



ASSESSMENT OF SELF-ESTEEM AND ITS ASSOCIATED FACTORS AMONG ADOLESCENTS LIVING IN ORPHANAGE AND WITH PARENTS AT HOME

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ABSTRACT A descriptive study was undertaken to assess self-esteem and its associated factors among adolescents living in orphanage and with parents at home in a selected orphanage and community, West Bengal with the objectives to assess level of self-esteem among adolescents living in orphanage and in home and to find out the associated factors related to self-esteem. Conceptual framework for the study was based on Maslow's hierarchy of needs. A semi-structured demographic proforma, Rosenberg self-esteem scale and a semi-structured interview schedule on associated factors of self-esteem was used to collect data from 100 adolescents of orphanage and 100 adolescents living in their homes with their parents in Kolkata using non probability purposive sampling technique. The findings revealed that mean self-esteem score of adolescents living in home (20.78) was more than mean self-esteem score of adolescents living in orphanage (18.08). 88% of adolescents living in home had normal self-esteem and 12% had high self-esteem whereas 72% adolescents living in orphanage had normal self-esteem and 28% had low self-esteem. In adolescents living with parents and in orphanage- love, support and care was highly associated to self-esteem by 92.33% and 88% respectively. The study was concluded with few recommendations such as to find out the reason for low self-esteem among adolescents, to conduct the study among the children.

KEYWORDS : self-esteem, associated factors of self esteem, adolescents, orphanage, home.

INTRODUCTION

In India about 38.06 million orphan children are below 14 years of age. The total number of orphans constitute 16.5% of child population in the country. Generally children are placed in the foster homes and orphanages due to the death of the parents, poverty, illness, severe familial dysfunction and so on. Self-esteem is the feeling of being happy with self character and abilities. It is a wonderful feeling of inner balance, grounded on self-acceptance and a healthy, comforting self respect towards individual. Healthy self-esteem correlates with rationality, realism, intuitiveness, creativity, independence, flexibility, ability to manage change, willingness to admit (and correct) mistakes, benevolence and cooperation. Orphaned children face several socio-economic challenges and psychological problems. They are exposed to low self-esteem that in turn leads to face difficulties of maintaining quality of life.

According to literature review, the children in orphanages reported lower degree of self-esteem than children living with their parents. Life satisfaction was positively correlated with confrontation, emotional expression and self-disclosure. Therefore, this research topic was selected with aim to assess self-esteem and its associated factors like, perception of social acceptance, academic performances, initiative and pleasant feelings, perception of emotions related to love, support, and care among adolescents living in orphanage and with parents at home.

Problem statement

Assessment of self-esteem and its associated factors among adolescents living in orphanage and with parents at home in a selected orphanage and community, West Bengal.

Objectives

1. To assess level of self-esteem among adolescents living in orphanage.
2. To assess level of self-esteem among adolescents living with parents at home.
3. To find out the associated factors related to self-esteem among adolescents living in orphanage.
4. To find out the associated factors related to self-esteem among adolescents living with parents at home.

The study assumes that:

- Self-esteem of adolescents is measurable.
- Self-esteem varies from one individual to another
- Self-esteem differs between adolescents living in home and in

orphanage.

- Certain factors may influence the level of self-esteem of adolescents.

Research approach

Survey research approach was selected for the study.

Research design

Descriptive survey research design was adopted in this study.

Research variables

- Self-esteem of adolescents
- Associated factors of self-esteem of adolescents

Setting of the study

The setting for the study was Child Welfare Committee, The Refugee orphanage and Ward no. 7, Bagbazar.

Population

Population comprised of adolescents of age group 12 to 15 years who resides in orphanage and with parents at home in Kolkata.

Sample and sample size

100 adolescents of orphanage and 100 adolescents living in their homes with their parents in Kolkata.

Sampling technique:

Non probability purposive sampling technique was used for data collection.

