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## **DIFFERENCES IN SELF-ESTEEM OF ORPHAN ADOLESCENCE AND ADOLESCENCE STAYING WITH THEIR PARENTS.**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Self-esteem refers to the extent to which we like accept or approve of ourselves or how much we value ourselves. This can vary depending on the situation and what have been going on lately, and any feedback you have gotten recently from your environment and people around you. Self-esteem is a sense of self, the value one puts on self and the worth one attaches to self. In fact, self-esteem is the basic belief about self. Adolescent in the orphanages come from a wide variety of cultural backgrounds. They have differing values, temperaments, and prejudices. Add to this the sorrowful fact many come to us with psychological scars from the effects of war, extreme poverty and abuse. All of them have been witness to things no child should ever witness. Some have been exploited, or have lived in fear for their own lives. The present study was conducted to study the differences in self-esteem of orphan adolescents and those staying with their parents. The sample comprise of 100 Orphans adolescent and 100 adolescent staying with both parents within the age range of 10-19 years irrespective of their religion, gender and education. Rosenberg Self Esteem Scale were used these scale consist of 10 item assessed an individual's feelings of self worth when the individual compares himself or herself to other people. The item is measured on a four item likert scale. The mean score of self esteem of orphan adolescent (M= 18.25) is higher than the non orphan adolescent (M= 17.68). However, the variation is very minimal and when applied independent t-test it is found to be insignificant relationship between self esteem of orphan adolescent and non orphan adolescent as manifest by p-value = 0.659. The present finding shows that there is no relationship between orphan adolescents and non orphan adolescents

**KEY WORD:** orphan, self esteem, adolescent.



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## INTRODUCTION

An orphanage is an institution devoted to the care of orphans for the care and protection of children without parents. Orphanages are often associated with volunteer groups or religious organizations in help them to grow.

An orphanage basically takes care of the children whose natural parents are deceased or otherwise unable or unwilling to care for them. It's a hard back but it happens that many times natural parents/natural grandparents/other relatives are not willing/not capable to care for the children, so they become alone without anybody and orphanages are one way of providing for their care, housing and education. Adolescent in the orphanages come from a wide variety of cultural backgrounds. They have differing values, temperaments, and prejudices. Add to this the sorrowful fact many come to us with psychological scars from the effects of war, extreme poverty and abuse. All of them have been witness to things no child should ever witness. Some have been exploited, or have lived in fear for their own lives. Boys have been affected by a misogynistic society, and come to the orphanage feeling they are superior to girls, that they must be strong, aggressive and good fighters. They are less tolerant, and think they are above doing domestic work. Girls on the other hand feel they are inferior and must obey men. All of this means that fifty children in the orphanage results in 50 different behaviors, some of them in complete opposition to one another.<sup>1</sup>

Self-esteem refers to the extent to which we like accept or approve of ourselves or how much we value ourselves. Self esteem always involves a degree of evaluation and we may have either a positive or negative view of ourselves. This can vary depending on the situation and what have been going on lately, and any feedback you have gotten recently from your environment and people around you. Self-esteem is a sense of self, the value one puts on self and the worth one attaches to self. In fact, self-esteem is the basic belief about self. Thus, it may be argued that, if one has a positive belief system about one's self, one will have a positive self-esteem. On the other hand, if one views oneself as worthless, one will have a negative self-esteem.<sup>2</sup> Morris Rosenberg defined self-esteem in terms of a stable sense of personal worth or worthiness. This became the most frequently used definition for research, but involves problems of



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boundary-definition, making self-esteem indistinguishable from such things as narcissism or simple bragging<sup>3</sup>.

## METHODOLOGY

### **Aims:**

The aim of the present study is to examine self esteem among adolescents staying in orphanage and those staying with their parents.

### **Objects:**

- 1) To study the relationship between socio-demographic profiles and self esteem of adolescent staying in orphanage.
- 2) To evaluate the differences in self-esteem of orphan adolescents those staying with their parents.

### **Hypothesis:**

- 1) There will be no significant relationship between socio-demographic profiles and self esteem of adolescents staying in orphanage.
- 2) There will be no significant relationship on self esteem between orphan adolescent and adolescents staying with their parents.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### **Study Design :**

A cross-sectional (descriptive) study design was used in the present study.

### **Set Up:**

The study was be conducted in the department of Clinical Psychology, Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal. All together there are nine destitute children home run by government of Manipur under the Social welfare department. Out of these nine destitute children home, three are situated in Imphal East and West district and other six destitute are situated in hilly regions of Manipur. At

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present, 320 inmates are staying among the nine destitute homes. Of these, 125 are in valley region and another 195 are in hilly regions of Manipur<sup>5</sup>. The data will be collected from the three Destitute Children Home a) Manipur Mahila Samiti, Deulahland, Imphal East b) Lei-Ingkhol, Chingmeirong, Mantripukhri, Imphal Manipur and Terakeithel, Sagolband, Imphal Manipur.

