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Bethania Foundation in Kodaikanal and Its Children's Emotional Intelligence and Level of Aspiration - a Case Study

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Abstract:

This study was designed to assess emotional intelligence and level of aspiration of children in Bethania Foundation in Kodaikanal. AnukoolHyde, Sanjoy Dethé, Upinder Dhar (2001) Questionnaire was used to measure the emotional intelligence of children in Bethania foundation at Kodaikanal. Dr.M.Suresh Kumar and C.Arunraj (2010) Questionnaire was used to measure the level of aspiration of children in Bethania foundation at Kodaikanal. The study was conducted on a random sample of 200 children in Bethania Foundation in Kodaikanal. The findings revealed that the emotional intelligence of the children was high and they also have higher levels of aspiration because of the deep commitments of all the members, workers of Bethania Foundation. This study also reveals that the success of the Bethania Foundation at Kodaikanal is due to the co-operation and commitment by the chairperson and all the unit leaders towards bereaved children. It also reveals that the state of children in Bethania Foundation was good and they are cared in every level.

Keywords: Emotional intelligence, level of aspiration, Bethania foundation, educational service

1. Introduction

“Childhood is the most beautiful period of our journey here on Earth because it is the time when one will get to know many things and experiences that contribute an influence our way to maturity. To be a bereaved is not something to be ashamed of, it is just a misfortune that someone has, it is the fact that one's way of life is sprinkled with more obstacles but have to be optimistic and believe that the sun will shine bright and somewhere, sometime, a family will open their arms for us.”

The lack of parents enables the bereaved to seek for more interesting and adventurous lives, by freeing them from familial obligations and controls, and depriving them of more prosaic lives. It creates characters that are self-contained and introspective and who strive for affection. Bereaved can metaphorically search for self-understanding through attempting to know their roots.

The personality make up of the bereaved as a group was different from that of the non-bereaved. The bereaved showed psychoneurotic tendencies in the form of exhibition of more negative emotion, feelings of anxiety, inferiority, dejection, helplessness, insecurity, shyness, reserve passivity, anxiety and emotional instability. They seemed to acquire a feeling of hostility towards authority and society. They had less positive attitude towards society, life, humanity, religion and elders than non-bereaved. They adjust in the home, social adjustment and health adjustment were unsatisfactory among bereaved. Their personality was dominated by negative emotions. They were less cooperative and social in comparison with non-bereaved.

The bereaved fail to develop the Leadership Qualities. The majority of children are from the rural areas. They are kept away from taking up the leadership of their own villages or areas. The inmates have no contact with others outside the compound wall. The progress of children lies in having involved with a view to becoming responsible and to develop one's talents. It is also to be coming forward to experience a sense of belongingness. It involves them to become active by recognizing themselves, as important persons. Each one is taking up a leadership role. Children's participation and involvement, and opportunity to develop their potentialities to become each one a leader individually are not satisfactory. Usually the inmates in the bereaved have the notion that they are not 'born leaders' or 'that the leadership does not belong to them. They have the notion that, they need to depend on others.

1.1. Need and Significance of the Study

The number of bereaved children grows, their communities become less and less capable of addressing all their needs including their ability to go school. Accordingly, there is an increase in organisations which extends their hands to service those bereaved children. Education is very much essential for the future of all children, especially to those who are bereaved. Education gives children hope for life and work. Children are not born with social skills they must learn them. Educating the heart is as important as educating the mind. Children need the emotional intelligence which helps them to be successful in life. In the modern world, education is getting widened

and there is a cut throat competition among students to excel. Students find difficult to control their emotions in order to face various situations in school life. It is imperative to manage stress and strain to keep pace with the demands of the world. The way of managing emotions is crucial for better performance. Emotions of a student can affect them in many ways. Intelligence may help students in acquiring subject knowledge, but only emotional intelligence can enrich their learning proficiency and make them efficient as well as achievers. As their emotional intelligence are high so as their level of aspiration in their life. Every individual has their own desires and to achieve greater level in their life. In today's Modern world technology is changing rapidly, the advancement in society is very rapid. In order to cope up with these developments of the world children especially in India should be goal oriented. Higher goals can be achieved only when they wish for it. Aspiration would contribute highly to achieve these goals later in their lives. Young people's Aspirations guide what pupils have to learn in school, how they can prepare for adult life, and what they can eventually do. Aspirations are the most patent and the basic sources of one's success when they are combined with definitions of purpose, perseverance, burning, pulsating and irresistible desire to translate them into action, they become dynamic force. Aspiration thus developed determines the future of a person and is development. Here the investigator has come to know that there is a NGO named Bethania foundation in Kodaikanal which is rendering their service to bereaved children and the public. Education is very important for everyone. Especially for the life of the orphan children it is the life giving source. Like other children it is so necessary for these orphan children to improve their status of life in society. Since these children depend on others for all their needs it is very important. Moreover, in order to stand on their own leg and set their future in a better way education is so indispensable. The investigator has thus taken an attempt to conduct a case study on Bethania Foundation in Kodaikanal in the context of education. The investigator also intended to measure the emotional intelligence and the level of aspiration of children in Bethania foundation. The investigator finds it is significant to undertake this study in order to find out the strengths and limitations of this particular organization and help to suggest the way to improve it in the days to come.

