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A STUDY ON PARENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS SEX EDUCATION WITH CERTAIN SELECTED VARIABLES

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Abstract: Using a multistage stratified random sample technique, 250 couples (250 male and 250 female) from the rural Agra district were chosen. The men's mean attitude score on sex education was found to be slightly higher (121.59) than the wives' (120.64). The ladies' age, family size, number of children, and family income had no discernible positive or negative effects on their attitudes about sex education. However, the spouses' attitudes toward sex education were influenced by the overall monthly family income. Furthermore, the spouses' age, number of children, and family members had no detrimental effects on their attitudes about sex education. However, the husbands' attitudes about sex education in the current study were influenced by family income and the total monthly income of the family.

Key words: Sex education, family size, spouses, attitude, positive or negative effect, current study aims.

Introduction- The current study aims to ascertain the relationship between parents' perspectives toward sex education. Most studies on the factors affecting parents' opinions about sex education have been conducted in India and other countries. School-based sexual health programs have been the focus of most studies on parents' and teens' views toward sex education. Parents typically support a comprehensive curriculum covering sexual topics, believing that sex education should start with relationship and safety concerns in early elementary school and progress to more sexually charged and controversial matters in later classes.

“The idea of sex education has its roots in our predecessors, who placed a strong focus on self-care and reproduction. However, sex education emerged at different times and in different nations. Due to the pressing need to address adolescent reproductive health, sexual rights, and sexual concerns, sex education evolved and was introduced in Indian schools (Adepoju, 2005)”.

Adolescents must receive sex education in order to give them constructive guidance and accurate knowledge that would prevent them from reviewing relevant publications. Students must get sex education, which is crucial for preventing HIV/AIDS. Parents' attitudes regarding sex education do not significantly alter based on their socioeconomic status, according to an analysis of research findings.

Objective- • To investigate how parents' attitudes about sex education relate to adolescents based on a few chosen traits.

Methodology- Two hundred and fifty parents from the Agra district who lived in rural areas participated in the study. A multistage stratified random sampling procedure was used to choose the samples. “The necessary data was gathered from the dads and women who were each chosen separately for the current study using a standardized questionnaire created by Dr. Usha Mishra”.

Results-

Table - 1: Correlation between attitude regarding sex education with age, family members, number Of children, monthly income and total family monthly income of the wives (n = 250)

Variable	Statistical Values				
	Mean	SD	r	z	p
Attitude	120.64	9.96			
Age in years	38.75	7.77	-0.017	0.268	> 0.05
Family Members	5.03	1.47	-0.017	0.268	> 0.05
Number Of Children	2.16	0.82	-0.025	0.394	> 0.05
Monthly Income	18140.00	23005.23	+ 0.051	0.804	> 0.05
Total Family Monthly Income	78796.00	43687.34	+0.257	4.188	< 0.05

Table 1 demonstrates the relationships between the wives' attitudes toward sex education and their age, family members, number of children, monthly income, and total family monthly income. In the present study, negative and insignificant correlations between attitude toward sex education and age,



family members, and number of children were observed among the wives separately, even at the 5% level of significance, while positive and insignificant correlations between attitude toward sex education and monthly income were observed among the wives ($p > 0.05$). The study found a significant positive association ($p < 0.05$) between attitudes towards sex education and total family monthly income among spouses. As total family monthly income increased, so did attitudes towards sex education, and vice versa.

Table - 2: Correlation between attitude regarding sex education with age, family members, number Of children, monthly income and total family monthly income of the husbands. (n = 250)

Variable	Statistical Values				
	Mean	SD	r	z	p
Attitude	120.64	9.96			
Age in years	38.75	7.77	-0.017	0.268	> 0.05
Family Members	5.03	1.47	-0.017	0.268	> 0.05
Number Of Children	2.16	0.82	-0.025	0.394	> 0.05
Monthly Income	18140.00	23005.23	+ 0.051	0.804	> 0.05
Total Family Monthly Income	78796.00	43687.34	+0.257	4.188	< 0.05

The relationships between attitude toward sex education and age, family size, number of children, monthly income, and the husbands' combined monthly family income are displayed in table 2 above. Even at the 5% level of significance, there were negative and insignificant correlations between the husbands' attitudes about sex education and age, family members, and the number of children. In contrast, there were positive and significant correlations ($p < 0.05$) between the husbands' attitudes about sex education and monthly income and total family monthly income; that is, as the husbands' monthly income and total family monthly income increased, so did their attitudes about sex education, and vice versa.

Discussion- Contrary and similar results reported by the researchers against the findings of the present investigation were discussed. Contrary findings were reported by Onyeodi, et.al. (2022) that majority of the respondents had positive attitudes towards sex education. Deepa Mukherjee, Sunil Kumar Dular and Sameeksha, Rachna (2022) found similar results in their study regarding attitude of sex education between wives and husbands according to occupation. Effiom Bassey Ekeng et.al. (2022) reported that significant gap in attitude among adolescent males and females and influenced by age group, education, occupation, socio-economic status etc. Contrary findings were reported by Keshab Chandra Halder (2021) in his study that significantly more favourable attitude regarding sex education was found between fathers and mothers according to education but similar findings were reported that the attitude towards sex education does not differ between the parent according to income. Deepak Kashinath Chaudhari (2019) conducted a study and observed that insignificantly mean scores of attitude among male teachers as compared to female teachers. "A study of attitude towards sex was carried out by Joshi and Beura (2016) on the sample of 372 students of 62 schools from Hilly district in Uttarakhi and found that male and female showed different attitude towards sex education. Anarti N. Nagpal and Dr. Sr. Christine Fernandes (1915) conducted a study on attitude of parents towards sex education and found no significant difference in attitude between the father and mother regarding sex education according to children and total family monthly income. Contrary finding was also reported by Varshney et.al (2009) as they found that female adolescents had better attitude regarding sex as compared to male adolescents. Leili, et.al. (2008) also found that those with higher education were more positive in their attitudes as compared to less_educated respondents. Study conducted by Reddy (1984) supported that young respondents hold favourable attitude toward sex education".

Conclusion- Thus, it may be concluded that age, family members and number of children and family income of the wives did not negatively and positively effect the attitude regarding sex education separately. However, total family monthly income among the wives effected the attitude regarding sex education. Further, it may also be concluded that age, family members and number of children of the husbands did not negatively effect the attitude regarding sex education separately. However, family



income and total family monthly income among the husbands effected the attitude regarding sex educations in the present study.

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