

Causes and its Socio-Economic Effects of Rise in Old-Age Home with Reference to Nagpur City

ARTICLE

SAMSMRITI – The SAMS Journal
ISSN No. 0976-304X

Vol. 11(2), July – December 2017
pp. 26-38



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Abstract: With fast changing socio-economic scenario, industrialization, rapid urbanization, higher aspirations among the youth and the increasing participation of women in the workforce, roots of traditional joint family system has been eroding very fast. In urban areas of the country traditional joint family system has become a legacy of the past. In such a changing situation, majority of older persons who have passed most part of their life with their joint/extended families are on the verge of isolation or marginalization in old age. Aging as a process of deterioration in the functional capacity of an individual has result from structural changes with advancement of age; at this age, when they need family support most, have to live on their own. Even basic needs and rights of many of them are not addressed. Social marginalization, loneliness, isolation and even negligence in old age lead violation of Human Rights of older persons. The basic purpose of the study is to find out the causes and its socio economic effects of rise in old age home with reference to Nagpur city.

Key Words: Socio-economic effects, Causes, Old-age

Introduction

Population aging is a worldwide phenomenon and India is no exception. Indian population has approximately tripled during the last 50 years but the number of elderly Indians has increased more than fourfold. The 2001 census has shown that the elderly population (60+) of India accounted for 77 million and census 2011 indicated that elderly population has crossed the 100 million mark. It took more than 100 years for the aged population to double in most of the countries of the world but in India it has doubled in just 20 years. The life expectancy has also gone up to over 70 years today; better medical facilities, care and liberal family planning policies made the elderly the fastest growing section of the society in India. India, like most other developing countries, does not have a universal social security system to protect the elderly against economic deprivation. Perhaps, persistently high rates of poverty and unemployment act as a deterrent to institute a pay-roll tax financed state pension arrangement for each and every citizen attaining old age. Instead, India has adopted a pension policy that largely hinges on financing through employer and employee participation. This has, however, restricted the coverage to the organized sector workers denying the vast majority of the workforce in the unorganized sector access to formal channels of old age economic support.

Independence and redefined social roles within as well as outside the family: the changing economic structure has reduced the dependence of rural families on land which has provided strength to bonds between generations. The traditional sense of duty and obligation of the younger generation towards their older generation is being eroded. The older generation is caught between the decline in traditional values on one hand and the absence of adequate social security system on the other.

Life satisfaction continues to be an important construct in the psycho-social study of aging. It is one of the commonly accepted subjective conditions of quality of life and seems to be one of the facets of successful aging, both of which are key concepts in aging. Research

studies report life satisfaction is strongly related to socio-demographic and psycho-social variables. Old age means reduced physical ability, declining mental ability, the gradual giving up of role playing in socio-economic activities, and a shift in economic status moving from economic independence to economic dependence upon other's for support. Old age is called "dark" not because the light fails to shine but because people refuse to see it.

Nowadays, the role of families in case of older person has declined due to structural changes which have taken place in the Indian society and the concomitant disintegration of the joint family system which results in the rejection or neglect of the aged. Life in institutions need not be bad but it commonly is; this holds true everywhere in the world. People go to institutions mainly because they have no relatives to care for them. Thus, the individuals who see alternative accommodation due to isolation or loneliness, relocation of congregated style accommodation may increase their social contact and have a positive impact on their well-being.

The elderly citizens are in need of urgent attention. They do not need our pity but the understanding love and care of their fellow human beings. It is our duty to see that they do not spend the twilight years of their life in isolation, pain and misery. Older persons are, therefore, in need of vital support that will keep important aspects of their lifestyles intact while improving their over-all quality of life.

Purpose of the Study

- To find out the reasons for the decline in tradition and culture due to rise in old age homes
- To create awareness in the society and among old people regarding their duties and rights respectively
- To perform a policy analysis of old age pension scheme
- To study the socio-economic background and personal characteristics of the inmates
- To study the reasons for shifting to the old age home and their response to institutionalization

Research Methodology

Data Collection

For this purpose of the study both primary and secondary data were collected. For collection of primary data both observation and survey methods were used. Several visits have been made to the old age homes; similarly a discussion was held with the people of Nagpur city. For the purpose of survey observation, questionnaire and interview methods were used and a comprehensive interview schedule for the people constructed.