### **Study Population:**

The study population comprises of adolescent staying in orphanage and those staying with their parents in Imphal area.

### **Inclusion Criteria:**

- Orphans adolescent and adolescent staying with both parents within the age range of 10-19 years irrespective of their religion and education.
- Gender: Both male and female
- Orphans and Adolescents with both parents who are willing to participate and able to give assent.

### **Exclusion Criteria:**

- Adolescents with physical disability, chronic illness, etc.
- Orphan adolescents and adolescents with both parents having history of head injury, mentally retarded, person who is bed ridden or severe mental problem.

### **Samples Size:**

There was be two groups of samples in the present study. One group will comprise of orphans with 100 samples. Another group will consists of school going adolescents living with both parents with 100 samples. So all together, there will be 200 samples in the present study.



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### Sample Size Calculation:

Formula for sample size calculation is,

$$n/1+n * (e)^2$$

where, n = total number of population (125)

e = confidential limit (0.05)

$$= 125/1+ 125 * 0.05^2$$

$$= 125/1 + 0.3125$$

$$= 125/1.3125$$

$$= 95$$

$$= 100 \text{ (rounded up to ten)}$$

### Study Variables:

Simple random sampling technique will be adopted as sampling procedure.

### Study Tools:

- 1) Semi Structured Performa:** It includes socio-demographic details and the other relevant information of the study sample. The questionnaire consists of information such as name, sex, educational qualification, type of family, place of residence, number of siblings, and order of birth, etc.
- 2) Rosenberg Self Esteem Scale:** This 10 item scale assessed an individual's feelings of self worth when the individual compares himself or herself to other people. The item is measured on a four item likert scale. Items 1,3,4,7 and 10 are scored as (SA=3, A=2, D=1,



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SD=0) and items 2,5,6,8 and 9 are scored as (SA=0, A=1, D=2, SD=3) where SA is strongly agree, A is agree, D is disagree and SD is strongly disagree. Total scores range from 10 to 40 with higher scores representing greater self esteem. The reliability of the Indian version of the scale was 0.80.<sup>3</sup>

### **Procedures:**

To begin with the study, necessary permission was taken from the concerned authority and was explained thoroughly about the research programme that the research is taken up primarily to identify the levels of self esteem and self concept of orphan and school going adolescents. An attempt was made to approach all the orphans and adolescents who have fulfilled the inclusion criteria. Study aims, interviewing procedures and methods for maintaining confidentiality was explained to each potential participant. The interviewer read out the prepared script that provided an overview of the study aims and risks and benefits to each participant approaches for participation. After hearing the script, all the participants was ask to sign the assent form if they agree to participate in the study. Once the assent form was obtained, the interviewer proceeded to conduct a structured interview in a private location at the school premises or the orphan home. Semi structure Performa for collecting socio-demographic data and questionnaires such as self esteem was administered for identifying the level of self esteem of orphan adolescent and school going adolescents with both parents.

### **RESULT AND OBSERVATIONS**

The present study is based on the primary sample of 200 cases of adolescents staying in orphanage and those staying with their parents. It consists of two sections in this study; viz.

- Section 1: Socio-demographic and other relevant characteristics of the study samples
- Section 2: To evaluate the differences in self-esteem of orphan adolescents and those staying with their parents.



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## Section 1: Socio-demographic and other relevant characteristics of the study samples

This section 1 describes the various socio-demographic and other characteristics of the present study and it is highlighted in table No. 1.

**Table No.1**

**Socio-demographic and other relevant characteristics of the study samples**

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Age Range</b>		
Early Adolescent	55	27.5
Middle Adolescent	135	67.5
Late Adolescent	10	5
Total	200	100
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	107	53.5
Female	93	46.5
Total	200	100
<b>Educational Qualification</b>		
Primary	31	15.5
Upper Primary	57	28.5
Secondary	112	56
Total	200	100
<b>Residence</b>		
Rural	91	45.5
Urban	109	54.5
Total	200	100
<b>Religion</b>		
Hindu	132	66
Christian	68	34
Total	200	100
<b>No. of Siblings</b>		
Only child	13	6.5
2-3 siblings	111	55.5
4 & above siblings	76	38
Total	200	100
<b>Birth Order</b>		
First Born	76	38
Middle Born	46	23
Last Born	78	39
Total	200	100



<b>Type of Orphan</b>		
Maternal	8	4
Paternal	18	9
Social	74	37
Total	200	100
<b>History of Substance Use</b>		
Yes	64	32
No	136	68
Total	200	100
<b>History of Family Mental Illness</b>		
Yes	8	4
No	192	96
Total	200	100

**Table No. 1:** There are ten basic profiles or background variables of the study samples. They are age category, gender, educational qualification, residence, religion, number of Siblings, birth Order, type of Orphan, and history of Substance use and family history of mental illness.

