

## A Study on Insecurity Feelings Faced By the Children of Alcoholics

Ms.S.Monisha<sup>1</sup> & Ms.PL.Rani<sup>2</sup>

(II-MSW, Department of Social Work, Cauvery College for Women.)  
(Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Cauvery College for Women.)

---

**Abstract:** Children of Alcoholics is a general term used to describe individuals with one or more alcoholic parents. Although the ramifications of living with an addict, alcoholic parents are variable, nearly all children from alcoholic families are at risk for behavioral and emotional difficulties. The aim of the study is to study about their socio-demographic of the respondents. To study on insecurity feelings for the children of alcoholics. Descriptive research design was adopted for the study. The researcher used census sampling method and sample size was 45. The researcher used the questionnaire method. More than half of the respondents were Boys. More than half of the respondents had low level of insecurity feeling. Cent percentage of the respondents have interested in their studies. Vast majority of the respondents are not involved for buying the drug (or) alcohol. The social worker had major role to help the children of alcoholic to lead a better life. The social worker had major role to improve the skills of the children by providing personality and skill based trainings.

**Key Words:-** Children, Alcoholic, Parents, Insecurity Feeling, Skills, Trainings, Personality.

---

### I. Introduction

Children of Alcoholics are a general term used to describe individuals with one or more alcoholic parents. Although the ramifications of living with an addicted, alcoholic parent are variable, nearly all children from alcoholic families are at risk for behavioral and emotional difficulties. Alcoholism, also known as alcohol use disorder and alcohol dependence syndrome, is a broad term for any drinking of alcohol that results in problem. It was previously divided into alcohol abuse and alcohol dependence. In a medical context alcoholism is said to exist when two or more of the following is present. A person drinks large amounts over a long time period, has difficulty cutting down, acquiring and drinking alcohol takes up a great deal of time, alcohol is strongly desired, usage results in social problems, usage results in health problems, usage results in risky situations, withdrawal occurs when stopping, and alcohol tolerance has occurred to use. Prevention of alcoholism is possible by regulating and limiting the sale of alcohol, taxing alcohol to increase its cost, and providing inexpensive treatment. Treatment may take several steps.

### II. Review of Literature

Children of people with alcohol dependence are at high risk for behavioral and cognitive problems. Aim of study was to compare the nature and extent of these problems in children of men with and without alcohol dependence. 32 children were evaluated for psychopathology, neurodevelopment, cognitive functioning and family environment. Tools used were: Socio-demographic data sheet, Malin's Intelligence Scale for Indian Children, Child Behavior Checklist, Trail Making Test, Neurodevelopment Scale and the Family Environment Scale. Children of men with alcohol-dependent had higher externalizing than internalizing scores. Children of alcohol-dependent fathers had higher scores on the neurodevelopment scale and lower scores on the performance scale of the MISIC than the children in control group. These children also made more errors on the Trail Making Test. The family environment of COAs was characterized by lack of independence for its members, greater perceived control and lack of adequate cultural and intellectual activities. (Vijayaraman 2010). There has been an increasing focus on children of alcoholics particularly in the West seeking to understand the impact of parental alcoholism on their psychosocial functioning. Indian literature from this perspective is scanty and there is a need for more comprehensive investigation particularly with adolescent children of alcoholics. The comparative study investigated the manifestation of self-esteem and adjustment in a group of fifty adolescent children of alcoholics and a matched reference group of adolescent children of non alcoholics. The data revealed lower self-esteem and poor adjustment in all domains studied, in the adolescent COAs than the controls. These deficits can be attributed to the increased stress and vitiated alcohol complicated domestic environment of the COAs: This study makes a strong case for psychosocial intervention with COAs who are otherwise neglected in conventional de-addiction programmes in India. (Stanley.C Vanitha.C) (2008). This study examined the relationship between paternal alcoholism and toddler behavior problems from 18 to 36

months of age, as well as the potential moderating effects of 12 month infant-mother attachment security on this relationship. Children with alcoholic fathers had higher levels of internalization and externalization behavior than children of non alcoholic fathers. Simple effects testing of an interaction effect of child age, group, and attachment security with mothers on externalizing behavior suggested that at 24 and 36 months of age mother-infant attachment security moderated the relationship between alcohol group status and externalizing behavior. Namely, within the alcohol group, those children with secure relationships with their mothers had significantly lower externalizing than insecure children of alcoholics. A similar pattern was noted for internalizing behavior at 36 months of age. Implications for intervention are discussed.(Ellen P.Edwards) (2006)

**Significance of the Study:**

The problem of one member affected by alcohol consuming in a family might affect the other members especially children. The previews study focus on physical abuse in children of alcoholics has been compared with children of non-alcoholics. Parental alcoholism prevents a significant adverse circumstance for children, increasing the chances that they will experience negative outcomes such as substance abuse, lower academic achievement, conduct problems and insecurity feelings. According to those review the researcher got idea to focus on the insecurity feeling of the children of alcoholic. Moreover the study had focused on the psychological problem. Academic interest for the children, financial and social problem. Children of alcoholic may feel inferiority complex with their friends. Children of alcoholic feel uncomfortable while mingle with others.

