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Impact Factor 6.625

E-ISSN : 2348-7143

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Issue -292 (B)



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Based on Qualitative Method: Educational Needs of Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder Perceived By Parents

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Abstract:

Education is a process that aids students in the development of knowledge, skill acquisition, good behavior, and the acquisition of a new way of life. It is critical to a child's overall growth. From birth to death, every child has the right to an education based on their own skills. The Right of Persons with Disabilities Act of 2016 has announced that India has 21 forms of disabilities, including ASD.

One of the most frequent neurological illnesses in children is autism spectrum disorder. This group of youngsters has problems with communication and social contact, as well as behavioral issues such as spitting, finger pointing, gazing, and repetitive conduct. Only education has been highlighted as the most important area of training for people with autism, and having meaningful access to quality education is essential. Teacher perceptions are formed by their previous knowledge and life experiences, as are the thoughts or mental images they have about their students. Teachers will provide education to children with autism spectrum disorder based on these needs.

Because there is a scarcity of research data on the country's teacher training needs, performing a study was necessary before pursuing the research's other goals. A qualitative analysis with students from various special schools in Vadodara was conducted on the subject. In this study, 30 special educators were chosen for the structural interview using a purposive sampling strategy. The investigation's findings are presented here. We pay special attention to educational needs such as activity for daily routine work, communication, and socialization, which teachers rate as the most challenging when working with students with ASD, as well as unwanted behavioral problem action proposed to improve vocational training for students with ASD.

Key words: Qualitative research methodology, Educational Needs, Autism spectrum disorder

Introduction:

Autism, also known as Autism Spectrum Disease (ASD), (Geschwind, 2011) is a pervasive developmental disorder (PDD) characterized by developmental and performance deficits in verbal and nonverbal communication, social and cognitive activities that occur before the age of three years (Florian and Beaton 2018). It has a negative impact on the child's academic performance and day-to-day adjustment due to atypical behaviors such as repeated activities and stereotyped moments, resistance to environmental change, (Partan, 2017) and odd sensory responses. Education is a process that aids students in the development of knowledge, skill acquisition, good behavior, and the acquisition of a new way of life.

It is critical to a child's overall growth. From birth to death, every child has the right to an education based on their own skills, (Garcia, 2016). The Right of Persons with Disabilities Act of 2016 has announced that India has 21 forms of disabilities, including ASD. One of the most



frequent neurological illnesses in children is autism spectrum disorder (Lindse,2013). This group of youngsters has problems with communication and social contact, as well as behavioral issues such as spitting, finger pointing, gazing, and repetitive conduct.

Only education has been highlighted as the most important area of training for people with autism, and having meaningful access to quality education is essential. These assessments are important because they require both perceiving environmental stimuli and evaluating them (Kolarik, Moore et al.,2016). Teacher perceptions are affected by their previous knowledge and life experiences, and the thoughts or mental images they hold about their students (Bukor,2015). These encounters could be related to their family's history or traditions, their education, their employment, their culture, or their community (Asen, Dawson et al.,2018). Teacher perceptions are affected by their previous knowledge and life experiences, and the thoughts or mental images they hold about their students (Izadinia,2016). These experiences could include their family history or tradition, education, work, culture, or community, therefore meeting the requirements of these students is a challenge across the country(Soulé and Warrick,2015). Teachers will provide education to youngsters with autism spectrum disorder in order to help them survive (Martin,2016).

Because children with autism spectrum condition are unable to communicate their feelings to others, only qualitative research is appropriate for studying their educational needs (Mackin, Loew et al.,2016). As a result, data should be analysed using content analysis and frequency analysis, as well as observation and interviews with other people involved with the children (Roffeei, Abdullah et al.,2015).

Cause Of Autism:

Scientists aren't sure what causes Autism Spectrum Disorders. They have discovered, however, that multiple kinds of ASD are likely to have many causes. A number of factors, including environmental, biochemical, and genetic factors, may increase a child's risk of developing ASD (Kim and Leventhal,2015).

