



PERCEPTION OF ELDERLY PEOPLE ON SOCIAL SECURITY IN DROUGHT PRONE AREA OF ANANTAPURAMU DISTRICT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

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Abstract

Dementia is associated with various mental and behavioural symptoms which affects both the patient and their care-givers. However, often, the quality of life of older persons is affected by the situations around them e.g. concerns regarding the availability of appropriate care, expectations from family, changing family systems and traditional values, safety in the community, and environment issues. Health related concerns, loneliness, boredom, and abuse from family members, bereavements, and financial worries are many concerns that the elderly face. The older people report discomfort in adjusting to the changes in societal attitude and behaviour especially from younger generations. The present paper highlighted that opinion of the elderly people on various social dimensions in the drought prone area of Anantapuramu district.

Key Words: *Elderly, Social Security, Perception.*

Introduction

Increasing age comes with various concerns. Justifiably health remains in focus in most situations with include both physical and mental health, although the latter does not seem to get proportionate attention in many regions.

Multi-morbidities are common in old age,¹ and although physical morbidities are commonly observed,² mental morbidities are common too. For example, the estimated median prevalence rates of depressive disorders around the world for the elderly is around 10%, and that in the Indian population was determined to be 21%.^{3,4} Most of these depressive disorders could be secondary to life situations and stresses for older adults.

While age and female gender is significantly associated with depression in older adults, the potentially modifiable risk factors for depression in this age group were identified as low socioeconomic status, loss of a spouse, living alone, chronic co-morbidities, cognitive impairment, bereavement and restricted activities of daily living.⁵ Besides depression, with increasing longevity, dementia is fast becoming more common in societies.

Dementia is associated with various mental and behavioural symptoms which affects both the patient and their care-givers. However, often, the quality of life of older persons is affected by the situations around them e.g. concerns regarding the availability of appropriate care, expectations from family, changing family systems and traditional values, safety in the community, and environment issues. Health related concerns, loneliness, boredom, and abuse from family members, bereavements, and financial worries are many concerns that the elderly face. The older people report discomfort in adjusting to the changes in societal attitude and behaviour especially from younger generations.



Significance of the study

A wide range of abuse such as physical, verbal, economic, disrespect, neglect has been observed in the Indian elderly population. The abuse of elders is very common in India, and unfortunately, it is the children, mostly sons, who are the wrongdoers. Although many elderly people are experiencing various types of abuse and financial exploitation at home; they do not come out and seek help regarding this, in spite of the existence of specific laws in the country. In addition, many older people may not be aware of such laws; therefore efforts should be taken for improving awareness in the community and ease of utilisation of such laws. There are many laws protecting the rights of the elderly in India; however their implementation and use are seriously flawed. It has been observed that those with formal education (8 years or above) among the elderly is associated with reduced violence against them. The present study focus on social security and life style of elderly people in Anantapuramu district.

Objectives of the present study

The specific objectives of the study are as follows

- To study the concept of social security and life style
- To analyse the perception of elderly people on their social security

Methodology

Sampling design

The present study is depending on empirical analysis. Anantapuramu district is very drought prone area and majority of the population depending on agriculture and allied sector. For taken up present study – 400 sample elderly people was selected by using simple random techniques. And it covers Anantapuramu and surrounding mandal namely Rappthadu, Bukkarayasamudram, Garladinne, Anantapuramu rural, and Atmakur.

Data collection

The present study is based on both primary and secondary data. The primary data was collected from the selected sample elderly respondents through using a structure interview schedule after pre-tested (pilot study). And secondary data was also collected from various sources like dailies, journals, books, theses, dissertations, websites, and various universities libraries.

