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Relation analysis of socio-personal variables and use of teaching aids by Anganwadi workers

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Abstract

Child welfare means 'conditions of living in which children fare well.' Anganwadis are entitled with this job. The Anganwadis carry out six major functions viz. early childhood care and non-formal pre-school education, health checkup, immunization, supplementary nutrition, medical referral services, growth monitoring and promotion, nutrition and health education. Imparting early childhood education with the use of teaching aids is one of them. The non-formal education of children becomes effective when teaching aids are used to teach them. It was therefore imperative to understand the relationship between the personal profile of the Anganwadi worker and use of teaching aids. When use of teaching aids was correlated with personal profile of the Anganwadi worker it was found that age and education were strongly and positively correlated with use of teaching aids.

Keywords: Anganwadi workers, Use of teaching aids, Correlation

1. Introduction

Social welfare is the responsibility of the state. In social welfare there is an emphasis on the integration of welfare and development services. Efforts are made to plan social and economic programmes for weaker and vulnerable sections. Keeping in line with this various programmes were undertaken by Department of Social Welfare, viz. Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Functional Literacy for women, Maternity and Child Health Services. ICDS was started in the year 1975. Anganwadi workers are the backbone of Integrated Child Development services (ICDS). Anganwadi workers have to carry out different functions viz. early childhood care and non-formal pre-school education, health checkup, immunization, supplementary nutrition, medical and referral services, growth monitoring and promotion, nutrition and health education. The beneficiaries of non-formal education are children from three to six years of age. Ghosh (1977) ^[1] reported that almost half of the time of the workers was spent in cooking, distribution of food and cleaning rather than spending the time in health and nutrition education, non-formal education and allied activities. Early childhood education advocates 'play-way method' to teach pre-school children. This method emphasizes the need to use teaching aids. It is therefore imperative to study the relationship between personal profile of the Anganwadi workers and use of teaching aids, so that efforts are made to improve upon the same.

It is in this context that the present study was undertaken with the following specific objective To find out the correlation between personal profile of Anganwadi workers and use of teaching aids.

2. Research Methodology

The study was conducted in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra state. Simple random sampling technique was adopted for selection of villages and respondents. Four blocks were randomly selected. Thirty villages from each block were randomly selected, which comprised of 120 Anganwadi workers. Correlation coefficient were employed to find out the relationship of dependent variable viz. use of teaching aids and independent variables i.e personal profile of the Anganwadi workers.

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3. Results and discussion

3.1 Profile of the respondents

3.1.1 Socio-Personal Variables

3.1.1.1 Age: Age wise distribution showed that maximum number of respondents (37.50 %) and (34.99 %) were from the age group of 40 to 45 years and 30 to 40 years respectively. The respondents falling in the age group of 20 to 30 and 50 to 60 were few (15.83%) and 50 to 60 was very small 11.66 percent.

3.1.1.2 Educational qualification: The results revealed that as high as 69.17 % of the respondents were high school pass followed by 16.67 percent being middle class pass while the respondents having graduation level was 11.67 percent and only 2.49 percent were above graduate level.

3.1.1.3 Experience: The study revealed that 70.00 percent of the respondents had experience between 10 to 20 years followed by 26.00 percent having experience up to 10 years and only 4.15 percent of them had experience between 20 to 30 years.

3.1.1.4 Trainings: When the number of trainings were taken into consideration 49.50 percent of the respondents had received three trainings. This was followed by 27.50 percent who have attended two trainings. The percentage of respondents having only one training was 5.83 percent. Only 5.83 percent of the respondent did not attend any training.

Table 1: Socio-personal profile of the Anganwadi workers

| Sr. No | Personal characteristics | frequency | Percentage |
|--------|---------------------------|-----------|------------|
| 1. | Age | | |
| | 20 to 30 years | 19 | 15.83 |
| | 30 to 40 years | 42 | 34.99 |
| | 40 to 50 years | 45 | 37.50 |
| | 50 to 60 years | 14 | 11.66 |
| 2. | Educational qualification | | |
| | Middle school | 20 | 16.67 |
| | High school | 83 | 69.17 |
| | Graduate | 14 | 11.67 |
| | Post graduate | 03 | 02.49 |
| 3. | Experience | | |
| | Up to 10 years | 31 | 26.00 |
| | 10 to 20 years | 84 | 70.00 |
| | 20 to 30 years | 05 | 04.15 |
| 4. | Trainings attended | | |
| | None | 07 | 05.83 |
| | 01 | 10 | 08.33 |
| | 02 | 33 | 27.50 |
| | 03 | 60 | 49.50 |

3.2 Relationship between the independent variables and use of teaching aids by Anganwadi workers

To determine the relationship between independent variables and use of teaching aids by Anganwadi workers, correlation coefficient was computed.

3.2.1 Age

The data revealed that the age of the Anganwadi workers had a strong positive effect on the use of teaching aids ($r = 0.7623$), as with increase in age she becomes more mature professionally and understands that use of teaching aids makes learning easier for children.

3.2.2 Education

Education of Anganwadi workers is strongly and positively related with use of teaching aids ($r=0.6730$). As the educational level of Anganwadi workers increases, she uses more of teaching aids for teaching children. This may be because of the fact that with increase in education she comes to know the importance of using teaching aids for all round development of children.

3.2.3 Trainings

Trainings attended by Anganwadi workers showed medium positive correlation with the dependent variable ($r=0.4684$). This could be attributed to the fact that trainings include all the functions of the worker and do not specify only on use of teaching aids.

Mehandale (1980) [2] while stressing on the importance of trainings said that more frequent inservice training, incentive for better work or rise in the honorarium of anganwadi workers may help in achieving enhanced motivation thus producing better results in the field.

3.2.4 Experience

Experience showed medium positive correlation ($r=0.4677$) with use of teaching aids. This could be accounted with the fact that with increased experience she becomes more and more involved in other functions of Anganwadi and thus finds less time to use teaching aids.

Table 2: Zero order correlation of independent variables with use of teaching aids by Anganwadi workers.

| Sr. No. | Independent Variables | Value of 'r' |
|---------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Age | 0.7623 |
| 2 | Education | 0.6730 |
| 3 | Training | 0.4684 |
| 4 | Experience | 0.4677 |

4. Conclusion

Age and education of the Anganwadi worker showed strong positive correlation with use of teaching aids whereas training and experience showed medium positive correlation. It is therefore imperative to work on the training content regarding use of teaching aids for teaching children.

5. References

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