



Dissertation Presentation

“Level of Knowledge and Attitude of Adolescents regarding Family Life Education in Surat City”

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Date: 16.05.2015

Introduction

- Adolescents accounts one fifth of India's population. According to Indian census 2011, 20.9 per cent (243 million) India's total population is in the age group of 10-19 years.
- The AIDS Education Programme (AEP), headed by Health Promotion Board, was launched in 1985.
- In 1993 it was renamed as School Adolescents Life Skill Education Programme (SALSEP) and for this syllabus was developed by NACO.

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- FLE provides platform for inculcating morals, good nutritional and hygiene habits, creating awareness regarding physical and psychological changes and high risk behavior during adolescence, prevention of STI, RTI and HIV/AIDS, making them aware of sexual violence and child abuse, proper counseling related to age specific psychological issues and bridging the gaps of inter personal relationship between parents and adolescents, peers, teachers and adolescents and parents and teachers.

- Seven states Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Karnataka etc. banned AEP. Political resistance is a major issue in accepting FLE in a routine curriculum of adolescents in the schools.

Rationale

- One in every four girls and one in every seven boys in the world are sexually abused [WHO].
- According to NACO only 28 per cent young women and 54 per cent young men in the age group 15-19 year has comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS.
- One in every 1000 youth is HIV positive (NFHS-3) in India.

- Thirty five percent overall reported cases and 50 per cent new cases of HIV in India occurs among young people in the age group 15-24 year.
- Teenage pregnancy is high in India than other countries. Out of 1000 women 62 are pregnant teens in India. Two out of every three children are physically abused. [Economic times Nov 14, 2008].
- Most of the adolescents got STD and HIV/AIDS infections because of unprotected sex [NFHS-3].

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- FLE is vital measure to minimize adverse effects of sexual behavior of adolescents like teen age pregnancies, early motherhood, unsafe abortions, RTI/STDs and HIV/AIDS etc.

Research Methodology

Research Question:

- “What is the level of knowledge and attitude of adolescents, regarding family Life Education in schools of Surat city?”

Objectives:

- To assess the knowledge of adolescents regarding family life education.
- To assess the attitude of adolescents regarding family life education in schools.

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- **Study Approach:** Quantitative
 - **Type of Study:** Cross sectional study.
 - **Location:** Surat city , Gujarat.
 - **Study Population:** Adolescent boys and girls of ninth standard in schools of Surat city.

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- **Sampling:** Multi stage sampling.
 - **Stages of Sampling:**
 - **Stage I:** Prepare the list of secondary Schools in the city
 - **Stage II:** Categorize the schools on the basis of location in four major directions.
 - **Stage III:** Select the one school with highest population of adolescents of ninth standard in each major direction.
 - **Stage IV:** Select the adolescent boys and girls of ninth standard of selected school in particular direction.

Sample Size: 397 Adolescents of ninth standard

- Sample size= $Z^2p(1-p)/d^2$
- n = Desired sample size
- Z = the standard normally deviate, usually set at 1.96
- p = proportion in the target population estimated to have a particular characteristics. If there is no reasonable estimate, then use 50 per cent (0.50)
- $q = 1-p$
- d = degree of accuracy desired, usually set at 0.05
- $n=384$

Data collection:

Data Collection Technique: School Survey

Data collection Tool: Questionnaire Schedule

Processing and data analysis:

Collected data has been analyzed with the help of SPSS.

Reliability of scale for newly computed variables

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.816	17

Ethical Considerations:

- Written permission has been taken from District Education Officer for collecting data from schools.
- Written permission has been taken from participants for collecting data.
- Information collected will be used for research purpose only.
- All the information collected will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed to anybody.

Pilot Study:

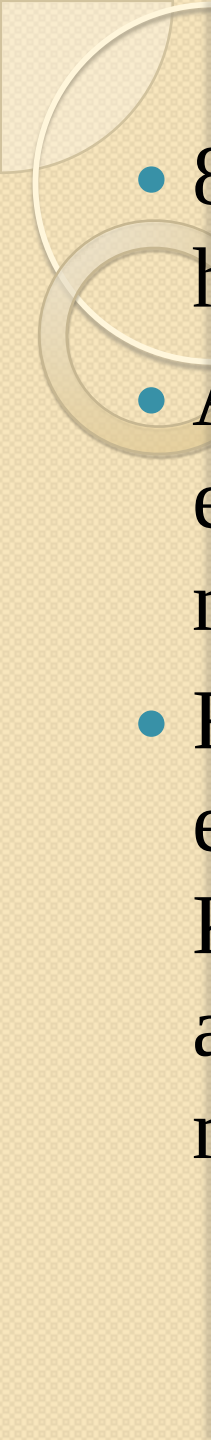
- Pilot study was conducted on 20 students of ninth standard from two different schools to test the reliability of questionnaire schedule. Forms were collected and after discussion with students, teachers and principal of these schools necessary changes were made in questionnaire.

Major Findings of the Study

- Out of total respondents 75 per cent are male and 25 per cent are female. Male adolescents have more knowledge of physical changes in adolescent boys than female participants. Also adolescents whose father is highly educated, who are Gujarati speaking and whose mothers are house wives have moderate and high knowledge of physical changes in adolescent boys.