The interview schedule was constructed with the help of experts in the field of Management, Administration, Psychology, Sociology and other behavioural sciences.

The selected population was personally interviewed with the help of finally constructed interview schedule and the responses properly recorded. Beside this primary data, secondary data consisting of text books, reference books, journals, reports, internet websites, etc. were

used wherever necessary. Both the primary and secondary data so collected were properly tabulated and analyzed.

Universe and Sample of Study

The universe contains old age homes of Nagpur city. For the purpose of the study two old age homes were selected viz., Home for Old Age and Handicapped Unttkhana and Panchvati Old Age Home. Thus for the proposed study a sample of 60 was taken from the universe.

Limitations of Study

As there was a single researcher the scope of the study was limited to Nagpur only. The study could be strengthened by increasing the sample size and including participants from other old age homes. It was expected from other researchers to do survey on different old age homes to contribute to this area of research.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Analysis of Respondent on Age Group

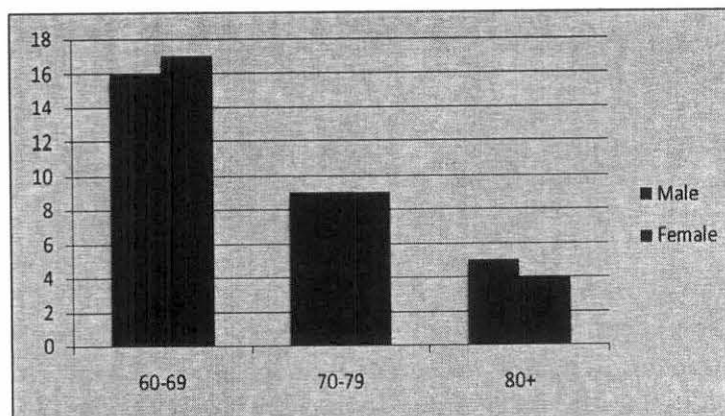
Entering the actual age in years would be the simplest way of working with the data. But let's also say that you want to compare people of different age groupings. In other words your data would be more useful if it were organized into collapsed categories, like 60-69 years, 70-79 years and 80+.

Table 1 Age Group of Respondents

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
60-69	16	17	33
70-79	9	9	18
80 and above	5	4	9
Total	30	30	60

Table 1 shows the detail about the age group and the gender of the elderly people. It clearly shows that elder peoples living at old age homes between the age group 60-69 are maximum. Both female and male are maximum in age group of 60-69years.

Chart 1 Age Group of Respondents



Analysis of Respondents Based on Educational Qualification

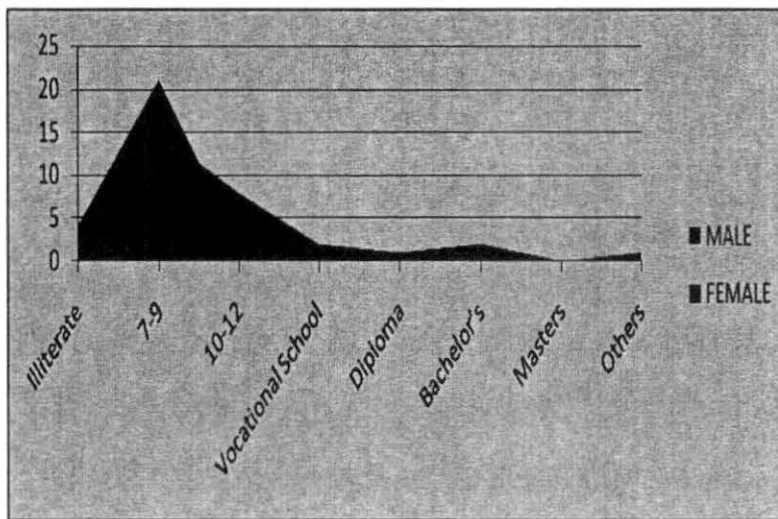
In an analysis of this type we would like information on all qualifications held by an individual. In this analysis, however, it was desired to know the returns to a detailed list of actual qualifications. If individuals hold more than one qualification at the same level, it can become quite a subjective decision which qualification is actually assigned as their highest. This problem of course does not exist when we consider all qualifications held by individuals.

