A COMPARATIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE LEVEL OF SELF-ESTEEM AMONG ADOLESCENTS LIVING IN A SELECTED FOSTER HOMES AND BIOLOGICAL HOMES AT KARAIKAL.

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ABSTRACT

A comparative study was conducted to assess the level of self-esteem among adolescents living in a selected foster homes and biological homes at Karaikal. The objectives of the study to assess the level of self-esteem among adolescents in selected foster homes and biological homes, to compare the level of self-esteem among adolescents in selected foster homes or biological homes, to find out an association between level of self-esteem among adolescents living in foster homes and biological homes with their selected demographic variables. The design used for this study was Comparative descriptive design. The study was carried out in selected biological homes and foster homes at karaikal. The population for the study was adolescent's age of 14 to 17 years who are all living in selected foster home and biological home. The samples for the present study were biological adolescents and foster homes adolescents at karaikal, who were selected to participate in this study. The sample size comprised of 80 adolescents living in selected foster homes and biological homes at karaikal. Purposive sampling technique was used. The findings of the current study foster home adolescent girls had low self-esteem compared to biological home adolescent girls.

Key words - self-esteem , adolescents, Foster Homes , Biological Homes **.**

INTRODUCTION

"You yourself, as much as anybody in the entire universe, deserve your love and affection"

The word Adolescence comes from the Latin word " Adolescere", which means "to grow up". Adolescent development adolescence can be defined biologically as the physical transition marked by the

onset of puberty and the termination of physical growth, cognitively, as changes in the ability to think abstractly and multi dimensionally or socially s a period of preparation for adult roles.Self-esteem reflects a person's overall subjective emotional evaluation of his or her own worth. **(Wikipedia).**

India has largest number of estimated 31 millions of orphans. At present 20% girls living at each orphan home. 800 to 1000 per child are adopted every day. The total number of orphans world wide is projected to reach 44 million by 2020. Children who are in foster homes and orphans are one of the most vulnerable, helpless and needy groups of children all over the world. These children are suffering from one or the other trauma of losing one or both parents followed by lack of basic needs, schooling and adequate care and nutrition . They suffer from all kind of physical , social , psychological and economical development. Studies show that levels of self esteem appear different in gender.

Girls seem to have lower levels of self esteem than the boys. Research has found that satisfaction with physical appearance is a large component of self esteem and adolescence girls have greater dissatisfaction with physical appearance than boys. **(Harter).** Few studies have been conducted on self esteem of children in younger age groups during recent years. Foster home children are in crucial phases of their physical and mental growth and they need special attention in their health care. It is the responsibility of each health personnel to provide the nation with healthy children. Hence the researcher felt need to assess the self esteem of adolescents who stays in foster homes and in biological homes.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A comparative study to assess the level of self-esteem among adolescents living in a selected foster homes and biological homes at Karaikal.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- ❖ To assess the level of self-esteem among adolescents in selected foster homes and biological homes.

- ❖ To compare the level of self-esteem among adolescents in selected foster homes or biological homes.

- ❖ To find out an association between level of   self-esteem among adolescents living in foster homes and biological homes with their selected demographic variables.

HYPOTHESIS

❖ **H1**:- There will be a significant difference in self-esteem among adolescents living in foster homes and biological homes

❖ **H2**:- There will be a significant association between adolescents living in foster homes and biological homes with selected demographic variables.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study approach is Quantitative and design used for this study is Comparative descriptive design. The study was carried out in selected biological and foster homes at karaikal. The sample size comprised of 80 adolescents aged 14 to 17 years who are living in selected foster home and biological home was selected using purposive sampling technique. The tool consists of two parts. Selection I : Demographic variables - consists of age, sex, educational qualification of parents, monthly income of family, educational status, hobbies, food habit, domicile, siblings. Reason for staying, number of years staying in foster home, life in foster home and siblings. Selection II: Self esteem Questionnaires - includes Modified Rosenberg self esteem questionnaires. There are 40 items pertaining to the level of self-esteem of adolescents. Each items has 4 options. It has 26 positive questions and 14 negative questions. The maximum score was 120. The level of self-esteem was categorised based on the percentage of score obtained. 75% and above consider as high level of self-esteem, 50% - 74% is consider as moderate level of self-esteem, Less than 50% consider as low level of self-esteem.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION:

