



A STUDY ON ATTITUDES OF PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITHOUT DISABILITY TOWARDS INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

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Introduction

Education is regarded as a potential instrument of individual development as well as social uplift. It is intimately related with national development and positively correlated with productivity and quality of life. It enables an individual to be aware of his / her rights and responsibilities and to discharge his / her duties properly. Those who have remained backward and underprivileged over the years can be empowered by education to assert their rights and fulfil their duties. Education is also a powerful means of removing disparities and discriminations in the society.

In education, 'inclusion' refers to the placement and education of children with disabilities in regular education classrooms with children of the same age who do not have disabilities. The underlying premise of inclusion is that all children can learn and belong to the mainstream of school and community life. Inclusive is a basic value that extends to all children.

Special Education is not a total program, is entirely is different from the education of ordinary children. Rather it includes the aspects of education, which are specific to the children with disabilities in addition to the regular educational program. In India, Special Education is provided through the special day schools and residential schools.

Significance of the study

Education is a human rights issue. In a democratic country like India, every child has the right to education. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan launched in the country aims to educate all children together in the inclusive

classroom. This means children with disabilities are also included in the general schools. Now schools imparting elementary education have enrolled these children.

Attitudes are basic and pervasive aspects of human life, without the concept of attitude, we should have difficulty constructing and reacting to events, trying to make decision and making sense of relationship with people in everyday life.

Attitudes are every important to us. They serve the main function as stereotyping and categorization of people or events. They help us to make sense of the world. We use them as short cuts in helping us decide how to react to things that happen in our lives, we must answer attitude formation is a direct result of the socialization experience. We had since our childhood, and come about as a result of the experience.

Objectives of the study

1. To find the attitude of parents having children without disability towards the inclusive education
2. To find the difference among parents having children without disability towards inclusive education basis on their age, gender and educational qualification.

Hypothesis

1. There exists no significant difference in the attitude among parents having children without disability towards inclusive education based on their locality.
2. There exists no significant difference in the attitude among parents having children without disability towards inclusive education based on their Gender.
3. There exists no significant difference in the attitude among parents having children without disability towards inclusive education based on their age.

Design of the study:

A research design is a planned structure and strategy of investigation so as to obtain answers to research questions and control variance. (Kerlinger, 1964)

The major purpose of any design is to answer some specific research questions utilizing well developed principles of scientific inquiry that help controlling variance.

The present investigation is a descriptive research study. The method of descriptive research is particularly appropriate in behavioral sciences, as many of the behaviors such as manifestations of test anxiety can be systematically studied and analyzed. The investigator merely observed and described the existing relationship between variables and events, without manipulating any variables. It develops knowledge adding to what is already known, using techniques of observation, description and analysis. It describes and interprets what is a condition or relationship that are held, processes that are going on, effects that are evident and with trends that are developing.

Descriptive research deals with the relationships between variables, the testing of hypothesis, and the development of generalizations, principles, theories that have universal validity.

Method of study:

In the present study, the investigator has gathered data using the survey method. The survey method gathers data from relatively large number of cases in a particular time. It is not Concerned with characteristics of individual subject or with the statistics that results when data are abstracted from a number of individual cases. The main purpose of survey method is to discover the relative incidence, distribution and inter-relatedness of sociological and psychological variables. The survey method was found appropriate, as the study aimed at a study on attitude of parents of nondisabled children towards inclusive education in regular education.

Sample size & nature:

A sample is a subset of the population to which the researcher intends to generalize the results. A sample is a small proportion of the population selected for observation and analysis

The population of interest to the investigator was parents of nondisabled children in regular education from in the state of Haryana. Total sample size is 50, which investigator had selected from different 5 schools.

Sample selection:

The technique used in this study for the sample selection was **purposive sampling**. Purposive sampling is considered as appropriate for the study titled Attitudes of Parents of Children without disability towards Inclusive Education in Haryana.

Need of construction of Research Tool:

The result of any scientific investigation depends upon the tools used in the study. Depending on the nature of the study can make use of standardized tool or can develop his / her own tools.

There was complete dearth of the appropriate and standardized research tool for measuring the attitude of parents of children without disability' towards Inclusive Education. For the present study there was a need to construct attitude scale on the inclusive education.

Scoring

For the purpose of statistical analysis, the collected data need to be quantified. To quantify the data, against each statement of Attitude scale three gradations, namely "Agree" "Undecided" "Disagree" were given and 3, 2, and 1 scores for positive statement and 1, 2, and 3 scores for negative statements were offered.

Research design: In the present study the researcher has used Descriptive research method to find out the attitude of parents having non-disabled children towards Inclusive Education.

Result: mean score of the social development was 6.5 (65%). Academic development was found 6.66 (66.6%) and peer interaction was found 6.02 (66.9%). Overall mean score was 19.18 (66.1%).

On the other hand the overall mean score of attitude of parents with reference to their age, the mean score of attitude of parents below 40 years of age was 18.85 and above 40 years was 19.57. hence $p > 0.05$ that is non significant.

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