

**“A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AMONG MOTHERS FROM
SELECTED AREAS OF PUNE CITY.”**

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Domestic violence has detrimental consequences in children that can last into adulthood, making it a serious problem that requires effective prevention measures. Domestic violence encompasses a wide spectrum of wrongdoings, physical, emotional, sexual as well as neglect. In the community, there has been uptick in the number of domestic violence cases. Among them were children whose parents, particularly mothers were unaware of the issues surrounding child domestic violence. Child Abuse takes place at every places, home, schools, and even work places. Even in family or home environment, child abuse occurs. These facts are often neglected in disturbed families, single parent family, families with domestic brutality etc. The consequences of the child abuse can be serious, which includes physical injuries and psychological stress. In addition to this knowledge in the parents and caretakers of the children regarding child abuse is less. Proper survey must be done to assess the knowledge among parents. Material and Method: - The research study employed a quantitative non- experimental design. For this study, 100 mothers from Pune city were chosen. Self - Structured multiple-choice questionnaires were used to collect data. Result: -The majority of samples, 68%, had average understanding of domestic violence, 23% have good knowledge and 9% have poor knowledge, with 51% permanently residing in the city and 49 % permanently residing in the country side. Conclusion: - Majority of mothers have average knowledge regarding domestic violence (68%) and some of the mothers are having poor knowledge (9%). Community health nurses should provide adequate knowledge regarding domestic violence by organizing education programs to improve their knowledge.

Key words: - Domestic violence, consequences, Pune City

INTRODUCTION

Domestic violence against children is the physical, sexual or emotional maltreatment of the child. The World Health Organization (WHO) distinguishes it into four types i.e., physical abuse, emotional, psychological abuse and neglect. It is a serious and common problem in and around the nation. Some studies have proven that one in four girls and one in eight boys will be sexually exploited before the age of eighteen. Most violence takes place within the family itself. Broken families, one-parent child, a parental history of childhood abuse, lack of attention, work frustration and domestic violence are some of the risk factors for violence against children. According to a report by the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), incidences of child abuse are increasing in Maharashtra, rising from 2,398 cases in 2017 to

2,944 cases in 2018 and 3,161 cases in 2019. The United Nations Adolescent's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), in collaboration with non-profits such as NINEWSMINE and Mumbai Smiles, interviewed over 5,000 children aged 13 to 17 across Maharashtra to identify, record, and track the violence that children face. According to the study, children do not report domestic abuse for a variety of reasons. Between the ages of 0 and 18, children are particularly exposed to exploitation and violence. When parents pay more attention to and care for their children, and communicate their problems with them, particularly the mother, and the risk of abuse can be reduced. 'Child abuse or maltreatment constitutes all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power. This can include parents' caretakers using extreme and bizarre form of punishment such as confinement in a closet or dark room or being tied to a chair for long periods of time or threatening or terrorizing a child. Less severe acts, but no less damaging is belittling or rejection treatment. Despite the absence of reliable global estimates for the prevalence of it as data, especially from low- and middle- income countries, various international studies reveal that approximately 20% of women and 5–10% of men report being sexually abused as children, while 25–50% of all children report being physically abused.

NEED OF THE STUDY

Every year, thousands of families welcome a new baby into their home. Almost all those children brought into the world get to experience what it is to have a loving family, but for a small percentage, life is not so easy. They are forced to deal with things that most of us would Never imagine in our worst nightmares. 1 Rape 227,080 children are sexually abused each year. Assaults 811,000 children are physically abused each year. Hatred. 97,320 children are emotionally abused each year. Neglect 2,011,280 children are neglected each year. Murder 60,500 children die of child abuse each and every year. Child abuse takes many different forms, as suggested by the statistics. This makes it difficult for people to recognize that abuse is taking place. Child sexual abuse can occur in a variety of places, including home, school or work places. Most child abuse occurs within the family. Risk factors include one parent child, broken families, family issues, work frustration, a parental history of childhood abuse, and domestic violence. Child neglect and mistreatment is also more common in families living in poverty and among young parents who are drug or alcohol abusers. Although it is certainly true that child abuse occurs outside the home, most often children are abused by a caregiver or someone they know, not a stranger. High prevalence levels of child abuse, neglect and labor is primarily attributable to the fact that primary education for children is not compulsory in India. Children away from school invariably perform work of some sort, either at home or outside and at wages that are often exploitative. Prevention of child abuse is an inevitable part of the society. The impact of child maltreatment can be profound. Child abuse has negative outcome in children and adolescents that can extend into adulthood. Abused children often suffer physical injuries and stress that may disrupt early brain development. Children who are abused or neglected are at higher risk for health problems such as depression, alcoholism, drug abuse, smoking, sexual promiscuity, suicide and certain chronic diseases.

AIM OF THE STUDY

A descriptive study to assess the knowledge regarding domestic violence against children among mothers from selected areas of Pune city.

