



A Descriptive Study to Assess the Knowledge and Attitude Regarding Prevention of Child Abuse Among Mothers of School Going Children Residing at Selected Rural Areas of District Patiala, Punjab with a View to Develop an Informational Booklet

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INTRODUCTION

Children are world's most valuable resources and asset, but their rights throughout the world are largely ignored, Often resulting into tragic outcome. One of the major problems in understanding the scope of the subject of 'child abuse' is that it is extremely difficult to get responses from children on such a sensitive subject because of their inability to fully understand the different dimensions of child abuse and to talk about their experiences. Child abuse is the major global problem and all communities are facing this in various forms. According to WHO "Child abuse or mistreatment constitutes all kinds of physical and emotional ill treatment, statutory offense, neglect or negligent treatment or different exploitation, leading to actual or potential damage to the child's health, survival, development or dignity within the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power". In many cases the victims of child abuse cannot reveal the event due to various reasons. The event can remain as a secret and consequently leads to serious health and mental problems that are difficult to compensate in future.

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the knowledge score regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children.
2. To assess the attitude score regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children.
3. To determine the correlation between knowledge and attitude score regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children.
4. To find out the association of knowledge regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children with their selected socio demographic variables.
5. To find out the association of attitude regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children with their selected socio demographic variable
6. To develop and distribute an informational booklet regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children.

RESEARCH DESIGN

A Non Experimental Descriptive research design was used in the study.

SAMPLE SIZE AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

100 mothers of school going children (6-12 years)

Convenience sampling technique was used for the selection of sample in this study.

DESCRIPTION OF TOOL

SECTION-I: Socio- demographic variables of mothers of school going children (6- 12 years). It includes age of mother (in years), type of family, occupation of mother, education of mother, number of children, source of information.

SECTION-II: It consisted of Self-Structured knowledge questionnaire regarding prevention of child abuse which comprised of 20 multiple choice questions with single correct answer. Every correct answer was according a score of one (1) and incorrect/unanswered question was accorded zero (0). The maximum score on knowledge questionnaire was twenty (20). The range for assessment of knowledge is categorized as follows:

N=100

LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE	SCORE RANGE	%age
GOOD	16-20	81%-100%
AVERAGE	11-15	51%-80%
BELOW AVERAGE	≤10	50%

ETHICAL CLEARANCE

After obtaining permission from research committee of Adarsh College of Nursing, prior permission was obtained from Sarpanch of Village-Chak Amritsaria and Village-Sadhugarh & written consent was taken from the each participant in the study.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE DATA

Frequency and percentage distribution of mothers according to socio demographic variables.

Frequency and Percentage distribution of Socio-demographic variables

N=100

	Socio Demographic Variables	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1.	Age of mother (in years)		
a)	25≥30	43	43
b)	30≥35	19	19
c)	35 ≥40	28	28
d)	>40	10	10
2.	Type of Family		
a)	Nuclear	52	52
b)	Joint	48	48
3.	Occupation of Mother		
a)	Homemaker	48	48
b)	Self Employed	27	27
c)	Employed	25	25
4.	Education of Mother		
a)	Primary	20	20
b)	Secondary	55	55
c)	Graduate and above	25	25
5.	Number of Children		
a)	One	19	19
b)	Two	32	32
c)	Three or more	49	49
6.	Source of Information		
a)	Mass media	33	33
b)	Family/Relatives	10	10
c)	Health personnel	16	16
d)	Friends	18	18
e)	No	23	23

Table illustrates that majority 43(43%)of mothers belongs to age group of 25≥30 years, followed by 28(28%) mothers of age between 35≥40 years, whereas 19(19%) and 10(10%) mothers were in age group of 30≥35 years and 40 years respectively.

Regarding type of family, 52(52%) of mothers were from nuclear family and 48(48%) of mothers were from joint family.

According to occupation of mother only 20(20%) of mothers were homemaker followed by 27(27%) were self-employed and 25(25%) mothers were employed respectively.

About education of mother maximum 55(55%) mothers had done secondary, followed by 25(25%) of mothers were graduated and above 20(20%) of mothers were primary passed respectively.

On the basis of number of children more than 49(49%) of mothers had three or more children, followed by 32(32%) mothers had two children and only 19(19%) had one children respectively.

