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## PARENTAL AWARENESS ON HABIT PROBLEMS EXIST IN PRIMARY LEVEL STUDENTS

*\*Dr. (Mrs.) Minati Rani Mohapatra, Ph.D*

*\* Associate Professor and Head, Department of Special Education, Arunachal University of Studies, NH – 52, Knowledge City, Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh, PIN – 792103 (INDIA)*

*‘By Ignorance we Mistake, and by Mistake we learn’*

- Anonymous

### ABSTRACT

*The present study was based on a survey conducted on 48 pairs of parents, whose children were studying in primary standards. The aim of the study was to assess the awareness among parents regarding habit problem exist in their children. Educational qualifications of each of the parents were taken into consideration during analysis. It is found from the parental profile data that, 14.58%, 68.75%, 16.67% among father and 22.92 %, 60.42 %, 16.67 % among mother studied up to +2, +3, and Post Graduate respectively. Analysis also revealed that, numbers of mothers studied up to +2 is higher than fathers and similarly numbers of fathers studied up to +3 is greater than the number of mothers while same numbers of parents studied up to post graduate or higher degree level. It is seen that, majority among parents were not aware about the problematic behaviours in their children or ignore the behaviour problems exist in children. Educational qualification has put some impact on parent’s awareness of behaviour problems. It is concluded that, early childhood care professionals and Government should take initiatives to conduct various training programme to make awareness among parents and stake holders.*

**Key words :** *Behaviour Problem, Eating Problem, Habit Problem, Home Environment, Primary Standard, Parental Awareness.*

### INTRODUCTION

Challenging activities in primary level children are common. It is too difficult for parents and childhood professionals to be aware about problematic behaviours exist in children. In this study, the researcher tried to know the percentage of parents who were aware about habit problems exist in their children.

### NEED FOR THE STUDY

Children with challenging behaviours are facing problems in their all-round development at every sphere of life. Their problematic behaviour put bed effects on their day-to-day activities. The research scholar felt the importance of such problems and be encouraged to do depth study on this problem.

## STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The title statement of a problem, demarcate and formulate it to be studied. The present problem is worded as '*Parental Awareness on Habit Problems Exist in Primary Level Students*'.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study aimed to study the parental awareness about the behaviour problems exist in their children studying at primary level. The objective of the study is to study parent's awareness regarding habit problems of their children.

## HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

The hypothesis guides the study in a right direction. The hypotheses of the given problem are given below.

1. There is no significant difference between parents with respect to awareness of their children's habit problems
2. There is no significant difference between low qualified and highly qualified parents with respect to awareness for habit problems exist in their children
3. There is no significance difference among parents, who ignore their child's challenging activities.

## DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

1. Only the parents of those children studying in standard I, II, III, IV of the primary level were considered for the study.
2. Parental Qualifications and their social status were taken in to consideration during the study.
3. Sample Schools were located within the Basudevpur revenue block of the Bhadrak District of Odisha.

## METHOD OF STUDY

Survey research generally administers a set of questionnaire on target group to draw conclusion. In this study two questionnaires were distributed among parents whose children were studying in standard I, II, III, & IV of the primary school. The answers sheets were collected for analysis. Parents were categorized into three groups according to their educational qualifications such that, up to +2, +3, and Masters and above. Any situation faced by the children is considered as a challenging behaviour though only habit problem and eating problem taken into consideration in the present study.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Object wise analysis of answers of questionnaires received from parents of children studying in primary standard was done and represented as below:

### 1.0 Awareness among parents regarding 'Habit Problem'

The data in respect of analysis of responses received from all samples were obtained and analyzed with the help of t-test and results are given in the table -1 below.

**Table – 1.1**

Analysis of Responses Regarding Awareness of Parents  
With Respect To Their Gender

Parents	No	d.f	Mean	SD	t- value
Mothers	48	94	4.229	1.433	0.174 <sup>NS</sup>
Fathers	48		3.625	1.393	

<sup>NS</sup> : Not Significant at any level

The analysis of the answer sheets regarding awareness received from parents of children studying at primary level revealed that, the calculated t-value (0.174) is less than the critical table value for all level at the degree of freedom 94. It means that the awareness level of all mothers and fathers regarding habit problems exist in their children studying at primary school is up to same extent. It indicated that there is no significant difference between mothers and fathers with respect to awareness regarding habit problems. In the light of this the null hypothesis that, 'there is no significant difference between parents with respect to awareness of their children's habit problems' is accepted. Therefore, both of the parents were not aware of the behaviour problems exist in their children. Hence, it is concluded that, majority of parents unknown regarding habit and eating problems exist in their children studying at primary level of their educational career.