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

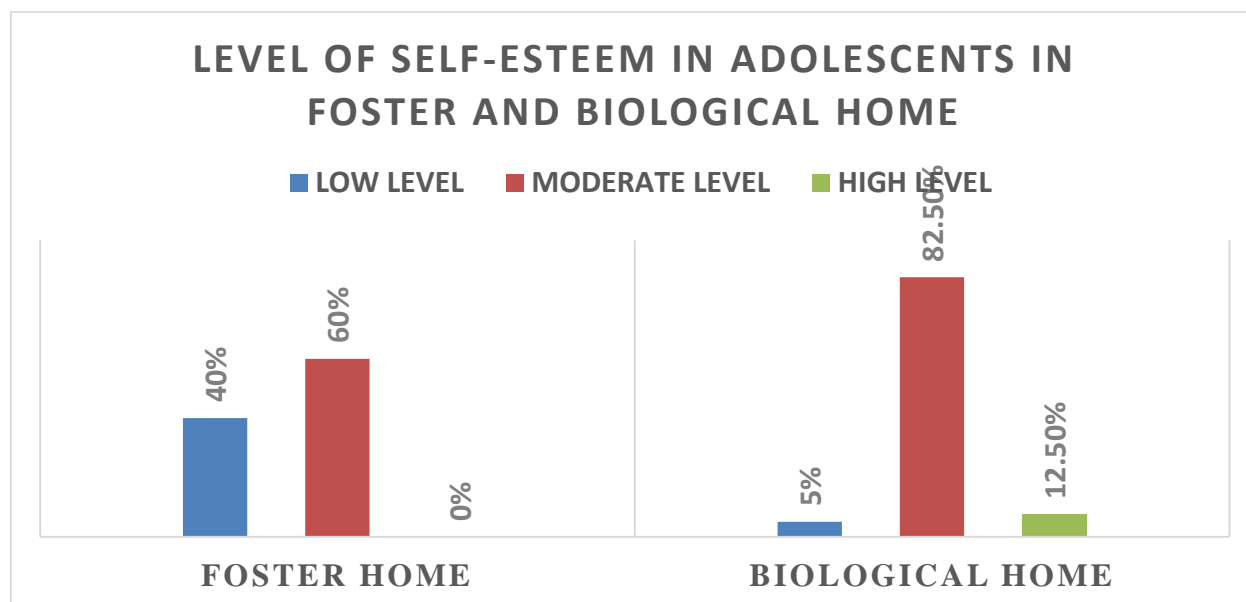I. **Description Of Demographic Data Of The Biological Home Adolescent Girls**

➢ Highest percentage (72.5%) of adolescent girls were in the age group of 16 to 17 years; whereas lowest percentage (27.5%) of adolescent girls were in age group of 14 to 15 years.

➢ Highest percentage (52.5%) of adolescent girls had a habit of drawing and lowest percentage (10%) of adolescent girls had a habit of listening music.

➢ Highest percentage (65%) of adolescent girls were followed non vegetarian and lowest percentage (35%) of adolescent girls were followed vegetarian.

➢ Highest percentage(67.5%) of adolescent girls were from city and only least (32.5%) of adolescent girls were from village.

➢ 2.5% of adolescent girl's father were illiterate and 20% of adolescent girl's father were primary education and 10% of high school education and highest percentage (67.5%) of adolescent girl's father were graduates.

- ➢ The percentage (25%) of adolescent girl's mothers were illiterate and 12.5% of mothers were primary education and lowest percentage (5%) of adolescent girl's mothers were high school education and highest percentage(57.5%) of adolescent girl's mothers were graduate education.

- ➢ 35% of adolescent girl's fathers were working as government employees and 30% of fathers were working as private employee and 25% of adolescent girl's fathers were working as daily wages and lowest percentage(10%) of adolescent girl's fathers were unemployed

- ➢ 50% of adolescent girl's mothers were working as government employees and 20% of mothers were working as private employee and 20% of adolescent girl's mothers were working as daily wages and lowest percentage(10%) of adolescent girl's mothers were unemployed.

- ➢ Only 5 percentage of adolescent's family income was less than Rs.4000 and highest (55%) percentage of adolescent's family income was above Rs.10001.

