

A Study to Assess the Knowledge and Attitude regarding Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse among the mother's of under 12 Years of Children in Selected Rural Area

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Abstract: Introduction: Child abuses are global concern and have been an issue. Even though many step have been taken by government to prevent it. Statistic shows that child abuse cases keep on increasing for the past years. Children experience violent in all space most familiar to them such as in school, homes and community they live in. They also suffer abuse and exploitation orphanages, in place of detention and on streets. The willful maltreatment of children has been recognized internationally as a matter of great sociological impact with legal significant and medical concern. Objectives: 1) To assess the knowledge regarding prevention child sexual abuse among the mothers of under 12 years of children. 2) To assess the attitude regarding prevention child sexual abuse among the mothers of under 12 years of children. 3) To find out the association between the knowledge regarding prevention of child sexual abuse with their selected demographic variables. 4) To find out the association between the attitude regarding prevention of child sexual abuse with their selected demographic variables. 5) To find out the correlation between the knowledge and attitude regarding prevention of child sexual abuse among the mothers of under 12 years of children. Methods and materials: The research approach used was evaluative approach. The research design selected for the study was a non-experimental descriptive survey design. Setting of the study: The setting was in the selected rural area. The sample includes mothers of under 12 years of children; sampling technique was used convenient sampling. Result and discussion: The findings of the study were that mothers have average knowledge (85%) and average attitude (65%) regarding prevention of child sexual abuse. It is beneficial for mothers to know about prevention of child sexual abuse.

1. Introduction

Child abuses are global concern and have been an issue. Even though many step have been taken by government to prevent it. Statistic shows that child abuse cases keep on increasing for the past years. Children experience violent in all space most familiar to them such as in school, homes and community they live in. They also suffer abuse and exploitation orphanages, in place of detention and on streets. The willful maltreatment of children has been recognized internationally as a matter of great sociological impact with legal significant and medical concern.

2. Background of the Study

Sexual activities imposed on children represent an abuse of the caregiver's power over the child. The sequence of activities often progresses from noncontact to contact over a period of time during which the child's trust in the caregiver is misused and betrayed. Pediatricians' are often in trusted relationships with patients and families and are in an ideal position to offer essential support to the child and family. Thus, pediatricians need to be knowledgeable about available community resources, such as consultants and referral canter for the evaluation and treatment of sexual maltreatment.

3. Need for the Study

Child sexual abuse (CSA) is a universal problem with grave life-long outcomes. The estimates vary widely depending on the country under study, the definitions used, the type of CSA studied, the extent of coverage, and quality of data.

This study intended to assess the magnitude and the issues related to CSA.

4. Objectives

- 1) To assess the knowledge regarding prevention child sexual abuse among the mothers of under 12 years of children.
- 2) To assess the attitude regarding prevention child sexual abuse among the mothers of under 12 years of children
- 3) To find out the association between the knowledge regarding prevention of child sexual abuse with their selected demographic variables.
- 4) To find out the association between the attitude regarding prevention of child sexual abuse with their selected demographic variables.
- 5) To find out the correlation between the knowledge and attitude regarding prevention of child sexual abuse among the mothers of under 12 years of children.

5. Hypothesis

H0: There is no significance difference between the knowledge and attitude regarding prevention of child sexual abuse among the mothers of under 12 years of children.

H1: There is a significance difference between the knowledge and attitude regarding prevention of child sexual abuse among the mothers of under 12 years of children

H2: There is significant association between knowledge score with their selected demographic variables among the mothers of under 12 years of children

H3: There is significant association between attitudes with their selected demographic variables among the mothers of under 12 years of children

Assumption

- 1) Mothers may have some knowledge regarding child sexual abuse
- 2) Mothers may have average level of attitude regarding child sexual abuse

6. Material and method

Research approach: The research approach used was evaluative approach.

Research design: The research design selected for the study was a non-experimental descriptive survey design.

Population: all mothers of under 12 years of children.

Target population: mothers of under 12 years of children in selected rural areas.

Accessible population: mothers of under 12 years of children who are available at the time of data collection in selected rural areas.

Setting of the study: selected rural areas.

Sample size and sample: 120 mothers of under 12 years of children.

Sampling technique: sampling technique was used convenient sampling.

Description of tool:

Part I – Demographic data on variables such as age of mothers, education, occupation of mother, types of family, number of children, religion, types of motherhood, previous knowledge regarding child sexual abuse, source of information.

Part II – Questionnaire on Knowledge regarding prevention of child sexual abuse consists of 30 questions.

Part III – Consists of Attitude likert scale regarding prevention of child sexual abuse.

7. Results and Discussion**Section I: Description of mothers of under 12 years of age with regards to demographic variables**

Majority of mothers age 31.67 (32%) were between 20-25 years, 31.67 (32%) between 30-35 years, 26.67 (27%) between 25-30 years and 10 (10%) above 35 years. Majority of mothers 48% taken secondary education, 29% taken primary education, 20% are graduate and 3% are postgraduate. Majority of mothers 35% are on private job, 26% have hand business, 18% are house wives and 13% are on government job. Majority of mothers 48% are lives in nuclear family, 35% are lives in joint family and 17% are lives in extended family. Majority of mothers that 48% having 2 children's, 20% having 3 children's, 18% having 1 child and 7% having 4 and above children's. Majority of mothers 63% are Hindu, 20% mothers are of other religion, 13% mothers are Muslim and 3% are Christian. Majority of mothers 73% mothers are none of the above, 17% mothers are widow, 7% mothers are step mothers and 3% are divorce. Majority of mothers 68% having knowledge regarding child sexual abuse and 33% mothers don't have knowledge regarding child sexual abuse. Majority of mothers 43% source of information is television, 27% mother's source of information is other, 15% mother's source of information is family and 15% mother's source of information is health professionals.

Section II: Description of mother's knowledge score regarding prevention of child sexual abuse among the mothers of under 12 years of children. The majority of 85% mothers having average knowledge, 12% mothers having poor knowledge and 3% mothers having good knowledge regarding child sexual abuse.

Section III: Description of mother's related to attitude score regarding prevention of child sexual abuse among the mothers of under 12 years of children. Majority of mothers 65% were having average, 35% having poor and no one having good attitude regarding child sexual abuse.

Section IV: Description of mother's with association of knowledge score with selected demographic variables

There was significant association between age of mother ($\chi^2=20.56$), education ($\chi^2=42.16$), occupation ($\chi^2=60.79$), type of family ($\chi^2=27.52$), number of children ($\chi^2=38.05$), and knowledge regarding child sexual abuse ($\chi^2=33.97$) of mothers

Section V: association of attitude score with selected demographic variables

There was significant association between age of mother ($\chi^2=10.53$), education ($\chi^2=44.29$), occupation of mother ($\chi^2=44.23$), types of motherhood ($\chi^2=9.59$), knowledge regarding child sexual abuse ($\chi^2=107.3$) and source of information ($\chi^2=8.35$) attitude regarding child sexual abuse.

Section VI: correlation between knowledge score and attitude score of child sexual abuse among the mothers of under 12 years of children.

In this section deals with the correlation between the knowledge score and attitude score of mothers of under 12 years of children. The correlation between knowledge and attitude score presented with the scattered diagram by using Karl Pearson's correlation coefficient formulae. It shows that there is significant correlation between Knowledge and attitude score of mothers of under 12 years of children as Correlation coefficient is 0.74

8. Conclusion

The findings of the study were showed that mothers of under 12 years of children has average knowledge (85%) and attitude (65%) regarding prevention of child sexual abuse.

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