

Role of Parents in the Care of Mentally Challenged Children in the Selected Special School of Bagalkot

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Abstract

Original Research Article

Introduction: All parents wish for healthy baby, but some parents though not by their choice are forced into a situation of having child with mental retardation. The birth of child with a disability, or the discovery that a child a disability can have profound effects on the family. "But Every child is special". Having a child with disability in a family is not the same having a child without disability. But above all parents are the directly affected population and also are the prime care-takers to provide life long support and security to the mentally retarded persons [1]. **Method:** An non experimental descriptive survey study, the sample of the present study comprises mentally challenged children residing in special school of Bagalkot. A non-probability purposive sampling technique was adopted to select samples in the present study. The sample comprises 50 parents of mentally challenged children. The data were collected by using closed ended questionnaires for socio demographic variables of parents of mentally challenged children, self administrated knowledge to assess the role in the care of mentally challenged children. The data obtained analyzed with help of descriptive and inferential statistics. **Results:** Finding related to the assessment of role of parents in care of mentally challenged children revealed that psychosocially majority (86%) of parents were moderate psychosocial well being, (10%) of parents were high psychosocial well being and (4%) were poor psychosocial well being. Economically majority (58%) of parents were having average financial stability, (24%) of parents were having moderate financial stability and (2%) of parents were having poor financial stability. In daily routine activities majority (50%) of parents were following adequate daily routine activity, and other (50%) of parents were following moderate daily routine activity. Psychosocially the mean and SD of parents of mentally challenged children (21.6±4.34) respectively. Economically the mean and SD are (11.32±4.08).and the daily routine mean and SD are (15.64±1.83). **Conclusion:** This study reveals that there were no significant association found between role of parents in the care of mentally challenged children with selected socio demographic variables.

Keyword: Mentally challenged children, Parents, Psychosocial, Economical, Daily routine.

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INTRODUCTION

Having a child with disability in a family is not the same having a child without disability. Parents are known to get impacted in many ways because of having a child with mental retardation. These include parent's feeling sad, depressed at various stages of child's life and experiencing other emotional reactions. Financial burdens may mount. Parents are the prime educators until the child attends an early year setting of the school and they remain a major influence on their children's learning throughout school and beyond [1].

Need for study:

There are currently more than 1 billion disabled people in the world. About 200 million people have an intellectual disability (IQ below 75). This represents 2.6% of the world's population [2].

Globally, the prevalence of mental retardation is estimated to be 30 per thousand. Almost 75% of the population diagnosed as mentally retarded have mild mental retardation, while the remaining 25% have either moderate or severe and profound grade of retardation [3].

In early childhood, mild ID (IQ 50–69) may not be obvious or identified until children begin school. Moderate ID (IQ 35–49) is nearly always apparent within the first years of life. People with Severe ID (IQ 20–34), accounting for 3.5% of persons with ID, or Profound ID (IQ 19 or below), accounting for 1.5% of persons with ID, need more intensive support and supervision for their entire lives [4].

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A cross sectional study was conducted on parents of mentally challenged children to assess the Effects of children with Down syndrome on parents' daily activities were investigated. Data on the allocation of time to daily activities were obtained from time diaries provided by two samples of parents with at least one child under age 17. Parents in one sample had a child with Down syndrome and parents in the other sample did not. Comparison of time allocations by sample indicated that parents of children with Down syndrome differed substantially from other parents in their patterns of time use. Both parents of a child with Down syndrome devoted more time to child care and spent less time in social activities. Mothers of children with Down syndrome allocated less time to paid employment [5].

METHODOLOGY

Research approach: Quantitative non experimental approach

Research design: Descriptive design

Duration of study: 1 year

Research variable: study variables include psychosocial, economical, and daily routine activity variables.

Socio-demographic variables: These include informant, age, gender, marital status, religion, educational status of mother, educational status of father, mother occupation, father occupation, type of family, type of house, area of residence.

Target population: In the present study parents of mentally challenged children were target population.

