

ABSTRACT: *The research was designed to study the parental attitude towards their crippled children and also the perception of the crippled children about their family support towards their parents. The sample of 30 special need children was drawn at random from such institutes of handicapped children of Islamabad and Rawalpindi such as Al-Farabi, G-8/4 Islamabad and Al-Ghazali Rawalpindi. It comprised of a sample of 15 physically handicapped boys and 15 physically handicapped girls. The age range of the sample was between 5 to 16 years. Another sample of 30 parents (15 couples) of those crippled children was also included in study. The ages of the parents were between 25-55 years old. The educational levels of parents were between illiterate to professionals. They belonging to upper, middle, and lower socio-economic status. A five-point Likert type Parent Attitude Scale developed by Butt (1991) was used to measure the parental attitude towards their physically handicapped children. For children a four-point Family Support Scale developed by Naz (2001) was used to measure the perceived family support of the children separately devised questionnaires, as certain information for different demographic variables such as age, gender, education and socio-economic status of parents. Responses were statistically analyzed by the means, standard deviations, t-tests, correlations and alpha reliability coefficient and ANOVA were also calculated to check the reliability of the instruments. Research finding showed the high reliability estimates of both scales. Results also indicated that family support was a crucial factor in the improvement of the perception of crippled child. The scores of both the scales were inversely correlated with each other. These findings suggest that, the parent's over guardedness and concern generally lowers perceived family support of such child. They perhaps want to gain more autonomy. The amount of care and over protectiveness may lead to low self-esteem and developed the learned helplessness in such children. The study tried to stress the need for further research in the field of physically handicapped children and their parents' psychology in order to promote better relationships among them. The suggestion was also mentioned.*

Physically handicapped, Self-determining, Mentally handicapped

According to the World Health Organization WHO, disability has three dimensions basically. Impairment in a person's body structure or function, or it could be mental functioning; examples of impairments include loss of a limb, loss of vision or memory loss. Activity limitation, such as that could be difficulty in seeing, hearing, walking,

by an accident and become blind, deaf, paralyzed or got physical damage. (2) Chronic clinical conditions altering normal physiological/psychological processes such as arthritis, tuberculosis, epilepsy, etc. (3) there are functional limitations of ordinary activity, whether it is carried out singularly or in the combined manners. When an individual is unable or find it difficult to walk around, to wash and to dress himself. Different Biological factors are there which effect on the child, which possess certain conditions with social psychological implications (Kolin, 1971). A person who is handicapped feels less adequate than others do, either in general or in specific situation (Goldenson, 1978).

- Physically handicapped
- Mentally handicapped

The expression of an individual which distinguish him to the normality from any kind of abnormality is all his or her sentiments which he tries to expose to his or her surrounding in which his family friends, relatives and each concern person is attached, plays a vital role. We are exposed to both direct and indirect stimuli, which can teach us to hold particular attitudes towards an attitudinal object. Parents, other family members, media peers and teachers all provide attitudinal socialization experiences by which people come to learn appropriate attitudes and behavior. Children learn to develop positive attitudes towards certain people or objects and hold negative attitudes towards other people and things through social learning. By the time, these may modify or change, but the process of acquisition and development of attitudes continues. Similarly attitudes are verbally or non-verbally reinforced by others (Feldman, 1985).

Parental behavior has been a major thrust of investigation, Psychologists over past several years. Parents vary in their techniques of rearing have made innumerable attempts to find out relationship between parent behavior and development of personality.

Society has its own reflection. There are some kind of factors, which influence the family support and social helping hand. Even it is also matters that the disabled child is male or female, the family standards and status, either poor or rich, everything is considerable.

There is a huge difference in the attitude, which a family has for their children with the other family having same issue. Such variations are infect the base of the society to determining the capabilities and power of any nation in productivity.

So, the family, which is well established or rich, will facilitate their child at their maximum level with all assistance he or

she will need. While on the other hand, a needy family who doesn't have enough resources to run their home to their family can't afford such child and ultimately such anxiety will lead to stress and depression, and will result severe in future. Such conflicts lead inferiority factor and hopelessness in that special need child. The ratio will be high in the well standard families to accept such bodily or psychologically illness of child rather than a family who is poor enough.

Parenting style may lead to the diversity in crippled children

Emotional and physical distress, depression, grief and anger are often the types of parental reactions manifested in response to their child's handicap or disability. Parents of the physically handicap child have the most difficult role to perform, that is training their children for the world in which they have to survive. This responsibility becomes more complex and difficult when the child has multiple handicaps. Parental attitude and outlook helps to solve this problem to a great extent only if it is positive and pragmatic.

