



Research Article

FAMILY LIFE AWARENESS OF ADOLESCENT BOYS: A COMMUNITY BASED STUDY CATERING URBAN HEALTH CENTER, PARDESHIPURA INDORE (M.P.)

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Introduction: Many of the adolescents indulge in inappropriate behavior with women at home and outside, culminating into an antisocial and criminal mindset. The boys living in urban slums in poor socio-economic conditions are illiterate, and have unjustifiable beliefs regarding women and family life. This work is aimed at assessing the family life knowledge of the adolescent boys and determining factors for the level of knowledge.

Methods: The sample size was taken as 200. The study was conducted at the urban health center attached to the Department of Community Medicine, SAMC & PGI, Indore.

Results: There were 22% boys who were in difficult, very difficult and not in talking terms with their fathers. The bad words use restriction between the ages of 10-12 years is only 12 % which should be higher in this age group. Around 37% boys did not heard of reproductive health & relationship. **Conclusion:** It was observed that 33% of adolescents were in favor of dating while physical violence was justified by 7.68%.

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INTRODUCTION

The world has currently the largest adolescent population in history. In developing countries around 85% of residents are adolescents.¹ Many adolescent boys die prematurely every year due to accidents and violence. Many of them also indulge in inappropriate behavior with women at home and outside, culminating into an antisocial and criminal mindset. These are preventable problems. Young people are engaged in the practice of unprotected sex mainly due to negative attitude they hold about reproductive health. They suffer more from sexually transmitted diseases and drop out from schools.² Many adolescents are less informed and less comfortable accessing reproductive health services. They do not feel comfortable discussing this matter with their parents.¹

The international conference on population and development in 1994 asked for gender equality and equity, which includes reproductive health too. The goal of creating awareness among men regarding reproductive health was adopted at the Cairo and Beijing conference.³

Men's positive attitudes and beliefs regarding reproductive health have led to success in many developing countries including India. The health concerns of men and women are different with regard to gender issues and according to cultural and demographic circumstances of specific regions.³

The boys living in urban slums in poor socio-economic conditions are illiterate and have unjustifiable beliefs regarding women and family life.

This work is aimed at assessing the family life knowledge of the adolescent boys and determining factors of the level of knowledge.

MATERIALS & METHODS

It was a cross sectional interview based study of adolescent boys of age group 10-19 years. It was carried out in year 2017-18, in the field practice area of urban health center, Pardeshipura of SAMC & PGI, Indore (M.P.)

The total adolescent population is 21%⁴, The study was conducted at the urban health center attached to the Department of community medicine, SAMC & PGI, Indore. To achieve the desired sample size we visited the 3 km areas around the UHTC. These areas are named as Pardeshipura, Nandanagar and Bhagirathpura. The boys found in Pardeshipura were 39, Nandanagar were 63 and Bhagirathpura were 98. So the sample size was 200 making it a round figure.

Inclusion criteria-All boys aged 10-19 years with due verbal consent from their elder family members were included in the study.

Exclusion criteria-All boys not falling in the chosen age group and whose elder family member do not give consent to participate in the study were excluded from the study. The name and identity of the study subjects were not disclosed.

Approval from the college research committee was taken prior to the start of study.

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The full time and part time education level is taken as per Indian perspective.⁵

The weekly wages was considered as 1200 rupees.⁶ The questionnaire was as per WHO and was modifies according to the area and culture.⁷ The data was collected on Microsoft excel sheet and analyzed with the help of online calculator along with necessary test.