Sample: Parents of mentally challenged children residing at selected special school of Bagalkot

Sample size: The sample comprised 50 parents of mentally challenged children

Sampling technique: A non-probability purposive sampling technique was adopted to select samples in the present study.

Inclusive Criteria

- Parents of mentally challenged children.
- Who are willing to participate in study.
- Available at the time of data collection

Exclusive Criteria:

- Parents who are not willing to participate in study
- Parents who are not available at the time of data collection

Limitations:

- Parents of mentally challenged children.
- Who are willing to participate in study.
- Available at the time of data collection

Ethical clearance: Ethical clearance has been obtained from:

- The institutional ethics committee of Shri B.V.V.S Sajjalashree institute of nursing, Navanagar, Bagalkot.
- Permission from selected special school headmaster.
- Consent was obtained from the study participants (parents of mentally challenged children)

Method of data collection: In the present study, the data was collected by the structured knowledge questionnaire.

Description of the final tool

The Final format of tool of the comprised of the following 2 parts:

Part-1: Socio-demographic variables of parents which consists of information about informant, age, gender, marital status, religion, educational status of mother, educational status of father, occupation of mother, occupation of father, type of family, type of house, area of residence. Socio demographic variable of mentally challenged children which consists of age, sex, level of mental retardation, number of siblings, health status of siblings.

Part-2: Consists of role assessment scale with 41 questions to assess the role of parents of mentally challenged children.

Scoring of structured knowledge questionnaires

There are 41 structured knowledge questionnaires, each scored from 0-2 comprised to dominance just the maximum score is 70 and minimum score is 34.

Table 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of sample according to socio-demographic variable of parents, N=50

Sl. No	Socio demographic variable	Frequency	Percentage
1	Informant		
	A. Mother	21	42%
	B. Father	29	58%
2	Age		
	A. 25 to 30 years	8	16%
	B. 31 to 35 years	23	46%
	C. 36 to 40 years	13	26%
	D. More than 41 years	16	32%
3	Sex		
	A. Male	29	58%
	B. Female	21	42%
4	Marital Status		
	A. Married	50	100%
	B. Unmarried	0	0%
	C. Widow	0	0%
5	Religion		
	A. Hindu	39	78%
	B. Muslin	11	22%
	C. Christian	0	0%
	D. Other	0	0%
6	Education status of mother		
	A. Illiterate	8	16%
	B. Primary	11	22%
	C. PUC	21	42%
	D. Degree	10	20%
7	Education states of father		
	A. Illiterate	8	16%
	B. Primary	11	22%
	C.PUC	16	32%
	D. Degree	15	30%
8	Occupation of mother		
	A. Agriculture	15	30%
	B. Government employee	11	22%
	C. Business	13	26%
	D. Others	11	22%
9	Occupation of farther		
	A. Agriculture	17	34%
	B. Government employee	12	24%
	C. Business	16	32%
	D. Others	5	10%
10	Type of family		
	A Joint family	24	48%
	B Nuclear family	26	52%
11	Type of house		
	A. Pucca	22	44%
	B. Semipucca	21	42%
	C. Kaccha	7	14%
12	Area of Residence		
	A Urban	21	42%
	B Rural	29	58%