Everything is challenging when a child is born in a family with physically abnormality, because a family is expecting the healthy baby, then it is a big task for them to clear with patience. The initial reactions of parents may be one of disbelief, and the degree of disbelief is related to the degree of the visibility of the handicap.

Sometimes newborn baby is not in condition to survive with his or her physically or psychologically illness, then that is the point of grief and helplessness in parents.

It's very true that the adjustment is very much important factor in case of settlement of a physically handicapped child. Sor are wi.jeph1.78 T0rue in cal(hase)0.8the Ba

emotions and how they react subsequently. Family system is explicitly organized and developed on cognitive models of social structures around kin categories and rules of marriage (Heider, 1958). Families in Pakistan tend to have strong kin networks into which a child or adult with an exceptionality can be enfolded to provide support-for such needs as financial management, child care and emotional support. Families with these resources may not have such great need for formal community services. Father is the head of the house and administrator of the joint property. Such joint family includes parents, children, grandchildren, and their descendants and various collateral on the male side (Hafeez, 1990). As we all know the crippled in the family is in many cases is not predicted earlier. So, the initial shock or trauma is experienced with the birth of such child. The attitude of the parents is in general denial, difficulty in accepting the hard reality and ultimately the social disapproval all makes the parents feel the child as a burden. A family with high income lives in comfort mandatory for a healthy living, whereas low-income families are denied the access even to basic necessities of life. Motivation, perception, sense of achievement, confidence and concept of a dignified self for future role of its members depends on these factors (Hamner 1990).

The element of pride or self-worth of a child all depends on how the family is kind to the special child. And the way by which a child is observed to his or her parent's facilitation with them. The more the parents are caring the more the self-confidence of a child will raise. Helping hands are needed for special child from both side, from mother and from father. Sometimes children observe that one parent either Mother or father is paying attention rather than both. This factor leads to the child towards factor of inferiority. Child perceives this major difference from social aspect, from his educational institute in teacher-parent meeting or other activities. So parents are the inspiration induced in a child to build a strong, mature and confident child. Conflicts in some research are there to explore the parent-child studies (Karna 1999).

Hypothesis, which were formulated

- Parents will have favorable attitude towards their physically handicapped children.
- There exists relationship between parental attitude and perceived family support of children.
- Mothers will have more positive attitude towards their physically handicapped children compared to the fathers of physically handicapped children.
- Elderly parents will have more positive attitude towards their physically handicapped children than the parents of younger age.

This study carried out the following objectives:

- To study the parental attitude towards physically handicapped children.
- To measure the difference in parent's attitude towards physically handicapped children.
- The other purpose is to study the impact of children gender and age with perceived social support.
- To study the male and female parent's attitude towards physically handicapped children.
- The study also purports to measure the psychometric properties of the instrument of the study.

The rationale of the study was to ascertain the relationship of parents' towards their special need children and perceived social support. The research study will be advantageous to the parental guide and for positive social attitude towards those handicapped children. This study will help in those approaches and strategies that integrate the parental attitude. Side by side present study will establish and be helpful to overcome all those social factors, which discourage the crippled children to enhance the child performance and learning capabilities. Findings of study will act as catalyst for parents and society to integrate the handicapper's needs for improvement and development of physically handicapped children (Allport, 1933).

Due to limited accessibility of resources and constriction of time of researcher, the data was collected only from Rehabilitation centers in Rawalpindi and Islamabad. Furthermore; the study was delimited to twin cities rehabilitation centers.

The nature of the study was descriptive

The study population from which the sample was drawn for study consists of all physically handicapped children and their parents, male and female from rehabilitation centers in Islamabad and Rawalpindi.

For this research, random sampling technique was used. A random sample of 30 children and 30 parents was collected from two rehabilitation institutes, such institutes of handicapped children of Islamabad and Rawalpindi such as Al-Farabi, G-8/4 Islamabad and Al-Ghazali Rawalpindi.

The nature of the study is descriptive so in order to collect data for the study, questionnaire and instruments were used in the study

- Parental attitude scale for the Physically Handicapped Children.
- Family support scale for Physically Handicapped Children.

of a child and problems of such children, and also the most important influence on the development of the personality of physically handicapped children.

The present study aimed at exploring the areas in which people interact with physically handicapped children and provide good direction and help to them. It was specifically conducted to measure the attitudes of people as an effect of gender, age, and education. Besides the perception of such children about their family support was also explored one of the hypotheses of the study that those individuals who are disabled bodily are more attached with their mothers as mothers have same response too. Generally, there is a common societal concept that mothers are more

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Kolin, I. S., Scherzer, A. L., New, B., & Garfeld, M. (1971). Studies of the school-age child with meningocele: Social and emotional adaptation. *Pediat J*, 78(6), 1013-1019.