" A Descriptive Study To Assess The Knowledge Of Mothers Of School Age Children Regarding Prevention Of Child Abuse In Karad City."

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Abstract:

In addition to experiencing abuse and neglect children who are abused may be exposed to other stresses, with possible ramifications that may show up at different stages of a child's development. As an outcome, the most thorough study on this subject takes a determination to put into account all of the factors that might be associated with abuse or neglect.1. Objectives: To determine the quantity of knowledge school-age mothers now possess regarding child abuse .2. To determine the correlation between pre-test knowledge score on child abuse. and particular demographic characteristics. Materials and Processes: A descriptive approach employing a single group pretest. The technique of deliberate sampling was used. For the study, a total of 60 mothers of school-age children within the selected city of Karad, Maharashtra, India, was chosen. The Initial Findings: Data Major Findings: Out of 60 mothers of kids in school, data on sample characteristics found that. 33% of the population was in the 26–28 age range. 52% of mothers have at most one kid. 38 percent of mothers were educated to the level of an undergrad. 37% of mothers, who make between $15,000 and $20,000 a month, are the majority. 41% of women are the majority with children in the 10–12 age group. Before carrying out a video-assisted educational program, 29 (48%) mothers' pre-test knowledge regarding child abuse was accepted as average. Pretest mean were 11.6, SD were 3.845.

Keywords: Child abuse, Mothers, Prevention

Introduction: - Child abuse is a global public health problem with deliberate consequences for victims and society. Every child has juvenile rights to benefit a safe childhood and a life free from brutality. Education related to child abuse is very important to promote the healthy development of children childhood is a significant phase and it is the greatest time to develop spiritual, intellectual and emotional facets. Children must be treated well and nourished properly because they are the future of human beings with full potential and also for growth and development. One of the significant problems with public health is child abuse Any behavior that injured the children like physical, emotional, sexual, neglect or exploitation is considered as child abuse.3 Abuse is a commonplace event, including physical, sexual, emotional, and verbal abuse, occurring in many different ways, including the home (domestic violence,), (sexual harassment), in institutional (elder abuse, bullying) and religious and community (hate crime)

settings. Abuse is a serious social and cultural problem affecting everyone. In the school the atmosphere of trust, confidentiality, and openness to discussing sexual issues and abuse.[4] According to World Health Organization, "Child abuse or maltreatment constitutes all form of physical and or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglected child it is actual or potential harm to the child's health, Causes of child abuse include high rates of crime, a dearth of social services, extreme poverty, a history of abuse experienced as a child, adolescent parents, young single parents, high levels of stress, a history of depression, domestic violence, low self-esteem, having multiple young children, being pregnant when not wanted, having an unwanted child or gender in the family, being physically separated from the mother when the child is a newborn, and unattractive, handicap child due to all this child is abuse[5] . In the child abuse Parental involvement places a very important role to educate the child in early identification and prevention child abuse for health and survival for child [6]Childhood abuse having long term effect if the child was, more severe the abuse, the greater the probability of psychiatric disorde[11] If mothers are having knowledge regarding child abuse, she can explain about detect the signs of child abuse and can prevent child abuse by educating the child. Mother having important role to prevent child abuse.[12] Management of child abuse depend on type of injury. Hospitalization is necessary for child and psychotherapy may be needed for parents and child . health care workers social workers should visit to home in the community [13] 21.90% child respondents reported facing severe forms of sexual abuse and 50.76% other forms of sexual abuse[14] Emotional abuse does not involve concrete physical symptoms, as is usually the case in physical and sexual abuse, and it is perpetrated in isolation as well as accompanying other forms of abuse [15]. Most child abuse occurs within the family. One-parent families, broken families, issues with families, or discontent with work are risk factors. a history of abuse and domestic violence as a child by both parents. Child negligence and mistreatment are also very usual in families living in poverty and among those young parents who are abusing drug or alcohol. Although it is certainly true that child abuse occurs outside the home, most often children are abused by a caregiver or someone they know, not a stranger It was noted that majority of child abuse caused due to lack of awareness of parents regarding child abuse and its prevention. Though several research studies have been conducted on child abuse very few studies conducted on knowledge and attitude of mothers regarding prevention of child abuse in rural communities of West Bengal. Though child abuse seems higher in urban areas, the disadvantage of rural area is most of the child abuses remain underreported or non - reported because of fear, ignorance and or lack of awareness.[18]

