



# A COMPARATIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE BEHAVIOURAL PATTERN OF A SINGLE CHILD AND THE CHILD WITH SIBLING BETWEEN THE AGE GROUP OF 6-12 YRS IN SELECTED AREAS AT SAGAR (MP)

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**Abstract: Introduction:** Problems with behaviour include issues that significantly deviate from customary behaviour. These issues are more internalised, stable, and challenging to treat than the adjustment issues. Parents most frequently use constructive methods of behaviour modification, such as maturity demands, limit setting, argumentation, monitoring, and supervision. Parents are more frequently using harsh, unfavourable methods of behaviour control, such as physical abuse and verbal abuse. **Aim:** - The aim of this comparative study was to assess the behavioural pattern of a single child and the child with sibling between the age group of 6-12 years in selected areas at Sagar (MP)". **Objectives:** 1) To assess the behavioural pattern of a single child. 2) To assess the behavioural pattern of children with siblings. 3) To compare the behavioural pattern of a single child and the child with sibling between the age group between 6-12 yrs. 4) To find out the association between the behavioural pattern of a single child and their selected demographic variables such as mother's age, educational status, occupation, income parenting style, and child age, sex, type of family, birth order and educational status. 5) To find out the association between the behavioural pattern of children with siblings and their selected demographic variables such as mother's age, educational status, occupation, income, parenting style, and child age, sex, type of family, birth order and educational status. **Method:** - This research study was carried out "a comparative study to assess the behavioural pattern of a single child and the child with sibling between the age group of 6-12 years in selected areas at Sagar (MP)". The quantitative research approach and a Comparative Research design was used for the study. A convenient sampling technique was used to choose 50 samples. Modified Rosen stocks and Becker and Health Belief Model is used to assess the behavioural pattern. **Result:** - The data analysis was done using descriptive and inferential statistics. The mean score of single child behaviour was 61.24 and SD was 17.72 and the mean score of sibling child behaviour was 52.32 and SD was 16.73. The observed 't' value was 0.20. This calculated value is lesser than the table value at 0.5% level of significance which showed that this was less significant. **Conclusion:** Childhood is a crucial time in one's life. The youngster experiences a notable transformation in his or her life

during this time. The child's problems must be recognised and resolved by parents and educators. Poor interpersonal skills are a common problem among single children as a result of ineffective relationships. To assist and mentor the kids in leading a life that is both physically and psychologically healthy, the parents must recognise their issue and interact with them.

**Key Words:** Behavioural pattern, Single – child, Child with Siblings.

**Introduction:** - Problems with behaviour include issues that significantly deviate from customary behaviour. These issues are more internalised, stable, and challenging to treat than the adjustment issues. Parents most frequently use constructive methods of behaviour modification, such as maturity demands, limit setting, argumentation, monitoring, and supervision. Parents are more frequently using harsh, unfavourable methods of behaviour control, such as physical abuse and verbal abuse.

## STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A comparative study to assess the behavioural pattern of a single child and the child with sibling between the age group of 6-12 years in selected areas at Sagar District, Madhya Pradesh, India.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- ❖ To assess the behavioural pattern of a single child.
- ❖ To assess the behavioural pattern of children with siblings.
- ❖ To compare the behavioural pattern of a single child and the child with sibling between the age group between 6-12 yrs.
- ❖ To find out the association between the behavioural pattern of a single child and their selected demographic variables such as mother's age, educational status, occupation, income parenting style, and child age, sex, type of family, birth order and educational status.
- ❖ To find out the association between the behavioural pattern of children with siblings and their selected demographic variables such as mother's age, educational status, occupation, income, parenting style, and child age, sex, type of family, birth order and educational status.

## RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

**RH1-** There will be a significant difference between the single child and the child with siblings in behavioural pattern.

**RH2-** There will be a significant association between the behavioural pattern of a single child and their selected demographic variable such as mother's age, educational status, and occupation, parenting style, and child age, sex, type of family, birth order & educational status.

**RH3-** There will be a significant association between the behavioural Pattern of children with siblings and their selected demographic variables such as mother's age, educational status, and occupation income, parenting style, and child age, sex, type of family, birth order & educational status.

## RESEARCH APPROACH

The quantitative research approach was adopted for this study.

