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Research Article

PROBLEMS FACED BY ELDERLY ACCORDING TO GENDER IN RURAL AREAS OF CHITTOOR DISTRICT

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Abstract

Ageing is natural process spanning the life period from conception through birth, infancy, childhood, adolescence and old age. In India aged people faced mainly three type's problems those are physical/Health problems, financial problems and Socio-psychological problems. The present study was undertaken to know the problems faced by elderly living in rural areas of Mannarupalli (village). The sample consists of sixty (60) Elderly. People (30) Male and (30) Female. The sample was selected in three categories 60-70, 70-80, 80 and above. Purposive random sampling technique was used to select the sample, I have used interview schedule developed koala reedy (1990) was used to collect the information the statistical analysis used for percentage and frequencies were calculated. Results revealed from the study were majority of the elderly were facing physical problems and psychological problems than social problems .where as men are facing more physical and economic problems than women. Women were facing more psychological problems than men. Regarding social problem both the men and women are facing equally.

Keywords: Elderly; rural areas; physical problems; psychological problems; social problems; economic problems.

Introduction

The phenomenon of ageing is the process of growing old or developing the appearance and characteristics of old age. It is desire of all human being it keep young hale and health but, every individual has to experience the ageing process (Korean, 2005). The physical and mental health in each stage influence age in different ways and face different problems and relatively disadvantages in old age. The word ageing has been defined variedly by researchers in different Camacho and terry (1994) was found that there is relationship between the physical functioning and cumulative measures of behavior and psychological risk factors. Uma josh (2005) A Study of the physical economic social and psychological problems of old people "Indian psychological review. The major problems of old age could be in status and income, deteriorating health, retirement, dependence fear of death and shock of growing old. At all stages of our life we have to face social and psychological problems, but during old age the magnitude and dimension of these problems grow larger. Family member's behavior is associated with the economic contribution of aged Old age should be tranquil as childhood should be playful. Kavean (1981) According to the census of India world population, Madras. According

to 1991 census, India has 60 million elderly (60 years plus old). This is about 6.7 percent of the total population, which is up from the 5.97 percent in 1971 and 6.32 percent in 1981 respectively. The percentage of elderly is much higher in rural (20.3) percent than in urban areas (1.97 percent). The number of elderly is likely to reached around 80 million by 2001 and 120 million by 2013 (EPW Research foundation 1994) by statistics. Kavean (1981) "According to the census of India" world population, Madras

Need for the Study

The passage of time, the assumption that family will look after its aging members no longer seems valid because of increasing industrialization and urbanization, growing emphasis on self advanced. Hence there is need to revive the traditional values to strengthen the family bonds for integrating the aged with the family, since family bonds are the source of emotional, social, economic and physical support for the elderly.

Objectives

1. To know the different problems faced by elderly according to age.
2. To know the self-expressed problem of elderly living in rural areas.

- To know the differences between problems faced by elderly according to gender.

Method

The study was conducted in Mannarupalli (village) Chittoor District. The sample comprised of 60 elderly 30 male and 30 female living at in Mannarupalli (village) Chittoor District. The sample was selected in three categories 60-70 yrs, 70-80yrs, 80 above giving equal consideration to both genders. Purposive random sampling technique was used to select the sample. Interview schedule developed by Kulaih Reddy (1990) was used for the present study. The tool contains two parts. Part-A consists of general information and part-B consists of 40 questions related to physical problems, psychological problems, social problems and economic problems, used 3 points, attitude scale Always, Sometime, Never, scores were given as 3 ,2 and 1. Statistical analysis used for this data was percentages and frequencies.

Results and Discussions

Table 1 shows that equal number of sample were selected in both gender. It was evident from above table that there is 46.6 percent of men and women belongs to younger group (60-70yrs), coming to next age group that is (70-80yrs) 31

percent of the people under this age group. Remaining elders only 21 percent of them belong to 80 yrs. above which called as old age. It is evident from above table that majority people from 60-70yrs group. It may be because of increasing of life expectancy.

Table 2 shows that various problems faced both men and women in rural areas (Non-Institutionalized).It is evident from the above table that majority (66.6%) of men were facing high physical/health problems whereas 53.3 percent of the women were facing physical problems. It might be the reason for it, the fact we know that as age increases men face more health problems than women. Regarding psychological problems whereas majority (66.6) percent of women were facing psychological problems compared to men. Coyte, Jelong (1983) “depression and emotional status” United Nations. Social problems are almost equal for both men and women. While discussing about economic problems half of the (50 %) of men were facing more economic problems whereas women were facing 43 Percent, it might be because of men were more responsible for economic source and they cannot depend on other family members for their financial needs.

Table 1: Distribution of the sample based on age and gender.

S.N.	Age (Yrs)	Male (30)		Female (30)		Total	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	60-70	13	43.3	15	50	28	46.6
2	70-80	11	36.6	8	26.6	19	31.6
3	80 Above	6	20	7	23.3	13	21.6
Total		30	100	30	100	60	100

Table-2 Various problems faced by elderly based on gender

S. N.	Type of Problem	Gender					
		Male (n=30)			Female (n=30)		
		Low	Moderate	High	Low	Moderate	High
1	Physical Problems	4(13.3%)	6(20 %)	20 (66.6%)	6 (20%)	8 (26.6%)	16 (53.3%)
2	Psychological Problems	5 (16.6%)	9 (30%)	16 (53.3%)	4 (13.3%)	6 (20%)	20 (66.6%)
3	Social Problems	8 (26.6%)	10 (33.3%)	12 (40%)	8 (26.66%)	10 (33.3%)	12 (40%)
4	Economic Problems	5 (16.6%)	10 (33.3%)	15 (50%)	6 (20%)	11 (36.6%)	13 (43.3%)

Conclusion

From the above discussions the following conclusions were drawn. In Old age every person may undergo for some problems. The severity may change based on their living Environment.

- Whereas majority of the sample belonging to 60-70 years age group.
- Majority (66.6%) of men were facing high physical/health problems whereas 53.3 per cent of the women were facing physical problems.
- Regarding psychological problems whereas majority (66.6) percent of women were facing psychological problems compared to men
- Social problems are almost equal for both men and women.
- Regarding to economic problems Half of the (50 %) of men were facing more economic problems whereas women were facing 43 Percent

Implications of the Study

- These studies can be helpful to educate the young generation about negative impact of institutionalization of elderly.
- This study can help the counselors to help the elderly by telling about the adjustment made for different life situation.

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