

BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS AMONG CHILDREN OF SUBSTANCE ABUSED PARENTS

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ABSTRACT

The abusive substance having a power to influence our new generation in to it especially students and youth are the main prey for this. The present study tries to find out whether there are any behavioral problems among the children of substance abused parents. The focused literature helped the researcher to get an insight about the problem apart from various books, articles, journals and other related resources used to make a strong back up for the study behavioral problems among the children of substance abused parents. The researcher set general objective in order to answer the research questions. 60 respondents are selected including both male and female. Researcher conducted a pilot study for the feasibility of the study. Standardized questionnaire was used for collecting data from the respondents.

Keyword : Substance Abuse, Behaviour Problems, , Alcohol and drug Addiction

Introduction:

Substance abuse is defining as it is a long term, pathological use of alcohol or drugs, characterized by daily intoxication, inability to reduce consumption, and impairment in social or occupational functioning; broadly, alcohol or drug addiction. Problem behaviors are continuous behaviors that hinder social relations, communications and learning of a child and cause harm to them, their families, their peers and other adults. Although they show themselves as tantrums and tendency to

violence, some cases may also show reactions like long sobbing fits. Unless the problem behaviors are eliminated, it would be impossible for the child to complete his development. Problem behaviors, first of all, prevent the child from using his current skills. Children with these behavioral patterns bear the risk of losing their skills because of not putting them into practice. For instance, a child that has the ability to eat with fork and knife show problem behaviors, he will use the fork and knife to make loud noises rather than eat. 'Substance abuse also known as drug abuse is a patterned use of drug in which the user consumes the substance in amount or with methods which are harmful to themselves or others and it's a form of substance related disorder' And also the problem statement and significance of the study, substance abuse is a major public health concern that impacts not just the user but also the user family. The effect of parental substance abuse on children gave attention over the year.

Approximately 20% of adults in treatment for drug dependence live with and parent children ages 2 to 18. Several studies have shown that children living with parents in treatment for drug dependence have higher rates of internalizing and externalizing problems than do demographically matched children in the general population. In addition, children living with drug-dependent parents are more likely to experience socioeconomic disadvantages and report higher stress levels and more social isolation than comparison groups of children of non-abusing parents. Children of alcoholics and other substance abusers are a population without a clear definition. That is, any child whose parent (or parental caregiver) uses alcohol or other drugs in such a way that it causes problems in the child's life. The child may no longer be living with the substance abusing parent because of separation, divorce, abandonment, incarceration or death. And the parent does not have to be still actively drinking or using for the child to continue to feel the impact of the abuse Thus the children of substance abusing parents have changes in behavior in various situations which sometimes leads to undesired behaviours.

Review of Literature:

Hawkins, J. David; Catalano, Richard F.; Miller, Janet Y.(1992).Risk and protective factors for alcohol and other drug problems in adolescence and early adulthood: Implications for substance abuse prevention.Psychological Bulletin, Vol 112(1), Jul 1992, 64-105. He suggests that the most promising route to effective strategies for the prevention of adolescent alcohol and other drug problems is through a risk-focused approach. This approach requires the identification of risk factors for drug abuse, identification of methods by which risk factors have been effectively addressed, and application of these methods to appropriate high-risk and general populationsamples in controlled studies. The authors review risk and protective factors for drug abuse, assess a number of approaches for drug abuse prevention potential with high-risk groups, and make recommendations for research and practice. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2016 APA, all rights reserved).

Catherine, V. (Feb 1996). The relation of parent alcoholism to adolescent substance use: A longitudinal follow-up study. , Journal of Abnormal Psychology, Vol 105(1), 70-80. Chicago :Nelson Hall publishers The current study tested parent alcoholism effects on growth curves of adolescent substance use and examined whether parent and peer influences, temperamental emotionality and sociability, and stress and negative affect could explain parent alcoholism effects. Longitudinal latent growth curve modeling showed that adolescents with alcoholic fathers, boys, and adolescents with drug-using peers had steeper growth in substance use over time than did adolescents without alcoholic fathers, girls, and adolescents without drug-using peers. Data were consistent with father's monitoring and stress as possible mediators of paternal alcoholism effects. However, the direct effects of paternal alcoholism on substance use growth remained significant even after including the hypothesized mediators in the model. This suggests that other (unmeasured) mediators are necessary to fully explain paternal alcoholism risk for adolescents' escalating substance use over time. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2016 APA, all rights reserved)

Williams, Sarah. (2003). Children Who Grow Up In Households With Alcoholic Parents, Pearson Pub; USA According to the National Association for Children of Alcoholics, around 30 million children are born to alcoholic parents. The term adult child of an alcoholic (ACoA) was derived in an attempt to describe the unique characteristics generally found among individuals who grew up with parents, where either one or both, struggled with alcohol abuse. Recent evidence has suggested that children of alcoholics are at a significant risk for a variety of cognitive, emotional, and behavioral problems when compared to peers who were not raised by alcoholic parents. Children from parents who are addicted to substances are the group most at risk for later developing problems with drugs and alcohol, likely due to both genetics and environmental factors. Children of addicted parents are also most likely to suffer child abuse and neglect, compounding existing predispositions towards mental illness and substance abuse.

