

Original Research Article

Are parents and children aware of child sexual prevention education?

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ABSTRACT

Background: India contains largest populations of child victim of sexual abuse. Current study aimed to find out awareness, orientation, execution of parents for child sexual abuse (CSA) prevention education and study the awareness of CSA prevention education among children attending pre-primary and primary school.

Method: It was cross-sectional study carried out during 2016-2017 at government and private school of Gwalior. Total 500 parents and 500 children were selected. Proforma based assessment was done among parents and diagrammatic (picture) based assessment among children. Children are explained about diagrammatic proforma and give to color area of good touch and bad touch.

Results: The study revealed that 34% of parents are unaware of various facts of child sexual abuse ($p < 0.005$). Post graduate parents have more CSA awareness (90.3%) ($p < 0.001$). Total 36% parents have shown negative orientation towards child sexual abuse prevention education. CSA prevention awareness more in upper class parents (88.3%) as compared to lower class (43.8%) ($p < 0.001$). Post graduate parents have more CSA awareness as compared to illiterate and higher secondary. On assessing the knowledge of good touch and bad touch among children. It was found that only 6% of children have good knowledge, 36% children have some knowledge and 58% no knowledge regarding good touch and bad touch.

Conclusion: Majority of parents and kid are unaware of various fact of child sexual abuse. Parents education level has direct correlation, highly qualified mother father has positive attitude toward child sexual abuse prevention education. Lack of knowledge found in lower socioeconomic class.

Keywords: Awareness, Children, Child sexual abuse, Execution, Orientations, Parents

INTRODUCTION

Human rabies continues to be endemic in India.¹ Annual In recent years there has been an increase in requests and investigations aimed at promising practice to prevent child sexual abuse. In India, 53.2% of children have experience of sexual abuse (source Ministry of Women and study on child development 2007).¹

This makes India the home of one of the largest populations of child victims of sexual abuse. In the case

of CSA, prevention becomes the most important factor because the case reaches the intervention range if the child has abused, the damage is done, the scar of the abuse lasts all the time of life. These guidelines adopt the definition of sexual abuse of minors formulated in 1999.^{2,3}

WHO on Child Abuse Prevention stating that: Child sexual abuse involving a child in a sexual activity that is not fully understood, cannot give informed consent or for which the child is not ready for development and cannot

give consent, or that violates the laws or social whistles of society.

Child sexual abuse is shown in this activity between a child and an adult or another child whose age or development is in a relationship of responsibility, trust or power, the activity is designed to meet or satisfy the needs of the child.

This can include:

- The incentive or coercion of a child to participate in any illegal sexual activity.
- Foul use of a child in prostitution or other illegitimate sexual executions.
- Illegal use of children in act and pornography.^{2,3}

The WHO consultation on preventing child abuse distinguishes four types of child abuse that are physical abuse; sexual abuse; emotional and psychological abuse and child negligence.³

Primary prevention focuses on strategies for the general public and tries to prevent the emergence of a problem. The discovery of this study will provide important information for the position of CSA prevention education in schools and communities in India.⁴

METHODS

This cross-sectional study was undertaken among preprimary and primary school going children and parents in Gwalior city. Aim of this research was to study awareness of child sexual abuse among preprimary and primary school going children and their parents. Sample selected randomly from government and private school of city of Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, India. Total duration of study is one year 18/04/17 to 18/04/18. Total 500 number

of parents and 500 number of children were selected from preprimary and primary school. Parents questionnaire proforma and children diagrammatic proforma are prepared on the basis of previous research work and statistical data and various CSA prevention educational programme by ministry of women and child development, UNICEF, NCPCR, simple Hindi language was used for better understanding. Parents proforma contain demographic details regarding education, income, and questionnaire on awareness orientation and execution of CSA prevention education. Proforma was given to parents after small group counselling in parents teachers meeting. Children are explained about diagrammatic(picture) proforma and given to color area of good touch and bad touch. Point based scoring is done. Data was entered in an Excel spread sheet and analyzed. Categorical data were analyzed using the Chi-square test P-value <0.05 was regarded as significant and results were given up to two decimals.