Table 2 Educational Qualification

Education	Male	Female	Total
Illiterate	4	2	6
7-9class	21	15	36
10-12class	2	8	10
Vocational School	1	2	3
Diploma	0	1	1
Bachelors	1	2	3
Masters	0	0	0
Others	1	0	1
Total	30	30	60

Table 2 shows about the education qualification of the elderly people in the old age homes; it clearly shows that the elderly people are less educated. The maximum numbers of males studied till 7th - 9th class and females also studied till 7th-9th class.

Chart 2 Educational Qualification



Analysis of Respondent on Employment Status

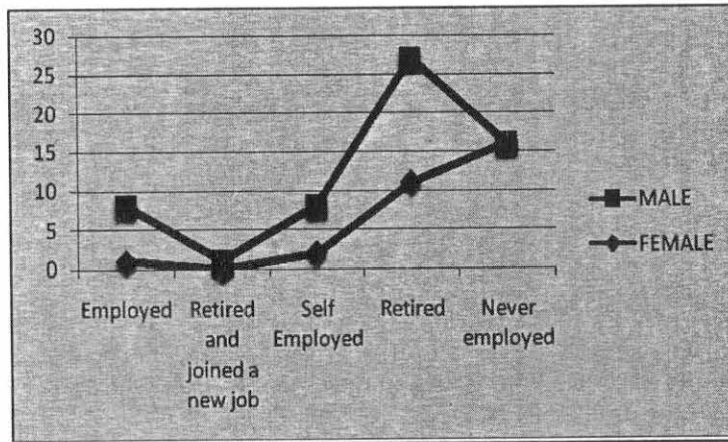
The interview data enabled us to build up a picture of how the individuals in the sample perceived the process of choosing to work in a particular way and to what extent they saw self-employment, employed, retired and joined a new job, retired and never employed. Respondents gave a range of answers concerning the nature and degree of choice which they had in deciding on their present form of work.

Table 3 Employment Status

Particulars	Female	Male	Total
Employed	1	7	8
Retired and Joined A New Job	0	1	1
Self Employed	2	6	8
Retired	11	16	27
Never Employed	16	0	16
Total	30	30	60

Table 3 shows about the employment status of the elderly people in the old age homes; it clearly shows that the maximum elderly women are never employed and maximum males are retired. It states that females are less who attract with the pension scheme.

Chart 3 Employment Status



Analysis of Respondent on Financial Dependency

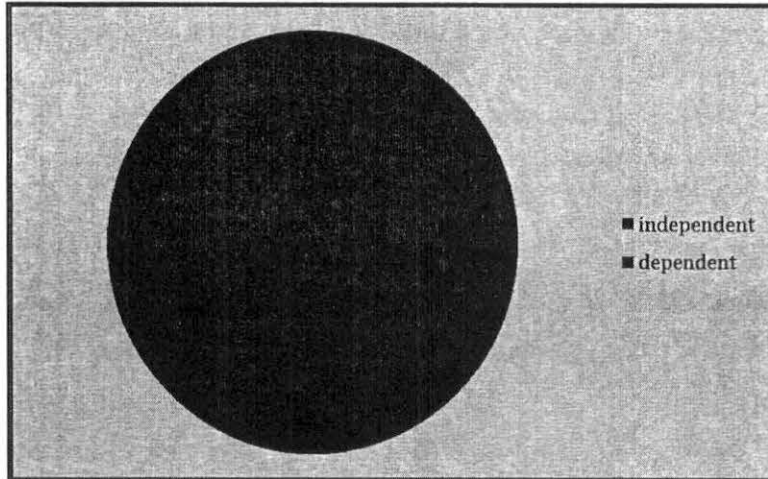
Maintenance is financial support (money) paid by a person for the benefit of a dependent parent by their children. Older people are required to maintain according to their means and needs.

Table 4 Financial Dependency

Particulars	Independent	Dependent
Financial Dependency	24	36

Table 4 shows about the financial dependency of the elderly people in the old age homes which clearly shows that the maximum elderly people are dependent. There is 60% total elderly population who is dependent due to any reasons.

