

Association of Knowledge on Environmental Hygiene With Demographic Variables of Rural Population in the Community

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Abstract

Background: Environmental hygiene is a major concern in developing countries. The major factors responsible for poor domestic as well as environmental hygiene are poverty and population explosion. Practices of solid waste disposal, water waste disposal and human habitat have been contributing factors for poor environmental hygiene. **Objective:** To find out the association of knowledge on environmental hygiene with demographic variables of rural population in the community. **Methodology:** Pre-experimental (pretest posttest one group design) was used to find out the association of knowledge on environmental hygiene with demographic variables of rural population in the community. 150 samples were selected using convenience sampling technique. **Results:** Chi-square test results revealed that education (Chi-Square = 9.309, P-Value = 0.015), family type (Chi-Square = 4.299, P-Value = 0.011) and nearby water bodies (Chi-Square = 11.750, P-Value = 0.019) were strongly associated with the knowledge on environmental hygiene. **Conclusion:** Knowledge on environmental hygiene is achieved only by better education and family values in the community.

Keywords: Association, environmental hygiene, rural population, Community

Introduction

Population growth in developing countries is a contributing factor in imbalance of environmental hygiene. Every development that is happening due to urbanization is affecting the health particularly the rural population.^[1] Lack of good sanitation practices is a leading cause for disease spurt in rural population. Lack of personal hygiene, poor management of solid wastes and lack of proper drainage system has paved way to health issues that are serious in nature.^[2]

Objective

To find out the association of knowledge on environmental hygiene with demographic variables of rural population in the community

Research Methodology

The researcher used pre-experimental one group pretest and posttest research design. Sampling technique used was convenience sampling on 150 samples in Mutha Village. Self -structured questionnaire were used to assess the knowledge regarding environmental hygiene. Association of knowledge with demographic variables was conducted using Chi-square test.^[3]

Findings

Association of knowledge on environmental hygiene with demographic variables of rural population in the community

Association of Knowledge with level of Education

n = 150

	A	B	C	D	All
HIGH	3	1	3	4	11
	2.933	3.740	2.127	2.200	
LOW	10	7	3	2	22
	5.867	7.480	4.253	4.400	
MODERATE	27	43	23	24	117
	31.200	39.780	22.620	23.400	
All	40	51	29	30	150

Pearson Chi-Square = 9.309, DF = 6, P-Value = 0.015

Likelihood Ratio Chi-Square = 9.701, DF = 6, P-Value = 0.013

Association of Knowledge Type of family

n = 150

	A	B	All
HIGH	6	5	11
	5.79	5.21	
LOW	16	6	22
	11.59	10.41	
MODERATE	57	60	117
	61.62	55.38	
All	79	71	150

Pearson Chi-Square = 4.299, DF = 2, P-Value = 0.011

Likelihood Ratio Chi-Square = 4.458, DF = 2, P-Value = 0.010

Chi-square test was used to find association between the knowledge and Demographic variables. The p-values for education and family types are less than 0.05, rejecting H₀ (null hypothesis) hence shows that level of knowledge is significantly associated with Education and Family Type of samples.

Discussion

According to a study conducted by K J Nath on environmental sanitation. Results revealed that the poverty was the main cause for poor hygiene. Public Institutions need to work in congruence with the local community leaders to contribute in the improvement environmental sanitation.^[4]

Conclusion

Study findings revealed that there is a significant association of knowledge with selected demographic variables. The p-values for education and family types are less than 0.05, rejecting H₀ (null hypothesis) hence

shows that level of knowledge is significantly associated with Education and Family Type of samples. This shows that proper education necessarily will improve the mindsets of people dwelling in the rural community. Family values play a very important role in developing self as well as the community.^[5]

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Limitation

The study is limited to only the rural community of Pune City.

Conflict of Interest - Nil

Source of Finding - Self

Ethical Clearance- Study was approved at Institute Research Committee. Informed concerned from each sample been taken for the study.

References

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