



CHAPTER - III

Social Work Research : A Methodology

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This chapter mainly deals with the methodological details of the present study, i.e. objectives of the study, tools used for data collection and the techniques that have been adopted to study the impact of television on school going children.

1) STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

The small children are easily influenced by the television programmes. Because it gives them a sources of education, information and entertainment. They can get adequate information through the different media's today, i.e. Radio, News-papers, Magazines etc. yet the audio-visual i.e. the television is one of the best media through which their knowledge can be enhanced while entertaining themselves. The audio visual is very popular, cheap and linked by a majority, but at the same time, it is creating certain problems to the society. The children who watch television are found getting some good and bad habits and in turn it is affecting on the development of their personalities these days and it is becoming a blessing and disguise to the

children. Therefore, the researcher has chosen the topic “Impact of television on school going children (with special reference to solapur city)”, to know the different dimensions of the problem and its impact on their personal and family life, career and social behaviour.

2) OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY :

The major objectives of the study are :

- I) To study and find out the nature, extent and magnitude of the problem.
- II) To throw light on the timings, programmes, channels, time-table and interests of the school going children for watching television.
- III) To examine the restrictions put on the children by their parents, and family members for watching particular television programmes or channel.
- IV) To know the affections and motivations of the children for watching private channels and the kinds/types of programmes.

- positive and*
- V) To explore the negative impact of the television programmes on the personality of children, their studies and career.
- VI) To understand the positive impact of the television programmes on the personality of the children, their studies and career.
- VII) To investigate the impact of guidance and counselling of the parents and their teachers for watching particular programmes, and channels.

3) THE HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY :

The major hypothesis of the study are:

- I) Most of the children in solapur prepare their time-table to watch the private channels as well as Doordarshan and take interest in watching the variety of programmes accordingly.
- II) Most of the parents of school going children in solapur have put restrictions on their children for watching television programmes like Zee, Star, Star-plus & such others.

- III) The school going children of solapur have attractions of advertisements, horror serials, love serials, fight serials, comedy serials and competitions etc.
- IV) The negative impact of watching television on school going children in solapur is not much today, however, it seems to be increasing slowly and steadily.
- V) The positive impact of watching television on school going children in solapur seems to be less, but certain aspects of learning like etiquettes and manners, Hindi language, good habits and such other seems to be more.
- VI) The guidance and counselling of the parents and the teachers as regards watching television programmes seems to be followed positively in effective manner.

4) LOCALE OF THE STUDY :

Solapur city was selected to do research on “ Impact of television on school going children (with special reference to Solapur city.”) Solapur is located on the border of Karnataka , Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. According to the census of 1991 the population of the city is 6,20,843. It lies between 17°10'

North and $18^{\circ}32'$ North latitude and $74^{\circ}42'$ East and $76^{\circ}15'$ East longitude. The main reasons for selecting this area are:

- I) The researcher belongs to Solapur and she is well acquainted with it.
- II) The researcher had done research project on the same subject in Solapur area for partial fulfillment of the post graduation degree course in social work.
- III) It was convenient to the researcher to spend sufficient time to observe the phenomenon and also to collect the relevant and sufficient information from the concerned persons in the area.
- IV) The researcher was interested to study the selected problem in Solapur area for recording the viable suggestions for social work practices to be done by the schools of social work and the NGO'S

5) LIMITATIONS AND COVERAGE OF THE STUDY:

The school going children from primary to secondary level residing in Solapur city were covered for the present study. The city area being very wide and vast, the population numbering

in six figures, hence it was very difficult to cover the entire Solapur area for the purpose. So the researcher had covered the different areas i.e. slums areas, old city areas, Extension areas as representative areas of Solapur.

6) RESEARCH DESIGN : SAMPLING :

The population of school going children in the selected areas of Solapur city was large enough, therefore, it was not possible for the researcher to conduct interviews of all the school going children of 5 to 20 years age group due to the shortage of money, labour and time. Moreover, Sampling is one of the scientific methods of social work research which gives accurate results, hence, it was decided by the researcher to collect the required primary data with the help of Sampling method. The sampling involves selection of place or areas and selection of school going children from the selected places or areas.

6.1) THE SELECTION OF PLACE OR AREA :

Solapur city was purposefully selected to study the "Impact of Television on school going children with special reference to

Solapur city". The reasons for selection of Solapur city have been mentioned under the title of Locale of the study.

Solapur is a big, i.e. No. 5th city in Maharashtra state. Its population according to 1991 census is 6,20,843 and its area is 179.69 sq. kms. Hence it was not possible to cover the entire city for the purpose, but to cover the population from the different areas like slums, old lanes, new colonies the researcher had kept control on the selection of area and selected only five slum areas, five old lanes and five new colonies from all the four corners and middle/center of the city.

