

A Study to Evaluate the Effectiveness of Self Instructional Module Regarding Safe Marriage among College Students in Selected College at Kolar District, Karnataka

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Abstract: *In India, marriage is considered as a usual process in the life of human beings. Marriage is an important marker of the beginning of the reproductive phase of life in India. Marriage is a socially sanctioned sexual relationship involving two people of the opposite sex whose relations is expected to endure beyond the time required for gestation and birth of children. Safe marriage deals the safe age at marriage, early marriage, late marriage and consanguineous marriage. Safe marriage will prevent the complications for both mother and child. The study was conducted for six weeks to identify safe marriage among college students. 100 samples were selected using probability random sampling technique. Self-administered questionnaire to assess the knowledge, regarding safe marriage among college students and the result revealed out of 100 college students frequency and percentage – wise distribution the level of knowledge in pretest as 86 (89%) were having inadequate knowledge, 14 (14%) were having moderately adequate knowledge and none of them adequate knowledge and level of knowledge in post-test as 90 (90%) were having adequate knowledge, 10 (10%) were having moderately adequate knowledge and none of them in adequate knowledge. Thus the study implies that the self-instructional module was effective among college students regarding safe marriage.*

Keywords: Safe marriage, early marriage, late marriage and consanguineous marriage, college students

1. Introduction

In India, it is estimated that 1/3 of the total population is under the age group of 20 years adolescent are at the high risk of sexual and reproductive health problems. More than 15 million girls, those who are between 15 - 19 years given birth every year. The adolescent girls who become pregnant before 18 years may five times more likely to die, that a woman aged between 20 - 28 years.

Each country has its own legal age for having sex. The child marriage Restrains Act of 1978, the minimum age for marriage has been raised to 21 years for boys and 18 years for girls. Still the menace of child marriage has been continuing. In India, nearly half of the women were married before the legal age of 18 years.

Parents choose to marry off their daughters early for a number of reasons. Poor families may regard a young girl's an economic burden and her marriage as a necessary survival strategy for her family. They may think that early marriages offers protection for their daughter from the dangers of sexual assault or more generally offers the care of a male guardian. Early marriage may also be seen as a strategy to avoid girls becoming pregnant before marriage.

Gender discrimination can also underpin early marriages. Girls may be married young to ensure obedience and subservience within their husband's household and to maximize their childbearing. Often children may be in no position to choose whether to be married or not. However, in some cases children may choose to undergo early marriage rather than face the social consequences of not adhering to tradition. In such cases, equipping children with knowledge

of the alterations can help them to protect themselves and their children in turn.

When a woman is too young, pregnancy wanted or unwanted can be dangerous for both mother and fetus. Complications of child birth and unsafe abortion are the main causes of death for women under age of 20 years. Adolescent girls give birth to 13 million babies a year. Many of them are not attending antenatal clinic and not receiving the help of a professional midwife.

Early marriage and child birth was a major determinant of women's health and also responsible for prevailing socio-economic condition under development in India. The overall maternal mortality for India is 572.3 per 100,000. Anemia is an indirect factor in 64.4% of the maternal deaths. Trained birth attendants currently assist about 60 - 80% of all births in women at the time of delivery. Socio-economic factors are responsible for maternal deaths.

Late marriage must be encouraged. At the same time, early marriage must be strictly checked. The minimum age of marriages must be for boys at 21 years and for girls at 18 years should be strictly followed in real life. According to population reports 1985, it is thought that the teenagers like women over the age of 35 years face greater risk of child bearing than women in their twenties.

Objectives of the study:

- To assess the existing level of knowledge of college students regarding safe marriage in terms of pretest scores.
- To prepare and administer self-instructional module regarding safe marriage.

- To evaluate the effectiveness of self - instructional module by comparing pre and posttest knowledge score.
- To find association between the post - test knowledge score with their demographic variables.

Hypothesis

H₁: The mean posttest knowledge scores of college students will be significantly higher than the pretest knowledge scores by paired t test at 0.01 level.

H₂: There will be significant association between posttest knowledge score with their demographic variables.

