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## An Intervention Study on Knowledge and Practice of Child Rights in India

**Dr. S. D. Mishra**

Faculty Member, Department of Social Work, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat, India

### **Abstract:**

*According to UNICEF Report more than 6 out of 10 respondents say they are very well or somewhat informed with respect to children's rights. The purpose of the present study is to aware children about their rights through intervention. Researcher had selected those children who are orphans and destitute and staying in institutionalised home. In this present paper author has argued that if we accept the provision, protection and participation rights of children articulated in the UNCRC, then children should be aware and encourage it as well. In present study it has been found that after intervention children's knowledge and practice towards child rights has increased significantly and positively.*

**Keywords:** Child Rights, UNCRC, Children participation

### **1. Backdrop**

Individual rights which allow children to grow up healthy and free, these are the rights of a child enabling to develop his/her potential so that he/she enters adulthood without disadvantage. For instance, children have the right to protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation and discrimination. This includes inter alia the right to safe places for children to learn and to play, to constructive child-rearing behaviour, and acknowledgment of the evolving capacities of children. Therefore, it is utmost importance that children must be aware about their rights. Researches has found that children themselves feel powerless and with little control over their own lives if children they do not aware of. Further, it's also require that researches should harness an opportunities to engage children. The UN Committee 2009 has stressed that the child should have access to information in formats appropriate to their age and capacities to all issues of concern to them. The Convention on the Rights of the Child provides three articles related to participation and they are: Article 12 states that children who can form their own views should have the right to express those views and have them taken into account. However, the right to participate and freedom of expression are not equated with self-determination. Each child's views are their "reality", which must be considered, but also must be weighed against the best interests of the child in any decisions eventually taken, Article 13 states that children have the right to freedom of expression, which includes seeking, receiving and giving information and ideas through speaking, writing or in print, through art or any other media of the child's choice. Their participation is not a mere formality; children must be fully informed and must understand the consequences and impact of expressing their opinions and Article 14 establishes that State parties must respect children's right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, as well as parents' or guardians' role in their exercising this right. The quality of feeling informed does not by itself necessarily signify that they are fully aware of their rights. According to UNICEF Report more than 6 out of 10 respondents say they are very well or somewhat informed with respect to children's rights. In Article 42 of the UNCRC states that all adults and children should know about the UNCRC. In the 2008 Concluding Observations to Wales, the UN Committee said that the Welsh Government (WG) should make sure that the rights in the UNCRC are known and understood by adults and children and that there must be training on the UNCRC for all adults working with children including the police, immigration workers, the media, teachers, health professionals, social workers and childcare workers.. with reference to this The purpose of the present study is to aware children about their rights through intervention. Researcher had selected those children who are orphans and destitute and staying in institutionalized home. Author also firmly suggested that there should several intervention program on UNCRC article with children so as to aware and encourage them.

### **2. Objectives of the Study**

- i. To study socio demographic characteristics of children such age, education and duration of stay at institutionalised home.
- ii. To study knowledge and practice of child rights among institutionalised children.
- iii. To study pre-post intervention results of children's knowledge and practice about child rights

### **3. Methodology**

#### *3.1. Hypotheses of the Study*

- i. There is a significant association between pre and post intervention results with reference to child rights knowledge and practice.

- ii. There is a significant mean difference between pre and post intervention results with reference to child rights knowledge and practice

### 3.2. Research Design

Need assessment will carry out to develop intervention packages of children. Purpose of this study is to find out interpret and assess the children's awareness opinion regarding child rights in India hence the present study is descriptive in nature.

### 3.3 Sample and Sampling

The researcher had selected 63 sample sizes on the base of Krejcie & Morgan (1970) table out of which 52 had responded. The researcher had selected systematic random sampling method to carry out the present study.

