

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ORTHOPAEDICALLY CHALLENGED AND HEARING IMPAIRED PERSONS

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Abstract:

The study under reference is an attempt to compare orthopedically challenged persons to normal one in terms of stress, mental health, and life satisfaction. Further it attempts to compare orthopedically handicapped with hearing handicapped in terms of stress, mental health and life satisfaction. In addition to this the handicapped persons belonging to orthopedically handicapped group and hearing handicapped group is to be compared in terms of modes of seeking rehabilitation. It is to be also investigated that male and female persons will differ significantly in terms of the modes and necessity of getting rehabilitation both in case of orthopedically handicapped and hearing handicapped group of persons. So handicapped, normal dimensions and sex will be treated here as independent variables and stress, mental health, life satisfaction and rehabilitation will be treated as dependent variables.

Keyword:- ORTHOPAEDICALLY CHALLENGED , HEARING IMPAIRED PERSONS

INTRODUCTION:

Handicap is a disadvantage for a given individual resulting from an impairment or disability that limits or prevents the fulfillment of a role that is normal for that individual. Handicap has been disparaged as a result of false folk etymology that says it is a reference to begging in handicap racing, horses carry different weights based on the umpire's estimation of what would make them run equally. Impairment is the correct term to use to define a deviation from normal, such as not being able to make a muscle move or not being able to control an unwanted movement.

The destination of physiology explain the types of handicap, who is classified by Govt. of India, Minister of welfare - 1986 and protection of right and full participation Act' 1995.

Types of disability may also be categorized in the following way:

Which are follows as:

(a) Orthopedically handicapped:

The orthopedically handicapped are those who have a physical defect or deformity which causes in interference with normal functioning of the bones, muscles and joints. It is of three kinds namely :

(i) **Loco motor Disability:** Loco motor disability is defined as a person's inability to execute distinctive activities associated with moving both himself and objects, from place to place and such inability resulting from affection of musculoskeletal and/or nervous system.

(ii) **'Cerebral Palsy'** : It means group of non-progressive conditions of a person characterized by abnormal motor control posture resulting from brain insult or injuries in the pre-natal, peri-natal or infant period of development.

(iii) **'Leprosy cured'**: It means any person who has been cured to leprosy but is suffering from -

1. Loss of sensation in hands or feet as well as loss of sensation and paresis in the eye and eye-lid but with no manifest deformity;
2. Manifest deformity and paresis but having sufficient mobility in their hands and feet to enable them to engage in normal economic activity;

(b) Speech and Hearing Impaired:

Deaf:

The deaf are those in whom the sense of hearing is non-functional for the ordinary purposes of life. Generally, a loss of hearing at 70 decibels or above at 500, 1000 or 2000 frequencies will make residual hearing non-functional:

(i) The Deaf:

Those in whom the sense of hearing is non-functional for the ordinary purpose of life. They may have been born deaf or they may have acquired deafness after learning language and speech.

(ii) The Hard Hearing:

Those in whom the sense of hearing although defective is functional with or without aid. The hard-of-hearing child is not as retarded as the deaf child in speech, language and school subjects. The Less the disability, the less special education is needed.

Objective

1. To compare orthopedically handicapped and normal in terms of mental health.
2. To compare hearing handicapped with normal in terms of mental health.
3. To compare orthopedically handicapped and hearing handicapped in terms of mental health.

HYPOTHESIS

1. It is likely that orthopedically handicapped will differ significantly from normal in terms of mental health.

2. It is likely that hearing handicapped will differ significantly from normal in terms of mental health.
3. It is likely that orthopedically handicapped and hearing handicapped will differ significantly in terms of their mental health.

METHODOLOGY

(A) SAMPLE

The sample consisted of 100 orthopedically handicapped persons and 100 hearing handicapped persons equal in sex ratio (orthopedically 50 male and 50 female and hearing handicapped 50 male and 50 females). The handicapped persons are educable and trainable and selected from various rehabilitation centers of Patna Town. The normals (N = 200) are their family members or relatives. The normal respondents are equal in sex ratio to which handicapped belong. The age groups are ranged from 15 to 50 years. In other respect, other than the required condition the subjects has matched so far as practicable.

(B) Tools used:

In accordance to the mentioned research objective and hypothesis following research tools were used :

- Mental Health Scale
- Life Satisfaction Scale
- Case Record Sheet

Procedure:

Visited different handicapped rehabilitation centres of Patna town for the data collection. The study under reference was conducted in two phases. In the first phase data were collected from male respondents belonging to handicapped rehabilitation centre of Patna town. In the second phase data were collected from female respondents of the same centres. With the permission of Head of the handicapped rehabilitation centres, Approached to male and female persons of different handicap rehabilitation centre of Patna Town. Established a rapport with the samples and also explained the importance and significance of beneficial for them, organization and for the society. Tooked them into his confidence and assured that their responses not exposed to anyone, its kept confidential. For the purpose of this study distributed three scales to the respondents and asked them to give their responses.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: t- table showing the difference between orthopedically handicapped and normal persons in terms of mental health:

Group	N	Orthopedically Handicapped		N	Normal		t-value	p
		Mean	SD		Mean	SD		
Mental Health	50	72.26	8.54	50	58.38	14.86	5.74	> 0.01

An observation of above table displayed that the person of orthopedically handicapped have got the mean score of 72.26 with SD of 8.54 whereas the persons of normal groups got the mean score of 58.35 with SD of 14.86 on mental health suggesting that the persons of orthopedically handicapped have been found to have a significantly higher on mental health in comparison to normal persons. The difference between orthopedically handicapped scores and normal scores was significant at 0.01 level of confidence. Therefore, the null-hypothesis was rejected and the alternative hypothesis was accepted.

Table 2: t- table showing the difference between Hearing handicapped and normal persons in terms of mental health:

Group	N	Hearing handicapped		N	Normal		t-value	p
		Mean	SD		Mean	SD		
Mental Health	50	106.54	16.36	50	92.84	13.76	4.54	> 0.01

Table 3: t- table showing the difference between orthopedically handicapped and Hearing handicapped persons in terms of mental health:

Group	N	High on Mental Health		N	Low on Mental Health		t-value	p
		Mean	SD		Mean	SD		
Orthopedically handicapped	50	12.35	3.56	50	9.63	4.28	3.12	> 0.01
Hearing handicapped	50	9.54	4.52	50	13.16	3.73	4.31	> 0.01

The group high on mental health has got the mean score of 12.35 and on SD of 3.56 on orthopedically handicapped where as the group low on mental health has got the mean of 9.63 and SD of 4.28 on orthopedically handicapped suggesting that the people high on mental health of handicapped persons more orthopedically handicapped. The group high on mental health has got the mean score of 9.54 and an SD of 4.52 on hearing handicapped whereas the group low on mental health has got the mean of 13.16 and SD of 3.73 on hearing handicapped suggesting that the people high on mental health of handicapped persons less hearing handicapped in comparison to the low on mental health. Thus the study finds that healthy who are high on mental health use more orthopedically handicapped and low on hearing handicapped. Thus, the result of the study supports the formulated hypothesis.

Conclusion :

1. Normal persons found superior in mental health then orthopedically handicapped persons.
2. Normal persons found better in mental health than hearing handicapped persons.
3. Orthopedically handicapped persons found better in mental health than hearing handicapped persons.

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