A Comparative Study to Assess the Knowledge regarding Behavioral Problems of Preschool Children among Parents in Selected Urban and Rural Area

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Abstract: Introduction: Normal children are healthy, happy and well adjusted. This adjustment is developed by providing basic emotional needs along with physical and physiological needs for their mental well-being. The emotional needs are considered as emotional food for healthy behavior. The children are dependent on their parents, so parents are responsible for fulfillment of the emotional needs. Every child should have tender loving care and sense of security about protection from parents and family members. They should have opportunity for development of independence, trust, confidence and self-respect. There should be adequate social and emotional interaction with discipline. The child should get scope for self-expression and recreation. Parent should be aware of about achievements of their children and express acceptance of positive attitude with in the social norms. The preschool years extending from approximately 3 to 5 years of age Common behavioral problems of childhood are temper tantrum, breath holding spell, thumb sucking, nail biting, enuresis, pica, tics, and stuttering or stammering, delayed speech and attention deficit disorder. Objectives: 1. To assess the knowledge regarding behavior problem of preschool children among parents in urban area. 2. To assess the knowledge regarding behavior problem of preschool children among parents in rural area. 3. To compare the knowledge regarding behavior problems of preschool children among the parents in urban and rural area. 4. To find out the association between knowledge score with demographic variable among parents in urban and rural area. Methods and materials: The research approach used was descriptive survey approach. The research design selected for the study was a Descriptive Comparative design. Setting of the study: The setting was selected rural and urban area. The sample includes The parent of preschool children in selected urban and rural area; sampling technique was used Simple Random sampling. Result and discussion: The findings of the present study showed that, the urban sample score was higher than the rural knowledge score. The comparison of rural and urban knowledge score showed that there was a significant difference in knowledge scores at 5% level of significance (p< 0.05).

1. Introduction

The preschool years extending from approximately 3 to 5 years of age Common behavioral problems of childhood are temper tantrum, breath holding spell, thumb sucking, nail biting, enuresis, pica, tics, and stuttering or stammering, delayed speech and attention deficit disorder. The causes for all behavioral problems in preschool children’s are due to parents negligence poor supervision or poor attention, family conflict and maladjustment e.g., too strict parents, rejection, sibling rivalry, unconscious anger and defiance in the child, insecurity, conflict or hostility, aggression, neurotic attitudes of the mothers.

2. Background of the Study

A study was conducted to determine the prevalence of child behavior problems reported by parents in “Child Development and Neurology unit”. A sample size of total 4003 children aged 2-9 years were identified during a population based survey of 2231 households. The study resulted in a conclusion that the prevalence and nature of reported behavior impairments in rural Bangladesh have implications for public health planning and delivery of health services.

A study was conducted on prevalence of tic disorders among primary school children in Department of child Neurology and Psychiatry. A sample size of 2347 primary school children were selected. The study resulted in conclusion that a total 68 children (56 boys, 12 girls) aged 6-11 years were identified with tic disorders. The prevalence was 4.4% in boys and 1.1% in girls with no detectable trends at the age 6-11 years. Situation related takes were noted in 37 cases. A significant correlation was found between the presence of tic disorders and impaired school performance.

A study was conducted on the attitudes of Saudi Mothers towards the digit sucking habit in their children and their attempts to stop this fixation in Department of preventive Dental sciences. A sample size of 50 Saudi Mothers were selected. The study resulted in a conclusion that no mother accepted the habit in their children after the age of 4 years. The majority of mothers had noticed the adverse effect of the digit sucking. The results shown that 48 mothers did not like to see the habit at any age. Most mothers (86%) tried to stop their children digit sucking. 66% of the present sample and noticed the adverse effect of this fixation on their child’s occlusion, and this was given as the main reason for their attempts to stop the habit.

3. Need for the Study

These behavioral problems in children will be managed by adequate guidance to parents regarding how to tackle with problems and psychotherapy for the preschool children in extreme condition. In many communities the parents are more anxious towards their preschool children behavioral problems. In this area the parents are illiterates and also less attention seeking towards their preschool children behavioral
problems. Now a days in many communities the parents are more anxious towards their preschool children behavioral problems due to less attention or negligence or ignorance. So the researcher felt that to study the knowledge on behavioral problems of preschool children’s among parents

**Objectives:**
1) To assess the knowledge regarding behavior problem of preschool children among parents in urban area.
2) To assess the knowledge regarding behavior problem of preschool children among parents in rural area.
3) To compare the knowledge regarding behavior problems of preschool children among the parents in urban and rural area.
4) To find out the association between knowledge score with demographic variable among parents in urban and rural area.

