

Why Elderly People Don't Prefer to Claim their Maintenance from their Children?

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ABSTRACT

There are about 104 million elderly people (aged 60 years or above) in India; 53 million females and 51 million males, and is expected to increase to 323 million, constituting 20 per cent of the total population, by 2050. The population of the older persons in India is continuously increasing, according to Population Census 2011. Therefore there is also an increase in the number of elderly abuse by their children and relative's reason behind this lies the fact that there is a changing social scenario in terms of modernization which is influencing the interpersonal relations in a negative manner resulting in the emergence of nuclear families in India at a rapid rate. The present paper is a study conducted to explore the underlying reasons why elderly people do not prefer to claim about their maintenance from their children. Interviews were conducted with a sample population of 20 elderly people currently residing at an old age home in north Delhi, India. The findings clearly indicates that the underlying issues lies with the fact of stigma attached to it, social norms, non-interference in familial matters, unemployed children, rigid beliefs and values system, and many more.

Keywords: *aging, elderly abuse, maintenance act, social norms*

As per Roscoe Pound, the type of the sociological school of law, enactments are the essential trademark and methods for development in any developing country. National advancement requires administrative arranging and programming because, it is seen that administrative establishments are required to approve these plans, programs and the activities vital for their implementation (Stone, 1965). With the approach of modernization, the Indian culture has experienced wonderful changes, family; the essential unit of a general public has likewise changed in its frame and capacity. The conventional moorings of the family are quite blurring without end under the weight of the quick paced present day way of life. The elderly who have been a critical segment and had the insurance under the conventional family setup are the most noticeably awful influenced in this changed situation. The circumstance is ending up additionally disturbing with the marvel of populace maturing forecasting more prominent

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Received: August 25, 2018; Revision Received: September 18, 2018; Accepted: September 30, 2018

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future of residents during childbirth and the life anticipation past the age of sixty is likewise expanding. The number of inhabitants in senior residents, matured sixty or more, in India it has expanded from 42.5 million out of 1981 to 55 million of every 1991 and was set at 70.6 million in the 2001 statistics and involved around 6.9 for every penny of the aggregate population. According to the enumeration of 2011 the matured represented 8.6% of the population. This figure is required to cross 20% by the year 2050 (Elderly in India, 2016). The welfare of the senior residents of India who constitute a critical part of the populace has turned into the worry of the country when their conventional help base is vanishing immediately and inexplicably and the apparent requirement for an enactment to address this issue explained in The Maintenance and Welfare of the Parents and Senior Citizens Bill, 2007 (senior citizen status, n. d.).

What are the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Bill, 2007?

The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Bill, 2007 was presented in the Lower House of the Parliament of India on 20th March, 2007. It got the consent of the Leaders of India on 29th December, 2007 and the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, No. 56 of 2007 was distributed for general data in the Gazette of India (Extraordinary) Part II-Section I, dated 31st December, 2007. The goal of the enactment is to accommodate more viable arrangements for the uplift and welfare of parents and senior residents perceived under the Constitution. The basic plan is to give a statutory sponsorship to guarantee the seniors are looked up by their family. It is a built up reality that family is the most wanted condition for senior natives/ guardians to lead an existence of security, care and pride. In perspective of this reality and to guarantee that the children play out their ethical commitment towards their parents, the enactment intends to make an empowering system for the more established people to assert require based upkeep from their youngsters. It otherwise accommodates a suitable system to be set up to improve arrangement for medicinal offices to senior subjects, for systematization of a reasonable component for protection of life and property of more seasoned people and for setting up of seniority homes in each district. In this part an investigation of the arrangements of the Act is endeavored with a reason to see whether the said Act is really an empowering Act with respect to addressing the requirements of the elderly in India (Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007).

Recently, Assam a state in India turned into the first state in the nation to authorize a law making, it required for government workers to take care of their maturing guardians and destitute kin, failing for which they will lose 10 percent of their monthly salary. The sum deducted from their pay will be given to their parents so they can bolster themselves. The State Assembly passed the Assam Employees Parental Responsibility Norms for Accountability Monitoring Act, 2017, that expects to anticipate disregard of government employee's old parents. (Social justice Assam Govt. n. d.).