The study comprises of 200 cases of adolescence, 100 adolescents staying in orphanage and another 100 adolescents staying with their parent. The highest percentage of adolescence in terms of age categories belong to middle adolescent with a percentage of 67.5 % follow by early adolescence with a percentage of 27.5 % and late adolescence with a percentage of 5.0 %. In case of gender, male has higher percentage of 53.5 % follow by female with a percentage of 46.5 %. Regarding educational qualification, the higher percentage belongs to secondary group with a percentage of 56.0% follow by upper-primary group with percentage of 28.5 % and primary group with percentage of 15.5 %. In term of religion, Hindu has the highest percentage of 66% and Christian with 34%. With respect to residence, the highest percentage falls under the rural area with a percentage of 66% and urban area with a percentage of 34%. In the present study ,the highest percentage in terms of number of siblings belong to 2-3 siblings with a percentage of 55.5% follow by 4 and above siblings with percentage of 38.0 % and only child with 6.5 %. In terms of birth order the highest belong to last born with percentage of 39.0 % follow by 1% lower by first born with percentage of 38.0 % and middle born with percentage of 23.0 %. For the types of orphan, double orphan leads by 21.5 % and social orphan with percentage of 15.5 %, followed by paternal with 9.0% and maternal with 4.0 %. In case of history of substance abuse in the family 68% said no while 32% respond yes. But in family history of mental illness 96 % said no and 4.0 % said yes.



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#### **Section 4: To evaluate the differences in self-esteem of orphan adolescents and those staying with their parents.**

This sub-section 4 deals with the relationship between self esteem with respect to orphan adolescent and non orphan adolescent. The finding is discussed in table No.4.

**Table No. 4**  
**Mean and Standard deviation of Self Esteem over the two Groups**

<b>Groups</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std. Deviation</b>	<b>t-value</b>	<b>d.f</b>	<b>p-value</b>	<b>Remark</b>
<b>Orphan Adolescent</b>	18.25	12.43	0.442	198	0.659	Insignificant
<b>Non-Orphan Adolescent</b>	17.68	3.39				

**Table No.4:** The tables indicates that the mean score of self esteem of orphan adolescent (M= 18.25) is higher than the non orphan adolescent (M= 17.68). However, the variation is very minimal and when applied independent t-test it is found to be insignificant relationship between self esteem of orphan adolescent and non orphan adolescent as manifest by p-value = 0.659.

## **DISCUSSION**

The purpose of the present study would be to rule out the self esteem among adolescents staying in orphanage and those staying with their parents. The research carried out with the objectives to analyses the Socio-demographic and other relevant characteristics of the study samples also conducted to assess the differences in self-esteem of orphan adolescents and those staying with their parents.

The First section of the study deals with the socio-demographic factors and other relevant characteristics of the study samples. In the age categories the highest percentages of adolescence belong to middle adolescent with a percentage of 67.5 %. In case of gender, male has higher percentage of 53.5 % and in terms of educational qualification, the higher percentage belongs to secondary group with a



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percentage of 56.0%. 66.0% of sample belongs to the Hindu With respect to residence, the highest percentage falls under the rural area with a percentage of 66% ,the highest percentage in terms of number of siblings belong to 2-3 siblings with a percentage of 55.5% %. In terms of birth order the highest belong to last born with percentage of 39.0 % For the types of orphan, double orphan leads by 21.5 %.

The fourth section discusses the relationship between self-esteem of orphan adolescents and adolescent staying with their parents. The present finding shows that there is no relationship between orphan adolescents and non orphan adolescents. A research on the topic ‘Differences in self-esteem of orphan children and children living with both parents in their homes’ conducted by Yasmin Nilofer et.al.<sup>5</sup> summarized that the children in orphanages reported lower degree of self-esteem than children living with their parents is contradicted to the present findings.

#### CONCLUTION

The present study was an attempt to explore the self esteem among adolescents staying in orphanage and those staying with their parents. In addition, the association between socio-demographic factors and other relevant characteristic of the study sample. The study was extended to study the differences in self-esteem of orphan adolescents and those staying with their parents. On research finding,Where as it has been found that there is no significant relationship with other socio-demographic variables i.e. Age Range, Gender, Educational Qualification, Place of Residence, Religion, Number Of Siblings, Order of Birth, Types of orphan, and history of Substance abuse in the family. The present research finding shows that there is no relationship between orphan adolescents and non orphan adolescents.



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