## RESEARCH DESIGN

A comparative research design was used in this study.

## SETTINGS OF THE STUDY

This study was conducted at Naryawali town near Khurai City, Sagar district. Naryawali is a Panchayat town and have a population of 2,284 and the areas selected for the study was village Naryawali and is located about 10 kms away from Bhagyoday Tirth Nursing College Sagar, MP.

## POPULATION

The target population for this present study was a single child and the child with siblings between the age group of 6-12 years.

## SAMPLE

The samples consisted of children those who were in the age group of 6 – 12 years residing at Naryawali, Sagar.

## SAMPLE SIZE

The sample size consisted of 50 children in the age group of 6-12 years. Among them 25 sample were single child and 25 sample were child with siblings.

## SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

The sample for this current study were taken under convenient sampling technique. The data were collected through a door-to-door survey method to identify the family with single child and the child with a sibling. After identifying the children convenient sampling technique was used to select the samples.

## CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF SAMPLE

### Inclusion Criteria

- Single child in the family was included.
- Children living with one or more siblings were included.
- Children between the age group of 6-12 years
- Children who were willing to participate in this study.

### Exclusion Criteria

- Children with long term illness.
- Children who were not willing to participate.
- Child those who lost their siblings in their recent time.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOL

### SECTION- A

Demographic data such as Mother's age, Educational Status, Occupation, Income, Parenting style, and Child's Age, Sex, Type of family, Birth order, educational status and Health status.

### SECTION-B

A tool was developed by Acnenbech's behavioural check list. The purpose of this study was to assess the behavioural pattern of a single child and the child with siblings between the age group of 6 -12 yrs. The original tool consisted of 102 items through that the tool was have modified 50 items were selected. It had 3-point scale and a score of 0, 1 and 2 respectively for not true, sometimes true and very true.

### MODEFIED CHILD BEHAVIOUR CHECKLIST

The modified behaviour checklist will be used to assess the problems of the children. It is a 3-point scale and contains 50 items. Each item score from 0,1,2 respectively for Not True, Sometimes True, Very True.

### SECTION C

A modified behavioural checklist was used to assess the behaviour pattern of children in the age group of 6-12 yrs. There were totally 50 items. Each item had three options. A score of 2 was fixed for the very truth. A score of 1 was fixed for some time true and score of 0 for not true. The maximum possible score was 100, according to the total score they were categorized as follows.

### CATEGORY SCORE

Good behaviour pattern = 0 to 54

Average behaviour pattern = 55 to 77

Poor behaviour pattern = 78 to 100.

### DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE

The data were collected from the sample using the behavioural check list to assess the behaviour pattern of a single child and sibling child between the age group of 6-12years at Naryawali, Sagar. The data collection was scheduled in the month of August 2021. Before the data collection researcher got formal permission from the Naryawali Panchayat office. The researcher visited the data collection area on the first week of the data collection period.

The researcher introduced himself to the mothers and children of the area and explained the purpose and the method of study. The main study was conducted for six weeks at Naryawali, Sagar district. The investigator explained about the tool to each sample in person after establishing rapport with them individually. The data were collected through a door-to-door survey method to identify the family having a child with siblings and single child. After identifying the children, a convenience sampling technique was

used to select the samples. Each sample was given 30 minutes for answering the tool (50 children who met the inclusion criteria). The data collection procedure was conducted at Naryawali from 8am – 4 pm. For each child approximately 30 – 45 minutes were spent. The investigator collected data from 4 – 5 samples per day. The data collection procedure was terminated by giving thanks to the respondents. The investigator found no difficulties during the data collection period. Confidentiality of the data was maintained.

## PLAN FOR DATA ANALYSIS

The data to be analysed was planned on the basis of objective and hypotheses of the study. The data obtained was analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics such as mean, standard deviation, frequency percentage, independent ‘t’ test and chi-square was used to assess the behaviour of a single child and child with siblings.

### Data Analysis and Interpretation of Data

#### Section: A Distribution of samples on selected Demographic variables

The present study shows on selected demographic variables of a single child and sibling child. About the mother of single child 7 (28%) were in the age group of 20- 23 years, 8 (32%) were in the age group of 24-27 years, 6(24%) were in the age group of 28-31 years 4 (16%) were in the age group of above 32 yrs. Among educational status 8 (32%) were illiterate, 6(24%) were primary, 3 (12%) were secondary, 6 (24%) were higher secondary and 2(8%) were graduates.

