack of financial resources escalate crime.

Krishnan, Rohit in his study on "Youth Unemployment in India-Current Pitfalls & Potential Solutions." Analysed that When the rate of wages goes down, the rate of a crime automatically rises. Thus, economic status has a direct impact on crime. The government has a significant role in controlling the rate of unemployment among the youth. Trained young men should be actively engaged in income generating projects which will occupy them and, at the same time, provide a source of income.

Lakshmanasamy, T. in his study on "Motivation vs Opportunity for Crime: An Econometric Analysis of the Effect of Unemployment on Vehicle Theft in India." estimated that motor vehicle theft increases by 1.4 to 1.7 times and decreases by 2 to 11 percent with an increase in the unemployment and school enrolment rates respectively. The study reveals the dominance of 'opportunity effect' over the 'motivational effect' on criminal behaviour.

Verma, Akash, et al. in his research on "System Checking Effect of Unemployment and Population on Crime in India." analysed the relationship between unemployment, crime and Population. The results show that unemploy-

ment had a positive and significant effect on some property crimes (burglary, car theft and bike theft).

Bhardwaj, Sanjeev in his comparative study "Problems of Unemployment in India and Its Solutions." Found that Crime rates of various countries reveal the correlation between employment and crime. Individuals without jobs and accommodations are forced to violate the law in order to survive. Thus, many people consider poverty as the main cause of crime worldwide.

Ha, Olivia K., Martin A. Andresen, in their research on. "The temporal (in) stability of the unemployment and crime relationship." studies and finds that less than a majority of the studies reveals a statistically significant relationship between unemployment and crime. He finds that earlier research, which use mostly aggregate data from larger areas, do not support the theory that unemployment affects crime.

Lone Bilal Ahmad in his journal "Youth Unemployment in India: An analysis." Job opportunities can be created for both the skilled and unskilled in society to prevent the high number of young men who can easily get involved in crime. This makes them lose faith in the democratic values of the country, People unemployed for a long time may indulge in illegal and wrong activities for earning money which increases crime in the country.

Kalim, Shaikh Rahim. "A Study of Poverty and Unemployment in India." Revealed that The unemployment in any nation have the following effects on the economy: The problem of unemployment gives rise to the problem of poverty, The government suffers extra borrowing burden because unemployment causes a decrease in the production and less consumption of goods and services by the people, Unemployed persons can easily be enticed by antisocial elements.

Polk, Kenneth, and Rob White. "Economic adversity and criminal behaviour: Rethinking youth unemployment and crime." Stated that Unemployment affects the economy of the country as the workforce that could have been gainfully employed to generate resources actually gets dependent on the remaining working population, thus escalating socio-economic costs for the state, For instance, a 1 % increase in unemployment reduces the GDP by 2 %. It is often seen that unemployed people end up getting addicted to drugs and alcohol or attempts suicide, leading to losses to the human resources of the country.

Ivy Panda, in its journal 'Unemployment Leads to Crime', Stated that Economists and researchers believe that when the rate of unemployment is declining the rate of criminal activities is also falling. There are usually high rates of unemployment in areas where crimes are very high. The researchers argue that in these areas, the number of youth who have been out of work for more than one year is extremely high.

Aslam, Shaista, and Bilal A. Bhat. "The Socio-Economic Effects of Youth Unemployment in Kashmir Valley." Found out that Traditionally, the work has an influence on society and humans. The loss of employment is often a disruptive experience for an educated youth. Youth Unemployment is termed as "double threat" because of the continuous increase in young unemployed people that are not being able to participate in or to enter the mainstream society is considered to be the threat for the social cohesion of the society.

Rafael & Winter, 260 in their research on 'Identifying the effect of unemployment on crime', concluded that When there is a minimal decrease in unemployment rates, the rate of property crimes falls significantly. This study

has been conducted in different states, and the results have been stable. However, the rates are different in violent crimes such as robbery and assault which indicate that they are related to unemployment, whereas, murder and rape crimes do not show a relationship to unemployment.

Weatherburn, Don in their research on ‘A complex link between recession and crime’. Revealed that The effects of the recession on companies and manufacturing industries cause people to be laid off. These people will spend some time waiting to be recalled, however, if the recession takes long, and the unemployed young people continue increasing, the rate of crime is likely to increase. If someone stays out of employment for a long time chances of getting a job are minimized, and they think of crime as a last resort.

