

**A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY ON STATE HOME OF ELDERS AT KAITHADY
IN JAFFNA, SRI LANKA.**

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ABSTRACT: *Man has been winning the natural environment due to the industrial and technological development. As development of a medical and health facilities, the life expectancy of the human has been increasing. It is the result of increasing amount of elders all over the world. Lot of elders is sent to the elder's home. Kaithady state home of elders is selected as the suitable place for research. There are eight men and eight women selected randomly for this research purpose. The most of the data are qualitative and quantitative data also were used. The primary data were collected by the "In-Depth Interview" the secondary data were collected in the office of "State Home of Elders". In order to analyze the collected data, the "Thematic Analysis" was used mainly. In addition, the "Human Narrative Analysis" and "Simple Descriptive Statistical Analysis" were used to bring the results to high level. The civil war in Sri Lanka was the main reason for them to come to the elder's home. Spent their life without marriage, lack of siblings, breaking of contact with their brothers and sisters, breaking of contact by love marriage, remarriage of couples, poor level of education and lack of own property or land are the some of the important factors that induced find to elders' home. 88% of samples do not have their own land or property and they are unable to live individually. Some time, more than two factors induce together on them to come to elders home. Last description, breaking of family bond can also be a reason. Medical and physical facilities are satisfactory found in elders home. Many elders in the elders' home are affected by mentally disorder persons. There is verbal war among the elderly people. Finally, the causes for coming to elders home must be minimized and the issues relating to elders should be reduced. It is the duty of every person make elders' life happily because the living resource of our country.*

Keywords: Elder's home, Family bond, Thematic analysis, Civil war, Verbal war.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

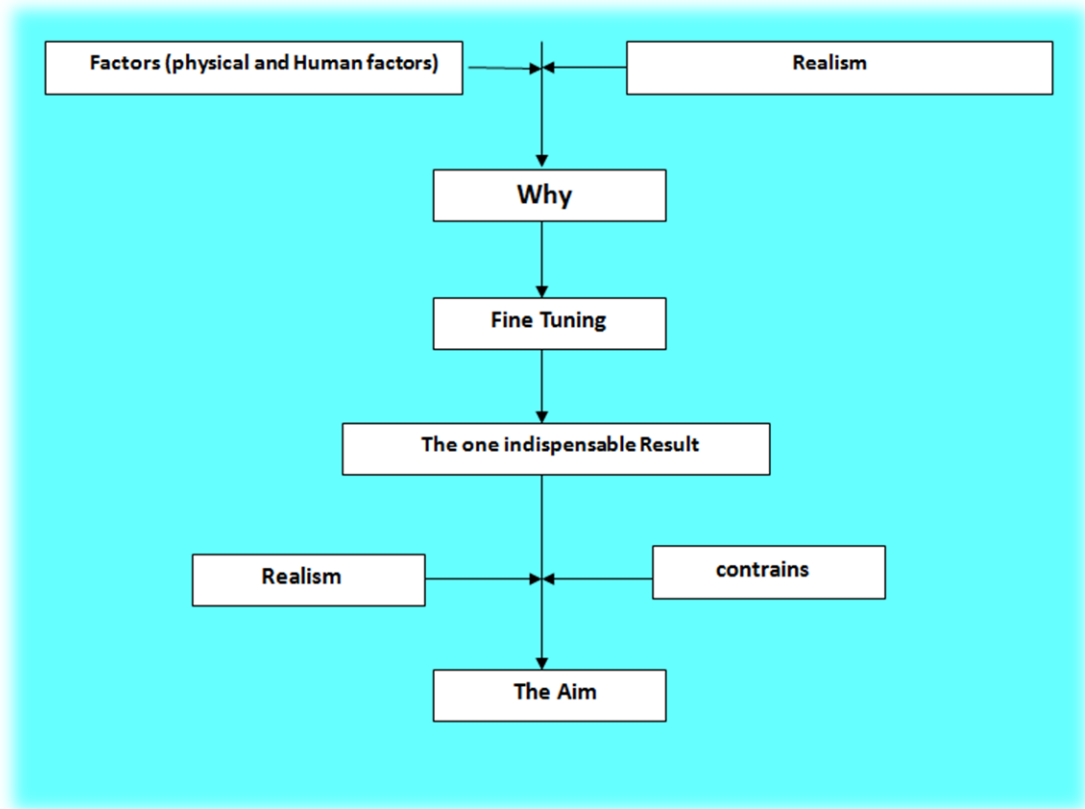
Life expectancy and living standard of modern man have greatly improved due to the development of medical facilities. On the other hand, industrial and technological development gives impact to our green environment. It pollutes greatly. In the past, our ancient people depend on nature. They lived with their environment. Development of the brain helped the man to use modern technology for the purpose of changing the nature for their own benefits. Medical facilities have also improved during this period. Many communicable diseases are controlled that also helped to increase their life expectancy. For example, the Malaria is controlled in Sri Lanka and “Polio” is a killer disease that is eliminated now in the world. Due to increasing life expectancy, the old people live more years in the world. The shape of the population pyramid changing indicates the growth of the life expectancy. Most developed world countries have accepted the chronological age of 65 years as a definition of 'elderly' or older person, but like many westernized concepts, this does not adapt well to the situation in Africa. While this definition is somewhat arbitrary, it is many times associated with the age at which one can begin to receive pension benefits. At the moment, there is no United Nations standard numerical criterion, but the UN agreed cutoff is 60+ years to refer to the older population. Although there are commonly used definitions of old age, there is no general agreement on the age at which a person becomes old. The common use of a calendar age to mark the threshold of old age assumes equivalence with biological age, yet at the same time, it is generally accepted that these two are not necessarily synonymous. As far back as 1875, in Britain, the Friendly Societies Act, enacted the definition of old age as, "any age after 50", yet pension schemes mostly used age 60 or 65 years for eligibility. (Roebuck, 1979). The UN has not adopted a standard criterion, but generally uses 60+ years to refer to the older population (*personal correspondence, 2001*). The physical