Material and Method:- A descriptive approach with one group pre-test. The technique of purposive sampling was used. For the study, a total of 60 moms of school-age children from the selected city of Karad, Maharashtra, India, were selected.Mothers were given the questionnaires, and they were asked to check the relevant option. The questionnaire was designed on the following areas: Knowledge of subjects regarding prevention of physical abuse, emotional abuse
, sexual abuse.

Study Design: An descriptive approach with one group pre-test sign was used.

Sample Size: The sample size of the study population was 6O among mothers of school age children.

Inclusion Criteria: Criteria:

1. Mothers of school age children who have present at the time of data collection.

2. Mothers who can read and write Marathi.

Exclusive Criteria: Criteria:

1. Mothers who are not willing to take part in the study.

2. Mother who are not physically fit.

Place of the study:

Setting Karad City was selected as the study's setting.

Sampling Technique: Convenience sampling was the technique used in this investigation.

Statistical Method: The data has been explained using both descriptive and inferential statistics. To summarize the data, frequency and percentage employed. Standard deviation and mean had been used to describe the knowledge score. The following conclusions were reached through the use of inferential statistics

Method of Data Collection: The tool was administered with formal authorization. Study subjects' prevention of child abuse among mothers of school age children in Karad city." A time schedule was planned for collecting the data. In order to obtain response every participant was assure about the privacy of their retort. Each data collection took between thirty and forty-five minutes. One group pre-test was conducted after the trial had concluded. Pré test a structured questionnaire was employed to estimate individuals' awareness of the techniques used to prevent sexual, emotional, and physical abuse. The subjects complete an intervention video-assisted guidance session follows the pre-test. A course of study using video assisted training that is administered. Using software, descriptive and inferential data analysis was performed.

Table No. I . Distribution of frequency and percentage of mothers according to demographic variables. N- 60

Sr. No	characteristics	option	Respondents	
			Frequency	Percentage
1.	Age	20-22 years	13	21%
		23-25 years	15	25%
		26-28 years	20	33%
		Above 28 years	12	21%
2.	Number of children	1	31	52%
		2	20	33%
		3	6	10%
		4	3	5%
3.	Education of mother	Illiterate	9	15%
		secondary	16	27%
		Under graduate	23	38%
		Graduate	12	20%
4	Occupation of mother	Housewife	32	53%
		Business women	6	10%
		Farmer	18	30%
		Professional	4	7%
5	Monthly income of family	Rs 5,000-10,000	8	13%
		Rs 11000-15000	18	13%
		Rs15000-20000	22	37%

		Above Rs 20000	12	20%
6	Types of family	Joint	38	63%
		Nuclear	22	37%
7	Religion	Hindu	28	46%
		Christian	9	15%
		Muslim	15	25%
		Other	8	14%
8	Age of child	6-7 years	17	28%
		8-9 years	18	31%
		10-12 years	25	41%
9	Sex of child	Male	37	62%
		Female	23	38%
10	Sources of getting information about child abuse	T.V. 22 38%	22	38%
		Newspaper	12	20%
		Mobile	18	30%
		Any other	8	12%

The data presented in table no. 1 revels classification of mothers by age, number of children education of mother , occupation of mother, income of family , householder religion , child age, sex of child, source of getting information.

