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Socio-psychological impact and measurement of components in relation to SHG among the members in Junagadh district

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Abstract

The Self Help Groups are a viable alternative in achieving the objectives of women empowerment in terms of social, economic, psychological, health, cultural and political empowerment. By using the multistage purposive and random sampling technique, total 180 respondents (90 SHG members + 90 Non SHG members) were selected from three talukas of Junagadh district of Gujarat state. The results of this study indicated that among the all indicators, SHG members (65.78 per cent) had high level of mass media exposure with a first rank followed by decision making ability (65.62 per cent) and communication ability (63.60 per cent) with rank second and third, respectively. While in case of Non SHG members, the first rank was occupied by communication ability with 50.64 per cent followed by social status (48.50 per cent) and decision making ability (45.80 per cent), with rank second and third, respectively. In case of level of socio-psychological, three-fifth of the SHG members (60.00 per cent) had medium socio-psychological level, while in case of Non SHG members more than half (57.78 per cent) of respondents had medium socio psychological level.

There was highly significant difference between socio psychological impact of SHG members and Non SHG members i.e. 61.20 and 46.11 mean score, respectively. Therefore, the mean difference between SHG and Non SHG members was 15.09. It can be concluded that the socio psychological level of SHG members was highly improved as compare to Non SHG members.

Keywords: Self help group, socio-psychological impact

Introduction

SHGs are novel and innovative organizational setup in India for the women upliftment and welfare. All women in India are given chance to join any one of SHGs for training and development, so as to be prospective entrepreneur and skilled worker. When the SHGs arrange training facilities to carry out certain kind of work which are suitable for women in their local situations, the banks provide financial assistance to carry out manufacturing and trading activities, arranging marketing facilities. As a social movement with government support, SHGs are becoming more and more powerful vehicles for all over development of women especially in rural area SHG is a key component for reducing the poverty of rural women and it also uplifts the rural women in many ways i.e. social, economic, psychological, educational, health, political etc. It is a path for reach up to the grass root level in rural area with the purpose of development of rural women.

Now a day, government has also appreciated the activities of SHGs in all over India. Simultaneously, government has also launched various types of schemes for boosting the growth of SHGs. Looking to the scenario of the empowerment of the women in the country, it was worthwhile to study on the "socio- psychological impact and its measurement of components in relation to SHG among the members in Junagadh district".

Methodology

The study was conducted in Junagadh district of Gujarat state. A multistage purposive and random sampling technique was followed for this study. Out of nine talukas of Junagadh district, three talukas viz; Junagadh, Mangarol and Visavadar were selected on the basis of maximum number of active SHGs in Junagadh district. From each selected taluka, three villages were selected randomly. Thus, total nine villages were selected. Ten SHG members and ten Non SHG members from each selected village were selected for the study. Thus, 90

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90 SHG members and 90 Non SHG members were selected using random sampling technique. Thus, total 180 respondents were selected for the study.

The study of socio- psychological impact of SHG on the members was measured with developed and standardized scale. An interview schedule was developed accordingly and the data were collected through personal interview. The pretesting of the respondents also carried out which was not considered as sample size. The statistical measures such as percentage, mean, standard deviation and Z test were used to

interpret the data.

Result and Discussion

Measurement of components of Socio-Psychological Impact on SHG and Non SHG members

Among the all indicators given in Table 1, communication ability, mass media exposure and extension contact are the social indicators, while social status, self-confidence, self-esteem and decision making ability comes under the psychological indicators.

Table 1: Components wise measurement of Socio-Psychological Impact of SHG and Non SHG members (n=180)

Sr. No.	Components of Socio - Psychological Impact	Total score (100)	Category of Respondent					
			SHG Members (n=90)			Non SHG Members (n=90)		
			Mean score achieved	Per cent	Rank	Mean score achieved	Per cent	Rank
1	Communication ability	11.19	1.47	63.60	III	1.50	50.64	I
2	Mass media exposure	14.81	1.88	65.78	I	1.00	44.96	VI
3	Extension contact	12.03	1.53	50.87	VI	1.29	45.63	IV
4	Social status	13.36	1.21	45.50	VII	1.30	48.50	II
5	Self confidence	20.39	1.74	59.68	V	1.23	45.36	V
6	Self esteem	12.28	1.93	62.86	IV	1.33	41.29	VII
7	Decision making ability	15.94	1.74	65.62	II	1.24	45.80	III

From above Table 1, it can be found that among the all socio psychological indicators, SHG members had high level of mass media exposure (65.78 per cent) having a first rank among the all indicators.

