A study of Perception of Orphans towards the Institutional Environment of Orphanage (Balgrih)

Dr. Sarita Sharma

Reader, CTE, BTTC, Gandhi Vidya Mandir, Sardarshahar.

Abstract

This is a case study of an orphanage (known as Balgrih) being run by Gandhi vidya mandir (GVM), Sardarshahar dist. Churu of Rajasthan. GVM is a society registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act 1869, No. 9 of 1951-52. Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the first President of India, laying the foundation of university building in 1955.

Balgrih is a non-government institution working for the unwanted, uncared and unloved children of the society. It is because the most terrible poverty in the world is loneliness and the feeling of being unloved. Since its inception, following the footsteps of its patron Swami Shree Ram Sharan Maharaj, the Foundation has been concentrating in the field of education and health of the poor and downtrodden children. Initially, Balgrih had been collaborated with the government towards bringing up the destitute children in the mainstream of life. But after 2003 the balgrih did not receive a grant from the govt.

- In this study qualitative as well as quantitative both methods were used for depth and intensive study about the institutional environment of the Orphanage (Balgrih) and perception of orphans on the Institutional Environment of the Orphanage (Balgrih) was also evaluated.

All the Children, Sweeper, Guard, Gardener, Cook, Housemother, Supervisor Manager, Volunteer & Doctor of the orphanage were considered as a sample. There were 59 children.

Keywords: Perception, Orphans, Institutional Environment, Orphanage (Balgrih).
Background of the Study

India has a long history of voluntarism based on the concepts of daana (giving) and seva (service). During its long journey, volunteerism as the pioneer and the constant driving force behind the voluntary efforts has changed not only in form but also in spirit. In pre-independent India, the voluntary sector was perceived as a charity and, at times, as a vehicle to promote national integration and Independence movement. Voluntary organizations during that period were mainly active in the field of cultural promotion, education, health, and natural disaster and relief. During that period, the Societies Registration Act (SENIORA) was approved in 1860 to confirm the legal status of the growing body of voluntary organizations (VOs). Gandhian philosophy and the economic and political circumstances served as an inspiration as well as motivated new generations of people to enter the voluntary sector. In the Gandhian era, efforts to further spread the khadi and village industries not only became an important area of voluntary effort but also a governmental responsibility. Gandhi Vidya Mandir, sardarshahar, registered under Indian Societies Registration Act 1869, No. 9 of 1951-52. Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the first President of India, laying the foundation of university building in 1955. The founder Shri K.L. Dugar holds the mortar vessel Gandhi Vidya Mandir is nestled like an oasis in Rajasthan's Thar desert. It is about 300 km west of Delhi, 125 km east of Bikaner and 230 km north of Jaipur (connected by rail and road). GVM has its own triad of helipads.

Balgrih is a non-government institution working for the unwanted, uncared and unloved children of the society. It is because the most terrible poverty in the world is loneliness and the feeling of being unloved. Since its inception, following the footprints of its patron Swami Shree Ram Sharan Maharaj, the Foundation has been concentrating in the field of education and health of the poor and downtrodden children. Initially Balgrih had been collaborated with government towards bringing up the destitute children in the mainstream of life. But after 2003 the balgrih did not receive grant from the govt.

Main objective of the balgrih is to enable the destitute children to acquire proper social services and make them completely free from abuses and be equal to the privileged peer groups in the physical, emotional, social, mental and spiritual dimensions, so as to attain full development.
To provide opportunity for destitute children to become valuable human beings for their family and the society.

To secure destitute children from abuse and provide them opportunities and facilities to develop in healthy manner with freedom and dignity.

To develop ethics and values among destitute children in order to meet the manifold changes and challenges in the emotional maladies in society.

Nobel work for the future of destitute children were started by the written permission and financial assistance of Govt. of India through social welfare department of Rajasthan, Jaipur under the scheme is available for 50 additional children between the age group 5-18 years, for a period of 2 months during that financial year (February March, 1976)

The balgrih was organized many activities at that time like speech campaign, religious visit, cleaning campaign, debate competition, Yoga shivir, organization of Ramlila and Various festivals, Kavi-Sammelan (Poet conference), plays in the presence of eminent personalities of the society.

**Main Objectives of the Research Work**

- To study the Institutional Environment of the Orphanage (Balgrih).
- To evaluate the perception of orphans on Institutional Environment of the Orphanage (Balgrih).

**Research Methodology**

As part of the investigation, the researcher contacted staff and heads of Children's Institution (Balgrih) getting information about the functioning of the institution. Discussions with these experts from the practical field were very useful in understanding the administrative structure, staff pattern, nature of inmates or residents and the programmes provided in the institution.