1.2. Objectives

- ✓ To study the structure and functioning of the Bethania Foundation
- ✓ To study the educational services of Bethania Foundation
- ✓ To find out the level of emotional intelligence among children of Bethania Foundation
- ✓ To find out the level of aspiration among children of Bethania Foundation

1.3. Hypotheses

- The emotional intelligence of children in Bethania Foundation is high
- The level of aspiration of children in Bethania Foundation is high
- There is no significant difference between age group of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is no significant difference between gender of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is no significant difference between Locality of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is no significant difference between religion of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is no significant difference between community of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is no significant difference between status of parents of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is no significant difference between residence of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is no significant difference between number of years of children in Bethania home with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is no significant difference between class studying of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is no significant difference between number of siblings of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is no significant difference between age group of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is no significant difference between gender of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is no significant difference between Locality of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is no significant difference between religion of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is no significant difference between community of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is no significant difference between status of parents of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is no significant difference between residence of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is no significant difference between number of years of children in Bethania home with regard to their aspiration.
- There is no significant difference between class studying of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.

- There is no significant difference between number of siblings of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is no association between age group of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is no association between gender of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is no association between Locality of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is no association between religion of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is no association between community of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is no association between status of parents of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is no association between residence of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is no association between number of years of children in Bethania home with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is no association between class studying of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is no association between number of siblings of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is no association between age group of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is no association between gender of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is no association between Locality of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is no association between religion of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is no association between community of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is no association between status of parents of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is no association between residence of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is no association between number of years of children in Bethania home with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is no association between class studying of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is no association between number of siblings of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is no relationship between emotional intelligence and aspiration among children of Bethania Foundation

2. Methodology

The investigator has adopted survey method of research to find out the emotional intelligence and the level of aspiration of children in Bethania Foundation at Kodaikanal. The investigator has adopted a case study method of research to study about the educational services rendered by the Bethania Foundation at Kodaikanal. Survey was a 'fact finding' study. It was a method of research involving collection of data directly from a population or a sample. It must not be confused with the mere clerical routine of gathering and tabulating figures. It requires expertise and imaginative planning, careful analysis and rational interpretation of the findings. Case study is the indepth study of an individual or an institution. Case studies are in-depth investigations of a single person, group, event or community. Typically, data are gathered from a variety of sources and by using several different methods. The case study research method originated in clinical medicine. The case study method often involves simply observing what happens to, or reconstructing 'the case history' of a single participant or group of individual, i.e., idiographic approach. The case study is not itself a research method, but researchers select methods of data collection and analysis that will generate material suitable for case studies such as qualitative techniques.

2.1. Tools

The researcher used unstructured interview schedule from the Head's of Bethania Foundation to collect data for the present study. The investigator also used Emotional Intelligence Scale by Anukool Hyde, Sanjoy Dethé, Upinder Dhar(2001). It consists of 33 statements and Level of Aspiration scale by Dr. M. Suresh Kumar and C. Arunraj (2010) consists of 33 statements to collect data from children of the Bethania Foundation. Both the tools used for the study was a five point rating scale.

2.2. Description of the EIS Tool

i) Emotional Intelligence Scale (EIS) developed by Anukool Hyde, Sanjoy Dethé and Upinder Dhar (2001)

The initial world of Emotional Intelligence Scale (EIS), which was prepared by the authors, was intended to develop a suitable self-report measure for Indian milieu. The items in Emotional intelligence scale includes dimensions such as Self Awareness (6, 12, 18, 29 items) Empathy (9, 10, 15, 20 and 25 items), Self – Motivation (2, 4, 7, 8, and 31 items), Emotional Stability (14, 19, 26

and 28 items), Managing Relation (1, 5, 11 and 17 items), Integrity (16, 27 and 32 items) Self- Development (30 and 33 items), Value Orientation (21 and 22 items), Commitment (23 and 24 items) and Altruistic behaviour (3 and 13 items).

EIS can be used for research and survey purposes and also for individual assessment. It is eminently suitable for group as well as individual testing.

2.3. Scoring Procedure

Scoring was done with the help of scoring key. The sum of the ratings of all the items constitutes the score of the trainees. The maximum score possible for EIS is 165 and the minimum is 33

3. Reliability and Validity of the EIS Tool

3.1. Validity

The face validity was also established by the author with the help of the assessment of Judge/experts that items of the scale are directly related to the concept of emotional intelligence.

