



ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AMONG WOMEN OF SELECTED RURAL AREAS, NALGONDA DIST, TELANGANA STATE.

Nursing

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ABSTRACT

Women empowerment helps in making women powerful, take own decisions regarding their lives and wellbeing in family and society. The objectives of the study were to assess the knowledge regarding women empowerment among women and associate the knowledge on women empowerment with selected demographic variables. Non-experimental descriptive design with Non probability convenient sampling technique was used to select the samples. Totally 50 samples were selected in Narketpally rural area. The results of the study revealed that in rural area, out of 50 women 16 (32%) had Below average level of knowledge, 19 (38%) had average level of knowledge and 15(30%) had Above average level of knowledge. The results of the study concluded that there is a need for awareness regarding women empowerment.

KEYWORDS

INTRODUCTION

Women constitute almost 50% of the world's population. India has shown disproportionate sex ratio, females population has been comparatively lower than males. Women are not treated as equal to men in all the places. Gender disabilities and discriminations are found in India even today. The women was sometimes in paradoxical situation as they are concerned as goddess and at other times merely as slave. Women have the right to express her thoughts and opinions freely without any restriction. Educational empowerment of women means enabling women to grab the knowledge, skills and self-confidence necessary to participate fully in the development process giving preference to the girl child for educational opportunities. Economic freedom can be achieved through promotion of sustainable livelihoods like cottage industries, small entrepreneurial efforts owned and managed by women.

Social empowerment of women is the most critical aspect of empowerment of women. The promotion of gender equality implies that women and men enjoy the same opportunities, outcomes, rights and obligation in all spheres of life. Political empowerment of women is the existence of a political system encouraging the participation of women in the political decision making process in government. An educated woman with knowledge about health, hygiene, cleanliness is capable of creating a better disease free environment for her family. Empowerment of women is essentially the process of upliftment of economic, social and political status of women in the society. It is the process of guarding them against all forms of violence.

NEED FOR STUDY:

The world population was estimated to have exceeded 7.9 billion as of November 2021. The percentage of women in 2021 worldwide was 49.6%, and 48.04% in India. In 2021, the sex ratio is 1020 women for 1000 men in India. The overall global literacy rate is 86.3%. The literacy rate in males is 75.3% & in female is 53.7% in India. The female workforce in India fallen to 20.3% in 2019. The infant mortality in 2021 was 28.771 per 1000 livebirths in India. Infant mortality is 23 for 1000 livebirths in 2021 and 30 per 1000 livebirths in 2019 in Telangana. The infant mortality is reduced due to proper maternal child health care and increased literacy rates. As of 2011 census, the sex ratio is 977 females per 1000 males in the district. The female literacy rate is only 54.19% in Nalgonda and many households in rural areas were involved in family occupation.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM:

"Assess the knowledge regarding women empowerment among women of selected rural areas, Nalgonda dist, Telangana state."

OBJECTIVES:

- Assess the knowledge regarding women empowerment among women
- Associate the knowledge regarding women empowerment among women with their selected demographic variables

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Research Approach:

Quantitative approach was adopted for the present study.

Research Design:

The research design was Non experimental descriptive design.

Population:

Women in rural areas in Nalgonda (district).

Sample And Sampling Technique :

The sample for the study was Women in Narketpally rural area was selected for the study. The total sample size was 50 . They were selected by Non probability convenient sampling technique.

Criteria For Sample Selection:

Inclusion Criteria :

- Women aged between 20 to 50 years.
- Women who are willing to participate.
- Women who understand Telugu

Exclusion Criteria:

Women who are not available at the time of data collection period.

Development Of The Research Tool :

A structured interview schedule questionnaire was prepared to collect the data to assess the knowledge of women regarding women empowerment in rural area. The tools consist of two Sections.

Section-A : It consists of Demographic data such as age, education, occupation, marital status, religion, monthly income of the family.

Section-B It consist of structured interview schedule with 30 items to assess the knowledge regarding women empowerment among women. It consists of 6 parts. **Part-I:** Questionnaire related to introduction of women empowerment. **Part-II:** Questionnaire related to educational women empowerment. **Part-III:** Questionnaire related to economical women empowerment. **Part-IV:** Questionnaire related to social women empowerment. **Part-V:** Questionnaire related to political women empowerment. **Part-VI:** Questionnaire related to legal provision and rights of women. For analysis purpose, the total knowledge scores were classified as above average (75% & above), average (50-74%), and below average (below 49%).

Data Analysis:

The data was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Section-I: Description of Demographic variables in terms of frequency and percentage.

Section-II: Distribution of Frequency and Percentage of knowledge scores of women.

- Association of knowledge scores of women with selected demographic variables by chi square test.

The above table shows that out of 50 women 16 (32%) had Below average level of knowledge, 19 (38%) had average level of knowledge and 15(30%) had Above average level of knowledge.

Table – 1 Description Of Knowledge Scores Of Women In Terms Of Frequency And Percentage (n=50)

Classification of knowledge scores	Range Of Scores	Frequency	Percentage
Below average	0-14(0-49%)	16	32
Average	15-21(50-74%)	19	38
Above average	22-30 (75-100%)	15	30
Total		50	100

Table – 2 Association Of Knowledge Scores Regarding Women Empowerment With Selected Demographic Variables Of The Women (n=50)

S.No	Demographic variables	Level of Knowledge on Women Empowerment						df	Chi Square.
		Below average <49%		Average 50-74%		Above average >75%			
		f	%	f	%	f	%		
1.	Age								
	20-27 years	1	2	3	6	4	8	6	5.53
	28-35 years	5	10	4	8	5	10		NS
	36-42 years	6	12	4	8	2	4		
	43-50 years	4	22	8	16	4	8		
2.	Religion								
	Hindu	7	14	9	18	8	16	4	1.12
	Muslim	4	8	7	14	5	10		NS
	Christian	4	8	3	6	2	4		
3.	Education								
	Illiterate	1	2	8	16	2	4	6	10.88
	Primary	2	4	4	8	3	6		NS
	Secondary	4	8	4	8	5	10		
	Inter and above	9	18	3	6	5	10		
4.	Occupation								
	Employee	6	12	4	8	4	8	6	4.12
	Self employed	6	16	6	12	4	8		NS
	Daily labour	2	10	6	12	3	6		
	Home maker	2	8	2	4	4	8		
5.	Marital status								
	Married	6	12	9	18	10	12	6	6.14
	Single	4	8	1	2	1	0		NS
	Widow	3	6	5	10	3	2		
	Divorced	3	6	4	8	1	2		
6	Family income per month								
	<Rs.5000/-	3	6	4	8	2	4	6	2.77
	Rs.5000-10000/-	3	6	5	10	2	4		NS
	Rs.10000-15000/-	4	8	5	10	3	6		
	>Rs.15000/-	6	12	5	10	8	16		

NS= Not significant

The above table revealed chi square analysis at 0.05 level of significance.. It shows that there was no significant association between knowledge scores on Women Empowerment with Selected demographic variables.

CONCLUSION:

The study results revealed that majority of women (38%) in rural areas had average level of knowledge regarding women empowerment. There was a significant difference in level of knowledge among women in rural area. Majority of women had lack of knowledge on political empowerment for women. They involve in self help groups and support family by working in their own shops, agriculture fields and related activities on seasonal basis, 36% of women were self employed.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

On the basis of the findings of the present study, following recommendations were made.

1. A similar study may be replicated in different setting with large scale.
2. Assess the knowledge on practice of study can be conducted between working and non –working women
3. A similar study can be conducted for women who are attending rural women in different setting and knowledge and practice can be assessed.

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