



A Study of Sexual Behavior on Yanadi Tribe - A Case Study of Slum Area in Tirupati Town

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ABSTRACT

The Tirupati Municipality has constructed a housing colony consisting of 16 houses for its scavenging workers (Yanadis) in 1978. Recently the colony was extended by the constructing 51 houses. The colony is inhabited with a total Yanadi population of 262. There are 78 municipal workers including both males and females. The Yanadis who have settled in the colony have come from different places like Gangammagudi, Jyothi Theatre and other places in Tirupati. The Yanadis poor economy they used to starve at least once in a day. It became difficult to bring up their children. Illiteracy is another main reason for their miserable state.

Keywords : Yanadi's, Tirupati Municipality, HIV/AIDS

INTRODUCTION

The Yanadis are one of the largest scheduled tribes of Andhra Pradesh. They were listed as criminal tribes and later as ex-criminal or denitrified tribe. The first reports and Ethnographies have given graphic description of the culture of Yanadi on the basis of information obtained from general observation and official records.

- The tribe Yanadi is mainly derived into three sub-tribes.
- Manchi Yanadi or Reddy Yanadi
- Adavi Yanadi
- Challa Yanadi

Reddy Yanadi are agricultural labourers. The Adavi Yanadis depend on forest for their livelihood, and the Challa Yanadis are working as scavengers. The Manchi or Reddy are superior to the Adavi and Challa Yanadis in their social livelihood. These people do not have clans, but they have surnames.

The people are living outside the village and in agricultural fields as field's watchers. Manchi Yanadis are allowed in to the houses of non-tribal. They are allowed to draw water from the well. The Yanadi can also wash and carry water for Brahmins. The social status of Yanadis is higher than scheduled castes.

Yanadis are Non-Vegetarians. They all varieties of food Grains, Roots and Tubers Vegetables and Fruits. They consume liquors. Challa Yanadi eats Rats and Frogs.

The language of Yanadis is Telugu. Identification of Yanadi community is very easy. They are dark skinned. Platy Rhine and short statured people. They wear ordinary clothes. Females wear saris and blouses and males wear dhotis.

The entire census, 1891 the Yanadis returned as many as 89 sub-divisions, of which the two most important numerically

were Chenchu and Manchi. They use a red power, flower, turmeric etc., for worship, burn camphor and incense and distribute fruit, dhal and the like. The house of the gods is a sanctum, into which no polluting object is allowed to enter. The most pious perform rites every Friday. The ordinary Yanadi only worships on occasion of a marriage, funeral. The goddess receives animal sacrifices, but Chenchu Devudu (God) is strict vegetarian, whose votaries are bound, at times of worship, to subsists on a single daily meal of roots and fruits.

OBJECTIVES

- To study the socio-economic aspects of the respondents in study area.
- To study the sexual behavior of Yanadi men in Tirupati urban area
- To find – out the factors responsible for promiscuity among them.
- To suggest suitable programme interventions to bring about behavioral change among them.

METHODOLOGY

The Yanadi Tribe is prone to extra marital sex. Therefore there is every possibility for the spread of several sexually transmitted infections including HIV/ AIDS. Hence, it is necessary to initiate suitable programme interventions to prevent STI's / HIV among the Yanadi tribe. The present study aims to find – out the sexual behavior of tribal men and women, the root cause for extra marital sex among the tribe. This study would help to plan suitable programme interventions to bring about behavioral change among them. This study should certainly go a long way in curbing / preventing HIV among the Yanadi tribe in Andhra Pradesh.

Area of the Study

The present study was conducted in Tirupati town, Andhra Pradesh. The Yanadis (the respondents) are living in Kor-

lagunta area of Tirupati town. There are about 55 family's residing this area.

Data Processing

The collected data was presented in the form of tables. In addition across tabulation has also been done to show the relationship between the independent and dependent variables

Limitation of the Study

It is admitted that the present study has been conducted and a few limitations.