activities of elderly people are reduced greatly when we compare them with young people. They depend on other people for their existence. Older people who are resident in care homes because of their needs for social support and personal care receive their health care from primary health care. Although there is increasing input from district nurses in care homes (Audit Commission, 1999), on sociologist view, the elders are important persons in a society. Not only has Sri Lanka but also in many countries, the problems relating older people had increasing greatly.

Elder people in Sri Lanka face lot of problems. Questions such as who are they? Why should they live in elder's home? These questions induce our mind to find a proper answer. These elder took much care and attention to us during our childhood period. From childhood to adulthood they provided us all our necessary facilities. They took much attention in our mental and physical growth. It is our duty that we should protect and serve them until their last days. Today we live in a modernized world. Husband and wife have to go to a work to satisfy their needs. They prefer single family structure. They want to separate the elders from them. The younger generations consider them as a burden. From sociological point of view, they are persons with knowledge and experience. Their experience is a resource that we can not get it. Anyway it is our duty that we should take keen interest in their live. On contrary to this notion, there are many elder's homes in Sri Lanka. There are 170 elders in Kaithady of Jaffna. Why they live here? And what are their backgrounds? Are some of the questions that induce for the research? Yes.

2.0 PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION FOR THE RESEARCH.

The Kaithady elder's home is selected to the research from sociological point of view. There is lot of problems in the world from various dimensions. We can



not consider all these problems as research problems. The elders who must be looked after by their close relation but they are in elders home. It should be brought to the attention of the research.

The figure2.1 shows the way how the problems are identified. Factors are taken into consideration. Elder people living in elders home, so what are the reason for this? Is their children reason for them to come to the elder's home? Or are social and economic factors inducing them to come to the elder's home? Yes, there are some factors. The right side consider about realism. The researchers want to know whether it is important to the present day. The elders have to face lot of problems when they are in elders home. So there is realism here. So when we raise the questions between factors and realism as "Why this research? We have found a fine tuning. The research problems are

absolute necessary to the research. Then, realism is there and we can not find any constrain when we analyze two sides of the problems. Unfortunately, if we find one constrain, we could not take the problem into research. But fortunately here, as there are no constrain in this research. So finally, the study of the elder's home has been identified for the research.

