

A STUDY ON THE AWARENESS TOWARDS ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) AMONG THE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN VIRUDHUNAGAR DISTRICT

Dr. P. Raja

Principal, Sri Vidya College of Education, Virudhunagar, Tamilnadu

Mrs. G. Uma Maheswari,

Assistant Professor, Sri Vidya College of Education, Virudhunagar, Tamilnadu

Abstract

In this study the researcher find out the awareness towards acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) among the higher secondary school students in Virudhunagar district by using normative survey method. The sample of the present study consisted of 200 students in Higher Secondary School in Virudhunagar District. In this Research work, the simple random sampling technique was used. The investigator developed the AIDS awareness tool with help of the guide. From the findings, there is a significant difference among Science and Arts Higher Secondary School Students the level of Awareness towards AIDS. The Science Higher Secondary School Students are having higher level of Awareness towards AIDS than the Arts Students. There is no significant difference among Rural and Urban Higher Secondary School Students and Government and Aided Higher Secondary School Students.

Introduction

AIDS causing virus was discovered independently by Luc Montagnier of France (1983) and Robert Keller of America (1984) which was later named as 'HIV'. No medicine has been invented for this disease. The first case of AIDS was identified in San Francisco and New York of USA. There are an estimated 40 million people living with HIV or AIDS worldwide and more than 3 million die every year from AIDS related illness.

The recent report of WHO reveals that due to ignorance and not taking proper preventive measures against disease, more than one crore thirty lakh adults and 10 lakh children have been afflicted with AIDS till 1993. Every day... people far more than eight lakh of people belonging to 107 countries have died of AIDS in India, cases of AIDS have been detected for the first time in 1986, at Chennai and Mumbai.

In fact in South East Asia, India and Thailand are declared countries afflicted most by this disease. In India incidence of AIDS has been recorded from Tamil Nadu, A.P., M.P., Manipur states.

Statement of the Problem

The present study is A Study on the awareness towards Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Aids) among the Higher Secondary School Students in Virudhunagar District.

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are given below

1. To find out the level of awareness towards acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) among the higher secondary school students in Virudhunagar district.

2. To find out the significant difference on the mean values of awareness towards acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) with respect to demographic variables such as a gender, class, subject, locality of school, type of school, locality of student residency, type of family, parents educational qualification, parents annual income.
3. To find out there is significant difference on the mean scores of the awareness towards acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) among on the higher secondary school students on the basis of their Gender.

Hypotheses of the Study

The hypotheses of the present study are as follows

1. There is no significant difference in mean values of the awareness towards acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) among on the higher secondary school students on the basis of their subject.
2. There is no significant difference in mean values of the awareness towards acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) among on the higher secondary school students on the basis of their type of school.
3. There is no significant difference in mean values of the awareness towards acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) among on the higher secondary school students on the basis of their locality of school.

Methodology

The present investigation was undertaken by using normative survey method. The survey method gathers data from a relatively large number of cases at a particular time.

Sample

The sample of the present study consists of 200 students from Higher Secondary School in Virudhunagar District. In this research work, the simple random sampling technique was used.

Tools Used

The investigators developed the AIDS awareness scale and validated it. The scale consists of 50 statements. Each of the items rated on a four point scale.

Statistical Techniques Used

The Statistics such as Mean, Standard Deviation, 't' test and, 'F' test were used to verify the formulated hypothesis.

Analysis of Data

Hypothesis 1: There is no significant difference in mean values of the awareness towards acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) among on the higher secondary school students on the basis of their subject.

Table 1

| S. No. | Subject | N | Mean | Std. Deviation | 't' value |
|--------|---------|-----|-------|----------------|-----------|
| 1 | Science | 107 | 75.57 | 7.10 | 2.40* |
| 2 | Arts | 93 | 72.98 | 8.15 | |

* - Significant at 0.05 level

It is understood from the above Table 1 it is shows that the 't' value, 2.40 is significant at 0.05 level. It is understood from the result that there is a significant difference among Science and Arts Higher Secondary School Students the level of Awareness towards AIDS. The Science Higher Secondary School Students are having higher level of Awareness towards AIDS than the Arts Students. Hence the framed null hypothesis is found to be rejected.

Hypothesis 2: There is no significant difference in mean values of the awareness towards acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) among on the higher secondary school students on the basis of their type of school.

Table 2

| S. No. | Type of School | N | Mean | Std. Deviation | 't' value |
|--------|----------------|-----|-------|----------------|-----------|
| 1 | Government | 100 | 73.94 | 6.52 | 0.79 |
| 2 | Aided | 100 | 74.80 | 8.73 | |

- Not Significant at 0.05 level

The above table 2 reveals that the 't' value, 0.79 is not significant at 0.05 level. It is understood from the result that there is no significant difference among Government and Aided Higher Secondary School Students the level of Awareness towards AIDS. The Government and Aided Higher Secondary School Students are having similar level of Awareness towards AIDS. Hence the framed null hypothesis is found to be accepted.

Hypothesis 3: There is no significant difference in mean values of the awareness towards acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) among on the higher secondary school students on the basis of their locality of school.

Table 3

| S. No. | Locality of School | N | Mean | Std. Deviation | 't' value |
|--------|--------------------|-----|-------|----------------|-----------|
| 1. | Rural | 98 | 74.57 | 6.35 | 0.36 |
| 2. | Urban | 102 | 74.18 | 8.83 | |

Not Significant at 0.05 levels

The above table 3 reveals that the 't' value, 0.36 is not significant at 0.05 level. It is understood from the result that there is no significant difference among Rural and Urban Higher Secondary School Students the level of Awareness towards AIDS. The Rural and Urban Higher Secondary School Students are having similar level of Awareness towards AIDS. Hence the framed null hypothesis is found to be accepted.

'F' Test

There is no significant difference among Higher Secondary School Students the level of Awareness towards AIDS with respect to their Parents Educational Qualification.

Table 4

| Parents Educational Qualification | Sum of Squares | DF | Mean Square | F |
|--|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|----------|
| Between Groups | 297.460 | 2 | 148.730 | 2.55 |
| Within Groups | 11491.779 | 197 | 58.334 | |
| Total | 11789.239 | 199 | | |

Not Significant at 0.05 level.

It is understood from the above Table 4 that the 'F' value, 2.55 is not significant at 0.05 level. The result shows that there is no significant difference among Higher Secondary School Students the level of Awareness towards AIDS with respect to their Parents Educational Qualification. Hence the framed null hypothesis is found to be accepted.

Findings of the Study

1. There is a significant difference among Science and Arts Higher Secondary School Students the level of Awareness towards AIDS. The Science Higher Secondary School Students are having higher level of Awareness towards AIDS than the Arts Students.
2. There is no significant difference among Rural and Urban Higher Secondary School Students the level of Awareness towards AIDS. The Rural and Urban Higher Secondary School Students are having similar level of Awareness towards AIDS.
3. There is no significant difference among Government and Aided Higher Secondary School Students the level of Awareness towards AIDS. The Government and Aided Higher Secondary School Students are having similar level of Awareness towards AIDS.

Educational Implications

The level of the awareness towards AIDS among higher secondary school students is average. AIDS awareness has assumed enormous importance in the national and international area, since population change influence the quality of life of an individual, the family, the nation and the world as a whole. AIDS awareness has, however special significant to India, since young person's below the age of 15 years from about 45% of total population. The group is going to influence greatly the future of this country. They will become parents in a decade or more. These persons therefore need to be educated and to become wise parents who understand the benefits of more awareness to themselves and to the society, the urgency of AIDS control. Hence there is urgent need to develop more awareness about such matters amongst the students in school and colleges.

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