## 2.0 Awareness among parents regarding 'Habit Problem' with respect to their Educational Qualification

It is seen from the parental profile data that, 14.58%, 68.75%, 16.67% among father and 22.92 %, 60.42 %, 16.67 % among mother studied up to +2, +3, and Post Graduate respectively. Analysis also revealed that, numbers of mothers studied up to +2 is higher than fathers and similarly numbers of fathers studied up to +3 is greater than the number of mothers while same numbers of parents studied up to post graduate or higher degree level. The data in respect of analysis of responses received from all samples were obtained and analyzed with the help of ANOVA-test and results are given in the table - 2.1 below.

**Table – 2.1**

**Analysis of Reponses received from parents regarding 'Habit Problem' with  
Respect to their Educational Qualification**

Source of variance	No	df	SS	MSS	F- value
Categories of Parents (k)	03	02	058.068	29.034	19.414 **
Number of Parents (n)	96	93	139.084	01.496	
Total	-	-	197.152		

\*\* : Significant at .01 Level

The analysis of responses received from parents regarding their awareness about habit problems, presented in the above table. The result revealed that, the calculated F-value for parental awareness of three

categories of parents is 19.414 and is greater than the critical table value (4.84) with the degree of freedom (2, 93) at the level of 0.01. It indicated that, the F- value is significant at the level of 0.01. This means that, the mean parental awareness scores of three categories differ significantly. It refers that awareness among parents with various level of educational qualification differed significantly. In the light of this the hypothesis that, '*there is no significant difference between low qualified and highly qualified parents with respect to awareness for habit problems exist in their children*' is rejected. Therefore, it is concluded that behavioural awareness among parents with different level of educational qualifications differs significantly.

Further analysis is done to find out to which category out of three different categories of parent with respect to their educational qualification differed significantly; the researcher implemented t- test to find out the highly awaked group. The results of this analysis have been given in following section.

### 2.1 Category wise analysis of Responses received from Parents According to the Level of their Educational Qualification

The data in respect of analysis of responses received from all samples were obtained and analyzed with the help of t-test and results are given in the table - 2.2 below.

**Table – 2.2**  
**Category wise analysis of Responses received from Parents according to the Level of their Educational Qualification**

Qual. of Parents	No	Mean	SD	Calculated t – values			
				d.f	+3	d.f	P.G.+
+2	19	2.737	1.240	30	3.652***	34	2.171*
+3	61	3.934	1.250	-	-	24	4.030***
P.G. +	16	5.312	1.078	-	-	-	-

\* : Significant at 0.05 Level

\*\*\* : Significant at 0.001 Level

The category wise analysis revealed that, the calculated t-value (3.652) between the parents studied up to +2 and +3 is greater than the critical table value (3.385) with the degree of freedom 30 at the level of 0.001. It indicated that, the t- value is significant at the level of 0.001. It means that, the mean parental awareness scores of +2 & +3 categories differ significantly. It refers that awareness among parents studied up to +2 and +3 level of educational qualification differed significantly. In the light of this the hypothesis that, '*there is no significant difference between low qualified and highly qualified parents with respect to awareness for habit problems exist in their children*' is rejected. Therefore, it is concluded that behavioural awareness among parents with +2 & +3 of educational qualifications differs significantly. The mean score indicated that parents studied up to +3 were more aware about habit problems exist in their

children than parents studied up to the level of +2. Hence, it may be concluded that, the educational qualification put some impact on parental awareness regarding habit problem.

The calculated t-value between the parents studied up to +2 & Masters and above, were analysed and it is seen that, the statistical t-value (2.171) is greater than the critical table value (2.032) with the degree of freedom 34 at the level of 0.05. This means that, the mean parental awareness scores of +2 & 'Masters and above' categories differ significantly. It refers that awareness among parents studied up to +2 and 'Masters and above' level of educational qualification differed significantly. In the light of this the hypothesis that, *'there is no significant difference between low qualified and highly qualified parents with respect to awareness for habit problems exist in their children'* is rejected. Therefore, it is concluded that behavioural awareness among parents with +2 & 'Masters and above' of educational qualifications differs significantly. The mean score indicated that parents studied up to 'Masters and above' were more aware about habit problems exist in their children than parents studied up to the level of +2. Hence, it may be concluded that, the higher educational qualification put impact on parental awareness regarding habit problem.