As a result of advancements in innovation and prescription, individuals live more easily and longer than at any other time, and the rate of elderly individuals in the populace has been expanded step by step and the populace is maturing the world over. Maturing of the populace

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has achieved worries on the most proficient method to keep more seasoned individuals living at home for whatever length of time that conceivable. Amid the maturing procedure, adapting to the circumstances of regular life and taking care of its requests turn out to be much more individual than previously. From the old individual's perspective, the diminished practical capacity and experiencing different wellbeing grumblings additionally implies reliance on others for conveying out exercises of everyday living, which might be pretty much difficult to live with (Andersson, Hallberg and Edberg, 2008).

The encounters of elderly individuals to adapt at home ought to be considered more to enhance their personal satisfaction and ensure they can remain at home as long as could reasonably be expected. The help for elderly individuals is from relatives and home administrations. Both relatives and medical caretakers ought to figure out how to push elderly individuals to get more potential outcomes to proceed inhabit home. The exploration issue is elderly individuals' adapting at home. The motivation behind this examination is to investigate the stigma attached or the reasons why elderly people feel reluctant to claim the maintenance from their children.

Who is an elderly person?

The old have been characterized by various researchers as a needy gathering whose individuals couldn't and ought not to work and who require monetary and social help that – the more youthful populace is obliged to give. Maturity is normally the period amongst retirement and demise. It is a time of physical and social misfortune, loss of life partner, companions, employment, property and physical appearance. Oxford word reference expresses that seniority is the later piece of life. According to Robert Kastenbaum "Oldness is however a perspective when the individual express his insufficiency to work". The change of being a completely utilized individual from the group to being resigned is called maturity a period which is the most difficult time of life. There is decrease in the water substance of body with dynamic maturing and the slender weight is joined by an expanding extent of muscle to fat ratio. In course of time there is a decrease in the quantity of working cells of different organs of the old individuals, with the goal that the execution is diminished (Corr, 2014).

Reasons for elderly abuse

The main reasons of elderly abuse are emotional and economic dependence and changing ethos of the Indian society. Emotional dependence of the abused has emerged as the major reason for the prevalence of elder abuse followed by economic dependence of the abused and changing ethos in the society (Fuller & O'Malley, 1987).

Lack of adjustment, economic dependence of the abused and increasing longevity was the main reasons of elderly abuse. From the youth point of view, the main reasons behind elderly abuse are property and inheritance disputes and financial problem in the house. In the society, Attitudinal and relationship issues have also emerged as the major reason for the prevalence of elder abuse followed by lack of time and patience on the part of the abusers, health/addiction problems of abusers (Fallon, 2006).

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Types of support needed for elderly people

The elderly people have two critical needs in particular- Physiological and Psychological. The physiological needs are adequate nutritious nourishment, clean dress, open to lodging, sound rest, great wellbeing and sanitation, word related alteration, satisfactory pay, relaxation and great transportation benefit. Psychological necessities are fulfillment of different mental needs and encounters, relative flexibility from upsetting pressure and nerves and also free from money related weight. They require more love, sensitivity, with the goal that they don't feel dismissed yet regarded. They require great sidekick and low maintenance business in order to keep them locked in (help age India, n.d.).

METHODOLOGY

The present study was an exploratory research study where a semi-structured interviews schedule was constructed to glean the information on the stigma attached amongst the people of the Indian society to explore the underlying factors responsible for the elderly people to not been able to or feeling reluctant to claim their maintenance from their children in their old age. Interviews were conducted on a sample population of 20 elderly people at an old age home in North Delhi, India. Participants were contacted through random sampling and consent forms were also provided to maintain the ethical code of conduct and were made assured that the data collected is only for study and research purpose, maintaining the confidentiality of every participant in the study.