Chart 4 Financial Dependency



Analysis of Respondent on Frequency of Interaction

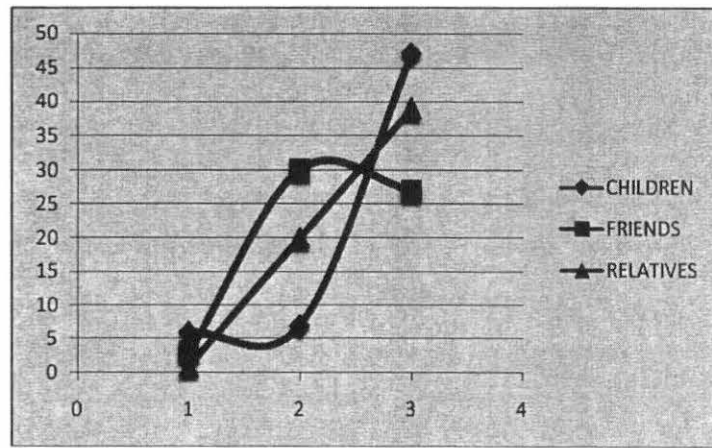
The purpose of the research reported here was to examine how different ways of measuring interaction may affect its relationship with personal adjustments. Findings indicate that both the number of persons interacted with and the frequency of this interaction are of little importance for the adjustment of older people. The quality, rather than quantity, of social interaction is crucial to understanding adaptations to old age.

Table 5 Frequency of Interaction

Particulars	Never	Sometimes	Often
Children	6	7	47
Friends	3	30	27
Relatives	1	20	39

Table 5 shows about the frequency of interaction of the elderly people in the old age homes with their children, friends, and relatives. It clearly shows that the elderly people frequently interact with their children followed by their relatives and at last sometimes with their friends.

Chart 5 Frequency of Interaction



Analysis of Respondent on Receipt of Source Specific Social Support

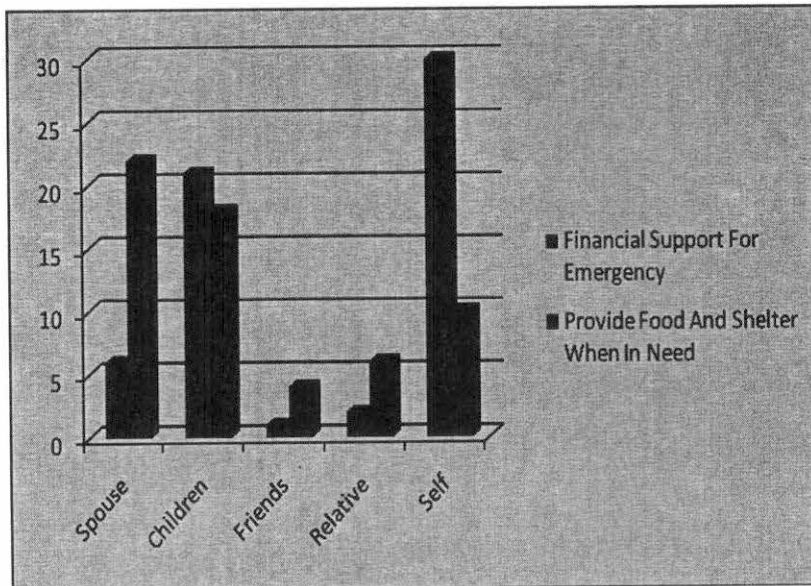
The questionnaire includes items on ease of access to services that are used by most of us at some time or another. The help with difficulties in daily activities can include help to gain access to services. This help can be a financial support during emergency or fulfilling the requirements of food and shelter.

Table 6 Receipt of Source Specific Social Support by Respondents

Receipt Of Material Aid	Financial Support For Emergency	Provide Food and Shelter When In Need
Spouse	6	22
Children	21	18
Friends	1	4
Relative	2	6
Self	30	10
Total	60	60

Table 6 gives details about the material help viz., financial support for emergency and provide food and shelter when required from spouse, children, friends, relative, and self; maximum financial support is from self which is followed by children and maximum time food and shelter is provided from spouse.