They are

- The study limited to the Yanadis living Tirupati town
- The sample size is too small to make generalizations
- Only a few socio-economic and demographic variables have been to the study the relationship between sexual behaviors of Yanadis.

BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDY POPULATION

Tirupati is a sacred town which lies in the north latitude of 13° - 48° and the East longitude of 79° - 27° and at a height of 500 feet above mean sea level in Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh. Tirupati is situated in the midst of a range of mountains and it is at the foot of south of the hills. Tirupati derives its importance and popularity due to the location of the sacred shrine of Sri Venkateswara at Tirumala which is about 20 K.M. from Tirupati. It is a famous pilgrim centre with its celebrated temples of Sri Govinda Raja Swamy and Sri Kodanda Ramaswamy situated in the town itself.

In the recent years Tirupati town is developed in to as important centre of education. Sri Venkateswara University, Sri Padmavathi Mahila University, the college of Engineering, the College of Medicine, the College of Veterinary Sciences, the College of Agriculture and many other Institutions like the College of Music and Dance etc., are located in the town.

The main castes residing here are Balija, Brahmin, Reddy, Yadava, Kamma and other castes. Tirupati had humble beginning up to 12th century. It had no historical significance. The phenomenal growth of Tirupati is closely linked with the sacred shrine of Sri Venkateswara at Tirumala. Tirupati was constituted in to a Municipality 1st April 1886 under the Madras District Municipalities Act of 1884. T.V. Krishna Rao was nominated by the Government as its first Chairman. In 1961 the Government allowed the Councilors to elect the Chairman. According to 1981 census Tirupati town has 1, 15,692 population. Now it may be around 2.7 lakhs population.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Mans behavior may not be uniform. It differs from time to time, place to place and a person to person. This differential is due to Socio-Economic, Demographic and Cultural characteristics. Based on the socio-economic and demographic characteristics, the present world is fabricated into developed and developing countries. Man is a social being; he cannot live in an isolated world without following certain conditions which are prevailing in the country. Therefore, socio-economic characteristic should be studied comprehensively in order to understand human behavior towards sexual relationship.

AGE

Age is the basic characteristics of the biological attribute of any population group and it affect not only demographic aspects but also social, economical and political structure of human's life. Further, age of the individuals plays crucial role in participating sexual aspects. Therefore, it is necessary to study the age of the respondents while in studying individual's sexual behavior.

Distribution of Respondents by their Age

Age group	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
21-30	18	60.00
31-40	11	36.67
40+	01	3.33

In above table shows the age distribution of the respondents is presented of the total respondents, 60 percent of them are in the age group of 21-30 years followed by 36.67 percent in the age 31-40 years and the rest (3.33 percent) in the group of 40+. From this it is evident that a large percentage of the respondents are in the group of 21-30 years.

EDUCATION

Educational status of an individual enhances his ability to think, analyze and act to better his future living. M through education, an individual gains knowledge and wisdom and think in every act of Endeavour in broad sense and in a more positive way. Education makes people balance and counter balance his emotions and act according to the social needs. Education makes people aware of their roles in the society and in family. Therefore, education plays an important role in changing human's behavior.

Distribution of the Respondents according to their level of Education

Level of Education	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Illiterate	19	63.33
Primary	01	03.33
Upper Primary	05	16.67
High school level	05	16.67

It is clear from above table, that 63.33 percent of the respondents are illiterate. About 3.33 percentage of the respondents studied up to primary school level (5th standard), 16.67 percentage of the respondents studied up to upper primary level and the rest (16.67 percent) of the respondents studied up to high school level. In the whole, more than one – third of the sample respondents are literates. It is interesting to note that majority (63.33 percent) of the respondents are illiterates.

INCOME

Income is one of the most important variables in the study of human behavior. It is one of the indicators of socio-economic status of the population. Income determines the family life style, food habits, and cultural aspects of individuals. In the present study monthly income of the respondents categorized into three groups vise rupees 3000 to 5000, 5001 to 7000 and 7000+. And presented in bellow table.

