

A Descriptive Study Based on Problem Faced By Single Girl Child

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Abstract: An only child is a person with no siblings, either biological or adopted. Families may have an only child for variety of reasons like personal preferences, health issues and stress in family, divorce etc... Usually adolescence have adjustment problem in case of single girl child with no siblings find it difficult to mingle with others. They usually dominate others, which leads to lot of problem especially adjustmental problem. To assess the adjustmental problems of the single girl child. The researchers selected the single girl child for the study on the adjustmental problem. The researchers adopted the descriptive research design which describes all the aspects. The researcher selected the census method of sampling and the sample size is 56 single girl children. To measure the level of adjustment of the respondents Karl Pearson & T.test were applied to test the hypothesis. The study revealed that majority (68.2%) of the respondents was studying under graduation. Nearly 77% of the respondents were living in joint family. More than half (58.93%) of the respondents have high level of adjustmental problem. Based on the major findings suitable suggestions were made to improve coping and adjustmental capacities of the respondents.

Keywords: Single girl child, Adjustment, Problem.

Date of Submission: 20-12-2017

Date of acceptance: 30-12-2017

I. Introduction

An only child is a person with no siblings, either biological or adopted by parents. In a family with multiple offspring's, first born may be briefly considered only children and have a similar early family environment, but the term only child is generally applied only to those individuals who never have siblings among them. In the last decades there has been a continuous diminishing in the mean size of families, a change in the family structure and an increase in the frequency of families with only one child. It has been suggested that the absence of siblings and the higher intimacy with adults could interfere in the intellectual development, in the personality and in the adaptation of the subject to social life of the child. Historically, there have been reports that only-children receive excessive attention, mature precociously and, due to the absence of siblings, become selfish, demanding, dependent and moody, in comparison to children with siblings. Only-children seem to have as many friends as not-only ones, being leaders and feeling satisfied with their lives. Only-children tend to show traits similar to first-children and seem to have higher self-esteem than children with siblings.

World Scenario: The Niger is top country (74.5%) in the world for child marriage below 18 years of the age, followed by Chad, Mali, Bangladesh, Guinea and Central African Republic, their percentages are 71.5, 70.6, 66.62, 63.1 and 57 respectively. In India 45 percent of girls are wedded below 18 year.

Current Scenario: The legal age for marriage in India is 18 years for a female and 21 for a male as per Section 6 of the Hindu Marriages Act, 1956. Any marriage of a person younger than this is banned and punishable in India under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.

But child marriages still take place in India, particularly around the Hindu holy day of Akshya Tritiya. Normally Hindus decide the date for marriages based on horoscopes interpreted by pundits. Some dates however are considered so auspicious that no pundit needs to be consulted. One such day is Akshya Tritiya (also known as Akha Teej), the third day of Vaishakh, and the month of the Hindu calendar generally falling in May. During this time lots of marriages take place. Unfortunately, many of them are child marriages. It is a religious tradition in many places in India and therefore quite difficult to change.

And that is really the crux of the problem- child marriages are a reflection that, like sati, women and girls are seen as property that „belongs“ to someone: her family, her husband, her in-laws. If her marriage is left too late, she is considered a burden to her own family. In some communities where child marriage takes place,

instead of dowry there is a system of „bride price“ where, when the girl gets married, the husband’s family has to pay a sum of money in exchange for the bride. Instead of making things better, this system also means that families are eager to get their daughters married off so they can bring in money.

In any case, child marriages are worse for girls than for boys, since the girls are usually younger than the boys. Marriage also puts an end to any education girls may have been receiving. And if they get pregnant while still young, their health gets much worse since their bodies are often not ready to bear children. According to the United Nations, maternal mortality (which indicates the number of women dying in childbirth or from pregnancy-related causes) is 25 times higher for girls under 15, and two times higher for 15-19-year-olds. Interestingly enough, around the same time as Akshya Tritiya in 2010, the United Nations had just concluded a special session on children where they adopted 21 child welfare goals for the next decade.

II. Review Of Literature

Roberts & Blanton (2001) “Despite growing trends toward having just one child and the large body of evidence revealing the strengths of the only child, negative stereotypes about only children persist. For example, it is commonly believed that only children are spoiled, selfish, lonely, and maladjusted”

Podaras (2013) “the study have indicated that this willingness to engage in risk-taking activities results from an upbringing where the single child in a family is typically rescued financially, physically, and emotionally by others in the household if their decision leads to a negative outcome”

Gilliam & Chatterjee (2011) “The existing literature on only children is often conflicting. There are those who argue that only children are most closely aligned with older children who have siblings. As such, only children are thought to share attributes with first born, such as respect for authority”

III. Significance of The Study

Girl children are the most asset of a country because they are the future generations who provide their potential for the country’s development in the long run. Girl children should be brought up in protective environment to safeguard and promote the physical and psychological development in them. But today single girl children are facing problems psychologically. The physical and psychological characteristics of the girl children and the nature of developmental tasks which they are expected to perform by them often pose certain challenges and problems for adjustment. So the researchers felt that there is a need to conduct a study on this topic.

