



KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PERCEIVED BARRIERS TOWARDS CHILD ADOPTION AMONG INFERTILE COUPLES IN A SELECTED INFERTILITY CLINIC IN BHUBANESWAR

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ABSTRACT

A correlational descriptive study was conducted to assess the knowledge, attitude and perceived barriers towards child adoption among infertile couples in a selected infertility clinic in Bhubaneswar. A total of 200 samples were taken using total enumerative sampling. Self-structured socio-demographic performa, knowledge questionnaire, attitude likert scale and perceived barriers likert scale was used to assess the level of knowledge, attitude and perceived barriers among the infertile couples towards child adoption. The data was analyzed by using SPSS version 20.0 (Statistical Package for the Social Science). The knowledge score of the infertile couples reveals that 63% husband have moderate knowledge while 53% wife have low knowledge, attitude score of the infertile couples reveals that 84% husbands and 82% wife have neutral attitude and perceived barriers score of the infertile couples reveals that 91% husband and 88% wife have moderate perceived barriers and financial barriers was seen as the chief cause for the couples to adopt the child. The relation between knowledge and attitude of husband and wife showed a positive correlation with r value .238 and .296 and p value 0.001 and 0.0001 respectively. There was no correlation between attitude and perceived barriers of the infertile couples and there is a negative correlation between perceived barriers and knowledge of the infertile couples with r value was -.20 and -.16 with p value 0.004 and 0.02 respectively. The infertile couples need to be aware regarding the various aspects of child adoption so that they could choose this as an alternative to fulfil their parenthood.

KEYWORDS : Knowledge, Attitude, Perceived Barriers, Child Adoption, Infertility

INTRODUCTION

Adoption is defined as "the permanent legal transfer of parenting rights and responsibilities from one family to another." The word adoption, on the other hand, has diverse meanings to various people who have gone through or have heard of it but for an adoptee, this term implied a preference which he/she had made to continue his/her family inspite of all odds. (Understanding adoption)³ Adoption is nowadays worldwide accepted for families who are seeking to adopt. The child adoption statistics from around the world reflect several interesting trends around the world. New York has around 15% more international adoptions, yet the population is about 2/3 the population of California. Recent statistics around the world is that, in terms of international adoptions states that the percentage of adoption in girls is 64% than 36% of boys. The data according to CARA statistics indicates that the number of children which are in demand are less than one fourth for adoption. In country adoptions there has also reached to 47% from 2011 to 2015-16. More female children are adopted than male and more than 70% of the adopted children are in 0-2 age groups. (Duguutu Rakesh)⁴

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the knowledge of infertile couples towards child adoption.
2. To identify the attitude of the infertile couples towards child adoption
3. To determine the perceived barriers of the infertile couples towards the child adoption
4. To find out the relationship between level of knowledge, attitude and perceived barriers of infertile couples regarding child adoption.

2. Review of literature

2.1 Literature related to knowledge of the infertile couples towards child adoption.

Dattijo L, Andreadis N, Aminu B, Umar N, Black K (2016) conducted a study in two hospitals on 406 infertile women which revealed that 81% of the respondents had poor knowledge regarding the risk factors for infertility and over 80% believed that infertility is a result of supernatural causes. The women who were educated and employed had significantly better knowledge regarding infertility as compared to those who had lower level of education and were unemployed.⁵

2.2 Literature related to attitude of the infertile couples towards child adoption.

Ojewole, Foluso O, Onore, Orifa and Nwozichi, Chinomso U (2014) conducted a phenomenological study on ten infertile women which revealed that among the respondents no one had ever performed child adoption, meanwhile, their perspective was positive towards child adoption although the outlook differed from participants to participants and they believed that child adoptions brings happiness to the ones who are not able to conceive but at the same time the participants stated

the society as the main barriers which hinders the couples to adopt a but adopting a child is a sensible solution to many infertile couples and it is a way to satisfy their parenting needs.⁹

2.3 Literature review related to perceived barriers towards child adoption.

Heidari [Poooran et al](#) (2012) conducted a cross-sectional study in Iran from April 2010 to June 2011 among 240 infertile couples. The results revealed that although 96% of the participants were aware regarding child adoption, among them only 37.3% of couples had the correct knowledge regarding the term child adoption, 24% of women knew about the rules, regulations and process of adopting a baby while the rest did not while 82% of couples showed their refusal towards adopting a and 78% of couples selected the option Hoping of childbearing as the main factor among the psychological barrier which hindered the couples to adopt a child.¹¹

3. Method Design

A correlational descriptive research design was used in this study to assess knowledge, attitude and perceived barriers among infertile couples towards child adoption in a selected infertility clinic. The present study adopted the conceptual model based on Health promotion model by Nola J Pender (1982).]

Sample

In this study, 200 samples were selected by total enumerative sampling technique who came to the infertility clinic at IMS & SUM Hospital, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. An inclusion criterion includes clients who had failed 2nd phase of ART, were willing to participate and who can read and write Odia and English language.

Data collection

Data collection was done from 23rd January 2018 to 17th February 2018 at Infertility Clinic of IMS & SUM Hospital, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The study was conducted with 200 samples (100 couples) that fulfill the inclusion criteria.