**III. Materials And Methods**

The present study was conducted to know about the insecurity feeling for the children of alcoholics. The researcher conducted this study with the students at cuddalore district. Descriptive Research Design was used. By adopting Census sampling method and 45 respondents were chosen as sample.

**Research Hypothesis:**

- ❖ There is significant difference between age and insecurity feeling of the respondents.
- ❖ There is significant difference between education status and insecurity feeling of the respondents.
- ❖ There is significant difference between gender and insecurity feeling of the respondents.
- ❖ There is significant difference between type of family and insecurity feeling of the respondents.
- ❖ There is significant difference between physical problem and insecurity feeling of the respondents.
- ❖ There is significant difference between involved buying drugs and insecurity feeling of the respondents.

**IV. Results And Discussion**

**Table No: 1-Distribution of Respondents in Socio-Demographic Data**

S.NO	Variables	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Age		
	13 years	19	42.3
	14 years	26	57.8
2.	Gender		
	Male	23	51.1
	Female	22	48.9
3.	Domicile		
	Rural	39	86.7
	Urban	6	13.3
4.	Monthly Income		
	Rs.1000-10000	35	86.7
	Rs.10000-20000	10	13.3
5.	Type of Family		
	Nuclear Family	32	71.1
	Joint Family	13	28.9
6.	Sibling		
	0-3	23	73.4
	0-6	11	24.4
	Above 7	1	2.2
7.	Ambition		
	Teacher	23	51.1
	Doctor	13	28.9
	Engineer	7	15.6
	Collector	2	4.4

The above table shows that more than half of the respondents (57.8%) belong to age group of 14 years and less than half of the respondents (42.2%). More than half of the respondents (51.1%) are Male and less than half of the respondents (48.9%) are female. Vast majority of the respondents (86.7%) are living in rural area and few percentage of the respondents (13.3%) are living in urban area. Vast majority of the respondents (86.7%) are monthly income ranges from (Rs.1000-10000) and very few of the respondents (13.3%) are monthly income ranges from (Rs.10000-20000). High majority of the respondents (71.1%) are living in Nuclear family and more than one fifth of the respondents (28.9%) are living in Joint family. Majority of the respondents (73.4%) having (0-3) sibling and less than one fourth of the respondents (24.45%) are having (3-6) sibling and very few percentage of the respondents (2.2%) are having above 7 sibling. More than half of the respondents (51.1%) are having ambition to become teacher and more than one fourth of the respondents.

**Table No: 2** Dist ribution of Respondents By Their Level of Insecurity Feeling

S.NO	Insecurity Feeling	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	Low	24	53.3
2	High	21	46.7

The above table indicates that more than half of the respondents (53.3) had Low level of insecurity feeling. Less than half of the respondents (46.7) had High level of insecurity feeling.

**Table No: 3:** Karl Pearson’s Co-Efficient of Correlation Between Age of The Respondent And Insecurity Feeling

S.NO	Respondents	Correlation Value	Statistical Interference
1	Age and Insecurity Feeling	-0.02	p>0.05 Not Significant

The above table indicates that there is no significant relationship between age of the respondents and insecurity feeling scale. Hence it is inferred from the table that age does not influence insecurity feeling.

**Table No: 4** Association Between Educational Status of The Respondents And Insecurity Feeling

S.NO	Educational status	Insecurity Feeling		Statistical Interference
		Low	High	
1	8 <sup>th</sup>	10	9	X <sup>2</sup> =0.007 p>0.05 Not Significant
2	9 <sup>th</sup>	14	12	

The above table indicates that there is no significant association between class of the respondents and insecurity feeling scale. Hence it is inferred from the table that the class does not influence insecurity feeling.

**Table No: 5** Association between Gender and Insecurity Feeling

S.No	Gender	Insecurity Feeling		Statistical Interface
		Low	High	
1	Male	14	9	X <sup>2</sup> = 1.074 P>0.05 Not Significant
2	Female	10	12	

The above table indicates that there is no significant association relationship between gender of the respondents and insecurity feeling scale. Hence it is inferred from the table that gender does not influence insecurity feeling.

**Table No: 6** Association between Physical Problem and Insecurity Feeling

S.No	Physical Problem	Insecurity Feeling		Statistical Interface
		Low	High	
1	Yes	7	4	X <sup>2</sup> = 0.621 P>0.05 Not Significant
2	No	14	17	

The above table indicates that there is no significant association between physical problem of the respondent and insecurity feeling scale. Hence it is inferred from the table that physical problem does not influence insecurity feeling.