### 3.4. Tools for data collection for Pre and Post Intervention

Research constructed the questionnaire and verified with the practitioners working in child right domain. After inculcating their suggestion questionnaire is modified and used for intervention purpose

## 4. Results and Discussion

Present study conducted with children who are orphanage or destitute and staying with institutionalised home. intervention results has been discussed in two parts and they are

### 4.1. Part I Child Respondents Socio- Demographic Information

Age	No. of Respondent	Percent (%)
13	13	25
14	15	28.8
15	11	21.2
16	10	19.2
17	3	5.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents according to Age wise

Source: Field Data

Above table depicted that in present study the age group was selected between the ages of 13 years to 17 years. Out of 100 per cent, 28.8 per cent of respondents (n= 15) are in the age of 14 years, 21.2 per cent of respondents(n=11) are 15 years of age, 25 per cent (n= 13) are in the age of 13 years and 19.2 per cent of respondents (n=10)are running in the age of 16 years, whereas in the age of 12 and 13 years 11.5 per cent (n=06)and 13.5 per cent of respondents(n=07) belongs and last but not least 5.8 per cent of respondents (n=03) is in the age of 17 years.

Gender	No. of Respondent	Percent (%)
Boys	25	48.1
Girls	27	51.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents according to Gender wise

Source: Field Data

From the data it can be seen that out of total 52 numbers of respondents t, 25 child respondents (48.1%) are boys participants whereas 27 child respondents (n= 51.9) are girls participant participated in present study.

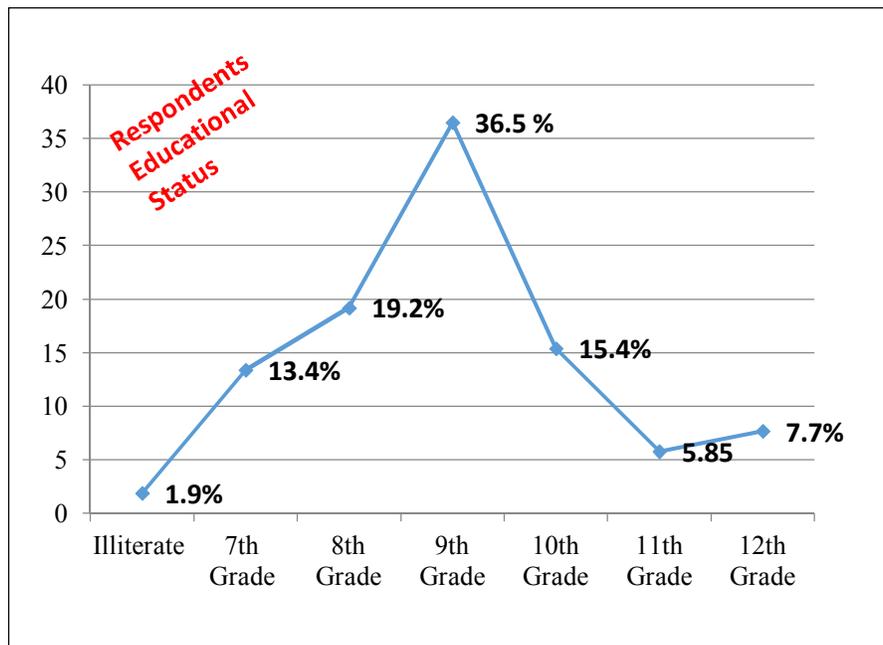


Figure 1: Distribution of the Respondents according to their Education Wise

The present study collected from orphan and destitute children. Education is only a social indicator which leads these children to restore in the society. Above data precisely indicate that all children is ahead towards their academic qualification. Out of 100 per cent , 36.5 per cent respondent studying in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, 19.2 per cent respondent studying in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, 15.4 per cent respondent studying in high school that is 10<sup>th</sup> grade whereas in higher secondary 7.7 per cent studying in class 12<sup>th</sup> and 5.8 per cent studying in class 10<sup>th</sup>.

Time period staying at home	No. Of Respondent	Percent
Don't Know	17	32.7
1	4	7.7
4	1	1.9
5	1	1.9
6	3	5.8
8	5	9.6
9	2	3.8
10	2	3.8
11	5	9.6
12	6	11.5
13	3	5.8
14	2	3.8
18	1	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 3: Showing distribution of Respondents according to their stay at Institutionalized Home

It has been observed from the table that out of total 52 numbers of respondents , 17 child respondents (n=32.7 %) respondents do not know since long they are institutionalized.