The Kaithady State home of elders is selected as a study area. This area covers fifteen extent of land. There are three temples and eleven building included here.

3.0 OBJECTIVES

A general objective and three specific objectives are chosen for this research. According to these objectives, the proper methodology was used and results were found.

3.1 General Objectives

- To discover the issues relating to elders.

3.2 Specific Objectives

- To find the reasons for elders for coming to Kaithady state home of elders.
- To describe the basic facilities and opportunities in Kaithady state home of elders.
- To identify the problems that are faced by the elders who are in the Kaithady elders home.

4.0 SUMMARY OF THE PREVIOUS RELEASE.

A study carried out by Claire Goodman and Rosemary J Woolley (2004) relating to older people in care homes and the primary care nursing contribution. The paper argues that on the basis of the research reviewed many of the health problems older people in care homes experience could be avoided or improved by primary care nursing support and intervention. A

reassessment is needed of how the interface between community and residential care is managed so that older people in care homes have access to appropriate health care support.

Another study is carried by Lifespan (2011) about New York State Elder abuse prevalence. Researcher found that the findings of the study point to a dramatic gap between the rate of elder abuse events reported by older .New Yorkers and the number of cases referred to and served in the formal elder abuse service system. Overall the study found an elder abuse incidence rate in New York State that was nearly 24 times greater than the number of cases referred to social service, law enforcement or legal authorities who have the capacity as well as the responsibility to assist older adult victims. Psychological abuse was the most common form of mistreatment reported by agencies providing data on elder abuse victims in the Documented Case Study. This finding stands in contrast to the results of the Self-Reported Study in which financial exploitation was the most prevalent form of mistreatment reported by respondents as having taken place in the year preceding the survey. Applying the incidence rate estimated by the study to the general population of older New Yorkers, an estimated 260,000 older adults in the state had been victims of at least one form of elder abuse in the preceding year (a span of 12 months between 2008-2009).This also the problems relating to elders.

5.0 METHODOLOGY

The methodological part is also very important in any research. According to research approaches, the proper methodology has been selected for the research. Then, we could get efficient results. The field method is applied here for the purpose of collecting necessary data. Data is also unavoidable source for the research. The primary and secondary data were collected in order to

find some results for analyzing the data in this research. Most of the qualitative data were collected for this type of research.

Primary data were collected in the state home of elders at Kaithady. Fundamental data like sex, age religion of elders, native place, marital state etc., were collected. In addition, the education level of the elders, their life style, displacement, impact of war, marital and communication between siblings etc., were collected by interview technique. Some secondary data were collected in the office of state home of elders, Kaithady. Total number of living elders in Kaithady elder's home, physical resources such as Land data, building data , basic medical facilities and other facilities data were collected in order to analyze the data.

Some techniques were used for this sociological research. In the random sampling method eight male elders' participants and eight female elders participants were selected. The total number of sixteen participants was interviewed directly. Specially, the "In- Depth Interview" data collection techniques were used in order to collect the data. The research approach is mostly qualitative. So this In- Depth interview technique was chosen for this type of social research. Before In- Depth Interview, In-Depth Interview guidelines were prepared to collect data. When the researcher conducting the interview, the researcher found some questions that they had missed questions such as injuries that the participants got in the past, former food habits etc. Then, the "In-Depth Interview" guideline was re-prepared and used for the research. Observation is the important and effective data collection techniques. This data collection technique directly helps to analyze the data. The field was observed such as elders' home outer environment, room structures, location of things and structures etc., and also the participants were observed. The participant's attitudes, behavioral pattern, facing problems were observed keenly and data were collected.

The data were analyzed in order to finding the result. Mainly, the “Thematic Analysis” was used for getting result and the “Human Narrative Analysis” also used for leading the results to high level. In addition, the simple descriptive statistical analysis was used for further justification.