With regards to source of information, 33(33%) mothers received information through mass media, whereas 23(23%) haven't receive information regarding child abuse, followed by 18(18%) got information from friends, 16(16%) and 10(10%) of mothers received information from health personnel's and family, relatives respectively.

Objective 1: To assess the knowledge score regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children.

Mean and Standard Deviation of knowledge score of mothers regarding prevention of child abuse.

N=100

Mean	Standard Deviation
11.94	2.69

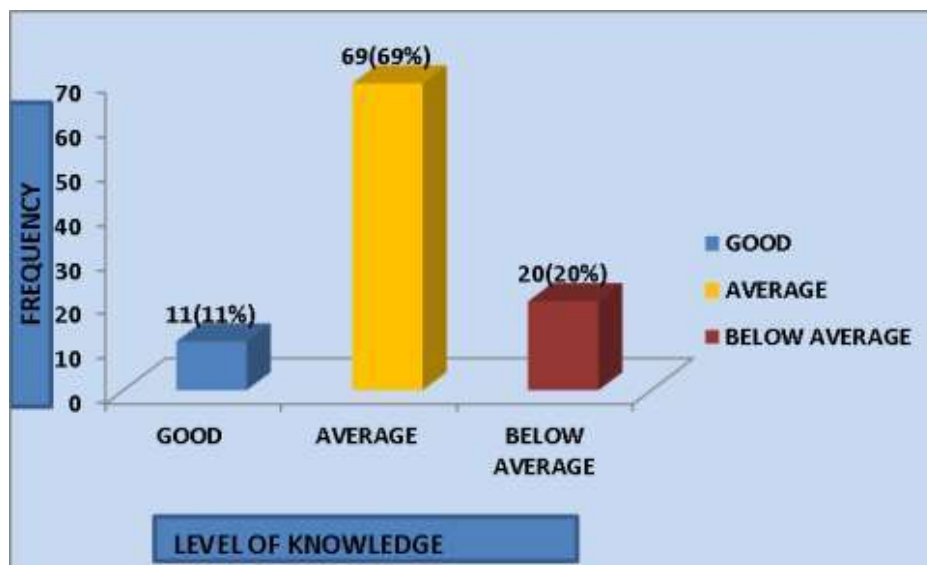
Maximum Score= 20 Minimum score =0

Frequency and percentage distribution of knowledge score of mothers regarding prevention of child abuse.

N=100

LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE	SCORE	Frequency(f)	Percentage (%)
GOOD	16 - 20	11	11%
AVERAGE	11 - 15	69	69%
BELOW AVERAGE	0 - 10	20	20%

Maximum score = 20 Minimum score =0



Objective 2: To assess the attitude score regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children.

Mean and Standard Deviation of attitude score of mothers regarding prevention of child abuse.

N=100

Mean	Standard Deviation
56.39	9.63

Maximum score = 100

Minimum =20

LEVEL OF ATTITUDE	SCORE	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Favourable	81 - 100	07	7%
Moderately Favourable	51 – 80	65	65%
Unfavourable	20 – 50	28	28%

Correlation between knowledge and attitude of mothers regarding prevention of child abuse



Maximum score = 100 Minimum =20

Objectives 4 To find out the association of knowledge score regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children with their selected demographic variables.

Association the level of knowledge of mothers regarding prevention of child abuse with their selected socio- demographic variables.

N=100

	Socio Demographic Variables	LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE			Chi value	Df	Table value	P value
		Average	Good	Below average				
1.	Age of mother (in years)							
a)	25≥30	31	2	10	5.276	6	12.592	0.509 ^{NS}
b)	30≥35	14	3	2				
c)	35 ≥40	19	4	5				
d)	>40	5	2	3				
2.	Type of Family				1.222	2	5.991	0.543 ^{NS}
a)	Nuclear	37	4	11				
b)	Joint	32	7	9				
3.	Occupation of Mother				3.615	4	9.488	0.461 ^{NS}
a)	Homemaker	32	5	11				
b)	Self Employed	18	2	7				
c)	Employed	19	4	2				
4.	Education of Mother							
a)	Primary	15	2	3				

b)	Secondary	38	6	11	0.686	4	9.488	0.953 ^{NS}
c)	Graduate and above	16	3	6				
5.	Number of Children							
a)	One	12	1	6	2.889	4	9.488	0.577 ^{NS}
b)	Two	23	3	6				
c)	Three or more	34	7	8				
6.	Source of Information							
a)	Mass Media	28	1	4	19.626	8	15.507	0.012*
b)	Family/Relatives	5	0	5				
c)	Health personnel	12	4	0				
d)	Friends	9	3	6				
e)	No	15	3	5				