4.2. Part 2 Intervention Results with reference to Knowledge and Practice of Child Rights

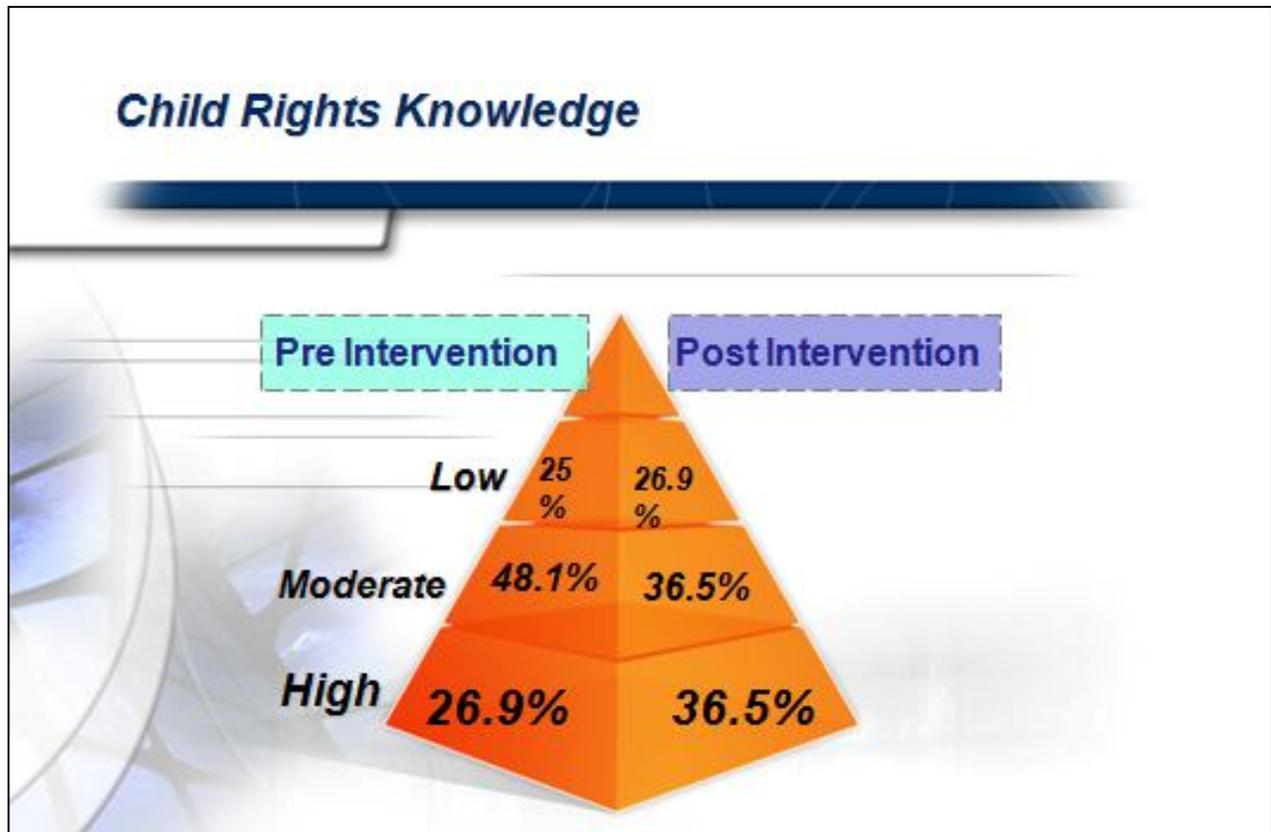


Figure 2: Showing Respondent Awareness regarding Knowledge about Child Rights

It can be seen from the results that after intervention knowledge about child rights has increased among child respondents. Out of 100 per cent 26.9 percent child respondents (n=14) responded high response and increasing trends founds in post intervention i.e. 36.5 per cent child respondents (n=19). Hence it can be say that due to intervention the knowledge of child rights among children has shown difference in pre and post results.

