CHILD REARING KNOWLEDGE OF MOTHERS (0-3 YEARS) ACROSS WORKING STATUS (A STUDY IN ALIGARH CITY)

Gitanjali[*]

Prof. FarzanaAlim[**]

Abstract

A good mother has been expected to contribute her whole life to her family. It takes learning and practice to become a qualified mother. It is not an easy job because mothers must learn as they go. Mothers should have through knowledge about the upbringing of the child, love alone will not do. Knowledge of mothers in respect to child rearing plays an important role in upbringing of a child.The purpose of the study was to assess the knowledge of child rearing practices among working and non-working mothers (0-3years).A cross-sectional study was conducted and 50 respondents were selected from each working status from Aligarh city. Purposive sampling technique and a child rearing knowledge scale by P. P. Saramma and Sanjeev V. Thomas (2010)was used to collect the data. The data was analyzed by employing, chi square test. The association between the knowledge of working and non-working mothers is found to be significantly differentat (0.05).The level of child rearing knowledge of mothers may vary according to working status of respondents.The non-working mothers have low chi square value than working mothers. The reason could be that working mothers have good educational status and keep themselves update regarding knowledge of child rearing.

***Keywords:** Child Rearing Practices, Knowledge, Working and Non- Working Mothers.*

[*] Research Scholar, Department of Home Science, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh (U.P), India

[**] Prof., Department of Home Science, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh (U.P), India

A Monthly Double-Blind Peer Reviewed Refereed Open Access International e-Journal - Included in the International Serial Directories
Indexed & Listed at: Ulrich's Periodicals Directory ©, U.S.A., Open J-Gage, India as well as in Cabell's Directories of Publishing Opportunities, U.S.A.

International Journal of Physical and Social Sciences
http://www.ijmra.us

675

Introduction

Child rearing is a term for caring a child during early stages of life. [7]One of the functions of the family is seen by many to be that of rearing children.[3] The *Longman New Universal Dictionary* gives a definition of rearing – 'to raise upright, to build or to construct.' It is within the context of the family life whatever its structure that parents undertake the responsibility of building the individual, helping to 'construct' a person who will reach his/her optimal potential.[3]

Each individual family has its own beliefs about how children should be raised. These beliefs will be based on many factors including past experiences, culture, religion and media influence. It is very difficult to make rules about how to bring up children. Each child is an individual and what we do for one child may not work for another. [3]

A good mother has been expected to contribute her whole life to her family. It takes learning and practice to become a qualified mother. It is not an easy job because mothers must learn as they go.[2]Mothers should have through knowledge about the upbringing of the child; love alone will not do. Child care is mostly the responsibility of mothers. Knowledge of mothers in respect to child rearing plays an important role in upbringing of a childtherefore; the mother's knowledge about child care influences the nature and quality of care that is given to the child. [5] Several studies have revealed that the mothers' level of education has a positive impact on her knowledge and how she deals with child care issues.

The study is significant as children are the future of one's nation and to properly nurture them a mother should had a good knowledge about child rearing practices. In early periods most of the mothers of infants use to live together with their elders and in absence of their knowledge their children was given care by others. With the help of this scale I had tried to give some useful information to mothers by giving them the correct answers of the questionnaire after my survey. But in today's world each and every mother should have the proper knowledge of child care in order to bring up them as a good citizen.

Materials and Methods

Aims and Objectives

- To assess the level of knowledge on child rearing among working and non-working mothers of children from 0-3 years of age.
- To find out the association between positive response and educational level of working mothers.
- To find out the association between positive response and educational level of non-working mothers.

Research design

A research design is the specification of methods and procedure for acquiring the information needed. The research design for present study was transversal research design. Cross-sectional method was used because this method is extensive and can be used to collect datafrom a representative subset at one specific point of time.

Sample design

The study was carried out in the Aligarh City of Uttar-Pradesh. It is at a distance of 130km from Delhi and has a good connectivity of roads and railways. The sample for present study consisted of 100 respondents (50 working mothers and 50 non-working mothers). The purposive random sampling technique was used to select the sample from the Aligarh city in which Pediatricians, Home Scientists and Gynecologists were excluded.

