



A STUDY ON CHALLENGES AND IMPACT OF COVID-19 AMONG YOUNG WOMEN IN BANGALORE.

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Introduction

This is an empirical study which tries to explore the various challenges and impact of COVID-19 on young women in Bangalore. The study stresses on socio economic and psychological factors of young women being affected by the

COVID 19 PANDEMIC. The COVID-19 pandemic has engulfed countries across the world in a short span of time.

For India, It was and continues to be the biggest health and humanitarian crisis since independence. The Government of India declared COVID-19 as a National disaster and, to contain the spread of the Disease, imposed a complete lockdown across the Country on March 25, 2020. This continues till date, in myriad forms and with variations across states and zones. The pandemic and the prolonged lockdown have adversely impacted a wide range of areas, including Health, economy, livelihood, social and professional Interactions. It led to loss of livelihoods for millions of people, and an exodus of migrants from cities back to their villages, with a devastating cost of Human lives and suffering. Although the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, included reproductive health And family planning as essential health services in its Guidelines, the lockdown and the focus of the public Health machinery on containing the pandemic, Restricted women's mobility and access to health Services. Slowly but steadily, the adverse impact of COVID-19 On mental health

is beginning to emerge globally. There was a surge in gender-based, and intimate Partner violence across countries such as China, UK, USA, and India, and a high prevalence of Psychological distress, anger, depression and posttraumatic stress disorder. The implications of interrupted reproductive Healthcare and on mental health have to be critically explored among young people in India. Constituting nearly one-fifth of the country's population, Adolescents face educational uncertainties (with the Closure of schools and colleges, and a patchy access to digital learning), restrictions on their mobility, Freedom and socialization, an increase in domestic Chores and household conflict (disproportionately Borne by women), and anxieties around their Employment prospects, among others. To understand how Bangalore's young women are Coping with these challenges, this study is conducted with a rapid assessment to understand the level of Knowledge and attitude of young women aged between(15-24 years) towards COVID-19, how it has impacted Their lives and mental health, and their needs and Priorities. The responses thus generated were analyzed to advocate for measures that can best address these needs, both during the COVID-19 Outbreak and continuing after that.

Review Of Literature:

Women's civil society organizations (CSOs) in Asia and the Pacific Play a critical role in understanding, promoting and meeting the Needs of women and girls on a variety of socioeconomic issues, Including violence against women (VAW), migration, trafficking, Health and displacement. Since the outbreak of COVID-19 and the Accompanying emergency measures, the role of CSOs has become Both more essential and more tenuous. In order to understand The impact of COVID-19 on their work and the challenges they are Facing, UN Women carried out a rapid assessment in the first half Of April 2020. UN Women found that almost three quarters (71%) of CSO Said that COVID-19 was affecting them somewhat or Very negatively, and 12% have had to temporarily suspend activities Altogether (Graph 2). At a time when families and individuals are Experiencing high levels of economic and emotional pressure, the Associated stress and uncertainty is exacerbating existing levels of Violence against women and discrimination at a time when CSOs Are less able to respond. "We have to minimize our staff presence and Cannot mobilize our teams for remote areas."

The hidden crisis: Stuck at home, many women in Karnataka faced abuse

GURURAJ JAMKHANDI, Kevin Mendonsa, Shrinivasa M | TNN | Updated: Jul 1, 2021, 13:22 IST

2. 24 SEPTEMBER, 2020: The sixth episode of the IIMB Podcast series, on September 27th, Prof. Hema Swami Nathan, from the Centre for Public Policy at IIM Bangalore, on how the gender imbalance in Indian has been exacerbated due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted business, government, and society across the world. The female workforce, especially in India, has been disproportionately hurt by the pandemic's fallout, with data brought out by different surveys highlighting that the percentage of job losses due to the pandemic is greater for the female workforce as compared to that of the male workforce. In this episode of the podcast, Prof. Swaminathan discusses various new challenges that India's female workforce is facing due to the pandemic, and how business, government and society can help to reduce the adversities of this crisis and bridge the gender gap that has deepened as a result of the pandemic.

Statement of the Problem:

The aim of this study is to understand how Bangalore's young women are coping with various challenges and impacts caused due to COVID-19 Pandemic. This study is conducted with a rapid assessment to understand the level of Knowledge and attitude of young women aged between 15-24 years towards COVID-19, how it has impacted their lives, mental health, their needs and priorities. The responses thus generated would be analyzed to advocate the measures that can be best addressed to their various needs, both during the COVID-19 Outbreak and continuing after that.

Objective of the study:

The study seeks to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown measures on young women aged between 15-24 years in Bangalore. More specifically, the objectives of the study are mentioned below:

1. To analyze the perception of risk & attitude of young women towards the pandemic
2. To understand the adaptation of the guidelines issued by the government of India by these women and the steps taken towards fulfilling their needs with respect to household, community and their employers.
3. To understand the impact and challenges Of COVID-19 on young women with reference to loss of jobs, impediment of education, domestic violence, mental health issues, access to health services especially reproductive health and family planning etc..

Need of the Study

1. To create an awareness about Covid 19 & their impact on young women
2. To create a sense of adaptation of government guidelines & also to care about their physical, mental health & economic well-being during this crisis

Statistical Tools

1. Mean
2. Tables & graphs

Research Design

A rapid phone survey over a period of one week was conducted with a sample of Respondents (young women) in Bangalore.

The following selection criteria were used for Selection of respondents. Respondents from areas in and around Bangalore Respondents in the age group of 15-24 years (young women) Respondents with access to phone connection, either their own or belonging to someone in the Family.

Hypothesis:

H0: There is no significant impact created by covid 19 among the respondents

H1: There is a significant impact created by the Pandemic among respondents **Limitation**

of the study:

1. This study is limited only to young women aged btw (15to24). It also focused only to Bangalore.
2. Time Constraint
3. Number of Respondents were few
4. Some more statistical tools could have been used

Scope of the Study: The scope of the study is limited to respondents with access to phone & internet connection, either their own or belonging to someone in the Family within bangalore.

Analysis and Interpretation:

Data obtained from the samples will be analyzed using SPSS and the following statistical techniques.

- Test will be used to examine the influence of gender, age, education, influence of media on young women.
- After attaining data different tests would be done basing on the requirement of the study as appropriate.

1. **EXPECTED OUTCOME:** It helps in identifying various effects and challenges of COVID 19 on young women.
2. **SOCIAL RELEVANCE:** As young women in cities like Bangalore play a vital role in economical balance in the economy and in their families. It is very essential to know the various effects of COVID 19 on their personal mental and social life and how to prevent and sustain their social ability in this pandemic crisis.
3. **LIMITATIONS:** This study is limited only to young women aged btw (15to24). It also focused only on Bangalore.