Table 1 Relation of Variables according to the age of Boys

Variables	Age in Yrs				Chi-Square value	P-Value
	10-12 Yrs n(%)	13-14 Yrs n(%)	15-16 Yrs n(%)	17-18 Yrs n(%)		
School Attainment						
Ever attended school	25(12.5)	63(31.5)	76 (38)	33(16.5)	1.49*	0.684
Not attended school	1(0.5)	1(0.5)	1(0.5)	0(0)		
Highest Level of Schooling						
Primary	17(8.62)	26 (13.1)	13 (6.59)	1(0.50)	121	0.000
Middle	6(3.04)	32 (16.2)	17 (8.62)	6(3.04)		
High school	1(0.50)	5(2.5)	43 (21.8)	13(6.59)		
Higher Secondary	1(0.50)	0(0)	3(1.5)	7(3.55)		
College	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	6(3.04)		
No Response	3(1.5)					
Education Expect Years						
Below 5 years	1(0.606)	12 (7.27)	12 (7.27)	16(9.69)	24.7	0.000
5-10 years	15(9.09)	34 (20.6)	40 (24.2)	12(7.27)		
10 or more years	5(3.03)	12 (7.27)	5 (3.03)	1(0.60)		
No Response	35					
Type of Education						
Full Time	24(12)	53 (26.5)	59 (29.5)	19 (9.5)	16.1	0.065
Part Time	0(0)	6(3)	7(3.5)	6(3)		
Not in Education	2(1)	5(2.5)	8(4)	5(2.5)		
No response	0(0)	0(0)	3(1.5)	3(1.5)		
Work Pattern						
Current Work	1(0.5)	6(3)	12(6)	11(5.5)	12.8	0.005942
Not in work	25(12.5)	58 (29)	65 (32.5)	22 (11)		
Offering Time To Religion						
Daily	10(5)	22 (11)	23 (11.5)	11 (5.5)	18.6	0.098021
Once in a week	8(4)	18(9)	33 (16.5)	11 (5.5)		
Once in a Month	2(1)	15 (7.5)	9 (4.5)	4(2)		
Once in a Year	3(1.5)	2(1)	3(1.5)	6(3)		
No Time (Never)	3(1.5)	7(3.5)	9(4.5)	1(0.5)		
Importance of Religiosity						
Very Important	13(6.5)	16(8)	37 (18.5)	21(10.5)	16.3	0.12433
Important	11(5.5)	44 (22)	35 (17.5)	11 (5.5)		
Nothing Important	2(1)	4(2)	5(2.5)	1(0.5)		
Coresidence With Father	25 (12.5)	61(30.5)	71 (35.5)	30 (15)	1.22	0.747421
Coresidence With Mother	26(13)	63 (31.5)	73 (36.5)	32 (16)	2.53	0.469
Coresidence With Elder Brother	14 (7)	27 (13.5)	29(14.5)	15(7.5)	2.23	0.526551
Coresidence with Elder Sister	15(7.5)	29 (14.5)	37 (18.5)	15 (7.5)	1.25	0.74116
Ease of Communication With Father						
Very easy	3(1.5)	13 (6.5)	25 (12.5)	5 (2.5)	21.1	0.172679
Easy	8(4)	22 (11)	19 (9.5)	15 (7.5)		
Ok	10(5)	13 (6.5)	16(8)	8(4)		
Difficult	2(1)	8(4)	13 (6.5)	3(1.5)		
Very difficult	1(1)	7(3.5)	3(1.5)	1(0.5)		
Not Talking	2(1)	1(0.5)	1(0.5)	1(0.5)		
Ease Of Communication With Mother						
Very easy	9(4.5)	18(9)	24 (12)	11(5.5)	14.3	0.502
Easy	9(4.5)	32 (16)	28 (14)	11(5.5)		
Ok	7(3.5)	9 (4.5)	23 (11.5)	8(4)		
Difficult	1(0.5)	2(1)	2(1)	2(1)		
Very difficult	0(0)	1(0.5)	0(0)	1(0.5)		
Not Talking	0(0)	2(1)	0(0)	0(0)		
Restriction By Parents						
Movies and parties	15(7.5)	41 (20.5)	47 (23.5)	22(11)	0.638	0.888
Alcohol and smoking	26(13)	55(27.5)	68(34)	30(15)	4.10	0.251
Bad words	24(12)	47 (23.5)	65(32.5)	25(12.5)	5.57	0.135
Weekly Earning						
<1200 Rs	1(3.33)	5(16.6)	11 (36.6)	5 (16.6)	8.71	0.191
1200 Rs	0(0)	0(0)	1 (3.33)	1(3.33)		
>1200 Rs	0(0)	1(3.3)	0(0)	5(16.6)		
Type of work						
Skilled work	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	4(13.33)	25.2	0.003
Labourer	1(0)	5(16.6)	10(33.3)	6(20)		
Shopkeeper	0(0)	0(0)	2(6.6)	1(3.33)		
Sales man	1(3.33)	1(3.3)	0(0)	0(0)		
Hours Worked/Week						
8-16 hrs	0(0)	2(6.6)	0(0)	1(3.3)	13.3	0.581
17-24 hrs	0(0)	0(0)	2(6.66)	1(3.33)		
25-32 hrs	1(3.33)	1(3.3)	2(6.56)	3(10)		
33-40 hrs	0(0)	1(3.3)	1(3.33)	0(0)		
41-48 hrs	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	1(3.3)		
>48 hrs	0(0)	2(6.6)	7(23.3)	5(16.66)		
Looking For Work						
Yes	1(0.5)	4(2)	9(4.5)	7(3.5)	6.60	0.085792
No	25(12.5)	60(30)	68(34)	26(13)		

RESULTS

There were in total 200 boys of which maximum were 15-16 years age group. Around 38% of this age group attended the school. There were 3 students who never went to the school. Highest level of schooling was middle (30.9%) (p<0.000). The further expected years of education by the boys expressed was 5-10 years (p <0.000).

