

## Research Article

# Effectiveness of Video Assisted Teaching on knowledge regarding Child Abuse among Mothers of Preschooler

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**Abstract: Background:** Child Abuse is a violation of basic human rights of a child. It constitutes all forms of harm either physical, emotional, sexual resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health and survival. Parental involvement places a very important role to educate the child in early identification and prevention child abuse. Hence the study was conducted with the aim to assess the level of knowledge and to determine the effectiveness of video assisted teaching on child abuse among mothers of preschool children. **Methods:** Pre experimental one group pre test and post test research design was employed with 30 samples matched the inclusion criteria and were selected by purposive sampling technique. Demographic variables were collected followed by Pre-test was done by using structured multiple choice questionnaire in interview method. On the same day video assisted teaching was given for 20 minutes. Post-test was conducted by using the same questionnaire at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> day of intervention. **Results:** The result of the study reveals that there is inadequate knowledge among mothers regarding child abuse in pre-test is significant rise in knowledge after video assisted teaching at the level of  $p < 0.05$ . **Conclusion:** The study findings concluded that there is significant improvement in the knowledge regarding child abuse after video assisted teaching programme. Same way the awareness on child abuse can be created to all school going children and their mothers to prevent the harmful effect to the children.

**Keywords:** Child Abuse, Knowledge, Mothers of preschooler, Video Assisted Teaching.

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## INTRODUCTION:

Childhood is an important phase in human life and is the best time to develop spiritual, intellectual and emotional aspects. Children must be treated well and nourished properly because they are the future asset to the society to perform as a role of human being with full potentials. However all children can be vulnerable by virtue of their young age and evolving growth and development. Child abuse is one of the major public health problems. Any behavior that harms the children either physically, emotionally, sexually, neglect or exploit is considered as child abuse. Reach out organization in Australia (2020) defined that Abusive behavior involves treating the child with cruelty or violence and could happen regularly or repeatedly. Physical harms includes hitting, beating, shaking, punching, biting, burning, scratching, strangling or choking and the example of emotional abuse bullying, yelling, isolating, criticizing, terrorizing, ignoring and shaming. Child sexual abuse, also called child molestation is abusive sexual behavior by one person upon the child. Neglect means Failing to provide a child with basic need to grow, such as shelter, food, hygiene,

supervision, medical attention, education or safety. The impact of the child abuse remains in the child and may lead to shame/self-blaming, fear of getting close to and trusting people, sadness, confusion and low self-esteem, flashbacks, nightmares and reliving the abuse, trouble at school with learning new things and socializing with others. Queensland Government (2018) reported the common causes of child abuses in the current situation are lack of parenting skills, past childhood experience of the parent, addiction or substance abuse may affect a parent's ability to meet their child's needs, stress, isolation and lack of support, low self-confidence and moreover mothers are going for job by leaving the child to the relatives, neighbors or in the crèche. Leeb RT., *et al.*, (2017) stated that during the preschool stage children have similar reactions to the different types of abuse as younger children do. However, by ages 4 and 5, children might express their reaction to abuse through different behaviour. Boys tend to externalize their emotion through expression of anger, aggression, and verbal bullying. Dehon C., *et al.*, (2010) reported that girls are more likely to internalize their behavioural attitudes by being depressed and socially withdrawn,

and having somatic symptoms such as headache and abdominal pain.

Kocher MS., *et al.*, (2000) has been estimated that the annual incidence of abuse is between 15 and 40 cases per 1,000 children. Thus, approximately one million children become victims every year and more than 1,200 die as a result of abuse. Kempe CH., *et al.*, (1984) and Kempe CH., (1975) had conducted a systematic review on 32 studies and concluded that abuse was more common among children under the age of three years, and that multiple fractures were also more common among children who suffered abuse. According to the report by Butchart A., *et al.* (2000) approximately 40 million children worldwide are abused each year. Abuse occurs at every socioeconomic level, across all ethnic and cultural lines, within all religions, and at every level of education. Canadian Statistics (2008) reported that in 2006, the rate of sexual assaults against children and youth reported to police was more than 5 times higher than it was for adults (190 compared with 35 per 100 000 persons). For every 100 000 persons younger than 18 years of age, 334 were victims of physical or sexual violence by friends or acquaintances, 187 experienced violence at the hands of family members, and 101 were victimized by strangers. Recent statistics of child abuse by save the children organization (2016) revealed that in India, The number of cases registered for child abuse raised from 8,904 in the year 2014 to 14,913 in the year 2015, under the POSCO Act. Sexual offences and kidnapping account for 81% of the crimes against minors. Recently, the Protection of Children against Sexual Offences Act (2012) and Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act have been given more teeth to fighting child rights violation. POSCO reported that State wise cases - Uttar Pradesh led the highest number of child abuse cases (3,078) followed by Madhya Pradesh (1,687 cases), Tamil Nadu (1,544 cases), Karnataka (1,480 cases) and Gujarat (1,416 cases). It also found that 94.8% of rape cases saw children being raped by someone they knew, not strangers. These acquaintances include neighbors (3,149 cases) who were the biggest abusers (35.8%). 10% of cases saw children being raped by their own direct family members and relatives. Whatever cause might be for the child abuse is not at all acceptable and at the same time it is preventable through the education or creating awareness on child abuse and its prevention. The Mothers are playing a vital role in taking care of the children to provide love and support constantly

