

A Study to Assess the Knowledge and Attitude on Child Rearing Practices among Mothers of Toddler residing in Urban regions of Maharashtra

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Abstract—Background: Good child-rearing techniques can mitigate the negative effects of harmful social determinants of health in early infancy. With the widespread use of personal digital devices across the globe, there is a lot of potential for the direct dissemination of research-based knowledge regarding early childhood development. However, it is essential to integrate place-based cultural ideas, customs, situations, and end users' value systems into the content of these innovative systems to make them effective. Primary healthcare services, particularly those managed by Indigenous people, can be tailored to meet the needs of Indigenous children and their families. **Objective:** To assess the knowledge and attitude on child rearing practices among mothers of toddler residing in urban regions of Maharashtra. **Methods:** A quantitative research approach and a descriptive research design was used to assess the Knowledge and attitude on child rearing practices among mothers of toddler residing urban regions of Maharashtra. **Results:** Descriptive and inferential statistics, was used for data analysis. inferential statistics such as; chi-square test and paired t' test was used to test the hypothesis. The findings revealed that 73.2% of mothers had good knowledge, 15.2% had very good knowledge, 11.1% had average knowledge, while only 0.2% had poor and excellent knowledge. The mean knowledge score was 15.81 ± 2.75 , with a mean percentage score of 52.73 ± 9.19 . Regarding attitude, 93.1% of mothers had a negative attitude, 5.9% had a neutral attitude, and 0.9% had a strongly negative attitude. The mean attitude score was 57.72 ± 5.31 , with a mean percentage score of 46.17 ± 4.24 .

Index Terms—Knowledge, attitude, toddlers, rearing practices, urban regions.

I. INTRODUCTION

Child rearing is the process through which parents and caregivers nurture, guide, and support a child's overall development from infancy to adulthood. It involves providing physical care, emotional support, discipline, education, and teaching social values and appropriate behaviour. Child-rearing practices may vary depending on cultural beliefs, socioeconomic status, and family background. Proper child rearing plays an important role in shaping a child's personality, behaviour, and future well-being. Active participation, love, care, and attention from parents are essential for the healthy growth and development of children.¹ Even if the ultimate purpose of child discipline is to assist children build and cement excellent social habits, the ultimate goal is to cultivate certain judgment and morality so that the child develops and maintains self-control throughout their life. Because people's values, beliefs, education, customs, and cultures vary so widely, as do children's ages and temperaments, there is a wide range of approaches to child discipline. Child discipline spans a wide range of academic disciplines, such as social work, developmental psychology, parenting, behavior analysis as a profession, and various religious perspectives.² The way children are raised may have a deliberate effect on their behavior, mannerisms, and overall way of living. The behavior of the child may be influenced by parental direction or the absence of it. This makes us believe that youngsters don't know anything at all and that it is the duty of whoever has parental control to raise them in a way that society would find most

appropriate. The earlier notion that children are innocent and pure relates to the assumption that children will only learn when they are instructed and have had time to process the information that is presented to their developing brains.³ The children in their homes, parents came to the conclusion that the social, emotional, and cognitive functioning of children could be accurately predicted by the aspects of parent-child interactions that indicate the forms of responsiveness and demandingness. The ability to understand children's nature and senses is essential for better childrearing outcomes. The majority of research looked into styles. A few investigated how parenting styles affect kids' cognitive development. Therefore, the effects of child-rearing practices on cognitive development should be investigated.⁴ Parenting style is a tool used by parents to acquaint their kids with their environment and culture. Parents usually have the biggest influence on children's development since parent-child interactions are frequent and repetitive. One of the many factors influencing parentings is culture.⁵

II. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this study is:

1. To assess the knowledge and attitude on child rearing practices among mothers of toddler residing in urban regions of Maharashtra.

III. METHODS

A quantitative research approach and a descriptive research design was be used to assess the Knowledge and attitude on child rearing practices among mothers of toddler residing urban regions of Maharashtra. A convenient Sampling technique shall be used to selected the mothers of toddler residing in urban region

1, urban region 2, urban region 3 and urban region 4. Inclusion criteria: Mothers of toddler who give consent to participate in the study. Mothers of toddler who are available

at the time of data collection. Mothers of toddler who are available at the time of data collection. Mothers of toddler who are to understand Marathi. Exclusion criteria: Mothers of toddler who are mentally ill. The reliability of tool was assesses using Intra Rater method and the value was computed. The tool by using split half method the Karl Pearson Co-efficient formula will be used. Reliability (%) for Knowledge Score is 0.8419 and attitude score is 0.9984. A p- value of less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

IV. RESULTS

Demographic Profile: Most participants were in age group 20-24 years (32%), educational status (30%), occupation (39%), religion (49%), family income (37%), type of family (36%). Knowledge score: Mean knowledge score is 15.81 ± 2.75 and Attitude Score: Mean attitude score is 57.72 ± 5.31 .