6.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

6.1 The civil war in Sri Lanka broke the well built infrastructure of family bound: As we analyzed the data, we could get different kinds of results. The elders were left alone. It was the reason for them to join in elders home. About thirty (30) years of civil war injured lot of old people who are now in the elders’ home. They could not find any alternative but joining with elders home. We could prove it through our research. First interviewee⁰¹ said that his family lost everything after the war. He lost his wife, two sons and a daughter after the civil war. His native place was Jaffna. In 1996, he went to Vanni and lived there. He said *“I Lived happily in Vanni. I bought bicycles to each of children and helped for their education”*. We could realize that they lived happily before the civil war in 2009; he had to live with his only one son. He lost contact with his eldest son. The shell piece damaged his left side of the body. He was taken to Mannar with the help of Christian sisters after the injured were cured; he came to “MANNAR PADDITHODDAM ELDERS’ HOME” and lived there for ten months. He was treated well by Christian sisters. He went to say that *“Nobody could treat me well like these Christian sisters. They ignored all their own problems and treated me well”*. But it was the first time that he went to an elders’ home. He had to live separately from his eldest son. Then he came to Kilinochchi with the help of a friendly doctor and stayed in a room in Kilinochchi hospital for 8 months. When the friend had to go to a foreign country for higher education, he came to “SIVAN ELDERS’ HOME” in Vavuniya. He could contact with his eldest son after he stayed there for three and half Years. But he does not like to live with his son. His life pattern was different from his son and wife. In son’s home, there are some livestock and their toilet waste and son’s family

eat in shop many times .So the father does not like to live there. So that he came to Kaithady elders' home in 2015.

⁰¹ Participant was interviewed on 10th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

Broken family structure by the civil war was the reason for coming to elders home. The fourth interviewee⁰² was 78 years. His birth place was Palaly. He left his native place in 1990 July 15. In 1990, He lost his leg's finger by shell piece attack. He had two extent of land as his property. It was in Palali high security zone. He could not get the land. He has been living in Kaithady elders' home for the last twenty three years.

The eleventh Interviewee⁰³ lost her family bond during the civil war. She is eighty years old with good health. She is in an elders' home. She has two sons and two daughters. Her husband died when she was thirty five years old. She worked hard to educate her children. She said that she had sold her golden jewelry because of her poverty. She made her own weaving machine to weave cloths and educated her children from the small earnings. This sample sentence shows us how the women headed family help to improve the family structure. She helped her elders' son to become a Sri Lankan police officer, second son became a clerk. Her third daughter became a graduate teacher and her last daughter became a teacher. Today she is a woman without the help of any body. The research helped to find all these details .Her place of birth is Jaffna. But he lived in Kandy with eight (08) acres of land as her own property. In 1997, she left from Kandy due to the ethnic conflict and came to Jaffna to live. Her eldest son (Police officer) married a woman without her consent. She did not like to continue his relationship with her son. Then she lived with her other three children. In 1995, some unknown person abducted her three children. She searched her children in all places of Vanni. She could not find them anywhere. Then she stayed at Pulliyankulam temporary. At last she came to Jaffna and stayed at the elders' home from 1997. She has been

searching her children for the last ten years. She has expectation in her mind that she will find them. The researchers observed her crying when she told us about her problems.

⁰² Participant was interviewed on 10th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

⁰³ Participant was interviewed on 11th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders.

She has the idea in her mind that her eldest son who married and lived in Batticalo, still live there. She seeks help from persons who come to the elder's home. She takes much interest to find her lost son. The civil war and her broken family relationship are the reasons for her lonely life. Twelfth Interviewee⁰⁴ also helped us to prove that the war divested the family bond and separate them. Her native place was Kandy. She is seventy (70) years old now. She was married. She separated from her husband and husband married again. She has only one son. She has lived in Visuvamadu for thirty years. Then her son joined with the Liberation Tiger of Tamil Elam- (L.T.T.E.). The shell piece attack injured his head. He came back from L.T.T.E and lived with his mother for one year. He could not bear the pain of the shell piece attack. He committed suicide when he was twenty six years old. Twelfth Interviewee⁰⁴ has shell piece attack injury in her left leg.