through their life. As a primary care giver mothers can easily identify the symptoms of child abuse and educate to the child before the child step out of the home. Hence the investigators had chosen the topic with the hypothesis of significant improvement in the level of knowledge regarding child abuse after the video assisted teaching.

## METHODS AND MATERIALS

The research approach adopted in the study was quantitative approach by using pre experimental one group pre test post test research design. A study was conducted after obtaining formal permission from the corporation sector. Samples who met the inclusion criteria were selected by using purposive sampling technique. Samples who do not understand Tamil or English, mentally and critically ill, who had auditory or visual defects were excluded from the study. Total number of samples was 30. The participants who consented for willing to participate were informed about the purpose of the study. Demographic variables were collected followed by Pre-test was done by using structured multiple choice questionnaire in interview method. On the same day video assisted teaching was given for 20 minutes and their doubts were clarified at the end of the teaching. Teaching was given one to one approach for better understanding and reinforcement was given in alternate days. Post-test was conducted by using the same questionnaire at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> day of intervention. Demographic variables were collected by using multiple choice questionnaires followed by pre-test was done by using knowledge questionnaire samples received video assisted teaching next day after pre test was conducted.. Post-test was done for samples at the end of fifth day by using same tool. The data were tabulated and analyzed by descriptive and inferential statistics using SPSS package.

## RESULTS:

The present study observed that majority 14(47%) of the mothers were in the age group of 26 – 30 years and 16(53%) had female child and Hindu. More than 50% of mothers had secondary school education and were house wife in nuclear family. Around 20(66%) of the mothers were obtained the health information through social media such as whatsapp and facebook.

**Table 1:** Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables of mothers of Preschooler

S.NO	Demographic Variables	Study Group	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	<b>Age in years</b>		
	a. 21-25yrs	9	30
	b. 26-30yrs	14	47
	c. 31-35yrs	7	23
2.	<b>Gender of the Child</b>		
	a. Male	14	47

	b. Female	16	53
	<b>Religion</b>		
	a. Hindu	13	43
3.	b. Christian	7	23
	c. Muslim	8	27
	d. Others	2	7
	<b>Education of the Mother</b>		
4.	a. Primary	6	20
	b. Secondary	17	57
	c. Graduate	7	23
	<b>Occupation of Mother</b>		
5.	a. House wife	16	53
	b. Daily wages	9	30
	c. Professionals	5	17
	<b>Type of Family</b>		
6.	a. Nuclear Family	19	63
	b. Joint Family	7	23
	c. Extended Family	4	14
	<b>Source of Health information obtained</b>		
7.	a. News Paper	5	17
	b. Television	3	10
	c. Health Professionals	2	7
	d. Social Media	20	66

**Table 2:** Frequency and Percentage distribution of pre-test and post-test level of knowledge regarding child abuse among mothers of preschooler. n=30

Level of Knowledge	Pre-test		Post-test	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Inadequate Knowledge	20	67	-	-
Moderately adequate Knowledge	10	33	13	43
Adequate Knowledge	-	-	17	57

The above table reveals that out of 30 samples in pre-test 20(67%) had inadequate knowledge, 10(33%) had moderately adequate Knowledge and none of them had adequate knowledge. Whereas in post-test

13(43%) had moderately adequate Knowledge, 17(57%) had adequate knowledge and none of them had inadequate knowledge.

