



Effect Of Information Booklet On Child Sexual Abuse And Its Prevention Among The Mothers Of School Going Children Under Sonapur Block Primary Health Centre Kamrup (M), Assam.”

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Child sexual abuse is the involvement of a child in sexual activity that he or she does not fully comprehend, is unable to give informed consent to, or for which the child is not developmentally prepared and cannot give consent, or violates the laws or social taboos of society.¹ Worldwide it is estimated that at least 1 in 10 girls and 1 in 20 boys experience some form of sexual abuse in childhood.² The ultimate goal is to stop child sexual abuse before it starts. Strategies that support parents and teach positive parenting skills are very important. It is the need of time to understand and improve public awareness of child sexual abuse prevention, especially for the parents. **Objectives:** The study has been undertaken with the objectives to assess the level of knowledge regarding child sexual abuse and its prevention among the mothers of school going children, to evaluate the effect of an information booklet on child sexual abuse and its prevention among the mothers of school going children, to find out the association between the pre-test knowledge

scores and selected demographic variables such as age, religion, education, occupation, number of the children and types of family.

Methodology: The Evaluative approach and pre- experimental; one group pre- test post - test design was used for the present study. The study was conducted in 6 selected villages under Sonapur Block Primary Health Centre Kamrup (M), Assam. Sample of the present study was 83 mothers selected through non probability convenience sampling technique. Data were collected by using self structured questionnaire on child sexual abuse and its prevention. Collected data were analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics. **Result:** Majority of the subjects 55.5% were in the age group between 20- 30 years. According to religion, majority of mothers 80.7% were Hindu religion. Maximum mothers 26.51% were same educational status i.e. middle and high school pass. According to occupation majority of the mothers 71.1% were home maker. Majority of the mothers 56.63% of the mothers were having only one child. Majority of the mothers 74.7% from nuclear family. In pre- test 57 (68.7%) have moderately adequate, 14 (16.9%) have adequate and 12(14.4%) have inadequate knowledge on child sexual abuse and its prevention. In post test, , 64(77.1%) have moderate knowledge, 11(13.3%) have adequate and 8(9.6%) have inadequate knowledge on child sexual abuse and its prevention. In pre- test mean value is 12.95 and standard deviation is 2.65. In post-test mean value is 16.86 and standard deviation is 1.42. The result on comparison 't' value $t_{(82)} = 16$ showed that there was significant difference between pre- test and post- test knowledge score at 0.05 level of significance. The study also revealed that there is significant association found between pre- test knowledge on child sexual abuse and its prevention with education ($\chi^2=25.487$) and occupation($\chi^2=20.573$) at 0.05 level of significance. There is no significant association found between pre- test knowledge on child sexual abuse and its prevention with age ($\chi^2=1.410$), religion ($\chi^2 = 5.921$), number of children ($\chi^2=1.83$) and types of the family ($\chi^2=3.59$). **Conclusion:** It can be concluded that the subjects had moderately adequate knowledge on child sexual abuse and its prevention at pre- test. And information booklet was found to be very effective method in terms of creating awareness regarding child sexual abuse and its prevention as the subjects gained knowledge after implementation of the information booklet.

Keywords: child sexual abuse, mothers, information booklet.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY:

The only reason why child abuse is alive today, is because we as adults fail our children, when we fail to listen to them. Listen to a child today.

Heather Mcdane

The children are the greatest investment of any society and the main basis for its development. School-age children constitute a significant and important sector of the community who are constantly growing and developing. This basic dynamic character accounts for increased vitality and vulnerability too many health problems, so requires specific health promotion and prevention in relation to seeking health and using various resources to attain optimum health.

Child abuse is unfortunately prevalent worldwide. It includes a plethora of physical, sexual, psychological, and economic violation or maltreatment targeted at an individual <18 years of age. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines child abuse and child maltreatment as "all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power." Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) is defined by the WHO as "the involvement of a child in sexual activity that he or she does not fully comprehend and is unable to give informed consent to, or for which the child is not developmentally prepared, or else that violate the laws or social taboos of society".

The effects of child sexual abuse can be long-lasting and affect the victim's mental health. Victims are more likely than non-victims to experience the following mental health challenges. About 4 times more likely to develop symptoms of drug abuse: About 4 times more likely to experience Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) an adult. About 3 times more likely to experience a major depressive episode as adults.

