



KNOWLEDGE ON CHILD SAFETY PRACTICES AMONG HIGH SCHOOL CHILDREN IN A VIEW TO DEVELOP A PAMPHLET

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Abstract

Background

This study aims to assess the knowledge regarding child safety practices among high school children from selected schools in a view to develop a pamphlet. Descriptive method was adopted with the purpose of assessing knowledge of school children regarding child safety practices and then to develop a pamphlet.

Material and method

A non-experimental descriptive research design was undertaken while the approach utilized was quantitative. Non-probability purposive sampling technique was used for sample selection of 250 samples. The study was done at selected English and semi-English medium schools of the city, while the samples were high school children from selected schools. Structured questionnaire was used as a tool for collecting the data which included demographic questions and knowledgebased questions. Analysis was done by using descriptive inferential statistics.

Result

Results revealed that 9.2% of the high school students were assessed to have poor knowledge (Score 0-4), 64.8% of them were assessed to have average knowledge (Score 5-8) and 26% of them were assessed to have good knowledge (Score 9-12) regarding child safety practices. The mean was evaluated to be 7.196 for SD of 1.88

Conclusion

Majority of the students i.e. (64.8%) had average knowledge, association was achieved in the variables of age, family type, education status of parents and information students had

regarding child safety. The results gained were utilized a pamphlet which was tested and distributed among school children.

Keywords: Knowledge, Child safety practices, High school Children, Pamphlet.

1. Introduction

Children are the future of the upcoming generations. They are need to be prepare in safe and healthy world. But due to changes occurring in our society, there are lot of danger revolving all around in the areas like roads, playgrounds, schools, homes etc. So, we are considered to study the role of child safety practices in order to prevent the childhood injuries.

Child protection is the safeguarding of children from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect. There is a set of laws, policies, regulation, and services needed across all social sectors –especially social welfare, education, health, security and justice –to support prevention and protection of child. It deals with reducing and limiting the child exposure to life threatening work and to protect them from it.

According to WHO, Globally around 1 billion children are put through child abuse which are most of physical, emotional or sexual violence or they were neglected during the past years without anyone's care.¹

But in India Scenario, the prevalence rate of Child injuries is nearly 5,00,000 child deaths in last decade. For each intentional child death ,3 unintentional child injury death occurs and injury death are more prone among boys and children belongs to the age group of 15-18 years and more child injury deaths are occurred more in rural areas of India than of urban areas of India.²

While in the case of Maharashtra, the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) says that the State reported a 71.5% increased rate of crimes against the children across the year, in which most of child trafficking is for labor, slavery, begging and commercial sexual exploitation.³

According to Times of India, Pune Child Helpline Centers receives nearly 300 calls per date from minors itself asking sex related queries and so as to the study conducted by them "Child abuse is not only for a specific gender but it is affected almost equally to both genders itself" around 49.43% boys and 50.57% girls are reported for sexual abuse in Maharashtra alone.⁴

2.Materials and Methods

The objective of the study is to assess the knowledge regarding child safety practices among high school children, to find out if there exists any association with selected demographic variables and to develop a pamphlet based on the knowledge level identified. This research was done on quantitative research approach and descriptive non-experimental research design. 250 High School children were selected from schools using non-probability purposive sampling technique. Reliability of the tool was done using Test and Re-test method. The “r” value of the tool was found out using Karl-Pearson Coefficient and the score was found out as 0.865. Pilot study was also conducted and it was feasible for the main study.

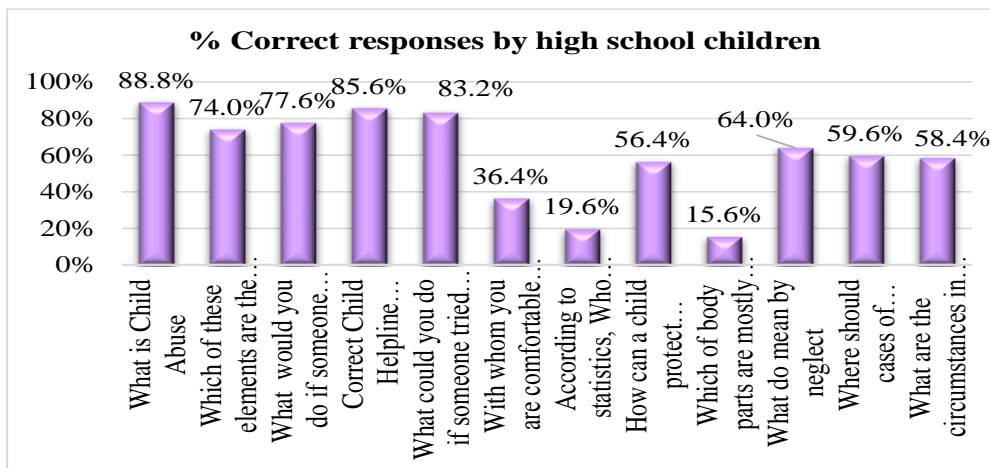
3.Results and Discussion

Description of samples (high school children) based on their personal characteristics.