Objectives

- To know about the appropriate age of the respondents.
- To study about the current educational status of the respondents.
- To find out the type of family of the respondents.
- To know about the father’s income of the respondents.
- To study about the domicile of the respondents.
- To know about the type of family of the respondents.
- To assess the present adjustmental problem of the respondents.

Hypothesis

- There is a significant difference between present educational qualification of the respondents and their adjustment inventory.
- There is a significant difference between the type of family of the respondents and their adjustment inventory.
- There is a significant difference relationship between liking joint family of the respondents and their adjustment inventory.

Research Design

The research design used by the researcher is descriptive design. It describes all the aspects like age, educational qualification, type of family, domicile, etc... So the researcher used descriptive research design.

Universe

The study was carried out in University of Kalyani, there were 56 students belongs to single girl children from all the departments.

Sampling

The definite universe consists of 56 students and the researcher adopted census method of sampling.

Tools of Data Collection

The researcher adopted self prepared interview schedule as a tool for data collection. The interview schedule consisted of personal data, type of family, religion, income of family, etc. and adjustmental inventory by was

administered to assess the adjustmental problems of the respondents.

Analysis & Interpretation

Major Findings Related to Socio Demographic Details

Less than half (47.2%) of the respondents were found to be in age group of 18 to 20 years. Majority (68.2%) of the respondents were studying under graduation. Nearly (77%) of the respondents were living in joint family. Majority (82.9%) of the respondents are Hindu. (85.6%) of the respondents family are having monthly income in between rupees 10,000 to 15,000. More than half (62.5%) of the respondents share their feelings with their friends. An half (58.6%) of the respondents has high level of adjustment.

Table – 1 Distribution of the Respondents by the Level of Adjustment

SL. NO.	Particulars	No. of Respondents (N==56)	Percentage (100%)
1.	Low	23	41.07
2.	High	33	58.93

The above table shows that the level of adjustment of the respondents. More than half (58.93%) of the respondents have high level of adjustment and less than half (41.07%) of the respondents have low level of adjustment.

Table – 2 Difference Between Educational Qualification of the Respondents and Their Adjustment Inventory (T-Test)

S.No	Adjustment inventory	Mean	S.D	Statistical inference
1	UG (n=37)	105.69	3.923	T=1.923 0.091<0.05 Significant
2	PG (n=19)	108.63	3.600	

Df =50

The above indicates that there is a significant difference between educational qualification of the respondents and their adjustment inventory. Hence, the calculated value less than table value. So the research hypothesis accepted and the null hypothesis rejected.

Table – 3 Difference Between Type Of Family Of The Respondents And Their Adjustment Inventory

S.No	Adjustment inventory	Mean	S.D	Statistical inference
1	Joint (n=43)	104.03	3.859	T=2.705 -0.009<0.05 Significant
2	Nuclear (n=13)	109.83	2.787	

Df=50

The above table shows that there is a significant difference between type of family of the respondents and their adjustment inventory. Hence, the calculated value less than table value. So the research hypothesis accepted and the null hypothesis rejected.

Table – 4 Relationship between Liking towards Joint Family of the Respondents and Their Adjustment Inventory.

Adjustment inventory	Correlation value	Statistical inference
Liking joint family	-0.567	P<0.01 Significant

The above table shows that there is a significant difference relationship between liking joint family of the respondents and their adjustment inventory. Hence, the calculated value less than table value. So the research hypothesis accepted and the null hypothesis rejected.

Suggestions

- The case work method can be used to bring better adjustment within the family members.
- Parents should spend quality time with the child by taking her outing which include entertainment and shopping.
- Teachers should identify that dominance, adamant & deviant behavior, and adjustmental problem of those students and refer her for counseling.
- The single girl children should be more concentrated on the studies as well as recreational activities & they to be involved in the cultural activities to avoid the loneliness situation.

IV. Conclusion

Single girl children are affected by adjustmental problem due to loneliness. The single girl children should be socialized with others to avoid such problems. The quality of home environment is significant factor in determining emotional disturbance among single girl children. Over protection of parents facilitated emotional disturbance among single girl children.

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International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Invention (IJHSSI) is UGC approved Journal with Sl. No. 4593, Journal no. 47449.

Arnab Chowdhury and Jayanta Mete "A Descriptive Study Based on Problem Faced By Single Girl Child". International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Invention(IJHSSI), vol. 6, no. 12, 2017, pp. 62-65.