According to **Short**, poverty denies the poor chances of getting quality education and jobs especially the youths causing them to spend most of their time in places where they mingle with gangs. This is mostly due to lack of opportunity costs of crime thus engaging them in criminal acts. In this manner, more and more poor youths get involved in criminal acts like robbery, rapes, and violent acts among others.

Ivy Panda in its journal on ‘Urban Relationship between Poverty and Crime’. Revealed that the impoverished people lack legitimate means of accessing some material goods or living a good life. They lack good jobs that would enable them access these material goods and crime becomes their only option (Short 26). They engage in robbery in order to get money to buy what they desire in life. In this manner, poverty accelerates crime.

Wise Curve in its journal on “Poverty, Slum and Homelessness.” Concluded that the problem of homelessness is the contribution these people have to the increase in crime in Mumbai. Since these homeless families live in abject poverty and they may even lack something to eat, they have given a massive contribution to the rise in the levels of crime in the city.

3. Methodology

A descriptive study On Public opinion on impact of unemployment on crime rate in Tamilnadu. The primary information for the research was collected from the general public of different age groups with well framed and structured questionnaires. The collected responses are portrayed in the bar graphs. The secondary source that the researcher used was books, articles, case laws, journals. The study was based on the primary and secondary sources together. A total no. of 200 responses was collected from the general public.

4. Analysis

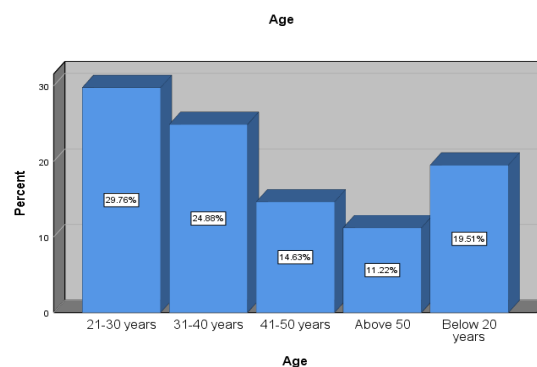


Figure 1. Bar graph representing the sample respondents on the basis of Age

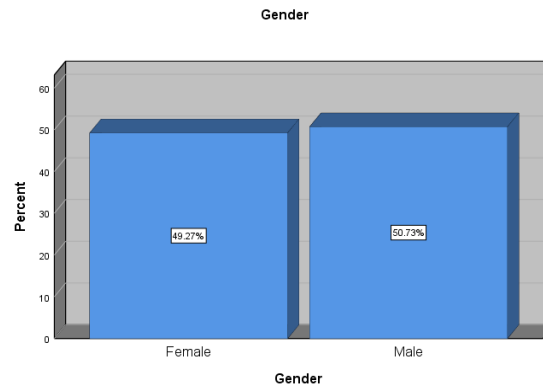


Figure 2. Bar graph representing the sample respondents on the basis of Gender

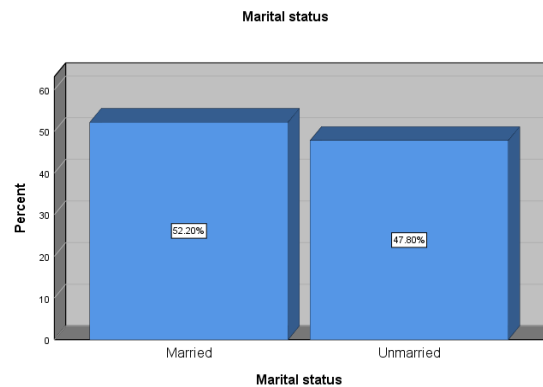


Figure 3. Bar graph representing the sample respondents on the basis of Marital status

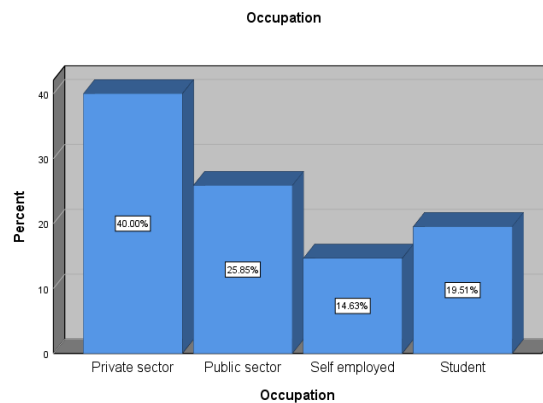


Figure 4. Bar graph representing the sample respondents on the basis of occupation