It says that 26.8% of the high school children had age 13 years, 51.2% of them had age 14 years and 22% of them had age 15 years, 53.2% of them were males and 46.8% of them were females. 44.4% of them were studying in 8th standard, 55.2% of them were studying in 9th standard and 0.4% of them were studying in 10th standard. 28% of them were spending 8 hours in school, 65.6% of them were spending 7 hours and 6.4% of them were spending 5 hours in school. Demographic characteristics of parents revealed that, 22% of them had secondary education, 16% of them had under graduation and 38.4% of them had post-graduation. 11.2% of their fathers were government employees, 54% of them were private employee and 34.8% of them were self-employed whereas 6% of their mothers were government employees, 28.4% of them were private employee and 65.6% of them were self-employed..

Item Analysis of data related to the knowledge regarding child safety practices among high school children

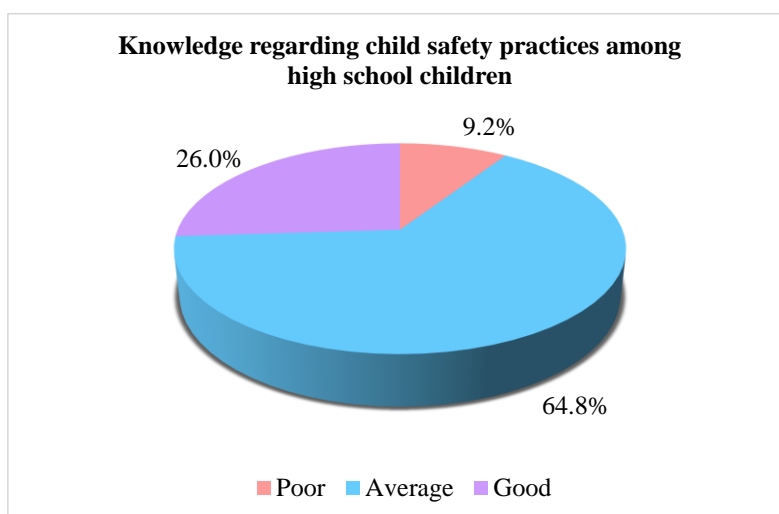
N=250



It suggests that 88.8% of the high school students knew what is child abuse. 74% of them knew the elements that are the main factors for child abuse. 77.6% of them knew what to do if someone massaged or tickled them too long. 85.6% of them knew the Correct Child Helpline Number. 83.2% of them knew what they could do if someone tried to touch them in a way that made them uncomfortable. 36.4% of them knew with whom they are comfortable sharing and talking about daily matters or problems they were facing. 19.6% of them knew the most likely people involved in child abuse according to statistics. 56.4% of them knew how can a child protect himself/herself from abuse. 15.6% of them knew the body parts mostly involved in physical abuse. 64% of them knew the meaning of neglect. 59.6% of them knew where should the cases of physical abuse to be reported to. 58.4% of the knew the circumstances in which child physical abuse should be reported to an authority. These items were assessed as per the responses gathered from the students.

Analysis of data related to the knowledge regarding child safety practices among high school children

N=250



It reveals that 9.2% of the high school students were assessed to have poor knowledge (Score 0-4), 64.8% of them were assessed to have average knowledge (Score 5-8) and 26% of them were assessed to have good knowledge (Score 9-12) regarding child safety practices. The mean was evaluated to be 7.196 for SD of 1.88.

DISCUSSION

4. Conclusion

As a word, Child safety practices as a lot of meaning but there was a decrease number researches was only conducted on the basis of psycho-social aspects of a child's life. Researches must be done on every aspects then will only we get to know a better idea about it. Child must to be educated according it and proper guidelines must be given to them. But as nurses when we are constantly touch in with children especially in paediatric we can make them aware about importance of child safety and also to counsel their parents about to guide them according the changing trends and increase their awareness on it. We can also conduct educational programmes regarding child safety practices with help of schools.

Recommendations for Future Research

1. A study could be done among teachers assessing their knowledge score on child safety practices.
2. A study could be done among parents assessing their knowledge score on child safety practices.
3. The study could be replicated on larger sample size.
4. The study could be replicated as experimental study to know the effect of information being given in some form.
5. A study could be done on children residing in rural area to assess their knowledge about child safety practices.

Data study statement

This article contains all of the data generated during the study

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There is no research fund included for this proposal

Conflicts of interest

There are no competing interests in this study, according to the authors

Ethical approval

We gained permission from Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University) College of Nursing ,Pune Institutional Research Cell for conducting our study, prior permission was obtained from each respective school to conduct the study over there and consent was taken from their teachers in behalf of each participant.

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