NEED OF THE STUDY

The global prevalence of child sexual abuse has been estimated at 19.7% for female and 7.9% for males, according to a 2009 study published in clinical psychology review that examined 65 studies from 22 countries, using the available data, the highest prevalence rate of child sexual abuse geographically was found in Africa (34.4%). Europe showed the lowest prevalence rate (9.2%); America and Asia had prevalence rates between 10.1% and 23.9%.

In 2007, a major state-sponsored survey in India reported that the prevalence of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) as 53%. A major finding of the study was that "persons are known to the child or in a position of trust and responsibility" were the perpetrators of CSA in half of the cases. Widespread abuse was prevalent in almost all states. An analysis of different evidence groups revealed that the highest percentage of children who faced sexual abuse were those at work (61.61%), followed by on streets (54.51%), in family environment (53.18%), in schools (49.92%), and in institutional care (47.08%). Assam (57.27%) followed by Delhi (41%), Andhra Pradesh (33.87%), and Bihar (33.27%) had the highest prevalence of severe sexual abuse.

Child sexual abuse is increasing day by day, so preventive measures must be developed to stop child sexual abuse because today's children are tomorrow's citizens. In Indian society, the mother plays a significant role in upbringing the child. If the mothers are having adequate knowledge regarding child sexual abuse and its prevention then they can protect the child from occurrence of sexual abuse by educating the child. Keeping view of these points in mind, the researcher has selected to study on effect of an information booklet on child sexual abuse and its prevention among the mothers of school going children under Sonapur Block Primary Health Centre Kamrup (M), Assam.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Effect of Information Booklet on Child Sexual Abuse and its prevention among the Mothers of School Going Children under Sonapur Block PHC, Kamrup(M) Assam"

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following objectives are formulated to carry out the study-

1. To assess the level of knowledge regarding child sexual abuse and its prevention among the mothers of school going children.
2. To evaluate the effect of an information booklet on child sexual abuse and its prevention among the mothers of school going children.
3. To find out the association between the pre-test knowledge scores and selected demographic variables such as age, religion, education, number of the children, occupation, types of family

HYPOTHESES

All the hypotheses are tested on a 0.5 level of significance.

H₁: There is a significant difference between pre-test and post-test knowledge scores of mothers of school going children regarding child sexual abuse and its prevention.

H₂: There is a significant association between the pre-test knowledge scores and selected demographic variables.

Research Methodology: The Evaluative approach and pre- experimental; one group pre- test post - test design was used for the present study. The study was conducted in 6 selected villages under Sonapur Block Primary Health Centre Kamrup (M), Assam. Sample of the present study was 83 mothers selected through **non probability convenience sampling technique**. Data were collected by using **self structured questionnaire** on child sexual abuse and its prevention. Collected data were analysed using **descriptive and inferential statistics**.

Result: Majority of the subjects 55.5% were in the age group between 20- 30 years. According to religion, majority of mothers 80.7% were Hindu religion. Maximum mothers 26.51% were same educational status i.e. middle and high school pass. According to occupation majority of the mothers 71.1% were home maker. Majority of the mothers 56.63% of the mothers were having only one child. Majority of the mothers

74.7% from nuclear family. In pre- test 57 (68.7%) have moderately adequate, 14 (16.9%) have adequate and 12(14.4%) have inadequate knowledge on child sexual abuse and its prevention. In post test, , 64(77.1%) have moderate knowledge, 11(13.3%) have adequate and 8(9.6%) have inadequate knowledge on child sexual abuse and its prevention. In pre- test mean value is 12.95 and standard deviation is 2.65. In post-test mean value is 16.86 and standard deviation is 1.42. The result on comparison 't' value $t_{(82)} = 16$ showed that there was significant difference between pre- test and post- test knowledge score at 0.05 level of significance. The study also revealed that there is significant association found between pre- test knowledge on child sexual abuse and its prevention with education ($\chi^2=25.487$) and occupation($\chi^2=20.573$) at 0.05 level of significance. There is no significant association found between pre-test knowledge on child sexual abuse and its prevention with age ($\chi^2=1.410$), religion ($\chi^2 = 5.921$), number of children ($\chi^2=1.83$) and types of the family ($\chi^2=3.59$).

Conclusion: It can be concluded that the subjects had moderately adequate knowledge on child sexual abuse and its prevention at pre- test. And information booklet was found to be very effective method in terms of creating awareness regarding child sexual abuse and its prevention as the subjects gained knowledge after implementation of the information booklet.

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