Graphical Representation: This section deals with the correlation between knowledge and attitude regarding Child Rearing Practices among mothers of toddler residing in urban region of Maharashtra. The levels of knowledge and attitude score is correlated with Pearson's Correlation Coefficient and Significance of difference at 5% level of significance is tested with student's unpaired 't' test and tabulated 't' value is compared with calculated 't' value. Also the calculated 'p' values are compared with acceptable 'p' value i.e. 0.05.

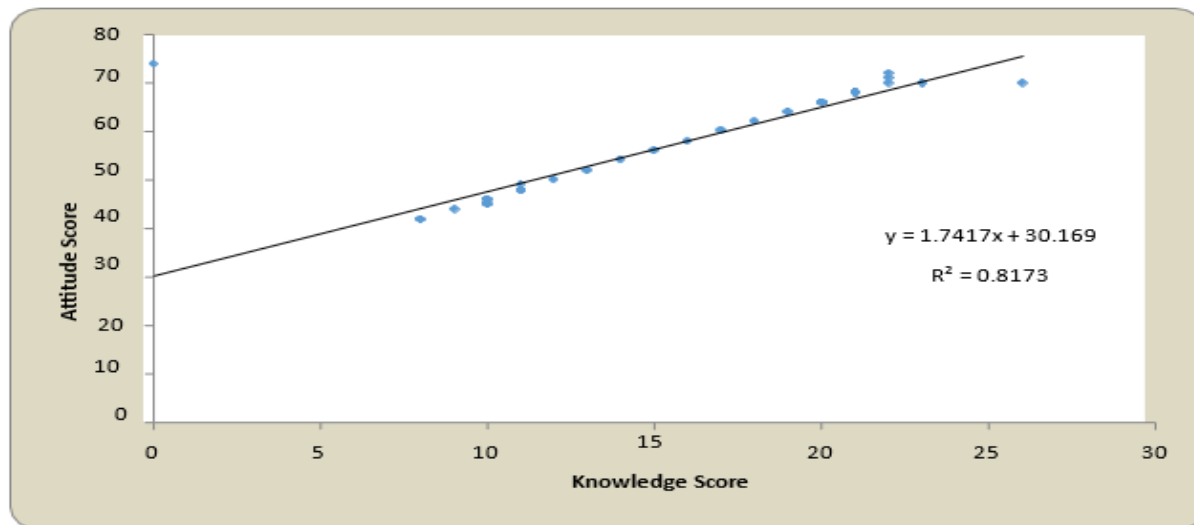
Table 1: Correlation between the knowledge and attitude score on Child Rearing Practices among mothers of toddler
n = 422.

Variable	Mean	SD	Correlation 'r'	p-value
Knowledge Score	15.81	2.75	0.904	0.0001
Attitude Score	57.72	5.31		S, p<0.05

This table shows the correlation between knowledge and attitude score regarding Child Rearing Practices among mothers of toddler from selected urban area of Maharashtra. By using Pearson's Correlation

Coefficient significant positive correlation was found between knowledge score and attitude score of mothers of toddlers ($r=0.904$, $p\text{-value}=0.0001$). Thus

the H12 is accepted.



Graph 1: Correlation between knowledge and attitude score on Child Rearing Practices among mothers of toddler

V. DISCUSSION

The present study was undertaken to assess the knowledge and attitude on child rearing practices among mothers of toddlers residing in selected urban areas of Maharashtra. The discussion is organized in accordance with the objectives of the study and the major findings, and the results are interpreted in the light of previous research findings. The present study demonstrated a highly significant positive correlation between knowledge and attitude regarding child rearing practices ($r = 0.904$, $p = 0.0001$). This finding indicates that improvement in knowledge is associated with a positive change in attitude. Similar results were reported by Verma et al. (2019), who found a significant positive correlation between maternal knowledge and attitude towards child care practices.

VI. CONCLUSION

The study concludes that although mothers of toddlers in urban areas of Maharashtra possess adequate knowledge on child rearing practices, their attitudes remain largely unfavorable. This highlights the need for targeted educational and counseling interventions that focus not only on increasing knowledge but also on bringing about positive attitudinal and behavioral changes. Strengthening maternal education and providing continuous support through nursing interventions can contribute significantly to improving

child rearing practices and promoting healthy growth and development among toddler.

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