**Hypothesis**

- There is no significance difference between the knowledge score among parents in urban and rural area regarding behavioral problems of preschool children.
- There is significance difference between the knowledge score among parents in rural and urban area regarding behavioral problems of preschool children.
- There is significance association between knowledge score with demographic variable among parents in urban and rural area.

**Assumption**
1) Parents in urban and rural area may have some knowledge regarding behavioral problems of preschool children.
2) There may be some knowledge difference between Parents in urban and rural area regarding behavioral problems of preschool children.
3) Demographic variable may have influence on knowledge regarding behavioral problems of preschool children.

**4. Material and Method**

- **Research approach:** The research approach used was descriptive survey approach.
- **Research design:** The research design selected for the study was Descriptive Comparative design.
- **Target population:** Parents of preschool children.
- **Accessible population:** The parent of preschool children in selected urban and rural area.
- **Setting of the study:** selected rural and urban area.
- **Sample size and sample:** The total sample size is 120 parents of preschool children ( rural area 60 and urban area 60).
- **Sampling technique:** sampling technique was used simple random sampling technique.

**Description of tool:**

**Part I** – This section consists of 9 items seeking information about demographic variable about parents such as type of family, no. of children, education of parents, type of parenthood, income of the family, any health problem of child, resource of health service, previous knowledge regarding behavior problem, source of information.

**Part II:** Questionnaire on Knowledge regarding child safety consists of 30 questions.

**5. Results and Discussion**

**Section I: Description of parents with regards to demographic variables in selected rural and urban area.**

**Rural:** Majority 29(48.33%) of subject were in the family is joint type, majority 29(48.33%) of subject were no of child is one, majority 28(46.67%) of subject were educational status of parents is graduated, majority 56(93.33%) of subject were parenthood is none of the above, majority 30(50.00%) of subject were having monthly income of more than 20,000/-, majority 59(98.33%) of subjects were child having healthy, majority 26(43.33%) of subject were resource of health service having govt. hospital, majority 60(100%) were having previous knowledge.(Rural) majority 35(58.33%) were subject having information from family.

**Urban:** Majority 38(63.33%) of subject were in the family is nuclear type, majority 39(65.00%) of subject were no of child is one, majority 29(48.33%) of subject were educational status of parents is post graduated, majority 46(76.67%) of subject were parenthood is none of the above, majority 25(41.67%) of subject were having monthly income of 10,001 to 20,000/-, majority 57(95.00%) of subjects were having child has healthy, majority 36(60.00%) of subjects were resource of health service having child specialist, majority of subjects 60(100%) were having previous knowledge, majority 24 (40.00%) were subject having information from mass media.

**Section II Description of knowledge score regarding behavioral problem of preschool children among parents in selected rural area**

Majority 41(68.33%) of the subject in rural area average knowledge regarding behavior problem of preschool children, 10(16.67%) had good knowledge regarding behavior problem of preschool children, 9(15.00%) had poor knowledge regarding behavior problem of preschool children.

**Section III: Description of knowledge score regarding behavior problem of preschool children among parents in selected urban area.**

Majority 47(78.33%) of the subject in rural area average knowledge regarding behavior problem of preschool children, 7(11.67%) had good knowledge regarding behavior problem of preschool children, 6(10.00%) had poor knowledge regarding behavior problem of preschool children.

**Section III:**
Under the third section assess the knowledge score of urban and rural sample regarding behavioral problems of preschool children. According to findings urban parents showed good knowledge score as compared to rural sample.

**Section IV:**
After seeing comparison of rural and urban sample There is significance difference between the knowledge score among
parents in rural and urban area regarding behavioral problems of preschool children. So, H1 accepted.

Section V:
There is a significant association between the knowledge level of parents regarding behavioral problems of preschool children with their selected socio demographic variable. In that variable like source of information, any health problem child, Educational Status, Type of Family were significantly associated with pre-test knowledge (H2 Accepted).

6. Conclusion

The findings of the present study showed that, the urban sample score was higher than the rural knowledge score. The comparison of rural and urban knowledge score showed that there was a significant difference in knowledge scores at 5% level of significance (p < 0.05).

References