The fourteenth Interviewee⁰⁵ has shell piece injury in her left hand. In addition, the data of fifteenth interviewee⁰⁶ helped to strength our research results. She is seventy seven (77) years old now. She lost her husband when she was fifty six (56) years old. She has lived in Vanni since the death of her husband. She lived in Vanni in 2009. Her only son joined with L.T.T.E during the war time. She was injured. During war time, the injury was in her back side of the body, and then she went "CHETTIKULAM CAMP" and stayed there. During this period, his son went to Trincomele. He was rehabilitee. Son lives now in Thirunagar, Kilinochchi. There are some other reasons that prevented her from living with her son. Then she came to the Kaithady elders' home. She has been living there for the last 6 years. The sixteenth interviewee⁰⁷ has connection

with the result of this interview. She is eighty one (81) years old. She had three sons. Her birth place is Vaddukoddai.

⁰⁴ Participant was interviewed on 11th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders.

^{05, 06} Participant was interviewed on 12th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders.

The sixteenth interviewee⁰⁷ is the mother of three sons. The eldest son joins with L.T.T.E and married a woman who was a L.T.T.E member. After the death of the eldest son's wife, he came to live Chavakachcheri with his two sons.

There he fell into a well and killed himself. After the end of war in 2009, his third son was abducted by unknown persons. He has no contact with their relation. The second son went to Trincomale in 2009, and he is living in Jaffna now. The sixteenth interviewee⁰⁷ had to live alone in Vanni. She found shelter in "ANANTHA KUMARASAMI CAMP". Then she came to live with his second son. She could not live with them continually. She is in an elders' home for one year.

3.2 Another result found that as they did not have marital relationship and they could not involve themselves in to a family structure: second Interviewee⁰⁸ whose native place is Moratuwa. He is a Sinhalese and worked as a carpenter. His father worked in Jaffna. He has two brothers and two sisters. He lost his father and two brothers. He has the responsibility of looking after her sisters. He went to several places to do work. He has relationship with families in Anurathapura and Thamputhagama where he worked with them.

Recently he went there to meet them. As he took responsibility of maintaining, he could not live with family continually. He had to go from place to place. So could not marry a girl and could not build a good family bond. It is the main

reason for living in elders' home without his family. The sixth Interviewee⁰⁹ has a life pattern that is entirely different from other people. He stopped his education with grade eight. He is seventy four years old now. He spent his time drinking and flirting with friends. He lived happily until he lived with his parents. He did not know anything about poverty. He ate Venison, pork to satisfy his food habit. He ate less rice but more Fleiss. He lost her father in his age of sixty four (64) and mother in sixty six (66).

⁰⁷Participant was interviewed on 12th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

^{08, 09} Participant was interviewed on 10th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

Then he became very poor and lived in a rented house for two (02) years. He could not find a way to alleviate his poverty. Then he went to live in a elders home. During that time he was a young man and he enjoyed his life without thinking about marriage or family life. He separated himself from the family structure. In addition, seventh interviewee¹⁰ had the habit of drinking and smoking since he was a boy. He came to Poonagary and worked as a watcher. He stopped his education with grade six levels. Then he did not marry and does not go into a family structure. This is the main reason that identified by the research. Eighth interviewee¹¹ lost his mother when he was ten years old. Then he lived with his mother's sister. He did not marry any woman. He has some mental problems. He lived alone. He is fifty four years old. He has been living in an elders home for the last four years.

3.3 There are many elders who live without the help of siblings: Some elders do not have brother or sister. Some elders lost their brothers and sisters. Some brothers and sisters of the elders lost their partners. Siblings' financial state did not allow them to help others. The research helps to find their problems. First interviewee¹² has a sister she is also living at the elders' home. Second interviewee¹³ had two brothers but they are dead. But sisters are living now. Husband of the elder sister is dead. She lives with her son in-law. His

younger sister also depends on others for her living. Third interviewee¹⁴ is the only son to the family. He lives alone without anybody. Third interviewee¹⁴ says *“I am very unhappy that I do not have brothers and sisters. I have no one to show my love and devotion. I always think of siblings”*. Fourth interviewee¹⁵ has siblings. Four brothers are dead. He has one sister now that sister is his elder sister.