2. Materials and Management

In this study pre - experimental study design was to evaluate the safe marriage among college students by using self - instructional module. Based on the sample, total 100 participants were selected by using probability simple random sampling technique. Ethical consent was obtained following by the institutional ethical committee.

Data collection tools:

Section - A: Demographic variables consists of demographic characteristics information about the selected background of college students age, religion,, family income, type of family, number of family members, area of residence, are you married, in which age are you married, which type of marriage you preferred, source of information.

Section - B: Assessment of knowledge regarding safe marriage. It consist of structured questionnaires 25 items, each correct response carries 1 score, and wrong answer carries zero.

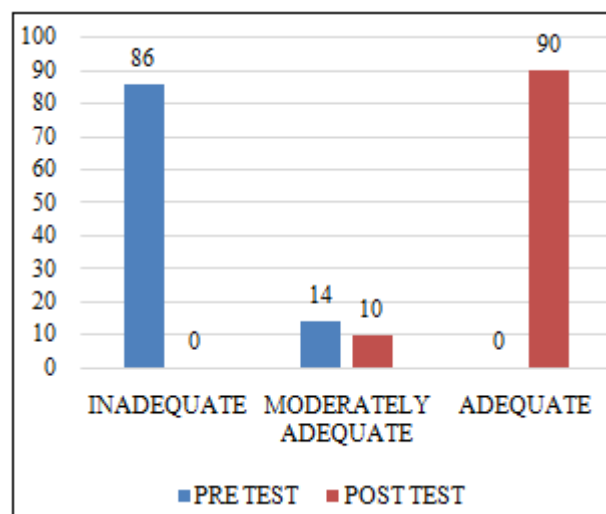
Data collection procedure

Data collection is the gathering of information need to address a research problem. Before the data collection the investigator obtained the permission from principal of government women's college. Investigator visited the college, introduced herself to the teachers explained the purpose of the study. With the help of teachers, the investigator started collection of data from 22 - 10 - 2008 to 30 - 10 - 2008. The time schedule was planned from 10 am to 12pm. Every day, minimum 25 college students were selected for assessing their knowledge. 100 college students were selected by simple random sampling technique. The self - administered questionnaire was introduced to the each college students to assess the knowledge by a pretest with administration of self - instructional module regarding safe marriage. Approximately 30 - 40 minutes were spend with each college students for pretest with SIM and after one week post test was conducted to complete data. Giving thanks to the respondent, the data collection procedure has been terminated.

3. Result and Discussion

Frequency and percentage wise distribution of knowledge pretest that majority 86 (86%) had moderately adequate

knowledge whose scores ranged between (0 - 12), and 14 (14%) reveals that inadequate knowledge whose scores ranged between (13 - 18) and none of them in adequate knowledge. In posttest the assessment of level of knowledge of college students 90 (90%) had adequate knowledge and 10 (10%) had moderately adequate knowledge, none of them inadequate knowledge.



The frequency and percentage wise distribution of demographic variables among college students show that majority 66 (66%) were in the age group of 18 - 20 years and the remaining 34 (34%) were in the age group of 21 - 23 years.