RESULTS

This cross-sectional study conducted on 500 parents and 500 children. The study revealed that only 65.8% of parents have good awareness of CSA prevention education out of which 75.4% were mother and 62.0% were father. And 34% of parents are unaware of various facts of child sexual abuse which is significant as p value is <0.005. Total 64% parents have shown positive orientation towards CSA Prevention education out of which 62% are Father and 75% are mother. While 36% father and 24.6% mother did not support CSA Prevention education. Only 61% of parents providing CSA Prevention education to their kids, out of these parents 57.3% were Father and 70.4% were mother. While 39% parents are not providing CSA prevention education to their kids. And p value is <0.007 which is statically insignificant (Table 1).

Table 1: Parent's CSA awareness, orientation and execution assessment.

Variables	Fathers	Mothers	p value
Awareness			
Good awareness	222 (62%)	107 (75.4%)	0.005
Poor awareness	136 (38%)	35 (24.6%)	
Orientation			
Positive orientation	220 (62%)	109 (75%)	0.005
Negative orientation	140 (38%)	31 (24.6%)	
Execution			
Good execution	205 (57.3%)	100(70.4%)	0.007
Poor execution	153 (42.7%)	42 (29.6%)	

*Good awareness score :4-5
*Poor awareness score: 1-3

*Good orientation score :4-5
*Poor orientation score: 1-3

* Good execution score: 4-6
*Poor execution score: 1-3

On comparing parent’s awareness about CSA with socioeconomic status, good awareness regarding CSA

more in upper class (88.3%) and upper middle class (81.7%) as compared to lower class (43.8%) and lower

middle class (42.7%). The result was statistically significant as p value is <0.001. And good execution regarding CSA were more in upper middle class (77.5%) and upper class (83.1%) as compared to lower class (37.5%) and lower middle class (38.0%). the result was statistically significant as p value is <0.001. (Table 2)

Post graduate parents has more CSA awareness (90.3%) in comparison to less educated parents [graduate (57.3%),

higher secondary (54.7%) and illiterate (41.7%)]. The result was significant as p value is <0.001.

Good CSA prevention execution have been seen among post graduate parents (85.1%) as compared to graduate (57.0%), higher secondary (54.7%) and illiterate (41.7%). the result was significant as p value is <0.001 (Table 3).

Table 2: Correlation of awareness and execution with socioeconomic status.

Socioeconomic status	Assessment of awareness		Assessment of execution	
	Poor awareness	Good awareness	Poor execution	Good execution
Lower class	9(56.2%)	7(43.8%)	10(62.5%)	6(37.5%)
Lower middle class	86(57.3%)	64(42.7%)	93(62.0%)	57(38%)
Middle class	45(41.3%)	64(58%)	50(45.9%)	59(54.1%)
Upper middle class	13(18.3%)	58(81.7%)	16(22.5%)	55(77.5%)
Upper class	18(11.7%)	136(88.3%)	22(16.9%)	128(83.1%)
Total	171 (34.2%)	329 (65.8%)	195 (39.0%)	305 (61.0%)
p value	<0.001		<0.001	

*Good awareness score :4-5
*Poor awareness score: 1-3

* Good execution score: 4-6
*Poor execution score: 1-3

Table 3: Correlation of awareness and execution with parent’s education.

Parents' education	Assessment of awareness		Assessment of execution	
	Poor awareness	Good awareness	Poor execution	Good execution
Illiterate	14 (58.3%)	10 (41.7%)	14 (58.3%)	10 (41.7%)
Higher secondary	91 (45.3%)	110 (54.7%)	106 (52.7%)	95 (47.3%)
Graduate	51 (42.1%)	70 (57.9%)	52 (43.0%)	69 (57.0%)
Postgraduate	15 (9.7%)	139 (90.3%)	23 (14.9%)	131 (85.1%)
Total	171 (34.2%)	329 (65.8%)	195 (39.0%)	305 (61.0%)
p value	<0.001		<0.001	