Sign And Symptomse:

ASD symptoms appear before the age of three and last for the rest of a person's life, but they may improve over time. A person with an ASD may: Take 12 months to respond to their name. By 14 months, you should not be pointing at objects to demonstrate interest (Pierce, Gazestani et al.,2019). By the age of 18 months, you should not be playing "pretend" games. Eye contact is avoided, and you prefer to be alone. Speech and language skills are delayed. Over and over, say the same words or phrases (echolalia) (Mazzaggio,2019). Minor changes agitate you. They flail their arms, rock their bodies, and whirl around in circles. Have odd reactions to the sounds, smells, tastes, looks, and feels of things.

Status Of Autism:

In India, it was not recognized as a form of mental illness and was misdiagnosed as mental retardation. Autism was been recognized as one of the 21 disorders listed in the government of India's Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act, 2016. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the prevalence of ASD has increased by about 17 percent each year worldwide (CDC, 2014), with more than 13 million children in India suffering from this developmental disease. (HINDUSTAN TIMES APRIL 3, 2017; CENSUS, 2011)

The Present Study:

The major part of the autism is related to behavioral disorder without having any treatment. Hence, education and training is considered to be the only scientific measure for modifying the behavior of the children with autism to some extent for their survival (Zhang, Song et al., 2019).

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is one of the gray area in the mental disability where much research work has not been done (Nogay and Adeli 2020). Proposed study is an attempt in this area where an attempt will be made to study the educational need of the students with ASD which may facilitate special educators to prepare suitable curriculum for the education of the children with ASD.

Objective of the study:

1. To study the problems of children with ASD perceived by their parents.
2. To study the educational need of the children with ASD perceived by their parents.

Methodology

It was a qualitative method related to the problems of the children with ASD in different dimensions and the type of education they perceive for their children to survive in the society.

Sample:

There 30 children with ASD were selected from five the special school of Vadodara city purposively. Their parents constituted as the sample for the present study.

Tools For Data Collection:

Structured Interview scheduled was prepared by the investigator and it was validated by the experts.

Process Of Data Collection:

The investigator took the prior permission and appointment from the parents and conducted interview at their places and at the schools as per their availability. The interviews were recorded by the audio player.

Data Analysis :

Collected data were analysed qualitatively with the help of frequency. Major Problems Perceived by Parents:

1. They found it difficult to complete their daily sanitary activities like brushing teeth, toilet activities, taking bath etc. (27 parents).
2. They are not able to communicate their feelings and pain to others (28 parents).
3. They have very less socialization, and society does not accept those (26 parents).
4. It is very difficult for them to accept any changes in their environment (25 parents).
5. They are very poor in simple writing and speaking (24 parents).
6. They have difficulty in sensation like touch, sound, smell, taste, and visuals. (28 parents).
7. They are highly obsessive towards food (27 parents).
8. They are not representing attention & interest in group playing (29 parents).
9. They are burden in the family with reference to economically and survive (27 parents).
10. They harm themselves and others when they are angry (26 parents).

Educational Needs Of Children Perceived By Parents (By most of the Parents)

Sanitation training for doing personal work independently.

Minimum Communication training both in verbal and non-verbal.

Training for socialization.

Simple use of money for buying simple items like eatables.

Training to prepare simple food items for themselves.

Education for minimum maintenance of safety like how to walk on the road preventing themselves from any accidents.

Education to express their pain and feelings.

Education to survive in the absence of their parents.

Education to stay alone when needed.

Conclusion:

From the findings of the present study, it can be perceived the real meaning of education. Most of the parents do not need any high standard education for their children, they need only the education which can make their children survive in this world in their absence. But our system seems to be helpless in providing such minimum required education when education is our fundamental right. It is very high time to work in this area. It is also one of the duty of the government agencies at least to safeguard these children through different measures.

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