While decision making ability got second rank (65.62 per cent) followed by communication ability (63.60 per cent), self-esteem (62.86 per cent), self-confidence (59.68 per cent), extension contact (50.87 per cent) and social status (45.50 per cent) with rank third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh, respectively.

While in case of Non SHG members, the first rank was occupied by communication ability with 50.64 per cent

followed by social status (48.50 per cent), decision making ability (45.80 per cent), extension contact (45.63 per cent), self-confidence (45.36 per cent), mass media exposure (44.96 per cent) and self-esteem (41.29 per cent) with rank second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh, respectively.

Extent of Socio- Psychological level

The socio-psychological level of the respondents was calculated for the seven indicators and respondents were categorized into three groups and the data regarding socio psychological level of SHG and Non SHG members is given in the Table 2.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their socio-psychological level (n=180)

Sr. No.	Extent of Socio- Psychological level	Category of respondents			
		SHG Member (n=90)		Non SHG Member (n=90)	
		Frequency	Per cent	Frequency	Per cent
1	Low Socio-Psychological level	16 (Up to 55.84)	17.78	20 (Up to 39.60)	22.22
2	Medium Socio- Psychological level	54 (55.85 to 65.88)	60.00	52 (39.61-52.04)	57.78
3	High Socio-Psychological level	20 (Above 65.88)	22.22	18 (Above 52.04)	20.00
Total		90	100	90	100
Mean		61.20		46.11	
S.D.		5.28		6.25	

The above Table 2 revealed that three-fifth (60.00 per cent) of SHG members had medium socio psychological level followed by 22.22 per cent and 17.78 per cent had high and low socio psychological level, respectively. While in case of Non SHG members, majority of respondents (57.78 per cent) had medium level of socio psychological level followed by 22.22 per cent and 20.00 per cent had low and high socio psychological level, respectively.

There is a slight difference between members and non-members of SHG. It indicated that in case of SHG members might be due to the more use of mass media exposure, decision making ability, high level of communication ability and high level of social and extension participation. While in

case of Non SHG members, the socio psychological level was observed low as compare to SHG members might be due to lack of confidence, less use of mass media exposure, lack of self-esteem and low level of social and extension participation etc. This finding also confirmed with the finding of Pandey and Grover (2009) [2].

Difference between Socio-Psychological Impact of SHG and Non SHG women

The SHG and Non SHG members were compared in terms of their socio psychological impact. The mean score of SHG members and Non SHG members was calculated separately. For comparison of both groups "Z" test was applied.

Table 3: The Socio-Psychological Impact of SHG and Non SHG women (n=180)

Sr. No.	Variable	Mean		'Z' value	Result	Diff. of mean between SHG and Non SHG women
		SHG women	Non SHG women			
1	Socio-Psychological Impact	61.20	46.11	3.15**	Highly Sig.	15.09

The result presented in Table 3 revealed that there was highly significant difference between socio psychological impact of SHG members and Non SHG members. The mean score of SHG members and Non SHG members was 61.20 and 46.11, respectively. Therefore, the mean difference between SHG and Non SHG members was 15.09. Hence, it can be concluded that the socio psychological level of SHG members was highly improved as compare to Non SHG members.

More use of mass media exposure, high level of decision making ability, communication ability and active participation of SHG members in all the various activities carried out in their SHG might be the reasons for socio psychological upliftment of SHG members up to this level. While in case of Non SHG members, the reason might be low level of self-confidence, less use of mass media exposure and low level of self-esteem might hinder the socio psychological upliftment of Non SHG members.

Conclusion

It can be concluded that among the all indicators, SHG members (65.78 per cent) had high level of mass media exposure with a first rank followed by decision making ability (65.62 per cent), communication ability (63.60 per cent), self-esteem (62.86 per cent) and self-confidence (59.68 per cent) with rank second, third, fourth and fifth, respectively. While in case of Non SHG members, the first rank was occupied by communication ability with 50.64 per cent followed by social status (48.50 per cent), decision making ability (45.80 per cent), extension contact (45.63 per cent) and self-confidence (45.36 per cent) with rank second, third, fourth and fifth, respectively.

In case of level of socio-psychological, three-fifth of the SHG members (60.00 per cent) had medium socio-psychological level, while in case of Non SHG members more than half (57.78 per cent) of respondents had medium socio psychological level.

There was highly significant difference between socio psychological impact of SHG members and Non SHG members i.e. 61.20 and 46.11 mean score, respectively. It can be concluded that the socio psychological level of SHG members was highly improved as compare to Non SHG members.

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