Methods of Data Collection

As the study is cross sectional in nature, survey method was adopted to collect the information needed from the target population.A Child rearing Knowledge scale and a demographic questionnaire comprised information about mothers, age, work and level of education was given to mothers to their response.Scale was used with great care so as to have minimum possible biasness. "English" version of the scale was used to study the level of child rearing knowledge among the working status of mothers. A scale (20 questions having 5 options) was given to get response of the respondents.

A Monthly Double-Blind Peer Reviewed Refereed Open Access International e-Journal - Included in the International Serial Directories
Indexed & Listed at: Ulrich's Periodicals Directory ©, U.S.A., Open J-Gage, India as well as in Cabell's Directories of Publishing Opportunities, U.S.A.

International Journal of Physical and Social Sciences
http://www.ijmra.us

677

Data Analysis

For the analysis of data the following steps were followed:

(A) Coding- The coding of scale was done according to the instructions such as each correct answer was given 1 mark and incorrect answer was given 0 and tabulated on the coding sheet.

(B) Tabulation- The data was transferred from the coding sheet to comprehensive tables to give a clear picture of the findings.

(C) Statistical Analysis- The descriptive statistic applied was chi-square and ANOVA.

Result and Discussion

Table – I Chi-square value and mean between working status and knowledge of child rearing (n=100).

S No.	Knowledge of Mothers	Mean		SD	Chi Square	p- value
		Positive response	Negative response			
1.	Working Mothers	16.04	3.96	1.484	7.840	0.165
2.	Non-Working Mothers	12.18	7.82	1.711	21.36	0.003

(Sig. at 0.05 level)

The above table revealed that the calculated value of chi-square (knowledge of working mothers is 7.840 and knowledge of non-working mothers is 21.36) was high than table value which indicates that there is no significant difference between the knowledge of working and non-working mothers. But statistically there is difference between the mean of mothers knowledge, which indicates that there is difference between the child rearing knowledge of working and non-working mothers. The reason of high mean value of working mothers could be that mothers going out for job come in contact with many people and share their knowledge and also keep themselves update through media.

A Monthly Double-Blind Peer Reviewed Refereed Open Access International e-Journal - Included in the International Serial Directories
Indexed & Listed at: Ulrich's Periodicals Directory ©, U.S.A., Open J-Gage, India as well as in Cabell's Directories of Publishing Opportunities, U.S.A.
International Journal of Physical and Social Sciences
http://www.ijmra.us
678

Table – II ANOVA value between positive response and education level of working mothers (n=50).

S. No.	Education	n	Mean	SD	F	Sig.
1.	Senior Secondary	2	14.50	0.707		
2.	Graduation	15	16.33	1.175	4.312	0.009
3.	Post- Graduation	18	16.67	1.455		
4.	Above	15	15.20	1.424		

(Sig. at 0.05 level)

The above table explores that the calculated value of ANOVA (knowledge of working mothers and their qualification is 0.009) is less than the table value and therefore having highly significant differences between knowledge and educational status. The working mothers having educational status at post-graduation level are having high mean value (16.67) and therefore having good knowledge of child rearing practices. The working mothers having educational status at senior secondary level are having low mean value (14.50) and therefore having average knowledge of child rearing practices.

Table – III ANOVA value between positive response and educational level of non-working mothers (n=50).

| S. No.	Education	n	Mean	SD	F	Sig.
1.	Senior Secondary	8	12.00	1.85		
2.	Graduation	21	12.10	1.48	2.576	0.065
3.	Post- Graduation	16	12.88	1.89		
4.	Above	5	10.60	0.54		

(Sig. at 0.05 level)

The above table explores that the calculated value of ANOVA (knowledge of non-working mothers and their qualification is 0.065) is high than the table value and hence no significant differences were found but statistically slight differences were found in the means of knowledge

A Monthly Double-Blind Peer Reviewed Refereed Open Access International e-Journal - Included in the International Serial Directories
Indexed & Listed at: Ulrich's Periodicals Directory ©, U.S.A., Open J-Gage, India as well as in Cabell's Directories of Publishing Opportunities, U.S.A.
International Journal of Physical and Social Sciences
http://www.ijmra.us
679

of non-working mothers. The above table reveals that non- working mothers having education at post-graduation level are having good knowledge of child rearing practices (12.88).