Table 1, Family, Friends and neighbors would help me if needed

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	%	Standard Deviation
1	Strongly agree	164	41.00	53.88877434123
2	Agree	40	10.00	
3	Can't say	32	08.00	
4	Disagree	64	16.00	
5	Strongly disagree	100	25.00	
	Total	400	100.00	

Source : Field Survey

Standard Deviation, s: **53.88877434123**

Count, N: 5

Sum, Σx : 400

Mean, \bar{x} : 80

Variance, s^2 : 2904



The above table discloses that the opinion of the elderly people on they were fulfill needs by their family members, friends and neighbor in Anantapuramu district of Andhra Pradesh. It is found that 41 per cent of the sample respondents which are represents 164 have expressed that they are strongly agreed, 25 per cent of the respondents were stated that they are strongly disagreed, 16 per cent of the elderly people have stated that they are disagreed that statement, 10 per cent of the respondents are just agree, and only eight per cent of the respondents don't expressed their opinion in the study area. The statistical results were stated that sample respondents have receiving help from the surrounding people when they needed in the study.

Table 2,Opinion of the elderly people on their feel safe where they live

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	%	Standard Deviation
1	Strongly agree	84	21.00	39.293765408777
2	Agree	40	10.00	
3	Can't say	144	36.00	
4	Disagree	72	18.00	
5	Strongly disagree	60	15.00	
	Total	400	100.00	

Source: Field Survey

Standard Deviation, s: **39.293765408777**

Count, N: 5

Sum, Σx : 400

Mean, \bar{x} : 80

Variance, s^2 : 1544

The above statistical data were disclosing on the statement like “you are feeling safe where you are live”. According to this statement, the researcher has received opinion from the respondents, tabulated, analysed and presented hereunder. It can be found that majority of the respondents do not share their opinion because of they give neutral opinion and it is reported that 36 per cent (144 sample respondents), 21 per cent of the sample respondents have stated that strongly agree, 18 per cent of them given negative opinion like Disagree, 15 per cent of the respondents were expressed that strongly disagree and only 10 per cent of them just agreed.

Table 3, Opinion of the elderly people on local shops, services and facilities are good overall

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	%	Standard Deviation
1	Strongly agree	208	52.00	75.206382707853
2	Agree	48	12.00	
3	Can't say	56	14.00	
4	Disagree	76	19.00	
5	Strongly disagree	12	03.00	
	Total	400	100.00	

Source : Field Survey

Standard Deviation, s: **75.206382707853**

Count, N: 5



Sum, Σx : 400
 Mean, \bar{x} : 80
 Variance, s^2 : 5656

The table exhibited that the opinion of the selected sample old age people on local shop, services and facilities are good overall in Anantapuramu district of Andhra Pradesh state. It is noticed that more than half of the sample respondents gave positive response regarding the above statement and it represents 52 per cent (208 sample respondents), 19 per cent of the sample respondents have expressed that they disagree on the said services, 14 per cent of them do not share their opinion, and rest of them agree and it is noticed agree in the study area.

The table concluded that the Standard Deviation value 75.2063 stated that the majority of the respondents were stated that agreed on above mentioned statement.

Table 4, You are pleasure at your home

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	%	Standard Deviation
1	Strongly agree	64	16.00	47.497368348152
2	Agree	100	25.00	
3	Can't say	68	17.00	
4	Disagree	148	37.00	
5	Strongly disagree	20	05.00	
	Total	400	100.00	

Source : Field Survey
 Standard Deviation, s : **47.497368348152**
 Count, N : 5
 Sum, Σx : 400
 Mean, \bar{x} : 80
 Variance, s^2 : 2256

The researcher has raised a question to the elderly people like “you are pleasure at your home” and collected their opinion through five point scale in the study area. It can be found from the table data that the majority of the respondents have stated that they don't have pleasure at their home and it is evident through data that 37 per cent (148 respondents), 25 per cent represents 100 sample respondents have expressed a positive response regarding their pleasure at their home, and 16 per cent reported strongly agreed on the above statement. The statistically proved that they don't have pleasure at their home with 47.49 standard deviation in the study area.

Conclusions

The present study highlights important areas of concern in providing social security for elderly population in Anantapuramu district. The statistical results were shown and concluded that sample respondents have receiving help from the surrounding people when they needed in the study. And also concluded that the Standard Deviation value 75.2063 stated that the majority of the respondents were stated that they agreed about helping of their surrounding people, friends and family members in the study area. The Government and NGOs have been focus on welfare of the elderly people and it is an urgent need in commercial world.



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