^{10,11}Participant was interviewed on 11th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

^{12,13,14,15} Participant was interviewed on 10th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

She lost her husband. She lives in a rented house. She is so poor that she cannot help the fourth interviewee (Brother). Fifth interviewee¹⁶ has eight siblings. Three brothers and three sisters are dead. The husband of one sister is also dead. She depends on other people for her livelihood. Another sister lives with two children. Fifth interviewee¹⁶ does not like to live with them. She is an ill healthy person. She cannot walk without walking instruments. So, fifth interviewee¹⁶ does not like to give them more burdens. Sixth interviewee¹⁷ has six siblings. One of her brother is dead. Second brothers worked in DS office and depend on children. Third brother suffers from kidney problem. He lives with his son. These brothers send rupees five hundred (Rs.500) to him every month. His two sisters are living in Australia and Italy. They help him occasionally. Another sister has already died. The siblings don't become to help fully to Sixth interviewee¹⁷. Seventh interviewee¹⁸ has two brothers but they do not have contact with her. Ninth interviewee¹⁹ is a mentally affected person. He is not helped by the siblings. The following table 3.3.1 shows the participants' sibling details. From the table we can see relation between eighth interviewee and ninth interviewee¹⁹. Although, their siblings are alive; but these two samples are mentally affected persons. They separated from siblings and siblings don't like to continue the relationship. The first interviewee²⁰ and thirteenth interviewee²¹ has one sibling but the situation is not help to their

siblings. The sister of first interviewee²⁰ is also in elders home and thirteenth interviewee²¹ is a Sinhala girl and married a Tamil boy due to this love married, she did not contact her sister. Tenth interviewee²¹ had brother. He died during his birth. Twelfth interviewee²² lost his brother during her child hood. The second brother is also dead another brother often came to see her. Her sister lives in Visuvamadu. Due to her poverty, she is not in a position to look after her sister.

^{16, 17, 18, 19, 20} Participant was interviewed on 10th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

^{21, 22} Participant was interviewed on 11th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

Table 3.3.1 The siblings' details of elders in Kaithady elders' home.

Interviewee	Number of brothers	Number of sisters	The late brothers	The late sisters	Living brothers and sisters	Total brothers and sisters
Interviewee one	No	01	No	No	01	01
Interviewee two	02	02	02	No	02	04
Interviewee three	No	No	No	No	No	No
Interviewee four	04	02	04	01	01	06
Interviewee five	03	05	03	04	01	08
Interviewee six	03	03	01	01	04	06

Interviewee seven	02	02	No	02	02	04
Interviewee eight	01	01	No	No	02	02
Interviewee nine	04	03	No	No	07	07
Interviewee ten	01	No	01	No	No	01
Interviewee eleven	01	No	01	No	No	01
Interviewee twelve	03	01	02	No	03	04
Interviewee thirteen	No	01	No	No	01	01
Interviewee fourteen	01	02	01	01	01	03
Interviewee fifteen	No	03	No	03	No	03
Interviewee sixteen	01	02	No	01	02	03

Source: Field study.

Fourteenth interviewee²³ had a brother who died of shell attack. She has another sister who suffers from lung problems. So she is unable to take care of her sister. Fifteenth interviewee²⁴ had three sisters but they are not living now. Sixteenth interviewee²⁵ has brother who is in Malaysia now. Her sister is dead. Another sister was beaten by a broom stick and she is now in an elders' home. The in-depth interview helped to collect precious data. It helped to note that,

no sibling with them, rejection by their brothers and sisters, poverty of the sibling, siblings depend on others for their living, death of their sibling and lost contact with them are the factors that disconnected composite family bond. They have to live alone without their help.

3.4 The level of education among the participant is very low. It could not help them to find a suitable government job or strengthen their financial position. Fourteenth interviewee²³ are illiterate. According to the collected samples, 20 % of samples have studied until grade ten to eleven. The 80 % of samples have the education level as under grade eight.