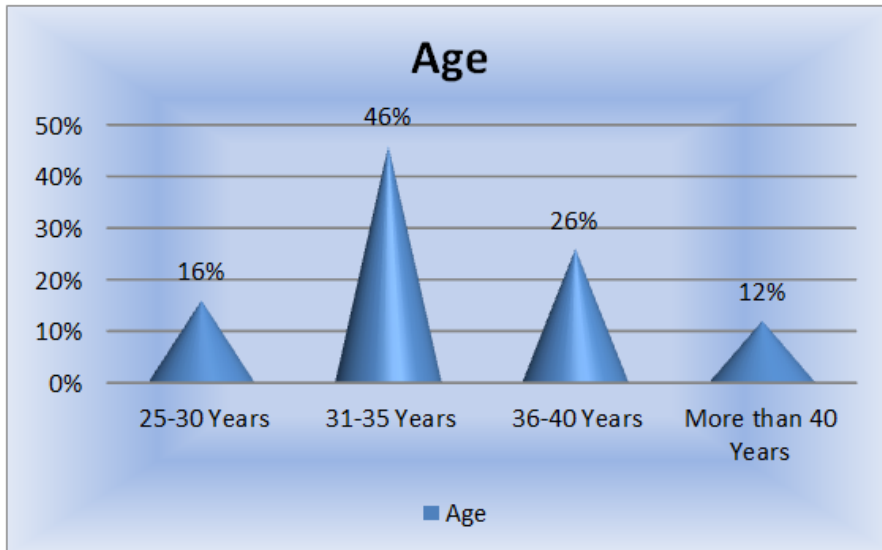


Figure 1: Distribution of parents according to age

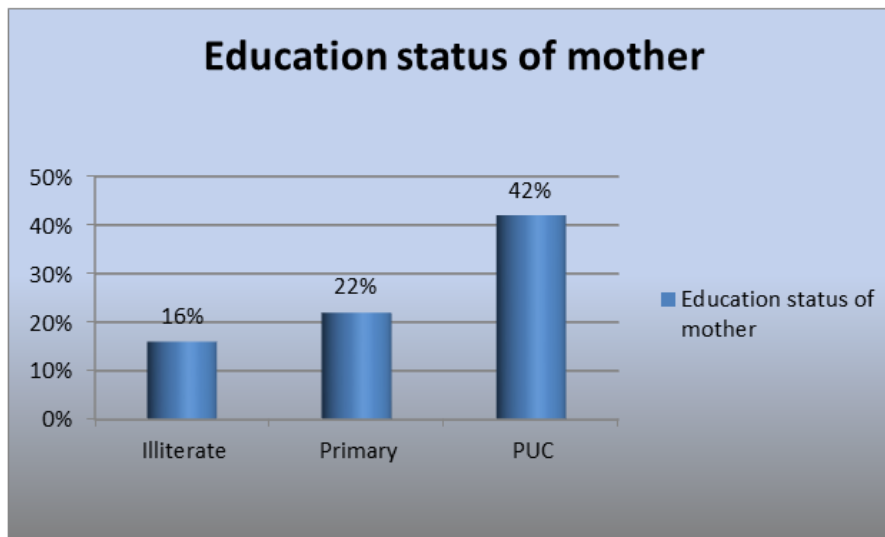


Figure 2: Distribution of parents according to education status of mother

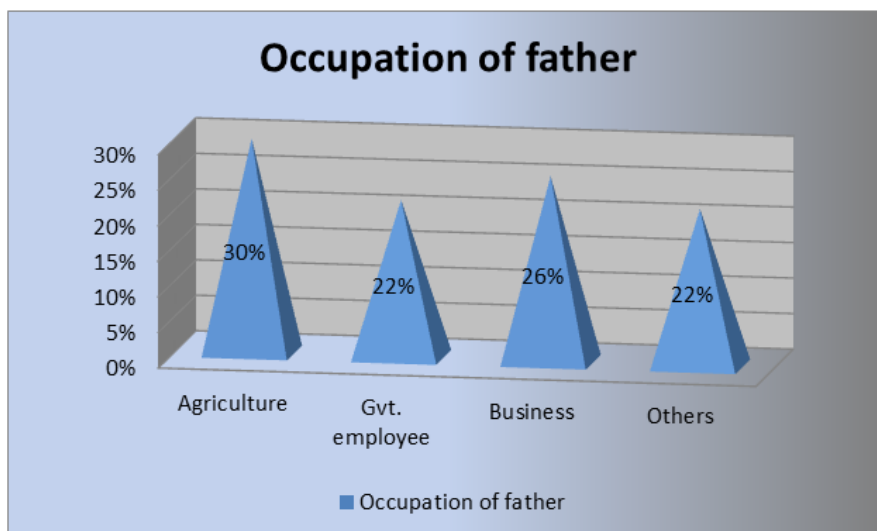


Figure 3: Distribution of parents according to occupation of father

Majority of parents (58%) were father majority of parents (46%) were belongs to 25 to 30 years of age, majority of (58%) of them were male, majority (100%) of them were married, majority of (78%) of them were Hindu, majority of (42%) of mother where completed PUC, majority of (32%) of father where completed PUC,