Distribution of Respondents by their monthly Income

Monthly Income (in rupees)	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
3000 – 5000	13	43.33
5001 - 7000	09	30.00
7001+	08	26.67

The above table shows distribution of respondents by monthly income is persecuted of the total respondents. More than two fifths (43.3 percent) of respondents have monthly income of Rs 3000 -5000/- followed by 30 percent have monthly income of Rs 5001 – 7000/- and rest (26.7 percent) have income of

Rs 7001 and above. Therefore, majority of the respondents in low income group.

OCCUPATION

Occupation is an important economic variable which influence the standard of living of an individual. In India, 70 percent of the population depends on agriculture for their lively hood. In the present study occupation of the respondents divide into three groups namely permanent employees, Daily labors and others.

Distribution of spouse of respondents according to their occupation

Occupation	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Permanent Employee	06	20.00
Daily Labour	15	50.00
Others	09	30.00

The above table furnishes information occupational category of the respondents. Half (50 percent) of the respondents are daily labors followed 30 percent have other occupations Business, Rickshaw Pullers, Farmers etc and rest (20 percent) are permanent employees. Thus majority of respondents working as daily laborers.

MARITAL STATUS

Marriage is universal phenomena on in India. It is a social and religious aspect. Marriage is an important parameter of child bearing and family life. The government of India has risen the minimum age of marriage for Boys as 21 years and for Girls to 18 years. Marital status of an individual's gives social prestige in the society and plays vital role in participating sexual behavior.

Distribution of Respondent by their Marital Status

Marital Status	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Married	28	93.33
Un Married	02	06.67

The above table provides information of marital status of the respondents of the total respondents an overwhelming proportion (93.3 percent) are married and only 6.7 percent are un-married.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN

It is an important aspect from demographic, socio-economic and cultural point of view. It is not only reflects the family life but also socio-economic conditions of the family as well as and the society. It also determines the socio-culture pattern of an individual's life. The number of children of the respondents is presented in following table.

Distribution of respondent by their number of children

Number of Children	Number Respondents	Percentage (%)
No Children	03	10.00
1 Child	02	06.67
2 Child	12	40.00
3+	13	43.33

Distribution of respondents by their number of children is present in above table on the whole more than two – fifths (43.3 percent) respondents have three and above children. Another two – fifths have two children n and 6.7 percent of respondents have one children and rest (10 percent) has no children.

FAMILY SIZE

Family size reflects the life style of the individuals. Dependency ratio increases with increase in the family size. The socio-economic status of the family depends on family size. Further, family size also influences the human behavior directly and indirectly by several ways. Family size of the respondents presented in bellow table.

Distribution of Respondents by their Family size

Family Size	Number of Family's	Percentage (%)
1 – 2	01	03.33
3 – 5	19	63.33
6+	10	33.33

The above table shows the distribution respondents by their family size is presented of total respondents, more than three – fifths (63.3 percent) of respondents have a family size of 3 -5 members followed by 33.3 percent have a family size of 6 and above and rest (3.3 percent) have family size of 1 – 2 members. Therefore, majority of respondents have family size of 3 – 5 members.

SEXUAL CONTACTS

A sexual contact of an individual depends on the socio - economic and cultural characteristics in India pre – marital sex is prohibited. The sexual union begins with marriage of individual. However, in modern days taboos on sexual behavior has been declaiming with industrialization and modernization. Further in India in certain community's sexual contacts is prevailing before and after marriage.

Distribution of Respondents by Sexual Contacts

Sexual contacts	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Before marriage Sexual relationship with Girlfriends	19	63.33
After marriage Sexual relationship with Girlfriends	11	36.67

The table shows marital status and sexual relationship with girlfriend is presented of the total respondents, more than three – fifths (63.3 percent) respondents had sexual relationship with girls friend before marriage and rest (36.7 percent) had after marriage.

From this is evident that majority respondents have pre-marital sex with their girlfriends. This clearly shows the relax of sexual taboos in tribal community.