Table 6 Receipt of Source Specific Social Support by Respondents



Analysis of Respondent on Leisure Activities

The amount and quality of leisure time is important for people's well-being for the direct satisfaction it brings. Additionally leisure, taken in certain ways, is important for physical and mental health. Leisure also contributes to the well-being of people other than the person directly enjoying leisure. When a person engages in leisure the benefits gained are shared

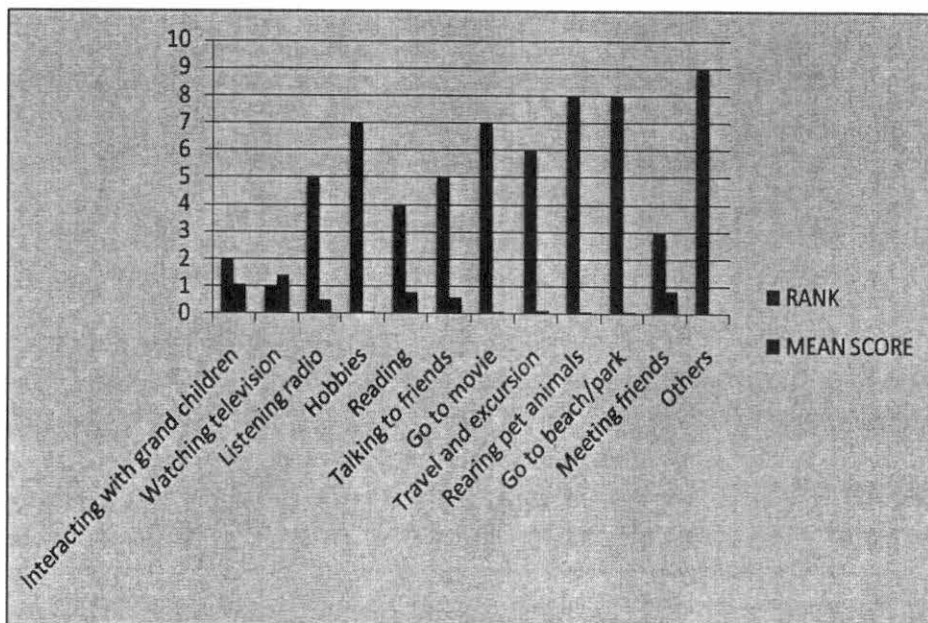
with others in a multitude of ways, including improvements in personal relationships, family functioning, and in terms of creation of social capital networks. The measure ‘the proportion of people who are satisfied with the amount of leisure time’ has been used as one of the headline indicators of measuring national well-being in the area of ‘What We Do’. This section focuses on how satisfied older people were with the amount of their leisure time.

Table 7 Rank order of Leisure Activities

Activities	Rank	Mean Score
Interacting With Grand Children	2	1.08
Watching Television	1	1.39
Listening Radio	5	0.49
Hobbies	7	0.11
Reading	4	0.8
Talking to Friends	5	0.61
Go to Movie	7	0.11
Travel and Excursion	6	0.12
Rearing Pet Animals	8	0.07
Go to Beach/Park	8	0.07
Meeting Friends	3	0.82
Others	9	0.05

Table 7 provides ranking details of leisure activities that are interacting with grandchildren, watching television, hobbies, reading, etc. of elderly people and their mean score. It clearly states that maximum elderly people love to spend time by watching television and interacting with their grandchildren which is followed by meeting friends.