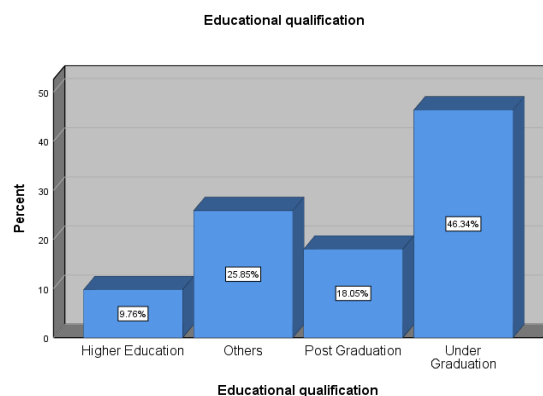


Figure 5. Bar graph representing the sample respondents on the basis of Educational qualification

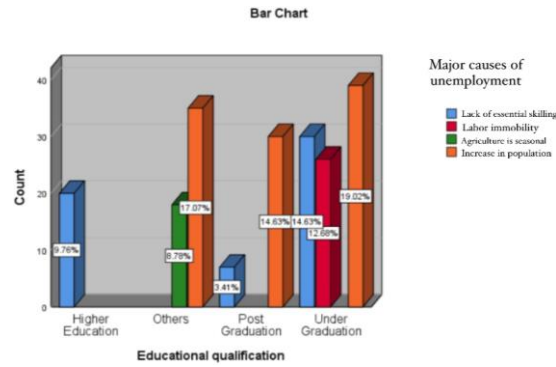


Figure 6. Major causes of unemployment with reference to independent variable educational qualification

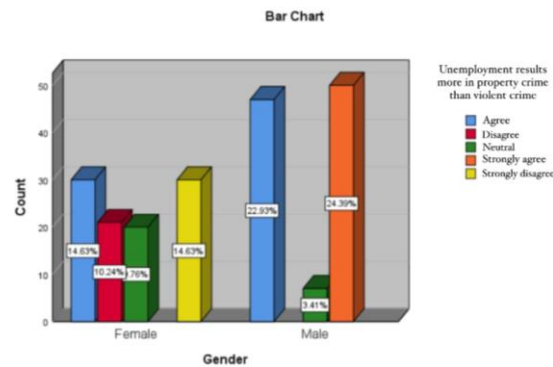


Figure 7. Agreeability on unemployment results found to be more in property crime than violent crime with reference to independent variable gender

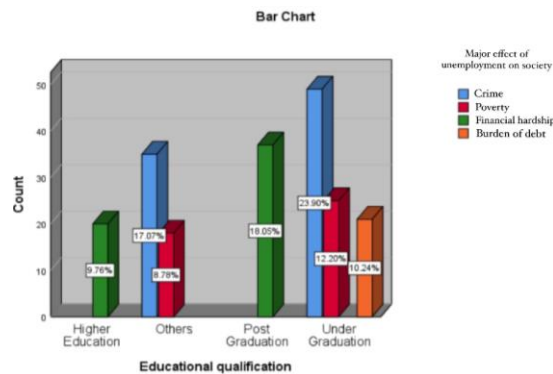


Figure 8. Major effect of unemployment on society with reference to independent variable educational qualification

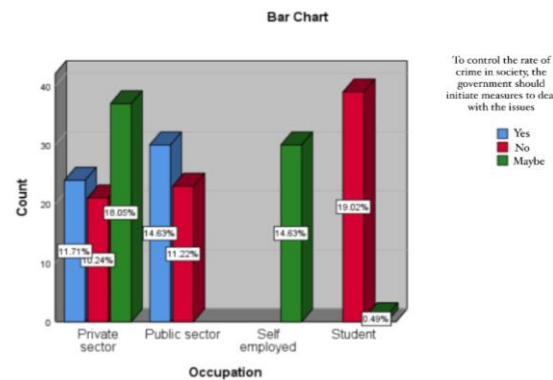


Figure 9. To control the rate of crime in society, the government should initiate measures to deal with the issues with reference to independent variable occupation