- In case of physical changes in girls, 55 per cent female respondents have more knowledge of their physical changes than boys. Adolescents whose mother and father are highly educated have more knowledge of physical changes in adolescent girls.
- 60 per cent male and 36 per cent female respondents have more knowledge of sex and sexuality. Also the adolescents who are English speaking; whose parents are highly educated have high and moderate knowledge of sex and sexuality.

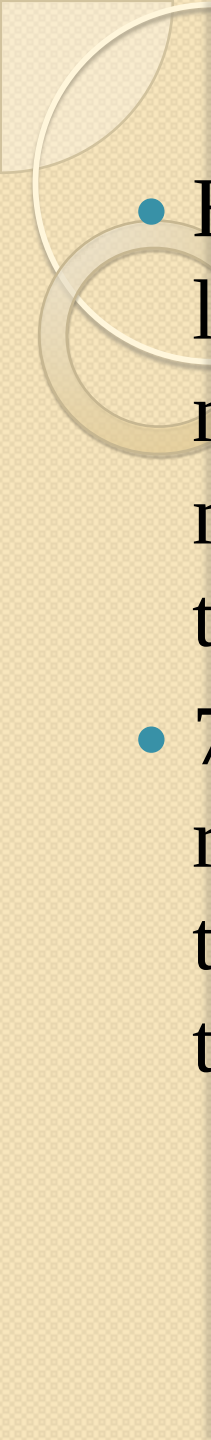
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- Fifty per cent male and 32 per cent female have high knowledge of HIV/AIDS .
 - Adolescents whose parents are highly educated have high knowledge of STI symptoms.
 - Seventy nine per cent male and 74 per cent female adolescents have high knowledge of sexual abuse. Adolescents those whose mother tongue is English and adolescents those whose mother is highly educated have high knowledge of sexual abuse.

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- 80 per cent male and 48 per cent female have high knowledge of masturbation.
 - Adolescents whose parents are highly educated have high knowledge of menstruation.
 - Female adolescents whose mothers are highly educated have high knowledge of pregnancy. Knowledge level is low among those adolescents who have illiterate mothers and mothers with primary education.

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- Adolescents who are in the age group of 14-15 year, whose parents are highly educated have less favorable attitude towards stigma related to HIV/AIDS and STI.
 - Female Adolescents are more adequate in Knowledge regarding Menstruation, Masturbation, Sex and pregnancy than males. Adolescents whose parents are highly educated are more adequate in Knowledge regarding menstruation, masturbation, sex and pregnancy.

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- 44 per cent Male and 31 per cent female adolescents in the age group of 14-15 years have more favorable attitude towards learning sex and sexuality. Male Adolescents have more favorable attitude towards learning sex and sexuality than female Adolescents.
 - 76 per cent female and 46 per cent male have more favorable attitude towards Abstinence
 - Respondents whose mothers are highly educated have more favorable attitude towards abstinence than Adolescents with less educated mother.

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- 60 per cent male adolescents have more favorable and 52 per cent female have less favorable attitude towards peer pressure.
 - Male Adolescents have more favorable attitude towards Stigma Attached with HIV/AIDS and STI than female Adolescents.
 - Female Adolescents have less favorable attitude towards myths and misconceptions regarding physical changes, masturbation, sex and sexuality, and STI than male Adolescents.

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- Hindi and English speaking Adolescents have less favorable attitude towards myths and misconceptions regarding physical changes, masturbation, sex and sexuality, and STI than those of Gujarati speaking ones.
 - 70 per cent female and 37 per cent male respondents have more favorable attitude towards Stereotype Regarding Girls and Boys than male Adolescents.

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- Hindi and English speaking Adolescents have less favorable attitude towards Stereotype Regarding Girls and Boys than those of Gujarati speaking ones.
 - Mothers who are middle and secondary educated their Adolescents are less favorable towards Stereotype Regarding Girls and Boys than Adolescents of mother with high education

Conclusion

Male adolescents have more knowledge than female on different components of FLE as compared to girls and the adolescents whose parents are highly educated have more knowledge than those with less educated ones. Female adolescents have least inadequate knowledge of myths and misconceptions regarding physical changes, masturbation, sex, HIV/AIDS, STI and pregnancy. Maximum adolescents have more favorable attitude towards FLE as a part of their school curriculum. Males have more favorable attitude towards peer pressure, premarital sex, stigma related to HIV/AIDS and STI than female adolescents. Female have more favorable attitude towards abstinence than male adolescents.

Recommendation

- One of the striking findings across the study is the gender disparity in levels of knowledge amongst adolescents. This multiplies their vulnerability manifold. It is more important that a structured program should to reach all the adolescent girls.

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- As the study findings strongly supports that adolescents want FLE as a part of their curriculum; it should be mandatory in all schools.
 - Training should be provided to teachers to impart FLE in non biased and non judgmental manner and should include technical skill building like innovative teaching methodologies for imparting FLE.
 - Parents should be a important part of FLE and should be given orientation and provided guidance to handle the sensitive issues of adolescents growing up phase.