**Method:** The present study comprise many techniques in the study such as case Conferences, discussion, observation and interview with person concerned, preparation of case profiles, interview and observation of work situations. This method of various techniques has proved helpful in drawing inferences about the overall institutional environment of Balgrih.
Sample: Data triangulation was used for sample in which the Sample Comprised following personnel from the Balgrih.

1. Children, Sweeper, Guard, Gardener, Cook, Housemother, Supervisor Manager, Volunteer & Doctor.

Tools

To study physical, moral, academic and social environment of Balgrih, researcher prepared following tools:

1. Observation schedule for institutional Environment of Balgrih
2. Interview schedule:
   2.1 Interview schedule for staff
   2.2 Interview schedule for Children

Used Statistics:

Statistical Treatment Data

For analysis and interpretation of data following statistical calculations were with the help of scientific calculator and computer programme.

Mean, S.D & t-test

Classification of teachers on the bases of percentage analysis:

Above Average = Mean + 1 SD

Bellow average = Mean-1SD

Average = between above and bellow average

Perception of Children towards the academic environment of Balgrih on the basis of percentage obtained according to raw Scores.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obtained Scores</th>
<th>Total Sample</th>
<th>No. of children</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Classification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Above</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>22.03</td>
<td>High Perception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
<td>54.24</td>
<td>Average Level of Perception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtained Scores</td>
<td>Total Sample</td>
<td>No. of children</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Classification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>22.03</td>
<td>High Perception</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>47.46</td>
<td>Average Level of Perception</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>30.51</td>
<td>Low or Negative Perception</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Perception of Balgrih children towards the social environment of Balgrih on the basis of percentage obtained according to raw Scores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obtained Scores</th>
<th>Total Sample</th>
<th>No. of children</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Classification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Above</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>23.73</td>
<td>High Perception</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>50.85</td>
<td>Average Level of Perception</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>25.42</td>
<td>Low or Negative Perception</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Perception of the children towards the institution environment of Balgrih on the basis of percentage obtained according to raw Scores table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obtained Scores</th>
<th>Total Sample</th>
<th>No. of children</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Classification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Above</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>18.64</td>
<td>High Perception</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>66.10</td>
<td>Average Level of Perception</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15.25</td>
<td>Low or Negative Perception</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Perception of the children towards the academic, moral, social and institution environment of Balgrih on the basis of percentage obtained according to raw Scores table

**Conclusion & Findings**

The analysis and interpretation of the data for the present study has been included in the previous chapters fourth and fifth. In the present chapter an attempt has been made to discuss the findings of the present investigation and to draw conclusion.

The findings and conclusions according to quantitative analysis of the present study have been given below:

1. Perception of children towards the academic environment of Balgrih on the basis of percentage obtained according to raw Scores has been tested by the statistical method and found that out of 59 children 13 or 22.03 % children were above average level or have good perception towards the academic environment. 54.24 % children or 32 children from Balgrih out of 59 children have average level of perception towards academic environment. 23.73% children or out of the total 59 children have below average level
perception towards academic environment or have less than average level perception towards the academic environment.

2. Perception of children towards the moral environment of Balgrih on the basis of percentage obtained according to raw Scores has been tested by the statistical method and found that 22.03% children have above average level or have good perception towards the moral environment. 47.46% children have average level of perception. 30.51% children have below average level perception towards moral environment or have less than average level perception towards the moral environment.

3. Perception of children towards the social environment of Balgrih on the basis of percentage obtained according to raw Scores has been tested by the statistical method and found that 23.73% children have good perception about the social environment. 50.85% children have average level of perception. 25.42% children have below average level perception towards the social environment.

4. Perception of children towards the institutional environment of Balgrih on the basis of percentage obtained according to raw Scores has been tested by the statistical method and found that out of 59 children 11 or 18.64% children have good perception about the institutional environment. 66.10% or 39 of 59 children from Balgrih have average level of perception. 15.25% or 9 out of 59 children have below average level perception towards the institutional environment of balgrih.

**Conclusion**

1. More than 75% children have average and above the average level of perception towards the academic environment of the balgrih, it is concluded that the academic environment of the balgrih is very good.

2. More than 69% children have average and above the average level of perception towards the moral environment of the balgrih, it is concluded that the moral environment of the balgrih is quite good.

3. More than 73% children have average and above the average level of perception towards the social environment of the balgrih. It is concluded that the social environment of the balgrih is very good.

4. More than 84% children have average and above the average level of perception towards the institutional environment of the balgrih. It is concluded that the institutional environment of the balgrih is excellent according to children.
Bibliography

1. http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/handle/10603/48666
3. SILVER JUBILLEE 1977-78 GANDHI VIDYA MANDIR SARDADSHAHAR page no.41-42
4. Juvenile Justice Act 2007, Ministry of women and child development page no.52
6. International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Invention ISSN (Online): 2319-7722, ISSN (Print): 2319-7714.