

An Assessment of Parental Involvement in the Education of Slum Education

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ABSTRACT

Education has always been an essential agent of Socialisation as well as Social Mobility. It is as much important for slum children as it is for children living in city areas. Education is incomplete without the guidance and involvement of parents. And as people are not unaware with the fact that how much struggle parent residing in slums need to work to earn a day's meal and that's why they cannot spare time for their children's education. In order to investigate the modern changes based on parental involvement in education in slums, this study was conducted. Exploratory research was conducted under Functional perspective. Data was collected from 100 parents residing in slums and the tool of data collection was Schedule. The Finding reveals that still the socio economic status of people and their poor background is the biggest barrier for parents residing in slums. Although they were aware about the importance of education but were unable to involve themselves with their children in order to work on their economic status.

Keywords: Education, Socialisation, Social Mobility, Exploratory

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SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

An essential problem in attaining Education is that Parents are not involved in their children's education. Illiteracy is also a result of poverty when parents living in poor socio economic background cannot afford their children's education or are not involved in the education of acquiring their children's education. In order to check the involvement of parents in their child's education in slum, present study was conducted.

I. INTRODUCTION

It has been proved that the active involvement of parents in the schools, and their communication with teachers regularly has a positive impact in their overall development and achievements. Kinsley (2011) states that "involvement of parents in education of children growth is necessary such as keeping regular check on their homework, maintaining regular contact with teachers and keeping an eye on all activities of students".¹ He mentioned that parental involvement can be practiced through parent's support in academics, proper communication between parents and school. Lack of parental involvement in child's education is a major concern. The main aim of this study is to investigate:

- The status of parental involvement in the education of children residing in slums.
- The barriers to Parental involvement in slum areas regarding education.

II. RESEARCH METHOD

Exploratory Research was conducted in Jaipur city. For the study, data was collected from 100 respondents from Susheel pura, kachi basti in Sodala. For the collection of data, schedule was used. The parents were interviewed mostly in the afternoon when both parents were present at home. The sample size included parents of children going to school. Purposive sampling was used. Informal discussions were also conducted in order to get better understanding of parent's involvement.

III. REVIEW OF LEITERATURE

Baite et.al (2017)² analyzed the effect of poor socio-economic conditions on education for children as well as how children's education is affected by the environment of slum. The study reveals that the parent's illiteracy and the financial status chronically affected the education of their children. Some of the other factors that came out to be the reasons for poor education were unfavorable environment, no interest in studies, social norms and early marriage of girls.

Yuko (2009)³ opines that parent’s perspectives, their knowledge and poverty are the major concerns when it come to education of children. Lack of awareness about the government policies and initiatives resulted in high rate of drop outs in slum areas. Mostly parents could not afford the fees of private schools. That is the reason that most of the students were admitted in government schools.

Maxwell (2017)⁴ opines that student’s achievement level is high when they get positive environment in schools. The sense of identifying oneself as a part of an institution gives them motivation, psychological satisfaction and self identification. He emphasized that the parent’s involvement with schools, teachers and school’s environment gives positive results for growth and development of students.

Munawar et al. (2020)⁵ states that parents teacher meeting is important and has a positive impact on child’s development. Education of parents also matters in order to guide students properly in their studies after the school hours. There is a need to have literate parents. He concluded that interaction between parents and teachers results in ineffective communication for child’s progress. The parent- teacher meetings should be organized property so that progress of the child can be monitored both at home and school.

SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS

All the respondents were from lower class and were residing in slum of Jaipur, Rajasthan. The name of the slum is Susheel pura. The parents were mostly engaged in unorganised sector and their jobs were of temporary nature.

IV. FINDINGS

Table 1: Awareness about Right to Education

Awareness	No. Of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	38	38%
No	62	62%
Total	100	100

Table 1 shows that 62% of the respondents were not aware about the Right to Education and 38% were aware about it.

Table 2: Attending parent teacher meeting

Attending PTM	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	84	84%
No	16	16%
Total	100	100

Table 2 reveals that 84% of the respondents attend their children’s PTM and 16% do not attend.

Table 3: Opinion about Parental Involvement

Attend PTM	No. Of Respondents	Percentage
Necessary	78	78%
Not Necessary	15	15%
Cannot Specify	7	7%
Total	100	100

Table 2 shows that 78% of the respondents think that attending PTMs on regular basis is necessary, 15% of them think it’s not necessary to attend PTMs and 7% have no opinion regarding this.

Table 4: Helping Children in Home-Work

Helping children in homework	No. of respondents	Percentage
No	100	100%
Total	100	100

Table 4 reveals that all of the respondents (100%) were unable to provide help with the education to their children.

Table 5: Checking of written communication from school

Checking	No. of respondents	Percentage
Regularly	18	18%
Weekly	5	5%
Not Aware	77	77%
Total	100	100

Table 5: shows that 77% of the respondents do not check diaries, 18% of them said they regularly check them and 5% of the respondents are not even aware of the written communication.

Table 6: Barriers to Parental Involvement

Barriers	No. of respondents	Percentage
Financial Problems	60	60%
Time Constraint	14	14%
Low Educational qualification	12	12%
Cannot Specify	14	14%
Total	100	100%

Table 6 reveals that for 60 % of the respondents Financial problems were the barriers, 14% of the respondents said time constraint was the problem, 12% of them said low educational qualification was the barrier and 14% of the respondents can not specify.

V. DISCUSSION

The Finding shows that most of the respondents were not involved in the education of their children. There were few parents who knew about the Rights to education or different policies that are initiated by government or private institutions but majority of them had no awareness about such beneficiaries. Even if they were aware, their first priority was survival and earning because of their socio economic background and their children's education becomes secondary. Learning environment is not good in slums. Most of them do not attend PTMs because they are too engaged in earning for their family. Most of the parents were involved in unorganised sector and had temporary nature. The Findings of Yuko (2009) and Baite et. al. (2017) runs in line with the present study.

VI. CONCLUSION

The study concludes that the parents themselves are in favour of how much parental guidance is important. Irrespective of that parent weren't able to execute these things in real as their socio economic background did not allow them to. The involvement of parents in the education of their children becomes secondary when a family is residing in slum. They could not keep a proper check on their child's school activities, written communication given by their teachers because they are too engaged in their work. There are many barriers in between the involvement of parents with their child's education, the most important one is Financial problems.

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