The calculated t-value between the parents studied up to +3 & Masters and above, were analysed and it is found that, the calculated t-value (4.030) and is greater than the critical table value 3.467 with the degree of freedom 24 at the level of 0.001. It indicated that, the t-value is significant at the level of 0.001. This means that, the mean parental awareness scores of +3 & PG+ categories differ significantly. It refers that awareness among parents studied up to +3 & 'Masters and above' level of educational qualification differed significantly. In the light of this the hypothesis that, *'there is no significant difference between low qualified and highly qualified parents with respect to awareness for habit problems exist in their children'* is rejected. Therefore, it is concluded that behavioural awareness among parents with +3 & 'Masters and above' of educational qualifications differs significantly. The mean score indicated that parents studied up to 'Masters and above' were more aware about habit problems exist in their children than parents studied up to the level of +3. Hence, it may be concluded that, the educational qualification put some impact on parental awareness regarding habit problem.

### 3.0 Parents ignore / not ready to agree with that, the habit problem exist in their children

The data in respect of analysis of responses received from all samples were obtained and analyzed with the help of t-test and results are given in the table -3.1 below

**Table – 3.1**  
**Parents ignore / not ready to agree with that, the habit problem exist in their children**

Parents	No	d.f	Mean	SD	t- value
Mothers	48	94	0.58	0.498	<b>0.014<sup>NS</sup></b>
Fathers	48		0.73	0.449	

<sup>NS</sup> : Not Significant at any level with given degree of freedom

It is found from the above table that, the t-value is not significant at any level of significance. It refers that there is no significant difference between fathers and mothers for ignoring their children's habit problems exist in them. According to mean score, it is clear that, 0.73 fathers and 0.58 mothers were ignoring such challenging activities shown by their children. The result revealed that, though both of the parents ignore the problematic behaviours in their children, yet more fathers in compare with mothers were ignored the activities. In the light of this the null hypothesis that, '*there is no significance difference among parents, who ignore their child's challenging activities*' is accepted. Therefore, it is concluded that, majority among parents were unaware of the negative side of the behaviour problems which may adhere the all-round development of their children at every sphere of their life. Such parents need some awareness training programme in this regard.

### FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Objective wise finding of the study were discussed below:

- 1.0** The study found that, both of the parents were not aware of the behaviour problems exist in their children. Hence, it is concluded that, majority of parents have no idea regarding habit and eating problems exist in their children studying at primary level of their educational career.
- 2.0** The parental profile data revealed that, numbers of mothers studied up to +2 is higher than fathers and similarly numbers of fathers studied up to +3 is greater than the number of mothers while same numbers of parents studied up to post graduate or higher degree level.
  - 2.1** ANOVA test resulted that, it is concluded that behavioural awareness among parents with different level of educational qualifications differs significantly.
  - 2.2** From the analysis of the study, it is concluded that behavioural awareness among parents with +2 & +3 of educational qualifications differs significantly. The mean score indicated that parents studied up to +3 were more aware about habit problems exist in their children than parents

studied up to the level of +2.

**2.3** From the study, it is concluded that behavioural awareness among parents with +2 & 'Masters and above' of educational qualifications differs significantly. The mean score indicated that parents studied up to 'Masters and above' were more aware about habit problems exist in their children than parents studied up to the level of +2.

**2.4** It is concluded from the study that, the behavioural awareness among parents with +3 & 'Masters and above' of educational qualifications differs significantly. The mean score indicated that parents studied up to 'Masters and above' were more aware about habit problems exist in their children than parents studied up to the level of +3.

**2.5** Though majority among parents were not aware about habit and eating problems exist in their children yet it may be concluded that, the higher educational qualification put impact on parental awareness regarding habit problem.

**3.0** The result revealed that, though both of the parents ignore the problematic behaviours in their children, yet from mean scores, it is cleared that more fathers in compare with mothers were ignored the activities. In the light of this the null hypothesis that, '*there is no significance difference among parents, who ignore their child's challenging activities*' is accepted.

**3.1** Therefore, it is concluded that, majority among parents were unaware of the negative side of the behaviour problems which may adhere the all-round development of their children at every sphere of their life. Such parents need some awareness training programme in this regard.

## CONCLUSION OF THE STUDY

Problematic activities shown in primary level children are a normal issue and it may be rectified, if proper actions can be taken at appropriate time with care and patience. If such activities will be ignored than it will create many social and hygienic issue which ultimately affect the child's all-round growth. So parents, early childhood care professionals and concerned stake holders should heed on it.

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