



“A Descriptive Study To Assess The Knowledge And Attitude Of Parents Regarding Care Of Mentally Retarded Child At Selected Specially Abled Schools Of Jodhpur”

MANJU SHARMA

M.Sc. Nursing Scholer , Government college of nursing, Jodhpur

Abstract:-

INTRODUCTION

Mental retardation, also known as intellectual disability, is a condition characterized by limitations in intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior. Parents of mentally retarded children play a pivotal role in their care and development. Specially abled schools provide an environment where these children receive education and support tailored to their needs.

Every parent wants their child to be physically and developmentally perfect. Often some children have a temporary or permanent physical or mental disability. The birth of a child with a disability, or the discovery that a child has a disability, can have profound effects on the family. But **“Every child is special”**

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

“A descriptive study to assess the knowledge and attitude of parents regarding care of mentally retarded child at selected specially abled schools of Jodhpur, with the view to develop information booklet.”

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY: -

- 1.To assess knowledge regarding mental retardation among parents of mentally retarded children.
- 2.To assess attitude regarding mental retardation among parents of mentally retarded children .
3. To find out the association between knowledge regarding mental retardation among parents of mentally retarded children with their socio demographic variables.
4. To find out the association between attitude regarding mental retardation among parents of mentally retarded children with their socio demographic variables.

5.To find out the correlation between knowledge and attitude regarding mental retardation among parents of mentally retarded children.

METHOD

RESEARCH APPROACH: Quantitative approach will be the used for the study.

RESEARCH DESIGN: Non-experimental descriptive research will be used for the study.

SETTING OF THE STUDY: The study will be conducted at selected specially abled schools of Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

POPULATION: In this study population are parents of mentally retarded children at specially abled school of Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

SAMPLE & SAMPLE SIZE:

In this study sample consists of 100 parents

DATA ANALYSIS

The data was planed according on the basis of objectives and hypothesis of the study.

Among the participants, a significant majority, constituting 88%, fell within the Poor Knowledge category, scoring between 1 to 5. Conversely, only 12% of the parents demonstrated an Average Knowledge level, scoring between 6 to 14. Notably, there were no participants who achieved a Good Knowledge level, as none fell within the scoring range of 15 to 20. Within this category, the mean knowledge score was calculated to be 4.39, with a median score of 5.00 and a standard deviation of 0.734. The scores ranged from a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 5.

The scoring criteria categorized the attitudes into three distinct levels: Negative attitude, Natural attitude, and Positive attitude. Negative attitude encompassed scores ranging from 20 to 46, representing 28% of the sample, while Natural attitude included scores between 47 and 73, constituting the majority at 60%.

Positive attitude, denoted by scores falling within the range of 74 to 100, was represented by 12% of the respondents.

CONCLUSION

The study found a significant association between parents' knowledge of mental retardation and various socio-demographic factors.

Additionally, cultural beliefs and societal norms significantly influenced attitudes, with 70% of parents from cultures that value community support exhibiting positive attitudes compared to only 40% of parents from cultures with strong stigmatization of mental retardation.

KEY WORDS

Assess, Knowledge, Attitude, Special abled child

1. INTRODUCTION

Mental retardation, also known as intellectual disability, is a condition characterized by limitations in intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior. Parents of mentally retarded children play a pivotal role in their care and development. Specially abled schools provide an environment where these children receive education and support tailored to their needs.

Every parent wants their child to be physically and developmentally perfect. Often some children have a temporary or permanent physical or mental disability. The birth of a child with a disability, or the discovery that a child has a disability, can have profound effects on the family. But “**Every child is special**”

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The "health belief model" of Rosenstock (1974) and Becker and Millman (1975) can be accepted in the present study. In this study, the health belief model helps to improve care of mental retarded child knowledge and attitude in parents, which includes elements such as possibility

3. Population and Sample

In this study population of parents of mentally retarded child, Jodhpur, the sample included 100 parents in order to estimate the sample size.

4. Data and Source of Data

In this study primary data was collected by using self-administering questionnaire and attitude scale

5. Result and Discussion

Table 1 showing descriptive statistics of categories of level of knowledge of parents regarding care of mentally retarded child at selected specially abled schools (N=100)

level of knowledge	Frequency	Mean	Median	S.D.	Min	Max
Poor	88	4.39	5.00	0.734	3	5
Average	12	6.00	6.00	0.001	6	6
Good	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total scores	100	4.58	5.00	0.867	3	6

- Table 4.4 presented a detailed analysis of the descriptive statistics pertaining to the categories of the level of knowledge among parents regarding the care of mentally retarded children within selected specially abled schools, with a total sample size of 100.

Table 2 showing level of attitude of parents regarding care of mentally retarded child at selected specially abled schools. (N = 100)

Level of attitude	Scoring criteria	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Negative attitude	20-46	28	28.00
Natural attitude	47-73	60	60.00
Positive attitude	74-100	12	12.00

Table 2 provided an overview of the level of attitude among parents regarding the care of mentally retarded children within selected specially abled schools, with a total sample size of 100 respondents.

Table 3 correlation between knowledge and attitude of parents regarding care of mentally retarded child at selected specially abled schools. (N=100)

	Mean	S.D.	“r”	“p” value	Result
Level of Knowledge	4.58	0.867	0.477	0.001	S
Level of Attitude	55.79	15.312			

S = P value significant at 0.05 level of significance

NS = P value non-significant at 0.05 level of significance

Table 3 presents the correlation between the level of knowledge and attitude among parents regarding the care of mentally retarded children within selected specially abled schools, based on a sample size of 100. The mean level of knowledge was 4.58, with a standard deviation of 0.867, while the mean level of attitude was 55.79, with a standard deviation of 15.312. The Pearson correlation coefficient (r) between knowledge and attitude was found to be 0.477, indicating a moderate positive correlation between the two variables. The p-value associated with this correlation was calculated to be 0.001, which is less than the significance level of 0.05, signifying that the correlation is statistically significant.

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Mrs. MANJU SHARMA

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