majority of (30%) of mother were farmers, majority of (34%) of father were farmers, majority of (48%) of them were in joint family, majority (44%) of them were having pucca house, majority of (58%) of them were living in rural areas.

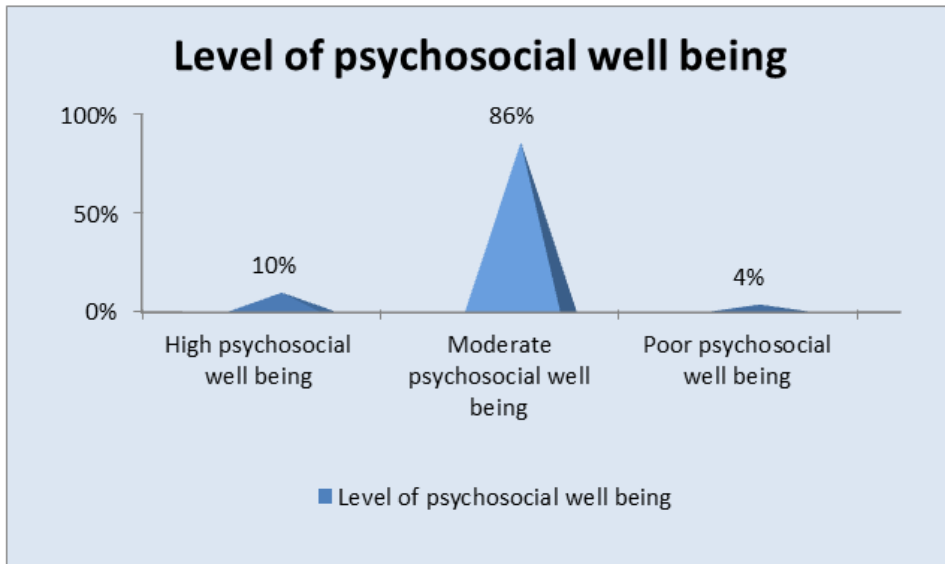


Figure 4: Distribution of parents according to level of psychosocial well being

Figure 4 shows that the percentage wise distribution of samples according to their level of psychosocial well being depicts that, majority of people (86%) were belongs to moderate psychosocial well

being, (10%) of them were belongs to high psychosocial well being, (4%) of them belongs to poor psychosocial well being.



Figure 5: Distribution of parents according to level of financial stability

Figure 5 shows that the percentage wise distribution of samples according to their level of financial stability depicts that, majority of people (58%) were having average financial stability, (24%) of them

were having moderate financial stability, (16%) of them having good financial stability, (2%) of them having poor financial stability.

