

"A COMPARATIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PLANNED TEACHING PROGRAM ON KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS OF URBAN AND RURAL SCHOOLS TOWARDS SAFE MOTHERHOOD AND FEMALE FETICIDE IN SELECTED SCHOOLS OF HARYANA."

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ABSTRACT

Introduction : Female infanticide is the deliberate killing of newborn female children or the termination of a female fetus through selective abortion. Female foeticide is the killing of an otherwise healthy female fetus, in order to get rid of a female child by means of Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) or "Abortion?". Female foeticide is considered a criminal offence in India. Objective; The objectives of the study were to assess the effectiveness of planned teaching program on knowledge and attitude of adolescent girls of urban and rural schools towards safe motherhood and female feticide in selected schools of Haryana.

Methodology : The sample comprised of 60 adolescent school going girls. Data was collected through structured interview schedule and likert's five point attitude scale. Data analysis revealed that t values for knowledge and attitude were statistically significant at .05 level.

Result : result also showed that there was no statistically significant relationship between the knowledge and attitude. The findings of the study reflect that PTP was effective in enhancing knowledge and developing favourable attitude of regarding adolescent girls of urban and rural schools towards safe motherhood and female feticide.

Conclusion : On the basis of the above findings of the present study shows that urban and rural school girls have deficit of knowledge in about safe motherhood and female feticide.

Key Words : Female foeticide, Adolescence, Knowledge, Attitude, Planned teaching programme, Effectiveness.

INTRODUCTION :

Mother is another name of god, women have a crucial role in national as well as society development. India accounts for the maximum number of maternal deaths in the world, 17 per cent or nearly 50,000 of the 2.89 lakh women who died as a result of complications due to pregnancy or childbearing in 2013.¹ The status of women in India is a sort of a paradox. If on one hand she is at the peak of ladder of success then on the other hand she is mutely suffering the violence afflicted on her by her own family members.² Abortion is lawful only when the doctor believes that due to medical reasons the continuance of the pregnancy may pose a threat to the health of the mother or the unborn child.³ In rural areas where most people do not have access to sex determination facilities the rate of female infanticide is alarming. "Infanticide" is the killing of a child after birth. In India there are many shocking instances of female infanticide by strangulation, poisoning, dumping in garbage bins, drowning,

burying alive, starvation and over exposure to elements. A startling fact is that often the mother or other female members in her network actively participate in the execution of these heinous killings. Surprising, but true is the fact that often educated and wealthy people in urban India too nurse a desire for a male child.⁴ The only saving grace being that they may not kill their daughter after birth. These educated classes tend to misuse the technique of surgical termination of pregnancy to get rid of an unborn female child. They determine the sex of the child using ultrasound techniques, and subsequently get rid of the female fetus by means of MTP. **The Hindu, March, 09, 2014** -Notorious for female foeticide, Haryana ranks a poor 31 among Indian States and Union Territories on sex ratio with just 877 women per 1,000 men.⁵ Though no concrete figures are available on the exact number of female foeticide cases, an estimated 37,000 girls are killed every year in the State before they are born. The fact that Haryana, with just 2.2 per cent of

the total children in India, accounts for 4 per cent of the female foeticide cases speaks volumes about the extent of problem.⁶ From above citation researcher feels that there is definite need to assess the knowledge and attitude of adolescent girls towards safe motherhood and female feticide in order to make the baseline age group stronger.

METHODOLOGY

The research approach adopted for study was Comparative and Evaluative Experimental Approach. The research design for the study was Two Group Pre test Post test Design. The attribute variable in the study were age, educational status, type of family, monthly income of family, exposure to mass

media. The dependent variable in the study were knowledge and attitude of adolescent girls about safe motherhood and female feticide. The independent variable in the study was planned teaching program on safe motherhood and female feticide. The study was conducted at Pal Public School, Ballabhgarh, Faridabad, Haryana and Government Sr. Sec. School, Vill. Dayalpur, Ballabhgarh, Faridabad, Haryana. Total 60 samples selected with purposive Sampling technique. Structured Knowledge Questionnaire and an Attitude Scale- Likert type as used to collect data. The data obtained was entered in master data sheet. The data was analysed and interpreted in terms of the objective of the study using descriptive and inferential statistics.

RESULT

S.NO.	SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS	URBAN GRP.		RURAL GRP.		TOTAL	
		F	%(n=30)	F	%(n=30)	F	%(N=60)
1	Class						
1.1	10th	15	50	15	50	30	50
1.2	11th	15	50	15	50	30	50
2	Age						
2.1	14-15yrs.	13	43.3	12	40	25	41.6
2.2	16-17yrs.	10	33.3	16	53.3	26	43.3
2.3	>17yrs.	7	23.3	2	6.6	9	15
3	Religion						
3.1	Hindu	21	70	28	93.3	49	81.6
3.2	Muslim	3	10	2	6.6	5	8.3
3.3	Sikh	5	20	0	0	5	8.3
3.4	Christian	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Father's Occupation						
4.1	Government Service	13	43.3	3	10	16	26.6
4.2	Private Service	12	40	6	20	18	30
4.3	Business	5	16.6	10	33.3	15	25
4.4	Labourer	0	0	6	20	6	10
4.5	Unemployed	0	0	4	13.3	4	6.6
5	Mother's Occupation						
5.1	Government Service	5	16.6	3	10	8	13.3
5.2	Private Service	13	43.3	2	6.6	15	25
5.3	Business	1	3.3	7	23.3	8	13.3
5.4	Labourer	0	0	5	16.6	5	8.3
5.5	Housewife	11	36.6	13	36.6	24	40