Among the mothers with sibling child 5(20%) were in the age group of 20- 23 years, 8 (32%) were in the age group of 24-27 years, 7 (28%) were in the age group of 28-31 years 5(20%) were in the age group of above 32 yrs. Their educational status 4(16%) was illiterate, 5 (20%) were primary, 8 (32%) were secondary, 5(20%) were higher secondary and 3(12%) had graduated.

Regarding the occupation of single child mothers, home maker was 5 (20%), cooly worker were 6 (24%), professional were 4 (16%), any other 10(40%) and sibling child mothers, home maker were 8(32%), cooly worker was 3(12%), professional were 5(20%), any other 9 (36%). The single child mothers were around 8(32%) which belongs to the income of Rs. 1500- 2000, 9 (36%) belongs to income of Rs. 2001- 5000, 8 (32%) belong to the income Rs. 5000-10000, and the sibling child mothers per month around 9 (36%) belong to income of Rs. 1500-2000, 7 (28%) belongs to income of Rs. 2001-5000, 9 (36%) belong to the income Rs. 5000-10000.

As for the religion of single child mothers 12 (48%) were Hindu, 8 (32%) were Muslim, 5 (20%) belong to Christian and sibling child mothers 14(56%) belong to Hindu, 5(20%) belong to Muslim, 6(24%) belong to Christian. Maximum number of single child mothers 8(32%) were belongs to the nuclear family, 9(36%) were joint family, 8(32%) were extended family and the sibling child mother were maximum 10(40%) were in the joint family, 8(32%) were nuclear family,7(28%) was in the extended family.

About the parenting style of single child mothers, majority 6(24%) were uninvolved, 8(32%) were permissive, 11(44%) were authoritarian and parenting style of sibling child mother's majority 10(40%) were permissive, 6(24%) were uninvolved, 9(36%) were authoritarian.

Regarding the child; the single child 5(20%) was between the age group of 6-8 yrs, 8 (32%) were between the age group of 9-10 years, 12 (48%) were between the age group of 11-12 years between them 12(48%) male children, 13 (52%) were female children. And the sibling child 9 (36%) were between the age group of 6-8 years, 10 (40%) were between the age group of 9- 10 years, 6(24%) were between the age group of 11-12 years between them 14 (56%) were male and 11 (44%) were female.

The birth order of the child was observed as 25(100%) first child, and the sibling child birth order, 9 (36%) were first child, 6 (24%) were second child, and 10 (40%) were third child. Regarding the educational status of single child, 3(12%) were in I std,5(20%) was in II std, 2(8%) were in III std, 6(24%) were in IV std ,9(36%) V std and the educational status of sibling child, 2(8%) were in I std, 6(24%) were in II std, 7(28%) were in III std, 5(20%) were IV std ,5(20%) V std.

About the number of children in the family, single child was 25 (100%) are the only child, and sibling child 1 (4%) were having one child, 7 (28%) were having two children, 6(24%) were three children, 11 (44%) four children and above.

## SECTION II

**Table-4.1 Level of behavioral pattern of single child & child with siblings**

Level of Behavioral pattern	Single child (n=25)		Child with sibling (n=25)	
	F	%	F	%
Good	9	36	10	40
Average	10	40	15	60
Poor	6	24	-	-

Based on the score obtained, the behavior pattern was divided into three categories that were good behavior, Average behavior and Poor behavior.

The data presented that among the 25 subject of single child, 9 (36%) had good behavior, 10 (40%) had average behavior, 6 (24%) of the subjects had poor behavior, and among 25 subject of sibling child, 10 (40%) had good behavior, 15 (60%) had average behavior, no subject had poor behavior.

The majority of the subjects of sibling child 15 (60%) had good behavior, 6 (24%) subjects of single child had poor behavior.