Chart 7 Rank order of Leisure Activities



Analysis of Respondents on Income from Other Sources

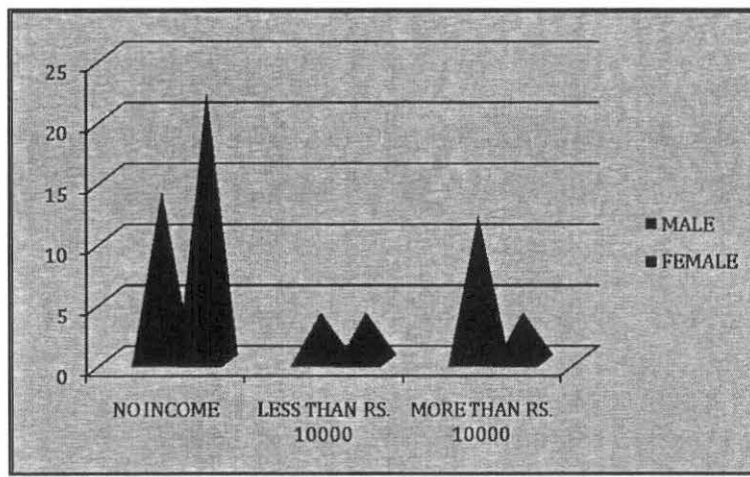
The primary source of income is either salary from job or income from own business. As these incomes are now not available, this can create financial problem for elderly people. To overcome this there should be other source of income and to evaluate these problem respondents were asked whether they receive any income from other source.

Table 8 Income from Other Source

Particular	Male	Female	Total
No Income	14	22	36
Less Than Rs. 10000	4	4	8
More Than Rs. 10000	12	4	16
Total	30	30	60

Table 8 shows details of income received from any other sources by elderly people. It clearly states maximum elderly people do not receive any other income from another sources; in spite of less income earned they are satisfied by their life.

Chart 8 Income from Other Source



Analysis of Respondents on Assets/ Property

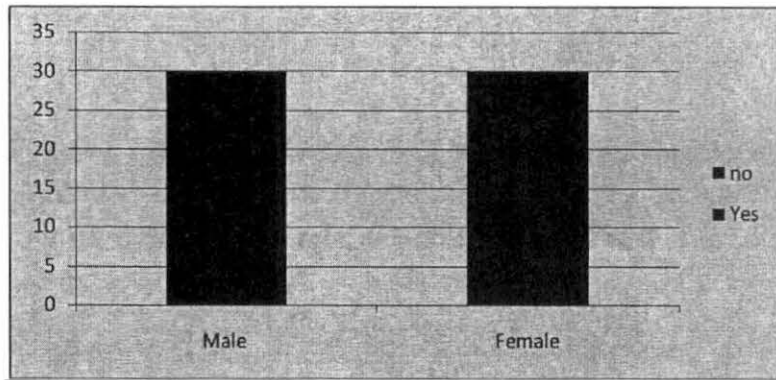
The analysis was based on the asset holdings of older people in Nagpur; income levels and asset holding are both key economic variables. However, for older people assets are particularly important as people withdraw from the labor market as they age, they may need to rely on savings and other asset holdings in addition to any pension entitlements to maintain their standard of living in the future. Savings and other assets can also provide financial buffer to deal with adverse unexpected events such as a serious illness requiring expensive treatment.

Table 9 Assets or Property

Particulars	Male	Female	Total
Yes	12	6	18
No	18	24	42
Total	30	30	60

Table 9 states the number of elderly people having their own assets or property. It clearly shows that maximum males and females do not have their own property.

Chart 9 Assets or Property



Analysis of Respondents on Awareness of Elder People towards Their Rights

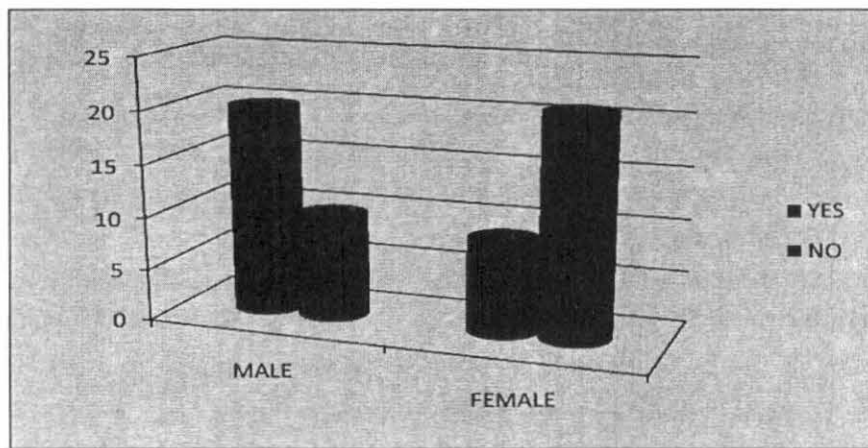
Elderly people should be aware of their rights to avail all benefits as their rights to have better living standard. To evaluate whether the old age people are aware of such laws this question was asked.