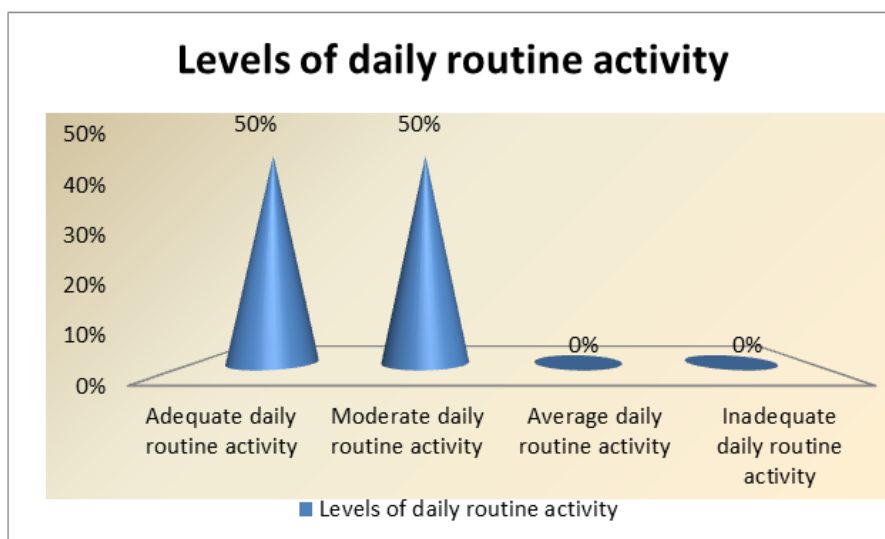


Figure 6: Distribution of parents according to level of daily routine activity

Figure 6 shows that the percentage wise distribution of samples according to their level of daily routine activity depicts that, majority of people (50%) of them were following adequate daily routine activity,

(50%) of them were following moderate daily routine activity, (0%) of them were following average daily routine activity, (0%) of them were following inadequate daily routine activity.

Table 2: Association of psychosocial role of parents with selected socio demographic variable; N=50

Sl. No	Sociodemographic variable	Degree of freedom	Chi square	P value	Table value	Association
1	Informant	1	0.383	0.535	3.84	Not significant
2	Age	1	0.08	0.77	3.84	Not significant
3	Sex	1	0.73	0.39	3.84	Not significant
4	Religion	1	0.24	0.62	3.84	Not significant
5	Education status of mother	1	0.76	0.38	3.84	Not significant
6	Education status of father	1	1.52	0.21	3.84	Not significant
7	Occupation of mother	1	0.703	0.40	3.84	Not significant
8	Occupation of father	1	0.38	0.53	3.84	Not significant
9	Type of family	1	0.32	0.57	3.84	Not significant
10	Type of houses	1	1.79	0.18	3.84	Not significant
11	Area of residence	1	2.08	0.15	3.84	Not significant

In psychosocial Calculated chi square value is lesser than table value for all socio demographic variable for Informant ($X^2=0.383$ $P=0.535$), Age ($X^2=0.08$ $P=0.77$), Sex ($X^2=0.73$ $P=0.39$), Religion ($X^2=0.24$ $P=0.62$), Education status of mother ($X^2=0.76$ $P=0.38$), Education

status of father ($X^2=1.52$ $P=0.21$), Occupation of mother ($X^2=0.703$ $P=0.40$), Occupation of father ($X^2=0.38$ $P=0.53$), Type of family ($X^2=0.32$ $P=0.57$), Type of houses ($X^2=1.79$ $P=0.18$), Area of residence ($X^2=2.08$ $P=0.15$).

Table 3: Association of economical role of parents with selected socio demographic variable, N=50

Sl. No	Socio demographic variable	Degree of freedom	Chi square	P value	Table value	Association
1	Informant	1	0.144	0.7	3.84	Not significant
2	Age	1	0.04	0.83	3.84	Not significant
3	Sex	1	0.144	0.7	3.84	Not significant
4	Religion	1	1.60	0.2	3.84	Not significant
5	Education status of mother	1	0.5426	0.42	3.84	Not significant
6	Education status of father	1	3.63	0.56	3.84	Not significant
7	Occupation of mother	1	2.03	0.15	3.84	Not significant
8	Occupation of father	1	0.91	0.33	3.84	Not significant
9	Type of family	1	0.34	0.55	3.84	Not significant
10	Type of houses	1	2.11	0.14	3.84	Not significant

11	Area of residence	1	0.03	0.84	3.84	Not significant
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In economical Calculated chi square value is lesser than table value for all socio demographic variable for Informant($\chi^2=0.144, P=0.7$), Age($\chi^2=0.04, P=0.83$), Sex($\chi^2=0.144, P=0.7$), Religion($\chi^2=1.60, P=0.2$), Education status of mother($\chi^2=0.5426, P=0.42$),

Education status of father($\chi^2=3.63, P=0.56$), Occupation of mother($\chi^2=2.03, P=0.15$), Occupation of father($\chi^2=0.9, P=0.33$), Type of family($\chi^2=0.34, P=0.55$), Type of houses($\chi^2=2.11, P=0.14$), Area of residence($\chi^2=0.03, P=0.84$).