**Table 3:** Determine the effectiveness of video assisted teaching programme on knowledge regarding child abuse among mothers of preschooler.

Experimental group	Mean	Standard deviation	Paired 't' test
Pre test	9.7	3.42	26
Post test	21	2.93	df= 29 P< 0.05

Within the study group, the effectiveness of video assisted teaching programme was analyzed by paired t test which revealed that there was a difference in the pre-test (9.7±3.42) and post-test (21±2.93) mean

value in the study group and found statistically significant at the level of p<0.05 which inferred that the intervention is beneficial in increasing the level of knowledge.

**Table -7:** Association between the post-test level of knowledge on child abuse with the selected demographic variables of mothers of preschooler.

Demographic Variables	Study group				Chi-square	
	Inadequate No	Inadequate %	Moderately No	Moderately %	Adequate No	Adequate %
<b>Education of mother</b>						
a. Primary	4	13	2	7	0	0
b. Secondary	8	27	9	30	0	0
c. Graduate	4	13	3	10	0	0
<b>Source of information</b>						
a. News Paper						
b. Television	0	0	5	17	0	0
c. Health Professionals	0	0	3	10	0	0

d. Social Media	0	0	2	7	0	0	p<0.05
	6	20	14	46	0	0	<b>S</b>

### S- Significant

Data present in the Table 4 reveals that there was a significant association between the pretest level of knowledge with their selected demographic variables such as education of the mother and source of health information obtained at the level of  $p < 0.05$ . However other variables such as age, gender of the child, religion, type of family and occupation of the mother was not associated with the level of knowledge.

## DISCUSSION:

Childhood is an important phase in human life and child is a future asset of the society and is the best time to develop spiritual, intellectual and emotional aspects. Children are most vulnerable group to abuse, neglect and violence. Child abuse is one of the most miserable and increasing social problem today globally. Child may intentionally harmed by many ways that should be taught by mothers to protect them. Hence the study was analyzed the level of knowledge on child abuse and determined the effectiveness of video assisted teaching on child abuse among mothers of preschooler. The present study found that among the 30 mothers, 20 (66.7%) had inadequate knowledge, 10 (33.3%) had moderately adequate knowledge and none of them had adequate knowledge in the pretest. However after the teaching programme with video assisted the knowledge level was improved in the post-test and also shown in statistically significant. This finding is consistent with the study conducted by Nandhini who also revealed that in the pretest, among 50 mothers of under-five children, 12 (24%) had moderately adequate knowledge, 38(76%) mothers had inadequate knowledge and none of them had adequate knowledge and also proved that the structured teaching programme was effective in improvement of knowledge level of mothers of under five children about child abuse. Similarly another study by Sushma et.al who reported that 8(13.33%) had adequate knowledge on child abuse and its prevention which was conducted among the primary school teachers and after teaching programme the percentage of adequate knowledge of child abuse was increased from 13% to 100%. Thenmozhi *et al.* who also found that 66.7% School age Children had inadequate knowledge and 33.3% of children had moderate knowledge on child abuse and inferred that video assisted teaching was effective in improving the knowledge regarding child abuse among school age children. In another study by Komalavalil *et al.* who revealed that there was a statistically significant differences between pre and post-test knowledge score on child abuse among children and concluded that structured teaching programme was effective among school children. Prakash Naregal who demonstrated that paired't' value showing significant increase in the knowledge regarding child abuse and neglect among primary school teachers. The study by Chandani Malla

*et al.* who proved that there was a highly significant increase in the knowledge of the mothers on prevention and management of child abuse following the administration of the video assisted teaching programme. With these findings explored that the knowledge on child abuse is decrease in the mothers, children as well to the teachers and teaching programme is beneficial in improving the level of knowledge. The current study is recommended to conduct in large sample in different setting, and compare the level knowledge between the rural and urban area. However the present study is accepted the hypothesis from the study findings.

## CONCLUSION:

The finding of the present study concludes that video assisted teaching programme is significantly effective in improving the level of knowledge on child abuse among mothers of preschooler. As this intervention is effective in imparting knowledge the same can be recommended in all the settings like anganwadi, schools, community health centres, pediatric OPD in the hospitals to create the awareness on child abuse to both the children as well to their mothers and even to the general public. Current information and statistics on child abuse with helpline number could also be displayed to make and protect young future generation to live safely and happily.

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### Conflict Of Interest

The authors declared that the conflict of interest was none

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