There were 9.5% boys having part time education and 10 % boys not in education. This is a big number in urban area with a good facility of availability of schools.

There were 15 % boys currently working (p<0.005).The weekly earning of Rs 1200 and more was seen by 26.56% boys. Approximately 70% boys were working as laborers, out of 35 working boys (p<0.001).

Table 2 Social Aspect of Family Life and Reproductive Health Exposure

	Exposure to reproductive health				Chi-square Value	P-Value
	YES	NO	Not known	Never went to school		
Is It Alright To Date						
Yes	34(17)	21(10.5)	12(6)	1(0.5)	27.9	0.000
No	12(6)	15(7.5)	15(7.5)	1(0.5)		
Not Known	14(7)	28(14)	46(23)	1(0.5)		
Physical Violence Is Justifiable						
Yes	7(3.5)	4(2)	6(3)	1(0.5)	12.7	0.047
No	40(20)	44(22)	35(17.5)	1(0.5)		
Not-Known	13(6.5)	16(8)	32(16)	1(0.5)		

* no response in private and Govt Schools -7

*no response in boys and co-ed school-11

Table 3 Exposure to Reproductive Health and social aspect of family life according to the type of schooling

Variables	Private School	Govt. School	Chi-square value	P-Value	Co-Ed	Boys School	Chi-square value	P-Value
	109	84			163	26		
ALCOHOL	3(1.55)	1(0.51)	0.570	0.450	3(1.58)	1(0.52)	0.435	0.509
SMOKING	6(3.10)	10(5.18)	2.56	0.110	11(5.82)	3(1.58)	0.750	0.386
EXPOSURE TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH & RELATIONSHIP								
Yes	41(21.24)	18(9.32)	7.05	0.070	56(29.62)	3(1.58)	5.73	0.125
No	32(16.5)	29(15.0)			48(25.3)	10(5.2)		
Not known	35(18.1)	37(19.17)			58(30.68)	13(6.87)		
Never went school	1(0.51)	0(0)			1(0.52)	0(0)		
IS IT ALRIGHT TO DATE								
Yes	39(20.20)	27(13.9)	10.1	0.006	59(31.21)	7(3.70)	0.986	0.611
No	32(16.5)	11(5.6)			34(17.9)	7(3.70)		
Not known	38(19.6)	46(23.83)			70(37.03)	12(6.34)		
PHYSICAL VIOLENCE IS JUSTIFIABLE								
Yes	10(5.18)	5(2.5)	4.17	0.124	12(6.34)	3(1.58)	0.847	0.655
No	72(37.30)	47(24.35)			101(53.4)	14(7.4)		
Not known	27(13.9)	32(16.5)			50(26.45)	9(4.76)		

Table 4 Relation of Variables according to the type of education

	Full time	Part time	Not in education	Chi-Square value	P-Value
Exposure To Reproductive Health And Relationship					
Yes	51(26.2)	1(0.515)	3(1.54)	21.3	0.002
No	51(26.2)	9(4.63)	4(2.06)		
Not Known	52(26.8)	9(4.63)	11(5.67)		
Never Go To School	1(0.515)	0(0)	2(1.03)		
IS IT ALRIGHT TO DATE					
Yes	53(27.3)	6(3.09)	5(2.57)	1.17	0.883
Not Known	69(35.5)	8(4.12)	11(5.67)		
No	33(17.01)	5(2.57)	4(2.06)		
PHYSICAL VIOLENCE IS JUSTIFIABLE					
Yes	12(6.18)	0(0)	6(3.09)	14.0	0.007
Not Known	47(24.2)	7(3.60)	7(3.60)		
No	96(49.4)	12(6.18)	7(3.60)		
RESTRICTION BY PARENTS					
Movies & parties					
Yes	96(49.4)	12(6.18)	14(7.21)	0.494	0.781
No	59(30.41)	7(3.60)	6(3.09)		
Alcohol & Smoking					
Yes	142(73.1)	16(8.24)	16(8.24)	3.27	0.195
No	13(6.70)	3(1.54)	4(2.06)		
Bad Words					
Yes	130(67.01)	15(7.73)	13(6.70)	4.26	0.119
No	25(1.28)	4(2.06)	7(3.60)		
CORESIDENCE WITH FATHER					
Yes	146(75.2)	19(9.79)	16(8.24)	7.22	0.027
No	9(4.63)	0(0)	4(2.06)		
CORESIDENCE WITH MOTHER					
Yes	152(78.3)	19(9.79)	18(9.27)	5.15	0.076
No	3(1.54)	0(0)	2(1.03)		
CORESIDENCE WITH ELDER BROTHER					
Yes	73(37.6)	8(4.12)	4(2.06)	5.31	0.070
No	82(42.2)	11(5.67)	16(8.24)		
CORESIDENCE WITH ELDER SISTER					
Yes	71(36.5)	8(4.12)	11(5.67)	0.758	0.685
No	84(43.2)	11(5.67)	9(4.63)		