6	Family income per month						
6.1	less than Rs.10000	0	0	13	43.3	13	21.6
6.2	Rs. 10001- 20000	0	0	7	23.3	7	11.6
6.3	Rs. 20001- 30000	4	13.3	8	26.6	12	20
6.4	more than 30000	26	86.6	2	6.6	28	46.6
7	Type Of Family						
7.1	Joint Family	7	23.3	17	56.6	24	40
7.2	Nuclear Family	23	76.6	4	13.3	27	45
7.3	Extended Family	0	0	9	30	9	15
8	Previous Knowledge						
8.1	yes	6	20	3	10	9	15
8.2	no	24	80	27	90	51	85
9	Source of Information						
9.1	Teachers	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.2	Parents	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.3	Mass Media	2	33.3	3	100	5	55.5
9.4	Internet	4	66.6	0	0	4	44.4
10	Highest qualification among other family members						
10.1	up to class 5th	0	0	8	26.6	8	13.3
10.2	up to class 10th	0	0	12	40	12	20
10.3	up to class 12th	2	6.6	7	23.3	9	15
10.4	graduation and above	28	93.3	3	10	31	51.6

Above table showing that adolescent girls equal drawn from class X and XI in both settings. Regarding age in urban school, regarding age group majority of students were in the age group of 14-15 years (43.3%) but in rural school majority of students were from 16-17 years of age group (53.3%). In both settings, the majority of girls were from Hindu religion, in term of occupation of father there were almost equal proportion of government service employees (43.3%) and private service employees (40%) in urban setting but in rural setting, majority of girl's father were in business (46.66%) and only 13.33% were in government service. Unlike urban setting, 20% and 13.3% of girls' father were labourer and unemployed too.

Maximum of girls' mother were in private services (43.3%) in urban setting but in rural setting maximum was housewives (36.6%). In rural setting, 16.6% of girls' mother were labourers whereas there was no labourer mother in urban setting. In urban setting, the majority (76.6%) of girls were

from nuclear families, whereas in rural setting, majority (56.6%) of girls were from joint family. In urban setting, only 20% girls had some previous knowledge whereas in rural setting only 10% girls had some previous knowledge regarding educational status of family, the highest qualification among members of the family other than the sample itself. Majority were 93.3% graduates and of above qualification in urban setting whereas the majority (40%) comprises of highest education up to class 10th.

Regarding effectiveness of Planned Teaching Program, mean post test knowledge and attitude score of both group is higher than mean pre test knowledge and attitude score suggesting that there is increase in the knowledge and attitude scores of adolescent girls in both rural and urban group after administration of PTP. Regarding correlation coefficient between knowledge score and attitude score shows that attitude of urban and rural school girls does not improve with the knowledge regarding safe motherhood and female

feticide. Post-test knowledge scores of urban group and rural group shows that higher educational status of their family was found to be more knowledgeable regarding the topic. Regarding post test attitude scores shows that in both urban and rural higher educational status of their family, belong to nuclear families and have previous knowledge have favourable attitude towards the topic.

DISCUSSION

The findings of the study are discussed in terms of objectives, theoretical based literature and formulated research hypothesis. In our study shows that mean level of knowledge score was 16.57 and 14.2 in urban and rural area respectively. This study supported with one more conducted by Mr. Vinay Kumar G, Mrs. Nisha P Nair, they revealed that mean level of knowledge score regarding female feticide was 11.066 ± 2.247 and 80% of adolescents have average level of knowledge and no one has excellent knowledge regarding female feticide.⁷ Regarding attitude present study shows mean pre test attitude score (63.9) and (57.3) in urban and rural group, that findings are partially supported by the above study findings where it is evident that 90% adolescent 87.67% adolescent girls have favourable attitude towards terminating female feticide.⁸

The findings of the present study also revealed that initially, the mean of pre test knowledge and attitude scores of adolescent girls of both the groups were lower but after administration of PTP on safe motherhood and female feticide, their mean post test knowledge and attitude scores were increased indicates the effectiveness of PTP. This finding supported by a study conducted in Mysore which showed that the mean post test attitude score of adults was 109.78 and mean pre test attitude score was 108.15 with a mean difference of 1.63, which was found to be significant as evident from 't' value, $t(85) = 6.16$.⁷

In present study shows that educational status of family, economic status of family and previous knowledge has shown a considerable pattern of significance in terms of knowledge and attitude of urban and rural school girls about safe motherhood and female feticide. This finding supported by one more study conducted by Frank et al show that PTP was effective in enhancing the knowledge and development of favourable attitude respective of the demographic variables like education, economic status.⁹

CONCLUSION

The PTP was effective in promoting increase in knowledge about safe motherhood and female feticide. There was negative and no significant relation between knowledge and attitude in post test of rural and urban school adolescent girls. Keeping this in view, the programs should emphasize on approaches to overcome these relative disadvantages. Vocational training and sex education should be provided to Adolescent girls in view increase their autonomy and awareness

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