Table 3: Association of daily activity role of parents with selected socio demographic variable, N=50

Sl. No	Socio demographic variable	Degree of freedom	Chi square	P value	Table value	Association
1	Informant	1	0.08	0.77	3.84	Not significant
2	Age	1	0.08	0.77	3.84	Not significant
3	Sex	1	0.082	0.77	3.84	Not significant
4	Religion	1	0.116	0.73	3.84	Not significant
5	Education status of mother	1	0.764	0.38	3.84	Not significant
6	Education status of father	1	0.764	0.38	3.84	Not significant
7	Occupation of mother	1	0.08	0.768	3.84	Not significant
8	Occupation of father	1	0.08	0.77	3.84	Not significant
9	Type of family	1	2.88	0.084	3.84	Not significant
10	Type of houses	1	0.16	0.68	3.84	Not significant
11	Area of residence	1	0.08	0.77	3.84	Not significant

In Daily activity Calculated chi square value is lesser than table value for all socio demographic variable for Informant($\chi^2=0.08, P=0.77$), Age($\chi^2=0.08, P=0.77$), Sex($\chi^2=0.082, P=0.77$), Religion($\chi^2=0.116, P=0.73$), Education status of mother($\chi^2=0.764, P=0.38$), Education status of father($\chi^2=0.764, P=0.38$), Occupation of mother ($\chi^2=0.08, P=0.768$), Occupation of father($\chi^2=0.08, P=0.77$), Type of family($\chi^2=2.88, P=0.084$), Type of houses($\chi^2=0.16, P=0.68$), Area of residence($\chi^2=0.08, P=0.77$)

activity. Mean of level of daily routine activity is 15.64 and SD is 1.83.

The findings of this study were supported by a non experimental study which was conducted to compare the perception scores of parents and caretakers regarding role of parents in the care of mentally challenged children and identify the association with selected variables. The study was conducted by Ms. D. Maryline Flinsi, Dr. Molly Babu, Ms. Om Kumari Kathuria in the year of 2015. The structured interview schedule and structured questionnaire was utilised to collect the data. The study was conducted in selected five special school of Tamilnadu with 50 parents of the mentally challenged children studying in the special schools and 50 care takers who are taking care of those children in the same. The data analyzed using descriptive inferential statistic. The mean score for parents is 153.12 with standard deviation 17.16 and mean score of the care taker is 142.58 with the standard deviation 17.16 the calculated t test value for this was 3.07 which is found to be significant at 0.05 level [6].

DISCUSSION

The findings of the study are discussed under the following:

Section-A: Assessment of data related to role of parental care in level psychosocial wellbeing revealed that 50 sample of parents of mentally challenged children among them majority 86% of them moderate, 10% of them were high, and 4% of them were poor psychosocial well being Personal Hygiene. The mean of level of psychosocial well being is 21.6 and SD is 4.34.

Section-B: Assessment of data related to role of parental care in level of financial stability revealed that that 50 sample of parents of mentally challenged children among them majority 58% of them were having average, 24% were having moderate, 16% were having good, 2% having were poor in financial stability. Mean of financial stability is 11.3 and SD is 4.08

Section-C: Assessment of data related to role of parental care in level of daily routine activities reveals that 50 sample of mentally challenged children among them 50% of are following adequate and 50% of are following moderate daily routine

CONCLUSION

The study findings revealed that parents of mentally challenged children had moderate psychosocial role, average financial stability, and adequate daily routine activity.

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