RESULTS

The findings of the present study to the research question of why elderly people feel reluctant to claim their maintenance from their children during their old age times reveals the answer with the fact of stigma attached to it, rigid beliefs and values system of the Indian society, social pressures of being an inhumane parents to their children's reputation in the society, non-interference in the familial matters of the family, unemployed children another important factor that makes an elderly person feel incapable to claim the maintenance from their children. There were not many variations in the response of the participants during the interviews conducted as many of them expresses that if they had to fight for their right then why they would have to live the last years of their lives in an old age homes. While some of the elderly people also felt that there is no shame in asking for their maintenance rights from their own children to take care of them in their incapable times of their lives.

DISCUSSION

The present study was to examine the reason behind why the elderly people feel reluctant to claim about their maintenance from their children in their old age or the last years of their lives instead willing to live in an old age home in isolation and grief away from their family and children. The finding reveals the fact of social pressure, non-interference in the familial matters, societal norms, rigid beliefs and values system.

Since in India, the concept of individuality depends on the society where an individual totally depends upon his family till the last years of his lives. The concept of individualism depends

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on the collectivistic culture of India which leads to act according to the demand of the society and not been able to follow ones individualistic opinion. The same applies to the elderly population in the nation which restricts them to raise their voice against the abuse done to them by their own children in the last piece of their lives.

Various elderly people reprimanded themselves for the abuse and had a tendency to stay faithful and devoted to their kids who had abused them. These emotions of obligation regarding the manhandling have a tendency to be a sign of mishandled more established ladies (Montminy 2005). Past examinations demonstrated that more seasoned individuals habitually rationalize the abuser's conduct and were now and then defensive of the abuser (Podnieks 1992; Pritchard 2001). This feeling of reliability and sense of duty regarding the abuser was likewise apparent in more seasoned individuals' perspectives of senior manhandle. Members talked about having safe settlement which they thought about a position of asylum, as being basic to their survival. Since living alone renders more established individuals more helpless against manhandle, the requirement for elective convenience and a protected situation, agreeable furthermore, appropriately adjusted to the more established individual's needs, is seen as fundamental in advancing a feeling of group living (Hightower et al. 2006; Mowlam et al. 2007).

Character qualities and the assurance to hold up for one's rights, can decide the nature and effect of the manhandle (Mowlam et al. 2007). For some examination members, self-assurance was essential and a few detailed facing and defying their abuser as a method for taking control of their circumstance and adapting to the oppressive encounters. Having the capacity to defend oneself has been observed to be identified with life encounter, identity, wellbeing status and family connections. Members in this examination detailed feeling forlorn and confined. Past investigations have suggested that if more established individuals feel forlorn, they might be frantic to converse with individuals and in this way turn out to be progressively helpless against falling prey to abuse (Peri et al. 2008). A few examinations suggested that weakness and defenselessness may increment the probability of elderly abuse happening (Pritchard 2001; Peri et al. 2008); however the share of more seasoned individuals in this ponder spoke to themselves as sure, confident also, autonomous and most detailed that they had for the most part reasonable for good wellbeing preceding the mishandle happening. This finding recommends that, for this example, weakness were not hazard factors for the abuse experienced, yet were perhaps a consequence of the abuse (Fallon, 2006).

Different hindrances or various barriers to help-seeking were recognized by elderly people, which kept or prevented them from getting help and support. A few members were not generally mindful that they were casualties of senior mishandle and few were informed of administrations accessible to help and ensure them. Past investigations have additionally discovered that more elderly person has a tendency to be clueless about help administrations and their particular parts and transmits (Scott et al. 2004; Lazenbatt, 2010) and those that had gotten some learning about administrations got data in a roundabout way or by shot (Nägele et al. 2010). Furthermore, the investigation members detailed that they were hesitant to