*Good awareness score :4-5
*Poor awareness score: 1-3

* Good execution score: 4-6
*Poor execution score: 1-3

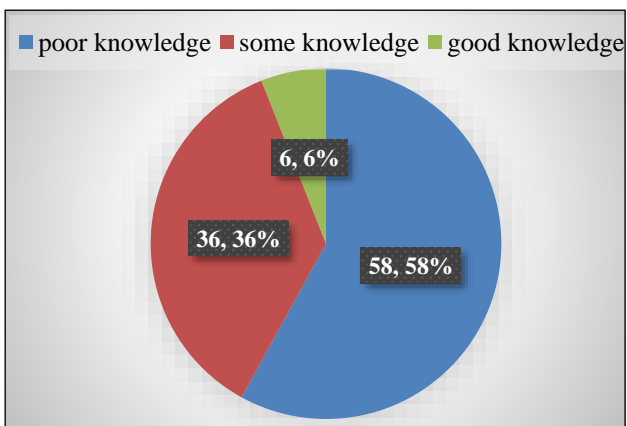


Figure 1: Knowledge of good touch and bad touch among children.

Children knowledge (good touch or bad touch) regarding CSA was assessed by diagrammatic scoring. It was found

that only 6% of children have good knowledge, 36% children have some knowledge and 58% no knowledge regarding good touch and bad touch (Figure 1).

DISCUSSION

This study shows that more than one third of parents are lacking awareness about CSA prevention education and also more than one third of parents also shows negative orientation towards child sexual abuse. And their CSA prevention execution is very less, so this gap is more when we assess the CSA preventive execution.

The study revealed that only 65.8% of parents have good awareness of CSA prevention education out of which 75.4% were mother and 62.0% were father. And 34% of parents are unaware of various facts of child sexual abuse which is significant as p value is <0.005.

Total 64% parents have shown positive orientation towards CSA Prevention education. Out of which 62% are Father and 75% are mother. While 36% father and 24.6% mother did not support CSA Prevention education. which was similar to the results of the study (Chen and Chen, 2005) in which 47.3% of parents showed some concern that CSA prevention education could lead their children to learn more sex.⁴⁻⁶

Study revealed that only 61% of parents providing CSA Prevention education to their kids, out of these parents 57.3% were Father and 70.4% were mother. And p value is <0.007 which is statically insignificant, similar to the results of the study of Fredric et al, Chen and Chen, et al.⁵⁻⁷

According to Chen et al, 80% of the study participants knew about CSA problems worldwide and that a person who sexually abused a child risks repeating the crime (83.6%). Most (75.7%) of them believed that men sexually abuse children in most cases.^{5,6} And 80.9% of them believe that they generally approach these children through getting ready. Sixty-one percent of mothers knew that the child who was the victim of sexual abuse would be detained from disclosing the case by the addict and 28.2% of them believe that children are more likely to be sexually abused by their family members.

But this result contradicts the survey conducted in the Chennai study. They conclude that 71.8% of them said children could be abused by strangers Furthermore, and most mothers have moderately adequate awareness (73%).

Parents education: Post graduate parents has more CSA awareness (90.3%) in comparison to less educated parents graduate (57.3%), higher secondary (54.7%) and illiterate (41.7%).

Also, positive orientation towards CSA is higher in Post graduate parents 85.1% as compared to less educated parents in graduate 57.0% higher secondary 54.7% illiterate 41.7%. Good execution about CSA prevention education have been seen among post graduated mother as compared to graduate, higher secondary and illiterate This result was statistically significant. As p value is less than 0.001 Similar results obtained by Chen and Chen, 2005, Fredric et al, 2000.⁵⁻⁷ Compared to the study Babtikos G. et al, there is no significant relationship between level of awareness among parents, length of stay.⁸

On studying socio-economic status, good executions in relation to CSA prevention were more in the upper middle class (77.5%) and in the upper class (83.1%) than in the low class (37.5%) and in the lower middle class (38.0%). The result is statistically significant because p is <0.001. Similar results were found in Sukmindae Kaur, S. verma.⁹ There is also a considerable amount of relationships that contradict the negative relationship

between abuse and socio-economic status. Nath and Kohli, Steele and Pollock and Suneet believe that, since the abuse occurs at all levels of the socio-economic system, it is difficult to consider a class as a cause of child abuse.¹⁰⁻¹²

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