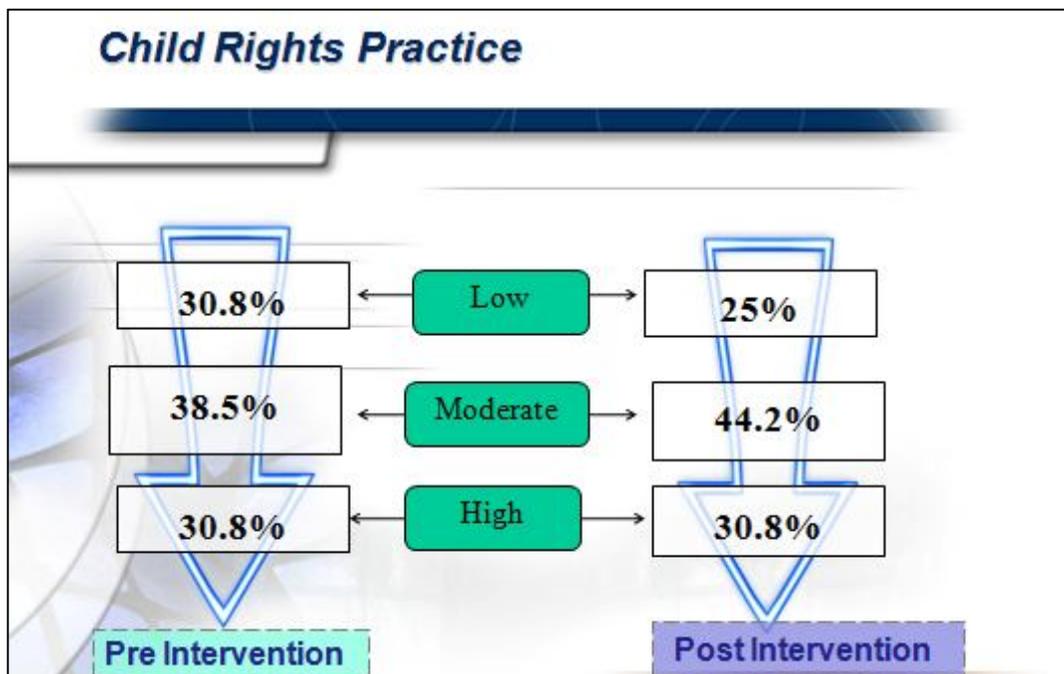


Figure 3: Showing Respondent Awareness regarding Child Rights Practice

With reference to child right practice it has been found that before intervention 30.8 per cent (n= 16) child respondent has viewed low practice whereas after intervention 25 per cent (n=13) has viewed. Moderate practice found with reference to child rights has showed significant impact, it can be observed that before intervention 38.5 per cent (n= 20) opined whereas after intervention 44.2 per cent (n=23). Further, it has been that in category of high response an equivalence response found. The one of the purpose of intervention understand child about intervention module so that they put in practice in their daily living. Such exercise immensely helps children to achieve their rights and can contribute their participation in children development.

Paired Samples Statistics				
	Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Pre Intervention	1.1840	52	11.26379	1.56201
Post Intervention	1.4021	52	12.09981	1.67794

Paired Samples Correlations			
	N	Correlation	Sig.
Pre Intervention	52	-.295	.034
Post Intervention			

Paired Samples Test								
	Paired Differences					t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
				Lower	Upper			
Pre Intervention Post Intervention	-2.18077	18.80659	2.60800	-27.04348	-16.57190	-8.362	51	.000

Table 4: Showing the Impact of Intervention in Relation to Child Rights with reference to Pre and Post Intervention

From the table it can be observed that intervention did impact on children knowledge with reference to child rights. The main purpose of the study is to orient children about child right particular those children who are in need for care and protection and are institutionalized. And looking to the intervention results it can be strongly said that aim is fulfilled and hypotheses are proved. (p.000)

## 5. Concluding Remarks

“Caution and Protection” are the watchwords have to be learned from the child right issues. Children’s rights *per se* can never be considered in isolation – to claim a right, or exercise a right, automatically entails a response, or a responsibility, sometimes described as a duty. A significant corollary to children’s rights is the notion of citizenship (Heater, 2004; Ister, 2008; May, 2004; Taylor & Smith, 2009). In one of the consultation meet at UNHR office of high commissioner 2011 it had been reported that In India facilitators noted that most children said they were inspired by teachers, their parents and NGO workers, because ‘they teach them, help them and show them the right path in life’, and that the children themselves wanted to ‘do something in their community, but don’t have the sufficient amount of scope to make their desires complete’.

In this present paper author has argued that if we accept the provision, protection and participation rights of children articulated in the UNCRC, then it follows that children should be aware and encourage about their rights. Participation is children rights and a practical imperative. It is very well observed that after intervention children knowledge and practice towards child rights has increased. In final note author firmly suggested that on continuous program such intervention program should be there in schools and communities, then only one can meet Article 42 of UNCRC.

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