- ➢ 37.5% of adolescent girls having 3 siblings in their homes and 17.5% of adolescent girls had one sibling in their homes .

II.   Description Of Demographic Data Of The Foster Home Adolescent Girls

- ➢ Highest percentage (52.5%) of adolescent girls were in the age group of 14 to 15 years; whereas lowest percentage (47.5%) of adolescent girls were in age group of 16 to 17 years.

- ➢ Highest percentage (32.5%) of adolescent girls had a habit of listening music and 22.5% of adolescent girls had a habit of reading books and lowest percentage (17.5%) of adolescent girls had a habit of playing games.

- ➢ Highest percentage (75%) of adolescent girls were followed non vegetarian and lowest percentage (25%) of adolescent girls were followed vegetarian.

- ➢ The 42.5% of adolescent girls were reason for staying in foster home was separated parents and 22.5% of girls were unwanted child and 17.5% of adolescent girls were parents in prison and same 17.5% adolescent girls were death of parents.

- ➢ 27.5% of adolescent girls were stayed from 11 to 15 years and 32.5% of girls were 6 to 10 years and highest percentage (40%) of adolescent girls were stayed from 1 to 5 years.

- ➢ Most of adolescent girls (77.5%) were feeling happy about their life in foster home and only least 22.5% of adolescent girls were feeling unhappy.

- ➢ Majority of adolescent girls(90%) have no siblings in foster home

- ➢ Most of adolescent girls (55%) were feel about loss of their parents.

- ➢ Most of adolescent girls (45%) were liked to live with their parents.

III.   Comparison Of Level Of Self Esteem Among Biological Home And Foster Home Adolescent Girls

In **biological home** majority of adolescent girls (82.5%) had moderate level of self esteem and only least of adolescent girls (5%) had low self esteem and same (12.5%) of adolescent girls had high self esteem. In **foster home** highest percentage (60%) of adolescent girls had moderate level of self esteem whereas lowest percentage (40%) of adolescent girls had low self esteem. The 't' value was statistically significant at **p<0.05** levels shows that there was significant difference between difference in self-esteem among adolescents living in foster homes and biological homes. The mean and standard deviation of both foster and biological girls were (1.600± 0.496 and 2.075± 0.4167). The result shows that biological home adolescent girls mean value is greater than the foster home adolescent girls mean value.

IV.   Association Between Level Of Self Esteem Among Adolescent In Biological Homes With Selected Demographic Variables

There was significant association between biological home adolescent girls with their siblings at home. There was no significant association between biological home adolescent girls are age, educational status, hobbies, food habit, domicile, educational qualification of parents and occupation of parents.

V.   Association Between Level Of Self Esteem Among Adolescent In Foster Homes With Selected Demographic Variables.

There was significant association between foster home adolescent girls with their food habit. There was no significant association between biological home adolescent girls are age, educational status, hobbies,

reason for staying in foster home, number of years stayed in foster home, life of foster home, number of siblings and feel about loss of parents.

CONCLUSION

From the findings of the current study it can be concluded that foster home adolescent girls had low self-esteem compared to biological home adolescent girls. In foster home minimum number of girls had low evaluation of our-self. The study findings are the biological home adolescent 82.5% had moderate level of self-esteem and 12.5% girls had high self-esteem only 5% girls had low level of self-esteem. But in foster home girls majority had moderate self-esteem and 40% girls were low self-esteem. The mean and standard deviation of both foster and biological girls were (1.600$\pm$ 0.496 and 2.075$\pm$ 0.4167).The biological home adolescent girls mean value is greater than the foster home adolescent girls mean value.The result shows that biological home adolescent girls mean value is greater than the foster home adolescent girls mean value. So foster home adolescent girls had low self-esteem compared to biological home adolescent girls.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A Comparative study can be conducted between the early adolescent boys and girls.
- The studies can be conducted with control group so as to enhance the confidence in result.
- A similar study can be conducted in different settings with large samples.
- A comparative study to assess the level of self esteem among in day scholar students and hostellers.
- A comparative study to assess the level of self esteem among in private school students and government school students.
- A similar study can be undertaken by using different teaching methods like video teaching and computer assisted teaching.
- A similar study can be done by comparing among children of other age groups
- Similar study can be done in other settings.
- Study can be conducted for children who have physical disabilities.

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