Ethical considerations

Ethical clearances were obtained from the institutional Ethics Committee, councillor, chairperson of Child welfare Committee. Informed consent was taken for maintenance of confidentiality that was assured to them.

Method of data collection

Once permission was taken from counsellor of community and Secretary of orphanage, data was collected by semi structured demographic proforma, Rosenberg Self Esteem Scale and a Semi structured questionnaire on associated factors of self-esteem. Written consent and assent was obtained from each subject and purpose of the study was clearly explained. Each subject took average 20 minutes to complete the questionnaire

Findings

Table 1 Frequency and percentage distribution of subjects according to their level of self-esteem.

n = (100+100) = 200

Self- esteem	Home		Orphanage	
	Frequency	Percentage(%)	Frequency	Percentage(%)
High	12	12	00	0
Normal	88	88	72	72
Low	00	0	28	28

Table 2 Correlation co-efficient and its significance existing between level of self-esteem and associated factors among adolescents living with parents.

n= 100

Selected variables	Home		Orphanage	
	r value	t value	r value	t value
Self esteem and social factors	0.49	5.42**	0.43	4.7**
Self esteem and academic performance	0.56	6.67**	0.37	3.95**
Self esteem and psychological factors	0.42	4.59**	0.36	3.82**
Self esteem and self confidence	0.12	1.19	0.32	3.36**
Self esteem and love, support and care	0.28	2.89**	0.43	4.7**

df(98) 't'=2.63, p<0.01

RESULT

Among adolescents living with parents in home 38% were of age 12 years, 60% were female, 70% were secondary school students, 82% Hindu, 40% were two siblings, 34% were eldest and youngest among the siblings. Whereas, among adolescents living in orphanage 32% were of age 14 years, 54% were male, 72% secondary school students, 34% were eldest among the siblings.

Maximum (72%) adolescents of orphanage were having normal self esteem and significant (28%) adolescents were having low self esteem. whereas, Majority (88%) of adolescents of community were having normal self esteem.

Factors related to love, support and care ranked 1st and factors related to psychological factors ranked 5th for adolescents living with parents and in orphanage.

Associated factors like, social factors, academic performance, psychological factors, self confidence, love, support and care were correlated to self esteem among adolescents living with parents and in orphanage and were statistically significant among adolescents living in orphanage, except self confidence all the factors were statistically significant among adolescents living with parents.

Self esteem was associated with age among adolescents living in orphanage, (df(98) 't'=1.98, p>0.05), and among adolescents living with parents. (df(98) 't'=1.98, p>0.05).

DISCUSSION

The findings of the study were consistent with the study conducted by **Farooqi YN & Intezar M(2009)** to assess the differences in self esteem of orphan children and children living with their parents. Majority (62.7%) of the children living with their parents were from 10-12 year age group and 54.7% children from orphanage were from 13-15 year age group.

The findings of the present study revealed that mean self esteem of the adolescents living with parents was 20.78. It was consistent with the study conducted by **Mogonea F R, Mogonea F (April 2014)** to find the role of the family in building adolescent's self esteem.

The findings of the study were consistent with the study conducted by **Farooqi YN & Intezar M (2009)** to assess the differences in self esteem of orphan children and children living with their parents. The orphan children showed lower self-esteem as compared to the children living with their parents (Mean of the orphan children = 19.26 and Mean of the children living with their parents = 17.8, respectively).

The findings of the study are in consistent with the study conducted by **Twinomugisha (2008)** to assess if self-esteem increased then

academic success will increase. There was a positive relationship @ =.048) between self-esteem and CGPA.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the objectives and findings of the present study, few conclusions were drawn. Majority of adolescents living in home have normal self-esteem. Most of the adolescents living in orphanage have normal self-esteem and significant numbers of adolescents have low self-esteem. Factors related to love support and care ranked 1st for both adolescents of orphanage and community. Self-esteem is positively correlated to all the associated factors both in orphanage and in community.

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