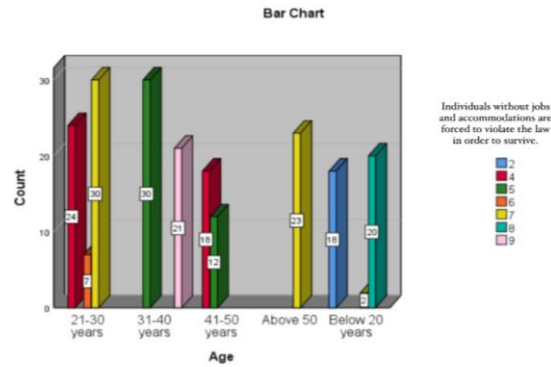


Figure 10. Individual without jobs and accommodations are forced to violate the law in order to survive with reference to independent variable age

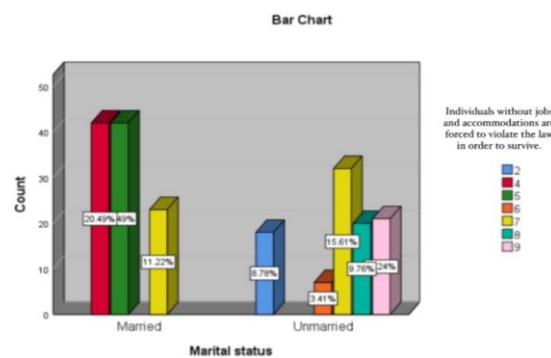


Figure 11. Without jobs and accommodations are forced to violate the law in order to survive with reference to independent variable marital status

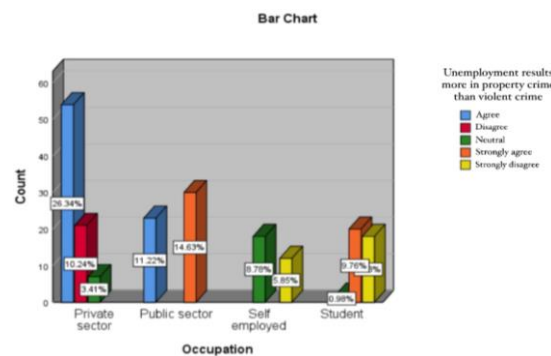


Figure 12. Agreeability on unemployment results more in property crime than violent crime with reference to independent variable occupation

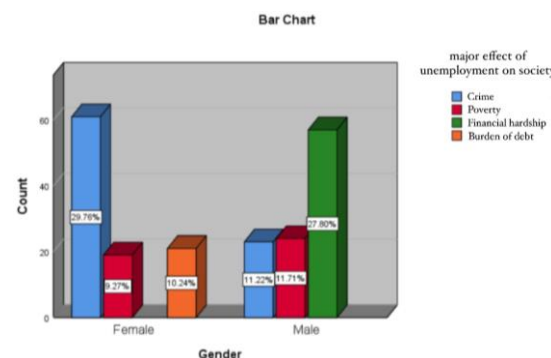


Figure 13. Major effect of unemployment on society with reference to independent variable gender

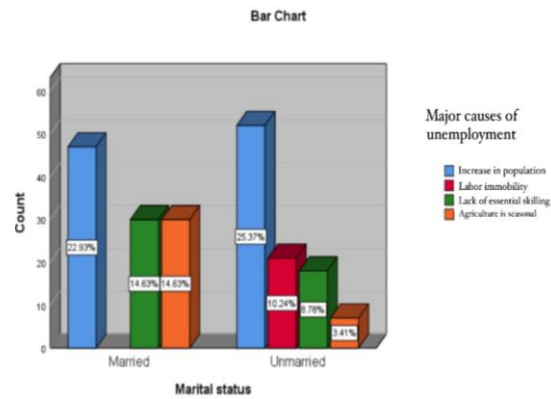


Figure 14. Major causes of unemployment with reference to independent variable educational qualification

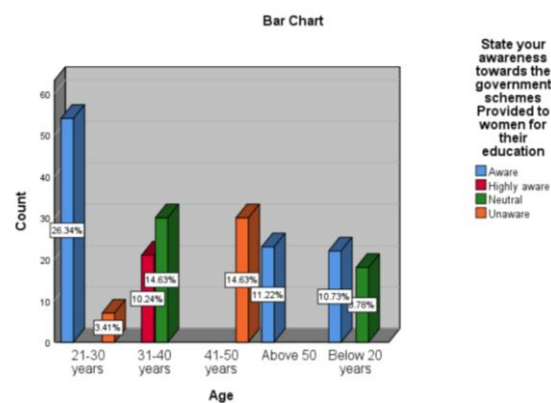


Figure 15. Awareness towards the government schemes provided to women for their education and unemployment