Data analysis

Data was analyzed by descriptive and inferential statistics using SPSS version 22.0; the statistical significance level was considered 0.05.

RESULTS

The findings showed that majority of couples i.e 51% husbands and 56% wife belong to the age group of 31-35 yrs and 45% have their duration of marriage between 7-9 yrs of age, 51% lived in a nuclear family and 89% of couples were Hindu, 83% of couples lived in the urban area, 51% husbands and 56% wife have completed their education upto secondary level, 100% husband were employed and 82% wife were unemployed., 67% couples have their family income

more than Rs.25001 per month. The duration of infertility were maximum seen in 43% couples who had infertility since 7-9 yrs of age and 72% couples had female factor as their main cause of infertility. 87% of couples have opted for other treatment before undertaking ART and 70% couples have undergone more than third phase of ART, 92% couples came for IVF and 54% couples knew regarding child adoption from their family and friends. The knowledge score of the infertile couples reveals that 63% husband have moderate knowledge while 53% wife have low knowledge, attitude score of the infertile couples reveals that 84% husbands and 82% wife have neutral attitude and perceived barriers score of the infertile couples reveals that 91% husband and 88% wife have moderate perceived barriers and financial barriers was seen as the chief cause for the couples to adopt the child

Table 1: Karl Pearson's correlation between knowledge and attitude of the infertile couples towards child adoption
N = n1+n2=100+100=200 (100 couples)

Parameters	HUSBAND			WIFE		
	Mean±SD	r value	p value	Mean±SD	r value	p value
Attitude	55.51 ±3.64	r = .238	p = 0.001*	54.84±3.80	r = .296	p = 0.0001***
Knowledge	5.15 ±1.55			4.25±1.486		

p ≤ 0.05

*= significant **=highly significant

In Table- 4.5 the data represented that there was a positive correlation between the attitude of husband and wife are (55.51 ±3.64) and (54.84±3.80) knowledge of husband and wife are (5.15 ±1.55) and (4.25±1.486) of the infertile couples with husband having r value=.238 and wife with r value =.296 & p value(husband)=0.001 and p value(wife)=0.0001 (p ≤ 0.05) with df = 198 which is statistically significant. So the null hypothesis is rejected and research hypothesis is accepted. Hence it is inferred that when knowledge of the couples increases, their attitude of the also becomes favourable or increases

Table 2 :Karl Pearson's correlation between attitude and perceived barriers of the infertile couples towards child adoption
N =n1+n2=100+100=200(100 couples)

Parameters	HUSBAND			WIFE		
	Mean±SD	r value	p value	Mean±SD	r value	p value
Attitude	55.51 ±3.64	r = - 0.09	p = .20	54.84±3.80	r = -.07	p =.29
Perceived barriers	35.52±4.14			35.19±4.40		

p ≤ 0.05

Not significant

In Table- 4.6 the data represented that there is no correlation between the attitude of husband and wife are (55.51 ±3.64) and (54.84±3.80) perceived barriers of husband and wife are (35.52±4.14) and (35.19±4.40) of the infertile couples.

Table 3: Karl Pearson's correlation between knowledge and perceived barriers of infertile couples towards child adoption
N =n1+n2=100+100=200(100 couples)

Parameters	HUSBAND			WIFE		
	Mean±SD	r value	p value	Mean±SD	r value	p value
Knowledge	5.15 ±1.55	r = -0.20	p =.004**	4.25±1.486	r = -.16	p =.02*
Perceived barriers	35.52±4.14			35.19±4.40		

p ≤ 0.05

*significant

In Table- 3 the data represented that there is negative correlation between the knowledge of husband and wife are (5.15 ±1.55) and (4.25±1.486) and perceived barriers of husband and wife are (35.52±4.14) and (35.19±4.40) of the infertile couples with husband having r value= -0.20 & p value(husband)=.004 (p ≤ 0.05) and wife with r value = .16 and p value(wife)= .02 (p ≤ 0.05) with (df = 198) which is statistically significant. So the null hypothesis is rejected and research hypothesis is accepted. Hence it is inferred that if the knowledge of the husband increases, perceived barriers becomes unfavourable or decreases.

DISCUSSION

The results of the present study is supported by Abolfotouh A Mostafa et al. (2013) on Knowledge, attitude, and practices of infertility among Saudi couples which revealed that 92.8% couples belong to urban area and 7.2% couples belong to rural area.

The present study is also supported by Heidari Pooran(2012) on Barriers of child adoption in infertile couples: Iranian's view. Which revealed that majority of the couples had completed their graduation (husband 40% and wife 38.8%), 37.6% of couples had female factor as their main cause of infertility and 52.9% of couples have duration of infertility between 1-5 yrs.

CONCLUSION

Infertility stays a worldwide health challenge with shocking psychosocial consequences for the infertile couples. Adoption that may serve as an alternative strategy for the affected couples is not widely practiced in India. In fact there is a paucity of literature in this field from most parts of the world; however there is a clear abundance of some prolific studies from Nigeria.

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