Most of the boys working for more than 48 hours, while 10.5% boys were looking for work.

There were 10% boys who were not at all involved in any religious activity and 6% said that religion is not important.

There were 6.5% boys living without father while 3% without mother. There were 22% boys who were in difficult, very difficult and not in talking terms with their fathers. There were only 5.5% boys who were in difficult, very difficult and not in talking terms with their mothers.

Maximum restriction from parents is of alcohol and smoking and then of bad words use. The bad words use restriction between the ages of 10-12 years is only 12 % which should be higher in this age group.

Boys from government school and in co-education were found to be indulge more in smoking, whereas there were 4 boys who were alcoholic. Around 37% boys did not heard of reproductive health & relationship. Around 33 % boys were in favor of dating, while 42% were not aware of dating ($p < 0.006$).

Physical violence was justified by 7.68%, 30.4% were not aware of it and 6.65% did not justify it.

DISCUSSION

In our study 1.5% boys have not attended school anytime. In two studies it was observed that 6-7% boys were illiterate, which were Done in Utrakhand (Dehradun).⁸

In our study 99.69% boys were involved in some type of education, as per World Bank survey today more than 95% of India's children attend primary school. In a study it was also found that just 44% complete class X, similarly in our study it was found that 40% boys completed class X. The nation that will soon have the largest and youngest workforce the world has ever seen. NFHS-3 data showed that 7% boys aged 15-19 years had no education.⁹

In this study it was found that 15% of the boys were doing some kind of work. In study done in South Delhi it was found 7.3% reported doing some part time work for income after school /college hours.¹⁰

In another study done in Tamil Nadu majority 63.16% of adolescents in rural area and 36.83% in urban areas only were employed.¹¹

It was found that when youth begin working more than 20 hours per week declines in school engagement and increase in substance use and delinquency compared with youth who remains unemployed.¹²

In our study 83% of the boys were offering time for worship to God daily to monthly. Similarly in one study it was found that 75% or more of young adults believe in God. In our study it was also found that 94% boys showed importance to God (religion) in their lives, similarly in a study it was found 87% boys of Brazil reported that God is important in their lives.¹³

In societies where access to education is spreading and the average number of years of schooling is rising, younger generation tend to receive more education than their parents and grandparents did. Directly or indirectly this increase in education could be part of why younger adults are less religious.

According to the study, each generation in a steadily developing society would be less religious than the last, which would explain why young adults are less religious than their elders at any given time.¹⁴

In our study it was observed that a big number of boys found difficulty in communication with their parents, more commonly with their fathers, similarly it was observed that among rural Indian adolescents and their parents open communication about sexual topics and HIV/AIDS appears to be low.¹⁵

In this study it was found that 6.5% boys were not residing with their fathers and 3% boys were not residing with their mothers. Similarly it was found students living with single parents were 3.46 times more likely to encounter psychological dysfunction than those living with both parents.¹⁶

Physical violence was justified by 7.68% in our study. A South African study found that 42% of females reported experiencing physical violence. The experience is more than the justifiable attitude towards violence. As per the morality the attitude can be positive but as a person in the real situation may change his behaviour.¹⁷

In our study it was found that 2.06% boys were taking alcohol and 8.28% boys were smoking. NFHS-3 data shows about 11% of adolescent boys consumed alcohol and 29% boys use some kind of tobacco. The difference may be because of difference in size of area studied.¹⁸

It was observed in our study 34% of the boys felt that dating is good. Similarly in a survey of adolescents, over 70% of them responded that they felt discrimination in their peer groups, because they couldn't find a romantic partner. On the other hand, those with a relationship consider themselves as happier or more adjusted.¹⁹

CONCLUSION

The boys exposed to reproductive health and relationship were only 30.56%. It was observed that 33% of the boys were in favor of dating, but when exposed to reproductive health and relationship the percentage reduces to 17%. Physical violence was justified by 7.68% boys, but with exposure to reproductive health and relationship, it reduced to 3.5%.

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