Table 10 Awareness of Elder People towards Their Rights

Particulars	Male	Female	Total
Yes	20	9	29
No	10	21	31
Total	30	30	60

Table 10 states the level of awareness of elderly people towards the laws. It is clearly seen that females are not that much aware in comparison with males. This states that maximum females are required to get aware about their rights which are followed by male population in Nagpur.

Chart 10 Awareness of Elder People towards Their Rights



Conclusion and Recommendations

There are two main purposes of this study; firstly, this study explored the rise in old age homes leading to negative socio economic effect on study. Secondly, this study investigated the impact of irresponsible behaviour towards the old age people. The following conclusions and recommendations were derived from the finding of the study:

- Today we urgently need an inclusive social security program for older persons at grass root level while utilizing tools like value based education, awareness generation, research and advocacy to protect Human Rights of Older Persons.
- Old age had never been a problem for India where a value- based joint family system is supposed to prevail. Indian culture is automatically respectful and supportive of elders. Ageing as a natural phenomenon has all along engaged the attention of the civilized world. Provision for the aged in the society has become one of the constitutive themes of our modern welfare state.
- The problems of the aged vary from society to society and have many dimensions in our country.
- However, the disintegration of the joint family system and the impact of economic change have brought into sharp focus the peculiar problems which the old people now face in our country.
- In the traditional sense the duty and obligation of the younger generation towards the older generation is being eroded. The older generation is caught between the decline in traditional values on one hand and the absence of an adequate social security system on the other hand; thus, finding it difficult to adjust in the family.
- The beneficiaries among the older persons for various schemes and programs initiated by the government are very insignificant when compared to the very high size of their population and the growth rate among them.
- Further, given the level of urbanization and industrialization of India, economic factors and diminishing value system are likely to make welfare of the elderly as the most critical area for intervention.
- In Indian context, social security has to be integrated with anti-poverty programs which will involve an optimal combination of promotional and protective policies with the latter being based on an appropriate blend of social insurance, social assistance and social welfare effort.
- There is the need to protect and strengthen the institution of the family and provide such support services as would enable the family to cope with its responsibilities of taking care of the elderly.
- Along with proper and effective professional welfare services that need to be evolved to provide counselling services both to the elderly and their family members, it is also important to provide financial support to low income family groups having one or more elderly persons.
- The rapid population ageing will necessarily bring social change and economic transformation. In view of this a holistic approach to population ageing taking social,

economic and cultural changes into consideration is needed to effectively solve the emerging problems of the elderly.

- Based on the existing diversities in the ageing process, it may be stated that there is a need to pay greater attention to the increasing awareness on the ageing issues and its socio-economic effects and to promote the development of policies and programs for dealing with an ageing society.
- In the fast changing circumstances when the number of old people in every society is increasing at a very fast pace we need to:
 - Inculcate a sense of responsibility towards needs & rights of older persons through curriculum of School students
 - Re-look at all the policy formulations and its implementation with a practical approach towards needs and rights of old people
- We all want to live a long life but we almost not plan for our Old Age. Be it an individual, a family, society in general or the government, each one of us need to be sensitive towards needs and rights of old people.

Recommendations

Certain strategies and approaches at different levels of policy making, planning and programming will have to be adopted in order to harness this vast human resource for promoting the involvement and participation of senior citizens in socio-economic development process on a much larger scale.

This participation must result in an end to their social isolation and an increase in their general satisfaction with their life. Any attempt to secure the help of the elderly in offering their service to the nation must simultaneously ensure some sort of package of services aimed at arranging for them a better quality of life and a well-designed social security network for the senior citizen. The society and the state in India need to accept the challenges of their effectively focusing their attention on the following twin issues of:

- (i) How to provide a fair-deal to the senior citizens so that they are able to peacefully, constructively and satisfactorily lead their lives; and
- (ii) How to utilize the vast treasure of knowledge and rich life experience of the older people so that they are able to utilize their remaining energies and contribute to the all round development of their nation.

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