**Table No: 7** Association between Respondents Involved For Buying Drugs And Insecurity Feeling

S.No	Buying Drugs	Insecurity Feeling		Statistical Interface
		Low	High	
1	Yes	3	3	X <sup>2</sup> = 0.031 P>0.05 Not Significant
2	No	21	19	

The above table indicates that there is no significant association between respondents involved for buying drugs of the respondent and insecurity feeling scale. Hence it is inferred from the table that respondents involved for buying drugs does not influence insecurity feeling.

**Table No: 8** Association between Monthly Income and Insecurity Feeling

S.No	Monthly Income	Insecurity Feeling		Statistical Interface
		Low	High	
1	1000-10000	19	16	X <sup>2</sup> = 0.057 P>0.05 Not Significant
2	10000-20000	8	5	

The above table indicates that there is no significant association between monthly income of the respondent and insecurity feeling scale. Hence it is inferred from the table that monthly income doesn't influence insecurity feeling.

**Table No: 9** "T" Test Between Type Of Family And Insecurity Feeling

S.NO	Type of family	Mean	S.O	Statistical Interface
1	Low	1.44	0.504	T=0.066
2	High	1.54	0.519	Not Significant

The above table indicates that there is no significant difference between type of family of the respondents and insecurity feeling scale. Hence it is inferred from the above table that type of family does not influence insecurity feeling.

**Major Findings:**

- ❖ More than half of the respondents (57.8%) belong to the age group of 14 years.
- ❖ More than half of the respondents (57.8%) are studying in 9<sup>th</sup> standard.
- ❖ More than half of the respondents (51.1%) are male.
- ❖ Vast majority of the respondents (86.7%) are living in rural area.
- ❖ Vast majority of the respondents (86.7%) are monthly income ranges from (Rs.1000-10000)
- ❖ Majority of the respondents (73.4%) are having (0-3) sibling.
- ❖ Vast majority of the respondents (86.9%) are not involved for buying the drug or alcohol.
- ❖ More than half of the respondents (53.6%) are have low level of insecurity feeling.

**Findings Related To Hypotesis:**

- ❖ There is no significant relationship between age and insecurity feeling of the respondents.
- ❖ There is no significant association between educational status and insecurity feeling of the respondents.
- ❖ There is no significant association between gender and insecurity feeling of the respondents.
- ❖ There is no significant association between physical problem and insecurity feeling of the respondents.
- ❖ There is no significant association between buying drugs and insecurity feeling of the respondents.
- ❖ There is no significant difference between type of family and insecurity feeling of the respondents.

**V. Suggestions**

- The government has to take steps to close the TASMACHOP shop nearby the schools and residential areas.
- To create awareness for the school children and their parents about alcoholism and ill effects of alcoholism.
- NGO and Government should come forward to give various kinds of training for the wives of alcoholic like tailoring, embroidery, chair knitting, candle making, basket making for their economic benefit of the family.
- The government has to appoint school social worker in every school. The school social worker handles children's of alcoholics gives counseling and reduce the school drop outs.

- The study reveals that (46.7%) high level of insecurity feeling, in order to get rid of the insecurity feelings of the Children of Alcoholic's have to build self confidence and also overcome low self esteem by the support of management, teachers, counselor, parents and friends.

### **VI. Conclusion**

The researcher study envisaged that here is insecurity feeling experienced by the children of alcoholic. Most of the children parents are consuming alcohol, and it is highly affected the children. The children feels loneliness and insecure with their alcoholic parent. The alcoholic patients to realize their mistakes should come forward to take care of the children with needs, every individual should realize the effects of alcohol and to know about the important of the family and avoid the alcohol.

### **References**

- [1]. Vijaya Ramanetcl.all.(2000) Children of Men with Alcohol Dependence Psychopathology, neurodevelopment and family Environment, The Indian Journal of Psychiatry.
- [2]. Lemoine ,P; Harousseau, H; Borteyru, J.P; Menuet, J.C (2003) Children of Alcoholic Parents-Observed Anomalies: Discussion of 127 Cases Therapeutic Drug Monitoring: April 2003- Volume 25-Issue 2-pp 132-136
- [3]. Silva MC, Bengal V, Devi M, Mukundan CR. Cognitive deficits in children of alcoholics: At risk before the first sip! Indian J Psychiatry 2007;49:182-8
- [4]. Stanley S, Vanitha C, Psychosocial correlates in adolescent children of alcoholics- Implications for intervention. Int J PsychosocRehabil 2008;12:67-80
- [5]. Rao KN, Begum S, Venkataramana V, Gangadharappa N. Nutritional neglect and physical abuse in children of alcohol dependent parents. Indian J pediatr 2001;68:843-5.[PUBMED]
- [6]. Hussong, Andrea; Bauer, Daniel; Chassin, Laurie (2008) Telescoped trajectories from alcohol initiation to disorder in children of alcoholic parents. Journal of Abnormal Psychology, Vol 117(1), Feb 2008, 63-78.