DIFFERENTIALS IN SEXUAL BEHAVIOR WITH GIRL FRIENDS

This sector examines the differentials in the sexual relationship with girlfriend and as estimation of how the background characteristics (Age, Education, Income, Occupation, Marital Status and Number of children) influence the sexual relationship with girlfriends in tribal men of Yanadis in Andhra Pradesh.

Distribution of respondents by Age and Sexual relationship with girlfriend

Age group	Sexual Relationship with Girlfriend (percentage)
21 - 30	60.0
31 - 40	36.7
40+	03.3

The percentage distribution of respondents by several relationships with girlfriend by Age is shown in above table. Age of the respondents and sexual relationship is inversely related. It was considerable high (60 percent) in the young age group (21 – 30 years) followed 36.7 percent in middle age group (31- 40 years) and only 3.3 percent at later age group (40 and above years).

Distribution of respondents by Educational status and sexual relationship with girlfriend.

Education	Sexual Relationship with Girlfriend (percentage)
Illiterates	63.3
Primary	20.0
High school level	16.7

Educational status of the respondents and sexual relationship with girlfriend presented in above table. Educational status of the respondents and sexual relationship with girlfriend is negatively related. The sexual relationship with girlfriend is high (63.3 percent) in illiterate respondents followed by respondents with primary education (20 percent) and high school education (16.7 percent).

Distribution of respondents by Income status and sexual relationship with girlfriends

Income	Sexual Relationship with Girlfriends (percentage)
3,000 - 5,000	43.3
5,001 – 7,000	30.0
7,001+	26.7

The above table furnishes information on income level and sexual relationship of the respondents with their girlfriends. With an increase in income level the sexual relationship with girlfriend has declined. It is high (43.3 percent) in low income level (Rs 3000 - 5000/-) followed by 30 percent in middle income group (Rs 5001 – 7000/-) and 26.7 percent in high income group (Rs 7001/- and above).

Distribution of respondents by Occupation status and sexual Relationship with girlfriend

Occupation status	Sexual Relationship with Girlfriend (percentage)
Permanent employees	20.0
Daily labours	50.0
Others (Business, Rickshaw pullers, Farmers etc.,)	30.0

The above table provides information on occupation of respondents and sexual relationship with girlfriends. The sexual

relationship was high (50 percent) in daily wage employees followed by 30 percent in others occupational categories such as business, Rickshaw Pullers and Farmers etc, and it was 20 percent among permanent employees.

Distribution of respondents by Marital Status and Sexual relationship with girlfriend

Marital status	Sexual Relationship with Girlfriend (percentage)
Married	93.3
Unmarried	6.7

The percentage of distribution of respondents by their marital status and sexual relationship with their girlfriends is shown in above table. The sexual relationship with girlfriend was high (93.3 percent) in married respondents and it was very low (6.7 percent) in un-married respondents.

Distribution of respondents by number of Children and sexual relationship with girlfriends

Number of Children's	Sexual Relationship with Girlfriend (percentage)
No children	10.00 %
1	06.07%
2	40.00%
3+	43.03%

The percentage distribution of respondents by number of children and sexual relationship with their girlfriends is presented in above table. The number of children and sexual relationship with girlfriend is inversely related. It was high (43.3 percent) for respondents who have three and above children followed by 40 percent for respondents with two children and 6.7 percent for respondents with one child. Another 10 percent of the respondents have no children.

SUMMARY AND IMPLICATIONS

The Yanadis are one of the largest scheduled tribes of Andhra Pradesh. They were listed as criminal tribes and later as ex-criminal or de notified tribe. Description of the culture of Yanadi on the basis of information obtained from general observation and official records. The tribe Yanadi is mainly derived into three sub-tribes.

Manchi Yanadi or Reddy Yanadi, Adavi Yanadi, Challa Yanadi. Reddy Yanadis are agricultural labourers. The Adavi Yanadis depends on forest for their livelihood and the Challa Yanadis are working as scavengers. The Manchi or Reddy Yanadis are superior to the Adavi and Challa Yanadis in their social livelihood. These people do not have surnames, but they have surnames.

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