^{23, 24, 25} Participant was interviewed on 12th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

The total 100 % of samples do not have the government job or pension facilities. As they had poor level of education, they could not get a permanent government job or private jobs. It hindered the financial position in their life.

3.5 Married woman tried to marry another man and Married man tried to marry another women: There are permanent separation between couple. Due to the conflict in their married life, this leads to the breaking of the family bond. Third interviewee²⁶ marks a seventy three (73) years old man. He separated from his wife. After married one year, wife married again. He hated the married life. After his mother died, he wants to help his father. He did not think of a marriage again. He was separated without a family bond. Many people advised him to marry again. He said that “*The first marriage gave me a lot of suffering. I do not like more suffering by another marriage*”. Fourth interviewee²⁷ lives separately from his wife and three children. The conflict started when his wife gave Money to her brother. It is the reason for braking of their family bond. Her wife lives in Vavuniya with the children. He is not ready to go and live their children or wife. He has been living in the elders home for

the last twenty three years. His wife or children do not come to see him until now. He is an alcoholic and smoker. When he left from his wife, he did not think of his children and never think of children's take caring. This is the reason for the children to ignore him. Fifth interviewee's²⁸ wife married another person. He is eighty four years old now. He took much interest in his education when he was a boy. During the school period, his head master thought to bring him from Vanni to Jaffna for the purpose of his better education. Father of Interviewer five had known this thing. Immediately, his father stopped his education for the purpose of allowing his "Shifting cultivation. His uncle forced him to marry a woman who lived separating her husband. He don't like although he agreed to marry her. After the birth of a female child, she married again another man.

^{26, 27, 28} Participant was interviewed on 10th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

In later period, Interviewer five's daughter became pregnant illegally. Then she had to destroy the un-born child. He said an old proverb that "Daughter looks like a mother and the thread looks like a Saari". His wife was the basic reason for the breaking of family bond. His wife married third time that is the fundamental factor for his separation of family bond. Another proves twelfth interviewee²⁹ is a woman. The husband of woman married again another woman and broke their family bond now. She is seventy years old. She was married when she was thirty years old. After the birth of a child, her husband married again. She led her family as header. Her husband married again his son joined with L.T.T.E and he committed suicide after an injury.

3.6 Love marriage and destroying family bond: Thirteenth interviewee³⁰ is an example for the affect of love marriage. Sinhalese woman of 84 years old married Tamil neighbor boy. She married him when she was 17 years old. Then she came to Jaffna with her husband. She speaks Tamil well. Her love

marriage paved way to separate her father mother and sister. She lived with her husband. She could not get any property from his father. After the death of her husband a neighbors' small girl help her to join at a elders home.

3.7 There are some evident where elders were ignored by their children and siblings: Specially, ninth interviewee³¹ is an old woman of sixty five years old. She is mentally affected woman. So her son did not take care of her. Her son lives with his wife. Ninth interviewee³¹ likes to live with her son and siblings. She said *"I lived one week with my son. Then they bring me here, I don't know the reason for bringing me here"*. After death of her husband, her three sisters and two brothers did not take care.

²⁹ Participant was interviewed on 10th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

^{30, 31} Participant was interviewed on 11th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

3.8 Poverty, lack of property, or land could not help to elders to survive and leading to elders home. Fourth interviewee³² has two extent of land near Palaly Sri Lankan Army camp. She is unable to use the land. Sixteenth interviewee has two extent lands and five pawn jewels. 88% of the samples do not have their own land or other property. So their life is a question mark to survive individually.