3.2. Reliability

The reliability of the Emotional Intelligence Scale was established by the author. The reliability coefficient of the tool was 0.88.

3.3. Construction of Level of Aspiration Assessment Scale

The author constructed 36 items revealing the concept of aspiration. It has four dimensions

- Goal setting
- Achievement motivation
- Perception and
- Time management

The items for these dimensions were collected from the following sources: (i) As many as experts working in the field of psychology (ii) as many as experts in the field of education (iii) related articles from the journals (iv) downloaded material from the internet sources.

A tryout study was conducted to refine the items. The author received opinion from as many as eight experts in the field of education. Based on the opinion given by the experts, the author modified the items in the aspiration assessment scale. The modified aspiration assessment scale consists of 36 statements

The scale calls for a graded response to each statement on a five point scale such as “very intensively”, “intensively”, “normally”, “leniently” and “never”. The points on the scale are assigned arbitrary weights

- Table Showing The Arbitrary Weights of Response Category in Aspiration Assessment Scale

Response	Score
Very intensively	5
Intensively	4
Normally	3
Leniently	2
Never	1

Table 1

4. Analysis and Interpretation

The hypothesis were tested using measures of central tendency as the mean and the measures of variable like standard deviation

S.No	Variable (Emotional Intelligence)	Sample	N	Mean	S.D	't' value	'p' value
1.	Gender	Boys	129	147.05	7.58	1.513	0.132
		Girls	71	148.66	6.39		
2.	Locality	Rural	133	148.25	7.38	1.730	0.085
		Urban	67	146.39	6.73		
3.	Residence	Home	49	147.41	7.31	0.242	0.809
		Parents	151	147.70	7.20		

Table 2

4.1. Interpretation

Based on the mean score girls are higher in their emotional intelligence than boys. Based on the mean score, children from rural are higher in their emotional intelligence than children from urban. Based on the mean score children residing with their parents are higher in their emotional intelligence than children residing in home.

The hypothesis were tested using measures of central tendency as the mean and the measures of variable like standard deviation

S.No	Variable (Level of Aspiration)	Sample	N	Mean	S.D	't' value	'p' value
1.	Gender	Boys	129	143.36	4.31	7.905	0.000
		Girls	71	148.32	4.44		
2.	Locality	Rural	133	144.89	4.50	0.975	0.331
		Urban	67	145.60	5.50		
3.	Residence	Home	49	145.27	5.14	0.232	0.817
		Parents	151	145.08	4.77		

Table 3

4.2. Interpretation

Based on the mean score girls are higher in their aspiration than boys. Based on the mean score, children from rural are higher in their aspiration than children from urban. Based on the mean score children residing with their parents are higher in their aspiration than children residing in home.

The hypothesis were tested using one way ANOVA

S.No	Variable (Emotional Intelligence)	Source	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	'F' value	'p' value
1.	Age group	Between groups	1632.44	2	816.20	18.443	0.000
		Within groups	8718.471	197	44.256		
2.	Number of siblings	Between groups	232.762	2	116.381	2.266	0.106
		Within groups	10118.113	197	51.361		
3.	Status of parents	Between groups	452.927	2	226.464	4.507	0.012
		Within groups	9897.948	197	50.243		
4.	Number of years in children's home	Between groups	9.174	2	4.587	0.087	0.916
		Within groups	10341.701	197	52.496		
5.	Religion	Between groups	855.500	2	427.75	8.875	0.000
		Within groups	9495.375	197	48.2		
6.	Community	Between groups	733.060	2	366.530	7.508	0.001
		Within groups	9617.815	197	48.821		
7.	Class studying	Between groups	891.126	3	297.042	6.155	0.001
		Within groups	9459.749	196	48.264		

Table 4

4.3. Interpretation

Among all the hypothesis tested showed that there is a significant difference among age group of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence. There is a significant difference among the status of the parents of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence. There is a significant difference among religion of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence. There is a significant difference among community of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence. There is a significant difference among class studying of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.

The hypothesis were tested using one way ANOVA

S. No	Variable (Level of Aspiration)	Source	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	'F' value	'p' value
1.	Age group	Between groups	644.952	2	322.476	15.682	0.000
		Within groups	4050.923	197	20.563		
2.	Number of siblings	Between groups	106.092	2	53.046	2.277	0.105
		Within groups	4589.783	197	23.298		
3.	Status of parents	Between groups	824.061	2	412.031	20.964	0.000
		Within groups	3971.814	197	19.654		
4.	Number of years in children's home	Between groups	4.721	2	2.361	0.099	0.906
		Within groups	4691.154	197	23.813		
5.	Religion	Between groups	351.147	2	175.574	7.961	0.000
		Within groups	4344.728	197	22.054		
6.	Community	Between groups	1051.103	2	525.552	28.406	0.000
		Within groups	3644.772	197	18.501		
7.	Class studying	Between groups	812.177	3	270.726	13.663	0.000
		Within groups	3883.698	196	19.815		

Table 5

4.4. Interpretation

Among all the hypothesis tested showed that there is a significant difference among age group of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration. There is a significant difference among the status of the parents of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration. There is a significant difference among religion of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration. There is a significant difference among community of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration. There is a significant difference among class studying of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.