* = Significant

^{NS} = Non Significant

Table represents the association of knowledge score regarding prevention of child abuse with their socio demographic variables. It was obtained, the chi square value for age ($\chi^2=5.276$, $df=6$), type of family ($\chi^2= 1.222$, $df= 2$), occupation ($\chi^2=3.615$, $df=4$), education of mother ($\chi^2=0.686$, $df=.4$), number of children ($\chi^2= 2.889$, $df=4$), is less than table value, which indicates that there was non significant association between the knowledge score of mothers with their socio demographic variables, except source of information ($\chi^2= 19.626$, $df=8$), which has chi square value more than table value which indicates that there was significant association between the knowledge score of mothers with their source of information.

Hence, it reveals that each demographic variable has $p>0.05$, which suggests statistically non significant association of knowledge score among mothers with their age, type of family, occupation, education of mother, number of children and significant association with their source of information.

Association between attitude score of mothers regarding prevention of child with their selected socio-demo-graphic variables by means of Chi Square.

Objectives 5 To find out association the attitude score regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children with their selected socio- demo-graphic variables.

Association the level of attitude of mothers regarding prevention of child abuse with their selected socio- demographic variables.

N= 100

	Socio Demographic Variables	LEVEL OF ATTITUDE			Chi value	Df	Table value	P value
		Unfavorable	Moderately favourable	Favourable				
1.	Age of mother (in years)							
a)	25≥30	16	26	1	9.909	6	12.592	0.129 ^{NS}
b)	30≥35	4	14	1				
c)	35 ≥40	5	18	5				
d)	>40	3	7	0				
2.	Type of Family							
a)	Nuclear	14	34	4	0.122	2	5.991	0.941 ^{NS}
b)	Joint	14	31	3				
3.	Occupation of Mother							
a)	Homemaker	14	34	0	10.174	4	9.488	0.038*
b)	Self Employed	8	17	2				
c)	Employed	6	14	5				
4.	Education of Mother							
a)	Primary	3	16	1	6.756	4	9.488	0.149 ^{NS}
b)	Secondary	17	36	2				
c)	Graduate and above	8	13	4				
5.	Number of Children							
a)	One	7	11	1				

b)	Two	6	24	2	2.577	4	9.488	0.631 ^{NS}
c)	Three or more	15	30	4				
6.	Source of Information							
a)	Mass Media	12	19	2	11.709	8	11.709	0.165 ^{NS}
b)	Family/Relatives	2	7	1				
c)	Health personnel	1	13	2				
d)	Friends	3	15	0				
e)	No	10	11	2				

Table represents the association of attitude score regarding prevention of child abuse with their socio demographic variables. It was obtained, the chi square value for age ($\chi^2=9.909$, $df=6$), type of family ($\chi^2= 5.991$, $df= 2$), education of mother ($\chi^2=6.756$, $df=.4$), number of children ($\chi^2= 2.577$, $df=4$), source of information ($\chi^2= 11.709$, $df=8$), is less than table value, which indicates that there was non significant association between the attitude score of mothers with their socio demographic variables, except occupation ($\chi^2= 10.179$, $df=4$), which has chi square value more than table value which indicates that there was significant association between the attitude score of mothers with their occupation.

Hence, it reveals that each demographic variable has $p>0.05$, which suggests statistically non significant association of attitude score among mothers with their age, type of family, education of mother, number of children, source of information and significant association with their occupation of mother.

Objectives 6: To develop and distribute an informational booklet regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children.

Recommendations

- The study can be replicated on a larger sample to validate the findings of the present study.

A study can be conducted with two groups like experimental and control group for comparison between pre and post knowledge score.

- Randomized control trial can be carried to assess the effectiveness of structured teaching programme regarding prevention of child abuse.
- A comparative study can be done on knowledge regarding prevention of child abuse among mothers of school going children residing in rural and urban area.

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