Research Methodology

The research study employed a quantitative non- experimental design. For this study, 100 mothers from Pune city were chosen. Self - Structured multiple-choice questionnaires were used to collect data.

Result

Result was divided under three sections.

SECTION I: -FREQUENCY AND DISTRIBUTION OF DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES

The frequency and distribution of demographic characteristics of the study. According to the above table, 53% percent from the mothers are having male child, 36% are having a nuclear family among them 63% are married and 28% having higher secondary level knowledge. 36%

No		Quality	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1	0 to 5	Poor	23	23%
2	6 to 10	Average	68	68%
3	11 to 15	Good	9	9%

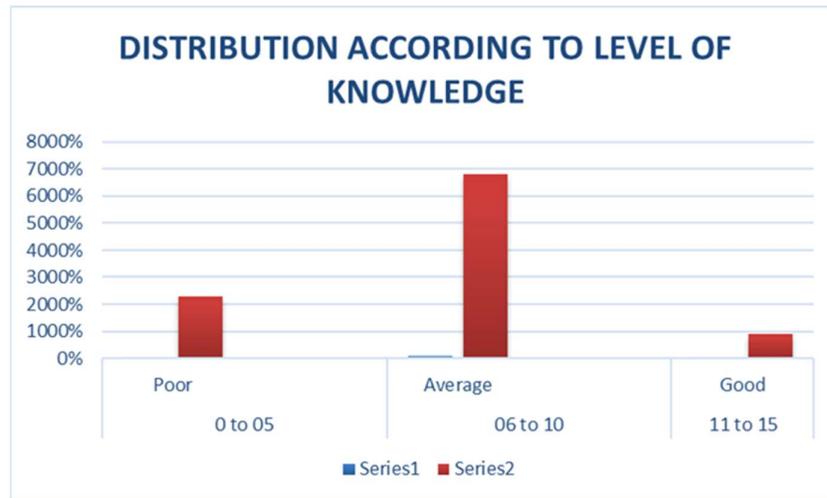
of them are housewife, 30% having children between the age of 3-5 years and 49% are permanently resident in Rural areas.

SECTION II: -LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE REGARDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Table 4.2; Level of knowledge regarding domestic violence against children

Sr No.		Quality	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1	0 to 5	Poor	23	23%
2	6 to 10	Average	68	68%
3	11 to 15	Good	9	9%

Table No: - 1 & Fig no-1 deals with the level of knowledge regarding domestic violence against children among mothers. The above table concludes that 68% of the mothers are having



Average level of knowledge, 23% having poor level of knowledge and 9% good level of knowledge regarding domestic violence.

SECTION III: -ASSOCIATION BETWEEN DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES

The association of the knowledge regarding domestic violence against children with demographic variables. The above table indicates that there is no significant association with demographic variables, as the 'p' value is more than 0.05.

DISCUSSION

This study's goal is to determine how well mothers understand domestic violence against children. Out of 100 samples, 68% percent of samples have average knowledge, 23% have good knowledge, and 9% have poor knowledge, according to the study's findings. The findings of the present study have been discussed with reference of another study. A study was conducted by Dr. Yashika Sharma shows that only 3% of parents were fully aware about the different laws and rights of children. Many studies also supports that there is difference in knowledge level on child abuse among mothers residing in different areas. Thangavelu SN., 2016 study to assess the level of knowledge regarding child abuse among mothers in selected areas at Latur, found that 15% of mothers had inadequate knowledge and 85% were having moderate knowledge regarding child abuse. Akoijam Mamata Devi., 2016 study on knowledge regarding child abuse among parents showed that 39% have obtained knowledge about child abuse recently from health personnel, 8% parents had good knowledge and 92% parent's knowledge level was average on child abuse. The present study findings was consistent with Binsha Pappachan C et al., 2017 study on knowledge of mothers regarding child abuse. The findings of the study developed the fact that most of the mother, about 60% had excellent knowledge regarding prevention of child abuse, about 34% have good knowledge, 6% had average knowledge and none of the mother had poor knowledge. Results showed that awareness scores regarding all aspect of child abuse was good in mothers residing in rural areas.

CONCLUSION

The need of present study was to assess the knowledge regarding child abuse and its prevention among mothers from selected urban areas of Pune city. The females had satisfactory knowledge

regarding child abuse. The knowledge can boost with the help of awareness raising programs, sharing of short videos, distributing information booklets at various places etc. As there are many rural parts in India which are unaware of child abuse and its serious consequences. The study concludes that majority of mothers have average knowledge regarding domestic violence (68%) and some of the mothers are having poor knowledge (9%). Community health nurses should provide adequate knowledge regarding domestic violence by organizing education programs to improve their knowledge. In Indian society, parents play a significant role in upbringing of the child. If mothers have a good awareness regarding child abuse they can detect the signs and prevent the occurrence of child abuse. Creating awareness and educating mothers regarding child abuse will help to reduce the incidence of child abuse.

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