3.9 facilities at the Kaithady elders' home are normally satisfactory: Fifteen extent of land is allocated for elders. All are tiled rooms. There are trees and flower plants in the land. Every bed has a mosquito net. They can prepare their own tea with heater. Two day leave is allowed for them to meet relations. In Addition, the following systems that they have, 5.30 a.m -Plain Tea, 8.00 a.m-Breakfast, 9.30 a.m - Milk, 12.30 p.m-Lunch,3.00 p.m – Plain Tea, 5.00p.m-Dinner, 5.15 – Hot water. There are 220 elders staying facilities, 11 buildings (normal building), 6 rooms in each building, three (03) temples (01 Christian Charge, 01 Vairavar Temple, 01 Pillaiyar Temple), fifty (50) workers

for elders, four (04) toilets, four (04) normal toilets and twelve (12) bathrooms in the elders home. The workers at elders home treat the elders very kindly. Whenever the elders are not a position to take care of them, feed them help to have bath. 80% of samples have full satisfaction in the Kaithady elders' home. Doctors often visit there to treat them. Elders get good medical facilities.

3.10 There are some problems faced the elders of kaithady elders' home.

There are twenty (20) women and seventeen (17) men who suffer from mental problems. Some of them have psychological problems. They live in rooms with other elders. They cannot behave like ordinary people. They are in angry mood some times. We could observe a men beat another person in his back. Another person raised her voice angrily. Suddenly that mentally affected elder woman threw food dish towards the researchers.

³² Participant was interviewed on 10th of March 2016 at Kaithady state home of elders

We could observe them talking loudly in angry mood. This attitude is common among women. When the interviewer fourteen was interviewed, another elder women said "*We are not allowed go that way (Near the room of fourteenth interviewee) do not you feel same to sit in our chair. This is our chair*". Then the fourteenth interviewee pushed the chair aside and says that "*I did not want your chair, take it.*" And she used bad word and sat on the floor. There are verbal wars among them. Old woman used bad word like you are a bastard ("poodi vesai"). Then another women replied "*You have you bath from the water tank that is built from my own money*" She said that she a brought 0.1 million money when she came to the elders home and the tank was built from that money. Men and women of old age try to fight very often. When a person switch off the fan, another elder person switch on the fan. And Television (T.V) gives problems to them. When an old person increases the volume, the other person asked to decrease the volume. Eleventh interviewee said "*I can not live here. It is problems to live with these mad elders. My father said me not to go the government hospital and elders home. But, I came here*". She was loudly

crying..... When she said these words, most of the elders suffer from diabetes and pain in their body parts. Some old people have stomach pain and by pass problems. The literature that is argued that older people resident in care homes feature many clinical diagnoses, including non-stroke cardiovascular disorder, rheumatologic diseases, dementia, stroke and neurodegenerative disease (Challis *et al.*, 2000; Royal College of Physicians *et al.*, 2000). Elder patients expect that they should be given food suitable to their needs; twelfth interviewee said that she did not drink milk due to her lung problems. Milk powder and are provided on special occasions. So these results represent that the elders are facing many issues in the elders' home.

4.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

According to the results of the research, breaking of the family bond was the reason for them to come to the elder's home. Particularly, civil war in Sri Lanka, displacement, loss of land, injuries can be noted. They had to face many financial problems. They were in a position to live without the help of other people. They could help from family members. There are some elders who spent their life without selecting a partner. These are some of the reason for them to select elders' home as their place of living. There were men and women who married again gave impact to the family bond. They had to live without any help there were many mentally affected elders who could not get help from their sons, daughters or siblings. Love marriage of some elders gave way to the loss of contact with their siblings, parents or relative. The Kaithady Elders home have all the necessary facilities good green environment is found in elder's home. Nutritious food and proper medical facilities are found at the elder's home. Some mentally affected elders give problems to other elders. There are some Sinhala speaking elders who are fluent in Tamil language can have good relationship with Tamil speaking elders. So there is no conflict observed with good communication of the Sinhala elders.

- Although civil war came to an end, there are some unsolved problems. It should not be allowed for another war. Basic rights of all people should be protected and preserved in Sri Lanka.
- Marital bond is important to all people. The Indian population policy is “we are two, we should have two”. Minimum it must be our policy.
- Children are wealth of a family. Inter relationship among family members is important to achieve the goal “Social capital” should be saved.
- Children should think of their parents as they god and goddess. They should be protected until their death.
- Elders should be educated, awareness should be extended and conflict should not be allowed to form.
- Un-healthy patient should be given food that they want.

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