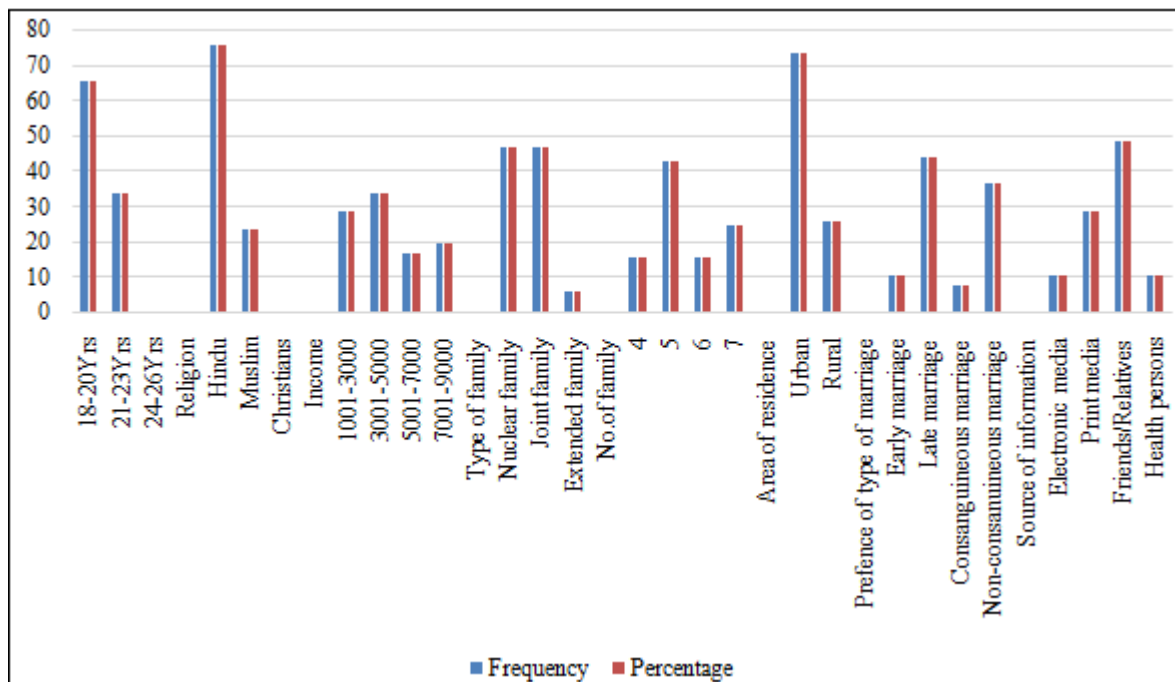
Considering the religion wise majority 76 (76%) were Hindus and the remaining 24 (24%) were Muslims and none of them belongs to Christianity. As per the family monthly income shows majority of 34 (34%) were in Rs.3001 - 5000, 29 (29%) were in 1001 - 3000, 20 (20%) were in Rs.7001 - 9000 and 17 (17%) were in Rs.5001 - 7000.

When the family is taken into consideration the majority of them 47 (47%) were from nuclear family 47 (47%) were from joint family and 6 (6%) were from extended family.

How many family members live into majority of them 43 (43%) were under the family members of five, 25 (25%) were from seven, 16 (16%) were from six, 16 (16%) were under the family members of four.

According to their area of residence into majority of them 74 (74%) was from urban area and 26 (26%) were from rural area.

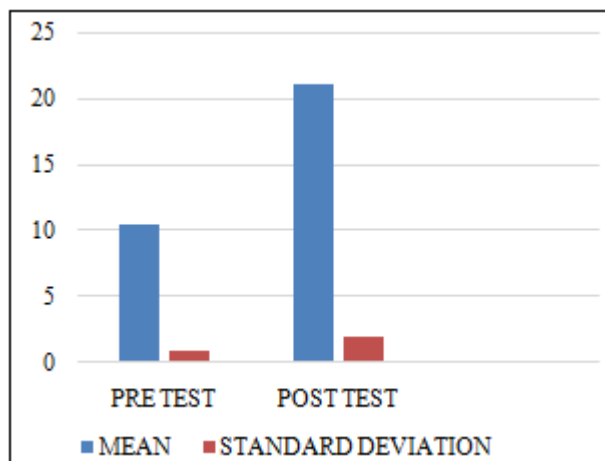
What type of marriage preference into majority of them 44 (44 %) prefers late marriage 37 (37%) were prefers the Non - consanguineous marriage 11 (11%) were prefers the early marriage and 8 (8%) were consanguineous marriage



Mean and standard deviation regarding safe marriage among college students at kolar district (N=100)

	Mean	Standard Deviation
Pre - test	10.48	0.86
Post - test	21.25	2

Data shows that, in pretest the mean score was 10.48 with SD of 0.86 and posttest mean score was 21.25 with SD of 2.007. The post - test knowledge higher than the pre - test knowledge scores.



Mean and standard deviation regarding safe marriage among college students at kolar district.

4. Conclusion

The study implies that the self - instructional module was effective among college students regarding safe marriage.

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