5. Results

Figure 1- Bar graph represents the sample respondents on the basis of Age, 29% of the respondents belonged to the age group of 21-30 years and 24% of the respondents belonged to age group 31-40 years. **Figure 2-** Bar graph represents the sample respondents on the basis of Gender, 49% of the respondents were female and 51% were male respondents. **Figure 3-** Bar graph represents the sample respondents on the basis of Marital status, 52% of the respondents were married and 48% of the respondents were Unmarried. **Figure 4-** Bar graph represents the sample respondents on the basis of occupation, majority of the sample respondents belonged to the private sector by 40% and 20% were belonging to the public sector and the remaining 34% were self-employed or students. **Figure 5-** Bar graph represents the sample respondents on the basis of Educational qualification, 46% of the respondents were undergraduates and the remaining 54% was postgraduates and others. **Figure 6-** represents major causes of unemployment with reference to independent variable educational qualification, 19% of undergraduates and 14% post graduates and 17% people belonging to others answered increase in population as the major cause of unemployment. **Figure 7-** represents Agreeability on unemployment results more in property crime than violent crime with reference to independent variable gender, 22% of the male respondents and 14% of the female respondents agreed to the fact that unemployment results more in property crime than violent crime, other 24% of the male respondents strongly agreed to the same fact. **Figure 8-** represents major effect of unemployment on society with reference to independent variable educational qualification, 23% of undergraduates and 17% of others thinks crime is the major effect of unemployment on society whereas the other 18% of people belonging to post

graduates think it is financial hardship. **Figure 9-** represents to control the rate of crime in society, the government should initiate measures to deal with the issues with reference to independent variable occupation, 15% of the respondents belonging to public sector and 12% of the respondents belonging to private sector answered yes and 18% of the people belonging in private sector and 14% of self-employed respondents answered maybe. **Figure 10-** deals with individual without jobs and accommodations are forced to violate the law in order to survive with reference to independent variable age, 30% of respondents belonging to 21-30 years age group and 23% of respondents belonging to age group above 40 opted for 7 and more on Agreeability. **Figure 11-** deals without jobs and accommodations are forced to violate the law in order to survive with reference to independent variable marital status, 11% of the married respondents and 15% of the unmarried respondents opted for 7 on Agreeability. **Figure 12-** deals with Agreeability on unemployment results more in property crime than violent crime with reference to independent variable occupation, 26% of respondents belonging to private sector and 11% of the respondents belonging to public sector agreed to it and 14% of the respondents belonging to public sector strongly agreed to it. **Figure 13-** represents major effect of unemployment on society with reference to independent variable gender, 30% of the female respondents and 11% of the male respondents thinks crime is the major effect of unemployment on society and other 30% of the male respondents think its financial hardship. **Figure 14-** represents major causes of unemployment with reference to independent variable educational qualification, 25% of the Unmarried respondents and 23% of the married respondents thinks it is increase in population and 14% of the married respondents and 9% of Unmarried respondents thinks it is lack of essential skilling. **Figure 15-** represents awareness towards the government schemes provided to women for their education and unemployment, 26% of the respondents belonging to 21-30 years age group and 11% belonging to above 50 age group agreed to it.

6. Discussion

Figure 1- Most of the respondents belonged to 21-40 years. **Figure 2-** Male respondents were higher by 2%. **Figure 3-** Unmarried respondents were higher by 4%. **Figure 4-** Most of the respondents belonged to private and public sector. **Figure 5-** Undergraduates were individually higher in number. **Figure 6-** Respondents answered increase in population as the major cause of unemployment because the growing demand only makes it hard for the Government to provide jobs for all. **Figure 7-** represents Agreeability on unemployment results more in property crime than violent crime, yes because it is true and mostly the violent crimes are not related to unemployment in any way. **Figure 8-** represents the major effect of unemployment on society with reference to independent variable educational qualification, undergraduates and others thinks crime is the major effect of unemployment on society whereas people belonging to post graduates think it is financial hardship, because when a person is not able to satisfy his needs he chooses to earn if it is an illegitimate manner. **Figure 9-** represents to control the rate of crime in society, the government should initiate measures to deal with the issues with reference to independent variable occupation, respondents belonging to public sector and answered yes, because only when the government increases employment opportunities the crime rates can be curbed. **Figure 10-** deals with individuals without jobs and accommodations who are forced to violate the law in order to survive with reference to independent variable age, respondents opted for 7 and more on Agreeability, yes because they don't have any other means to earn wages for their basic needs. **Figure 11-** deals without jobs and accommodations are forced to violate the law in order to