Objectives of the Study:

- To find out Personal Profile of the respondents
- To assess the level of Behavioural problem OF children whose parents are using substances
- To find out the association between personal profile and Behavioural problem children.

Research Methodology:

The present study is descriptive in nature. The study attempts to describe the Personal profile and behavioral problems of children whose parents are using substances. The researcher selected Kottayam District Kerala., as the universe of the study. For the present study the researcher used purposive sampling to collect data from employees. The researcher used interview schedule as the tool for data collection. The researcher used structured questionnaire 5 point scale (Behavioral Problem Assessment Questionnaire). The data were collected from the respondents through questionnaire.

Analysis and interpretation:

Table no: 1
Demographic Profile of the respondents

S.NO	VARIABLES	PARTICULARS	FREQUENCY	PERCENT (%)
1	Age	<10 years	9	15
		11-15 years	26	43.3
		15-18 years	25	41.67
2	Sex	Male	29	48.3
		Female	31	51.7
3	Residential Area	Urban	35	58.3
		Rural	25	41.7
4	Type of family	Jointfamily	32	53.3
		Nuclear family	28	46.7
5	Father Occupation	Business	34	56.7
		Employee	11	18.3
		Daily Wages	15	25.0
6	Mother Occupation	House Wife	46	76.7
		Employee	14	23.3
7	Family Monthly Income(Rs.)	Below-10000	12	20
		10001-20000	9	15
		20001-30000	29	48.3
		Above 30000	10	16.7
8	No. of siblings	No siblings	3	5.0
		One	18	30.0
		More than One	39	65.0
9	Birth order	I	32	53.3
		II	24	40
		III	4	6.67

The above table indicates, among the total number of the respondents,

Majority 43.3% of the respondents attained the age between 11 & 15 years, 41.67% of the respondents attained the age between 15 & 18 years and 15% of the respondents attained the age less than 10 years. Almost half (51.7%) of the respondents were female and less than half, i.e., (48.3%) of the respondents were male. Majority (58.3%) of the respondents belongs to urban and (41.7%) of the respondents belong to rural area. Majority (53.3%) of the respondents belong to joint family and (46.7%) of the respondents belongs to nuclear family. Majority (56.7%) of the respondent's father were business man, (25%) of the respondent's father were daily wager and (18.3%) of the respondent's father are working employee. More than three fourth (76.7%) of the respondent's mother were house wife and (23.3%) of the respondent's mother were employee. Majority (48.3%) of the respondents earn an income of Rs.20001 to Rs. 30000 per month, (20%) of the respondents earn below to Rs. 10000 per month, 16.7% of the respondents earn above Rs. 30000 per month and (15%) of the respondents Rs.10001 to Rs. 20000 per month. Majority (65%) of the respondents have more than one siblings, (30%) of the respondents have one sibling, and (5%) of the respondents have no sibling. Majority 65% of the respondents have more than one sibling, 30% of the respondents have one sibling and 5% of the respondents no siblings. More than 53.3% of the respondents born as the first child, 40% of the respondents born as the second child and 6.67% of the respondents born as the third child for their parents.

Table no: 2

Distributions of the Respondents by Level of Problem in Behaviour

S.No	Behaviour Problem of the Children of substance abusing parents	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	High	13	21.7
2	Moderate	30	50.0
3	Low	17	28.3
TOTAL		60	100

Table no:3 depicts that exactly 50% of the children of substance abusing parents have moderate behavioral problem, 28.3% of the children of substance abusing parents

have low behavioral problem and 21.7% of the children of substance abusing parents have high behavioral problem.

Table no: 3

Association between Demographic Profile and Behaviour Problems of Substance Abused Children

S.no	Variables	Statistical tool	Value	Df	Result
1	Age	Co-relation			
2	Gender	Co-relation	2.632 ^a	2	.268(NS)
3	Residential Area	Co-relation	.293 ^a	2	.864(NS)
4	Type of family	Co-relation	1.074 ^a	2	.585
5	Father Occupation	Co-relation	3.243 ^a	4	.518(NS)
6	Mother Occupation	Co-relation	.494 ^a	2	.781(NS)
7	Family Monthly Income(Rs.)	Co-relation	5.921 ^a	4	.205(NS)
8	No. of siblings	Co-relation			

The above table depicts the following,

- ❖ There is no significant association between Sex of the respondents and their Behaviour Problem Children
- ❖ There is no significant association between the Residential area of the respondents and their Behaviour Problem Children.
- ❖ There is no significant association between type of family of the respondents and their Behaviour Problem Children.
- ❖ There is no significant association between father occupation of the respondents and their Behaviour Problem Children.
- ❖ There is no significant association between mother occupation of the respondents and their Behaviour Problem Children.
- ❖ There is no significant association between monthly income of the respondents and their Behaviour Problem Children.
- ❖ There is no significant association between the sibling of the respondents and their Behaviour Problem Children.

Conclusion:

Children of substance abusing parents show a broad risk for negative outcomes, though many of the underlying risk processes may be associated with factors that co-occur with parent alcoholism (e.g., parental depression, conflict in the home) rather than with parental substance abuse person. The limited research on substance abusing fathers and young children suggests that they display less sensitivity, engagement, and effective discipline with their children than do non-substance abusing fathers. Children of substance abusing parents who have a secure relationship with a non-substance abusing parent show higher rates of positive adjustment compared to those who do not.

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