### SECTION III

**Table-4.2 Compare the behavior pattern of a single child and the child with siblings.**

S. No	Group	N	Mean	SD	Independent 't' value	
					Calculated value	Table value
1	Single child behavior	25	61.24	17.72	0.20*	1.676
2	Child with siblings behavior	25	52.32	16.73		

\*Significant at 0.5% level

The table shows that independent 't' test was used to find out the difference in the behavior pattern of a single child and sibling child. The mean score of single child behavior was 61.24 and SD was 17.72 and the mean score sibling behavior was 52.32 and SD 16.73 was found. The observed 't' value was 0.20. This calculated value was lesser than the table value at 0.5% level of significance, which showed that it was not significant. So, the research hypothesis was rejected.

### SECTION: IV

#### **Associations between single child behavior pattern and selected demographic variables: -**

The data presented in the table showed that the chi-square test was carried out to find out the association between the single child behavior pattern and selected demographic variables.

There was no significant association between demographic variables and the behavior pattern such as age, educational status, occupation, income, and religion and birth order of a single child and type of family & parenting style.

### SECTION – V

#### **Associations between child with sibling's behavior pattern and demographic variables**

The data presented in the table showed that the chi-square test was carried out to find out the association between the child with sibling's behavior pattern and selected demographic variables.

The result showed that there was a significant association between the behavior pattern of sibling child and selected demographic variables of child age, sex, birth order, educational status, and number of children in family.

There was no significant association between the behavior patterns of sibling child such as mother's age, educational status, occupation, income, religion, type of family, and parenting style.

## IMPLICATIONS

The findings of the study have implications in various areas of nursing such as nursing practice, education, administration, and research.

### Implications for nursing practice

- ✓ The nurse can teach the parents effectively about the behavior pattern such as adjustment, punctuality and obedience.
- ✓ The nurse can teach the mother to adopt the relationship of the child which helps to bring up the child without behavior problems and adjust to school life and surroundings.
- ✓ School health nurse can identify the behavior problem and inform to the parents as early as possible.
- ✓ The pediatric nurse should educate the mothers to adopt a positive parenting style in order to bring up the child without behavior problems.
- ✓ Educate the mother regarding early identification of problem deviation from normal behavior pattern in order to prevent personality disorder and to go for proper referral services that includes referring them to clinical psychologist and a child psychiatrist.
- ✓ School health nurse has to identify the children with behavior problem and provide proper counselling to the parents and children.

### Implication for nursing education

- ✓ Nursing curriculum should emphasize more on the practical aspect of growth and development.
- ✓ Nursing education must enable the student to assess all aspects of development including psychosocial, psychosexual, moral, cognitive, and spiritual.
- ✓ Nursing education should prepare nurses to motivate the parents' knowledge regarding child behavior.
- ✓ Nursing education should help to identify the behavior problem among the children and need to prevent them.
- ✓ The nurse must teach and guide the parents regarding the responsibilities to bring up the child in each stage of development.

### Implication for nursing administration

- ✓ Nurse administrators can utilize the research knowledge into practice, so that the school children and their parents can be benefited.
- ✓ Nurse administrator should plan to organize the educational program to know the importance of behavioral practice and positive relationship.
- ✓ Nurse administrators can create awareness to the school children regarding the behavior problems.
- ✓ Nurse administrator should motivate the nursing personnel to participate and conduct counselling and education program in order to prevent the behavioral problem.



## Implication for nursing research

- ✓ Extensive research can be conducted to find out the behavior problem.
- ✓ The study can be conducted to identify the other influencing factors of behavior problem.
- ✓ Research can be focused on behavior modification of children.
- ✓ Research can be conducted to improve the quality of life among single child.
- ✓ Research can provide the baseline information about the single child family.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were made based on the findings of the study.

- ✓ A similar study can be done on a large sample.
- ✓ A study can be done to find out the behavior problem of the single child family.
- ✓ A study can be done to find out the risk for altered growth and development of children living with behavioral problems.
- ✓ A study can be done to find out the problems of school children.
- ✓ A study can be conducted to identify the effectiveness of a structured teaching program in modification of children's behavior.
- ✓ A comparative study can be done to find out the behavior problem of pre term and term children.

## CONCLUSION

Childhood period is important in the life. During this period, the child undergoes a remarkable change in the life. Parents and school teachers have to understand the child's problem and to solve them. Many of single child having poor interpersonal skills, it results from the less effective relationship. The parents must realize their problem and mingle with them, in order to help and guide the children to lead their life in a healthy manner both physically and mentally.

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