Table II: Classification of mothers based on pretest knowledge scores regarding child abuse

Knowledge level	Score	Level of respondent	
		Frequency	Percentage
Good	13 - 20	9	15%
Average	7- 12	29	49%
Poor	0 -6	22	36%
Total		60	100%

Table II - It is observed that majority of mothers 29 (49%) had average knowledge, whereas 22 (36%) had poor knowledge, and only 9 (15%) Good knowledge regarding child abuse

Discussion: - In the present study Under graduate mothers was 23(38%) and 38(63%) were mothers come from joint family, In the other same study by Mrs. Beena Ninan states that more high school studied mothers 32 (40%) and 18(22.5%) mothers come from joint family [7] In this study mothers' knowledge regarding child abuse. majority of mothers 29 (49%) had average knowledge, whereas 22 (36%) had poor knowledge, and only 9 (15%) Comprehensive knowledge about child abuse in other study a descriptive study on child sexual abuse act in India by Singh, Ranjana，Koushal, Vipin，Bharti, Bhavneet showed "Among the respondents, 52% were aware of child abuse practices by doctors and hospitals, 28% had incorrect knowledge, and 19% had partial knowledge." In this study education of mothers Illiterate 9 (15%), Secondary 19 (27%), Under graduate 23(38%), Graduate 12 (20%) In the other study secondary, 13 (44%) were in higher education, 2 (7%) in illiterate In another study, study

to assess the knowledge of mothers about prevention of child sexual abuse At Kila Raipur, District Ludhiana, Punjab Chaudhary P Education of mothers 5(17%) were in primary, 10 (34%) [9] In the present study mothers came from joint family 38.(63%),and from nuclear family 22(37%). In another study by Mercy Madan Lal. A study to assess knowledge regarding child abuse among mothers in selected area Panjab from Joint Family mothers 21 (35.0%) and from Nuclear Family mothers present for study 39 (65.0%).[10] In the present study 9(15%)have good knowledge ,29(49%)had average knowledge and 22(36%)had poor knowledge.in another same study in (Punjab)by Navjot Kaur, Kirandeep Kaur. "The study revealed that the majority of the mothers, 23 (38.3%), had moderately adequate knowledge, 22 (36.7%) had inadequate knowledge, and 15 (25%) had adequate knowledge."

Recommendations

- Studies should focus on school-aged children with their mothers, including toddlers and preschoolers.
- In-service education programs should be provided to all teachers and mothers on the topic of child abuse.
- Mass media campaigns about child abuse should be conducted extensively in both urban and rural communities.

NURSING IMPLICATIONS:

Based on the study findings have the following significant implications –

Nursing Education

A nurse's educational background should equip them with the necessary knowledge to function effectively as health educators. Health education plays a pivotal role in enhancing primary school teachers' understanding of health-related topics. Nurses can organize health education programs, such as those highlighted in this study, across various settings, including daycare facilities, high schools, community centers, and parental education sessions. By conducting classes and discussions using tools like PowerPoint presentations, charts, and videos, community awareness can be significantly increased. Teachers can also utilize A.V. aids to educate both children and parents about child abuse prevention and other health-related issues. This approach helps parents in raising their children more effectively while also supporting the role of nurses as health educators.

Nursing Practice:

Since most teachers displayed only an average level of knowledge about child abuse and its prevention, nurses should take the initiative to educate and empower them. Nurses can provide guidance to teachers on delivering care that supports children's healthy growth and development while equipping them with effective strategies to recognize, prevent, and respond to cases of abuse.

Nursing Administration:

The foundation of any institution that wants to increase staff understanding of child abuse and how to avoid it is its nurse administrators. It is imperative to allocate time for nurses to provide health education and oversee school health programs. Support of nurses to create teaching materials is also necessary.

Nursing Research

Based on the findings, nursing professionals and nursing students can conduct further studies about child cause and its prevention. . Thus, it is necessary to inspire and mentor nursing students to carry out research projects. Study tools, STPs, and PowerPoint presentations are currently being used by others, or they will be updated to accommodate additional usage. The results of the research can be presented at conferences, and other nurses conducting studies can access the data. Since today's kids will be tomorrow's citizens, these studies have to be carried out at a variety of different schools.

Conclusion

The findings emphasize the importance of implementing awareness-raising programs, sharing short videos, and

distributing informational booklets at various locations to improve understanding of child abuse and its prevention. Future studies should be conducted on larger populations, including both urban and rural areas, and should also involve fathers to gain a more comprehensive perspective.

Ethical Clearance:

The study was approved by the Institutional Ethics Committee of Krishna Vishwa Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University), Karad.

Acknowledgment

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