6 ID THE SELECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN :

The population of school going children in the selected area was large enough, hence, it was not possible to the researcher to collect the names of thousands of families to prepare a sampling frame for systematic selection of the samples. Considering the genuine difficulties in the field and limitations of the study, i.e. time, money, labour and energy. The researcher had to keep control on selection of the total numbers of samples. Accordingly the samples were selected with the help of the only

possible and suitable scientific sampling method i.e. accidental sampling method from the different selected colonies of the city i.e. 84 families from the five selected slums, 84 families from the five old colonies and 84 families from the five new colonies. Thus in all 252 families were selected from the city which were thought large enough to be manageable and sufficient enough to be productive for the statistical valid results. Hence, out of 252 selected families, one child from each family was interviewed for the purpose but out of 252 selected children two children could not give answers properly. Therefore, the researcher had to drop those two filled in interview schedules. Thus, in all interview of 250 children were conducted for the purpose.

7) TECHNIQUES OF DATA COLLECTION :

The different techniques of data collection are available in social work research i.e. Direct interviews, collection of data through mail, questionnaire, observation, discussion, etc. The interview technique is the most suitable amongst all the tools/ techniques of data collection that are available in social work research. Hence the interview technique was selected for the

present study. Accordingly, the interview schedule was prepared keeping in view the general objectives of the study and the specific hypothesis outlined earlier. The interview schedule was divided into 5 parts, and every part was carefully designed and properly worked. The said interview schedule consisted of 102 questions. The interview schedule was prepared in English but it was translated into marathi to making the children respondents to understand the questions in right sense, and then again it was translated into English. The other techniques like observation, discussions were also used for collecting detail information's from them as well as from the concerned persons.

8) PRE-TESTING OF THE INTERVIEW SCHEDULE:

The interview technique was selected for the present study. Hence, the structured interview, Schedule was to be formed on the basis of the objectives and the hypothesis of the study. Accordingly, the relevant questions were set and the interview schedule was prepared. With the help of the schedule few selected respondents were interviewed to test and to find out whether the questions set in the schedule are properly worded

and whether their meaning is quite clear to them. These filled in schedules were shown to the guide for his comments, suggestions and approval. After examining those filled in sampled schedules he deleted certain questions, added certain new questions and then approved the schedule and directed for getting it cyclostyled for data collection.

9) THE INTERVIEWING PROCESS :

The interviews of the selected school going children were conducted in the schools & samaj mandirs in their respective colonies in a free and frank manner. However, to do so the researcher had taken sufficient care to establish rapport with the respondents and the objectives of the study was explained to them and their parents and a confidence was created in their minds and then the relevant research questions were asked to them to seek their proper and real answers. The average period spent on an interview of each respondent was more than one and half hours.

10) FIELD WORK:

The primary data required for the present study were collected during the period of 1997 –98 and the secondary data were collected throughout the academic year of the course and till the final analysis of the data. The relevant additional informations were also collected from the different sources till the final analysis work was done. Thus, a field work was done for the purpose.

11) THE PROBLEMS IN DATA COLLECTION :

The researcher had to face many problems during the period of data collection. They are :

I) The children were busy in schools home-work and watching the television all the time, therefore, the researcher had to adjust their timings and their moods.

II) The researcher had to spend more time to make the children free and frank on their subject because most of them were not ready to give answers in the presence of their parents and even in the absence of the parents. Their main worry which

was observed by the researcher ^{was} that, they were frightened that their parents may stop them watching television thereafter.

III) The children respondents were also not aware about the impact of television. So the researcher had to ask many questions and sub-questions repeatedly to make them aware about the change taking place in their personality due to watching television. Thus, the researcher had to take lot of efforts to collect reliable and real data from them.

12) DATA PROCESSING :

The collected data were to be processed manually, therefore, a code book was prepared with the help of filled in interview schedules which were checked carefully and all the entries were edited properly. The code book and the filled in schedules were shown to the statistical experts prof. Dargo patil and prof. Kawle; and the tables were made as per their directions and they were interpreted and the conclusions were drawn and the suggestions were recorded.

13. ORGANISATION OF DISSERTATION :

The dissertation has been organised into six chapters and is presented as follows:

1. Television : A Media.
2. Solapur city : A Historical Review.
3. Social work Research : A methodology.
4. An Analysis and Interpretation of Data.
5. Findings, Conclusion and Suggestions.
6. Appendices

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