survive with reference to independent variable marital status, respondents opted for 7 on Agreeability, yes because they don't have any other means to earn wages for their basic needs.

Figure 12- deals with Agreeability on unemployment results more in property crime than violent crime with reference to independent variable occupation, respondents strongly agreed to it, because most of the property crimes like bike theft etc., are due to unemployment. **Figure 13-** represents the major effect of unemployment on society with reference to independent variable gender. Female respondents and male respondents think crime is the major effect of unemployment on society and the male respondents think it is financial hardship, because the low economy of individuals will lead to a low economy of the society.

Figure 14- represents major causes of unemployment with reference to independent variable educational qualification, respondents think it is an increase in population and few others think it is lack of essential skilling, due to the growing demand the government is not able to provide jobs for all. **Figure 15-** represents awareness towards the government schemes provided to women for their education and unemployment, respondents agreed to it, because only when the government provides more employment opportunities the crime rate and poverty rate can be brought down.

7. Limitations

The restrictive area of the sample size is the major drawback. The physical factors are not impactful and are not a major factor limiting the study as the present study is with online response. Moreover, the sample frame is also a limitation. The sample frame is Chennai which has no specific reference.

8. Suggestions

Unemployment is one of the primary concerns in the present world. A lot of people are dealing with unemployment. There are certain measures which can be taken:

- **Change in industrial technique-** to solve the problem of unemployment, a production technique focusing on the needs and means of the country should be adopted. Capital-intensive technology should be replaced by labour-intensive technology.
- **Dealing with seasonal unemployment-** As agro-based and agriculture sectors provide only seasonal employment. Measures like multi-cropping, animal husbandry, horticulture, plantation, and horticulture should be adopted. Also, industries like the cotton industry should be promoted.
- **Changes in the Education system-** There is a need to change the present education system. It should emphasize on vocational education rather than imparting static knowledge. Colleges and universities should be available to students who wish to pursue higher education.
- **Introduction of new governmental measures-** The government should take the initiative to increase labor productivity and develop better employment opportunities for all.
- **Population control-** Population is one of the major concerns associated with the unemployment rate. Therefore, the population rate needs to be checked, especially in rural areas where birth control methods and family planning considerations are not offered.

9. Conclusion

The major causes of unemployment in India are: Large population, Lack of vocational skills or low educational levels of the working population, Labour-intensive sectors suffering from the slowdown in private investment particularly after demonetization, The low productivity in the agriculture sector plus the lack of alternative opportunities for agricultural workers that makes transition among the three sectors difficult, Legal complexities, Inadequate state support, low infrastructural, financial and market linkages to small businesses making such enterprises unviable with cost and compliance overruns. Inadequate growth of infrastructure and low investments in the manufacturing sector, hence restricting the employment potential of the secondary sector. Regressive social norms that deter women from taking/continuing employment. Crime rate in India has been significantly increasing from year to year and the convictions rate laborious become terribly low which too the courts are awarding terribly mere punishments by exploiting their wide discretionary powers. The main objective of the paper is to study the relationship between unemployment and poverty with an increasing crime rate in Tamilnadu. The researcher has followed the empirical research with the convenient sampling method and the sample size is 201. The results observed from the analysis are that poverty and unemployment leads the person to commit crimes and poverty and unemployment is the main reason for people involving in money related crimes. There are additional possibilities to induce lenient penalization by the tried offenders thanks to the framework of the general assembly in fixing the penalization for many offences within the Code.

Declarations

Source of Funding

This study did not receive any grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Competing Interests Statement

The author declares having no competing interest with any party concerned during this publication.

Consent for Publication

The author declares that she consented to the publication of this study.

Authors' contributions

All research work is from the author.

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