

## Assess the Level of Knowledge Regarding Child Abuse among the Mothers in Selected Areas at Latur

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### Abstract

According to WHO: "Child abuse or maltreatment constitutes all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power. The National Study on Child Abuse undertaken by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, in 2005, attempts to understand the extent of the problem, its dimensions as well as its intensity. In addition, it examines two aspects: In 2013 report India's Hell Holes: Child Sexual Assault in Juvenile Justice Homes, the Asian Center for Human Rights said that sexual offences against children in India have reached epidemic proportion. The report stated that more than 48,000 child rape cases were recorded from 2001 to 2011 and that India saw an increase of 336% of child rape cases from 2001 (2,113 cases) to 2011 (7,112 cases). Government of India study on child abuse (UNICEF) the findings of the Study on Child Abuse clearly indicate that a very large number of children in India are not even safe in their homes. It is here, in the home, that we must start tackling the problem of child abuse. Interventions are needed to bring about change in the ways family members behave towards children in the home. Research shows that the incidence of abuse among school-going children is lower than amongst those who do not attend school. All efforts must therefore be made to ensure that all children attend school and that schools provide them with a protective environment that is free from violence, with an emphasis on the elimination of corporal.

**Keywords:** Child; Abuse; WHO; Juvenile justice homes

### Introduction

Child abuse is a state of emotional, physical, economic and sexual maltreatment meted out to a person below the age of eighteen and is a globally prevalent phenomenon. However, in India, as in many other countries, there has been no understanding of the extent, magnitude and trends of the problem.

The growing complexities of life and the dramatic changes brought about by socio-economic transitions in India have played various and newer forms of abuse. Child abuse has serious physical and psycho-social consequences which adversely affect the health and overall well-being of a child.

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### In 2013 report India's hell holes

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Research shows that the incidence of abuse among school-going children is lower than amongst those who do not attend school. All efforts must therefore be made to ensure that all children attend school and that schools provide them with a protective environment that is free from violence, with an emphasis on the elimination of corporal punishment. The recent news says that medical profession is arrested due to denial to report or identify a child abuse (Times of India). So the researcher assume that every nursing professional to be aware to identify cases and to be reported, meanwhile the parents have a role to identify a child abuse, their Physiological and behavior status of child also the family member specially mother to be attention toward child in their home . So the researcher took interest of the study to know the awareness of the child abuse among the mother [1-3].

## Statement of the problem

A study to assess the level of knowledge regarding Child Abuse among the mothers in selected areas at Latur.

## Objectives

- To assess the level of knowledge regarding child abuse among mothers in selected areas at Latur.
- To correlate the knowledge with socio demographic variables.

### Assumption

There is a significance association between socio demographic variables and awareness of child abuse

## Operational definition

**Child:** Child refers to someone who has not reached their 18th birthday

**Abuse:** It is usage, improper usage or treatment of entity, often to unfairly or improperly gain benefit.

**Child abuse:** It is physical, emotional, and sexual mistreatment or neglect of a child.

**Awareness:** The state or ability to perceive the objects on child abuse.

**Socio demographic:** Socio demographic variables are characteristics or attributes of subjects that are collected to describe the sample. It includes age, education, religion, occupation, Number of child.

## Research Approach

This research approach used for this study is non-experimental research approach. Mothers awareness about child abuse assessed by closed-ended questionnaires

**Research setting:** The study was conducted the selected areas around the Arvi village at Latur.

**Research design:** A descriptive design was used.

**Sampling technique:** Convenient sampling technique was used to select a sample.

**Population:** The population included who are all having children.

**Sample size:** A sample of 20 mothers who met the inclusion criteria were selected.

## Criteria for Sample Selection

### Inclusion criteria

- Mothers who are all willing to participate in the study.
- Mothers who can understand Marathi and Hindi.

### Exclusion criteria

- Mothers who were absent on the day of date collection.
- Mothers who are all not willing to participate.

## Description of the Tool

### Section I

The first section of the tool consisted of 5 items of selected demographic variables like age, education, religion, occupation, no of child.

### Section II

It consisted of 21 multiple choice questions about awareness of child abuse.

## Date collection procedure

For collecting the date, the following steps were taken, informed consent from the participants. The objectives of the study were explained to each subject and a structured questionnaire was used to collect the information via interview. The confidentiality was assured.

## Findings

The data collected were analyzed based on the objectives of the study. The first objective was to assess level of knowledge regarding child abuse among mothers (Table 1).

Level of knowledge	Frequency	Percentage (N=20)
Inadequate knowledge (0 to 50%)	03	15%
Moderately adequate (51 to 75%)	17	85%
Adequate (76 to 100%)	00	0%

**Table 1:** Levels of knowledge regarding child abuse among mothers.

The study revealed that 15% (03) samples are having inadequate knowledge, 85% (17) sample are having moderately adequate knowledge and 0% samples having adequate knowledge. The second objective was that to correlate the knowledge with socio demographic variables (Table 2).

S.No	Demographic variables	Percentage	Mean	Standard deviation (N=20)
1.	Age			
	Less than 20 years	5%	11.00	00
	21-25 years	45%	9.22	1.39
	26-30 years	25%	10.8	1.16
	More than 30 years	25%	8.8	2.15
2.	Education			
	Illiterate	20%	10.00	2.44
	Primary education	65%	9.76	1.42
	Secondary education	15%	8.33	1.24

	Degree education	0%	00	00
3.	Religion			
	Hindu	100%	9.6	1.74
	Christian	0%	0	00
	Muslim	0%	0	00
	Others	0%	0	00
4.	Occupation			
	Unemployed	100%	9.6	1.74
	Self employed	0%	0	00
	Private	0%	0	00
	Government	0%	0	00
5.	No. of Child			
	None	0%	00	00
	One	20%	9.25	1.21
	Two	30%	10	1.73
	more than two	50%	9.25	1.85

**Table 2:** Association of demographic variables with knowledge level of mothers regarding child abuse.

### Nursing implications

The result of the study showed that all mothers should be educated about the awareness of child abuse and the effects. The nurse can create

an opportunity for the mothers to prevent the child abuse. Nurse educator needs to prepare nursing students to obtained skills and knowledge regarding child abuse. Appropriate knowledge was provided to the college students regarding child abuse. Nursing administrators should conduct educational programme on prevention of child abuse. Generalization of the study result can be made by further replication of the study to large sample [4-6].

### Conclusion

The present study assessed the knowledge level of mothers regarding child abuse and it is found that 3 mothers (15%) had inadequate knowledge and 17 mothers (85%) having moderately knowledge regarding child abuse. Education about the child abuse one of the important aspects in nursing practice. For effective education the nurse should gain knowledge about child abuse and effects thus she can help to mothers regarding reduce child abuse home and the society.

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