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request help as they felt excessively embarrassed, making it impossible to do as such (Lazenbatt, 2010). More established individuals tend to hold conventional perspectives and like to keep up a culture of mystery, as they regularly feel embarrassed what's more, unwilling to make shame themselves, their families and their groups (Mowlam et al. 2007; McGarry and Simpson 2011). A few members were frightful that they may be judged by others. More established individuals need to feel that they are being tuned in to by individuals who remain non-judgmental (Pritchard 2000; Hightower et al. 2006) and in the nonappearance of such help, more seasoned individuals will keep on persevere mishandle (Schaffer 1999). In summary, elderly individuals can encounter an extensive variety of harsh practices, including physical, passionate, money related elderly abuse and disregard. For casualties of senior abuse, the effect of the experience on the individual can hold more prominent importance for them than the demonstration of abuse itself. Injurious encounters can bring about physical and social outcomes and in addition a scope of unfriendly mental results for casualties, including dread, stress, enthusiastic torment, surprise and tension. Older people can convey a range of adapting techniques to help them to adapt to and beat their injurious experience, including evasion of the culprit and participating in diversions like the quest for side interests and different interests. The adapting methodologies conveyed by more established individuals likewise incorporate dependence all alone inward qualities and assets. More established individuals perceive and value the reasonable and good bolster that they got from people and organizations, counting wellbeing and social care experts, nearby intention organizations and police.

Some more established casualties of elderly abuse can encounter boundaries to help-chasing, their own absence of mindfulness that they are being manhandled, their dread of dismissal and shame on the off chance that they revealed the mishandle, their absence of consciousness of the administrations accessible to help and ensure them, and saw and genuine obstructions in the lawful and criminal equity frameworks due to their constrained ability to react to instances of elderly abuse (Fuller, & Malley 1987).

CONCLUSION

This investigation has given records of many elderly people's encounters of abuse and mishandle, as described by them. Such records have given important bits of knowledge into the range and kinds of abuse experienced by many elderly individuals and have featured the specific parts of the members' encounters of mishandle. The investigation showed the unfavorable impacts these oppressive encounters can have on more established individuals' wellbeing furthermore, prosperity. Additionally, the investigation has given experiences into the interior assets which more established individuals themselves depend on to help them to overcome their damaging encounters and has attracted consideration regarding their bolster needs. Inspecting the encounters of more established individuals who have been casualties of mishandle gives the premise to creating successful strategy reactions and suitable intercessions to address more established individuals' needs and the specific conditions in which they get themselves. Approach reactions need to perceive that the experience of mishandle in more seasoned age might be a statement of abuse and mishandle for the

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duration of the life course or might be a marvel that has happened for the more seasoned individual in later life. In like manner, intercessions should be custom-made to the individual casualty's specific conditions. Those giving intercessions ought to perceive that more elderly individuals themselves can draw on individual assets as adapting methodologies because of the experience of abuse, should bolster casualties in marshaling their own adapting systems. Endeavors to advance open mindfulness about senior abuse in India, for example, open occasions and media battles, should proceed. Since some more seasoned individuals neglect to perceive abuse and mishandle when it is being executed on them, enhancing their insight about abuse, including the more unpretentious articulations of manhandle that happens inside families, ought to be an objective for wellbeing advancement in the more elderly populace. Also, more established individuals should know about the administrations and backings accessible to them to address abuses in their lives and the administrations accessible in supporting them to adapt to and conquer the experience. With better learning, more elderly individuals will probably wind up enabled in perceiving and fighting off abuses and manhandling. Engaging more established individuals can likewise upgrade their individual qualities with the goal that they can take part in additional self-security and feel sufficiently sure to look for help.

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Web links

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Acknowledgements

The author profoundly appreciates all the people who have successfully contributed in ensuring this paper is in place. Their contributions are acknowledged however their names cannot be able to be mentioned.

Conflict of Interest

The authors colorfully declare this paper to bear not conflict of interests

How to cite this article: Yadav, N (2018). Why Elderly People Don't Prefer to Claim their Maintenance from their Children? *International Journal of Indian Psychology*, 6(3), 159-166. DIP:18.01.097/20180603, DOI:10.25215/0603.097