Conclusion

The child rearing knowledge of mothers is very essential in today's world. From the research and analysis done it is concluded that there is no significant difference between knowledge of child rearing and working status of mothers but statistically there is difference between the means of mother's knowledge across working status. There is significant association between the educational level and positive response of working mothers. There is no significant association between the educational level and positive response of non-working mothers.
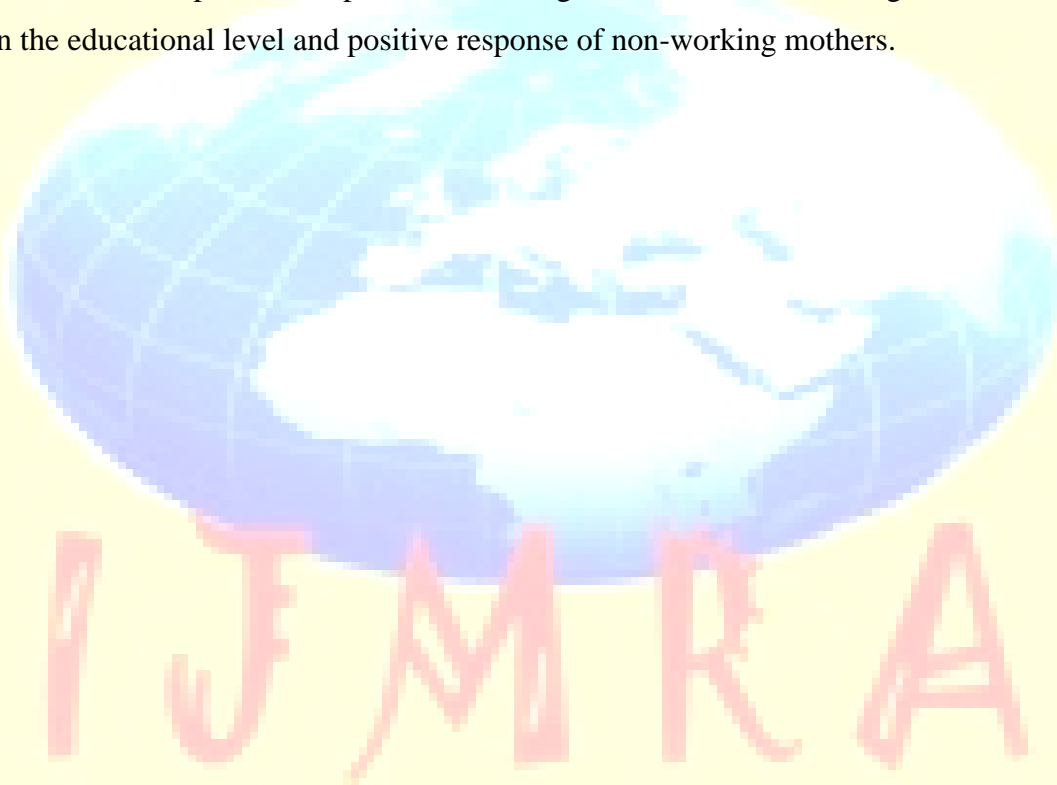
References

[1] Cynthia A. Gerhardt. (2003). Brief Report: Child-Rearing Practices of Caregivers with and Without a Child with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis: Perspectives of Caregivers and Professionals. Journal of Pediatric Psychology. Volume 28, Issue 4. 275-279.

[2] LiamputtongPranee. (2007). Childrearing and Infant Care Issues: A Cross-cultural Perspective. Nova Pubblishers.

[3] Moules Tina, Ramsay Joan. (1998). The Textbook of Children's Nursing. Nelson Thornes.

[4] Ribbens Jane. (1994). Mothers and Their Children: A Feminist Sociology of Childrearing. Sage Publications

[5] Child rearing practices in India.http://www.slideshare.net/naorembinitadevi/child-rearing-practices-in-the-indian-context. Accessed September 2014.

[6] Child rearing practices in India. http://www.ehow.com/about_7231840_child-rearing-practices-india.html. Accessed September 2014.

[7] Childhood and child rearing. http://www.encyclopedia.com/doc/1G2-3404900211.html. Accessed September 2014.

[8] Child rearing knowledge and practice scales. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2981753/. Accessed September 2014.