5. Delimitations

1. The investigator has confined the study only to one organization named Bethania Foundation at Kodaikanal.
2. The investigator has taken children of Bethania Foundation at Kodaikanal.
3. The investigator has concentrated more towards the educational service of Bethania Foundation at Kodaikanal.
4. The investigator has taken only 200 children of Bethania Foundation at Kodaikanal.
5. Only two psychological variables Emotional Intelligence and level of Aspiration was measured among children of Bethania Foundation.

6. Limitation

The collected data is applicable only to Bethania Foundation in Kodaikanal.

7. Major Findings

- The emotional intelligence among children of Bethania Foundation was high
- The level of aspiration among children of Bethania Foundation was higher
- There is a significant difference between age group of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is a significant difference between religion of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is a significant difference between community of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is a significant difference between status of parents of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is a significant difference between class studying of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their emotional intelligence.
- There is a significant difference between age group of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is a significant difference between gender of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is a significant difference between religion of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is a significant difference between community of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is a significant difference between status of parents of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is a significant difference between class studying of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their aspiration.
- There is an association between age group of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is an association between religion of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is an association between community of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is an association between status of parents of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is an association between class studying of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is an association between number of siblings of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of emotional intelligence.
- There is an association between age group of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
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- There is an association between Locality of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
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- There is an association between community of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is an association between status of parents of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is an association between class studying of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is an association between number of siblings of children in Bethania Foundation with regard to their level of aspiration.
- There is an relationship between emotional intelligence and aspiration among children of Bethania Foundation
- It is found that all the children are happy in Bethania Foundation because all their needs are fully satisfied.
- It is found that all the children in Bethel and Shalom Home have a good rapport with their Home Mother. The Home Mother never show anger towards their children and emprise them through love.
- It is found that all children like to pursue higher studies. Since the children know well the education alone will improve their status of their life they strongly catch hold of an idea to go for higher studies.
- FMRIC is offering their medical services to all the children of Bethania Foundation.
- Since the children enjoy all the benefits at free of cost in Bethania Foundation, they need to realize their responsibilities and should come forward to achieve in their life with all the best opportunities provided to them.
- Differently abled children also enjoy all the benefits like normal children in Bethania Foundation.
- According to them serving poor is like service to God.
- All the members of Bethania Foundation are more service minded.

8. Recommendations for the Present Study

1. Government has to help Bethania financially because now they are getting very low foreign fund.
2. People who are financially good they can come forward to offer these needy children of Bethania.
3. All Bethania units are functioning only in a rental building. Government can come forward to construct own building for them.

4. Some children in the home are abandoned child, hence awareness program on family life and our marriage culture should be conducted among the public.
5. Illegal parents who have thrown their child on roads should be severely punished under Law.
6. Career counseling should be given to children so that still more they aspire high in their life.

9. Suggestions for Further Study

1. The study was conducted on Bethania Foundation in Kodaikanal. It can be carried out in any other organisations in other parts of Tamil Nadu.
2. Same Bethania Foundation Activities can be studied in other parts of Tamil Nadu. Because each Bethania is unique in their activities performed. It is all on the bases of the local needs.
3. Emotional intelligence and Level of Aspiration can also be studied in the underprivileged children who are not the beneficiaries of Bethania.
4. Other psychological variables can also be measured among children of Bethania Foundation.
5. A comparative study can also made between children in Bethania Foundation in Tamil Nadu

10. Implications of the Study

1. Children should be encouraged as active participants in the productive process of the society.
2. Children should realize that the grant of equal rights to them is not to develop confrontation with normal children in the society.
3. Children should be aware of their legal rights and the opportunity available for them to progress.
4. Children should be inculcated with social skills and develop self confidence.

11. Conclusion

Family and community based programs may help parentally bereaved children. Social interventions can help decrease the risk of abandonment. Economic support can help the child stay in family and stay healthy. Supporting children and families in their grief response can contribute to strong families and well adjusted children. This study reveals that the success of Bethania Foundation at Kodaikanal is due to the co-operation and commitment by the chair person and all the unit leaders towards bereaved children. It also reveals that the state of children in Bethania Foundation was good and they are cared in every level. The deep commitments of all the members, workers of Bethania Foundation are the secret of the organization.

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