



## AIDS AWARENESS AMONG EDUCATED WORKING MOTHERS OF ADOLESCENTS

**Miss.Veena Rani**

*Assistant Professor, Malwa Central College of Education for Women, Ludhiana.*

### **Abstract**

The study was conducted to find out aids awareness among educated working mothers of adolescents. The universe of the study is Punjab, which comprises of 19 districts out of which two Districts Ludhiana and Gurdaspur were taken randomly. The sample consisted of 200 educated working mothers out of which 100 in teaching profession, 100 in medical profession, were selected on the basis of random sampling. The tool was employed AIDS AWARENESS TEST by Dr. Ravinder Kaur ( Ex Principal of Malwa Central College of Education for Women, Ludhiana to assess the knowledge of AIDS among educated working mothers of adolescents. It revealed that there exists no significant difference between AIDS awareness of educated working mothers of adolescents in teaching and medical profession stands rejected. It may further be stated that mean score of educated working mothers of adolescents in teaching profession was higher than their counterparts in medical profession indicating that the educated working mothers of adolescents in teaching profession are more aware about AIDS than those in medical profession.

**Key Words:** Aids Awareness, Educated Working Mothers, Adolescents.

### **Introduction**

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is the biggest destroyer and scourge of human capital built up over the years. It is one of the most grievous human afflictions affecting all the people alike but causing greatest suffering to the young. AIDS kills three million people worldwide annually while 5 million people get themselves afflicted during the same period. The virus causing AIDS is called Human Immune Deficiency Virus (HIV) which breaks down the body's immune system, leaving the victim vulnerable to a host of life threatening opportunistic infections or unusual malignancies. This virus is mainly present in body fluids, i.e., blood, semen and vaginal fluids and the infection is transmitted when the virus in the body fluids come in contact with the blood of an exposed person. . So, the infection is transmitted when the virus in the body fluids comes in contact with the blood and/or mucous membranes of an exposed person. Hence, AIDS can be transmitted from an infected person to a healthy person through sexual contact, blood transfusion, and use of contaminated needles and also from infected mother to the foetus.

### **Adolescence**

Person can be affected by AIDS at any stage of life but they are affected mostly in the age group of 15-44 years, and adolescent period is the most crucial period in which adolescents can be affected by this disease easily. Adolescents and young people are the backbone of any society. Today millions of adolescent and young people are facing many risk and crucial challenges, which are not encountered by earlier adolescents. These challenges and risks include HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infection, early pregnancy and marriage, gender discrimination, abuse, violence and other reproductive health problems. All these problems are accelerated by unemployment, poverty and incomplete education. Among all these problems the most dreaded is the threat of HIV/AIDS because half of all new HIV/AIDS infection occur in people aged 15-24. In this way have seen that sex education is primary need for adolescents. In 1998 (12<sup>th</sup>) twelfth world AIDS Conference estimated that 11 people become infected with HIV every minute. State of World Population Report 2003 estimated that 6000 youth a day become infected with HIV AIDS one in seconds.

The Joint Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) estimate that of the more than 30 million people living with the HIV which causes the AIDS, at least one third are young people aged 10-24. Everybody, 7000 of them get HIV, that is about 2.5 million annually or five every minute. New infections are largely among the under 25 years age group including a large proportion of women. By the year 2020 there will be more than 40 millions orphans under the age of 15 in 23 countries which are highly infected by HIV AIDS. Most of these children will have lost their parents to HIV.

Srivastava et. al. (1992) studied AIDS awareness among school teachers and found that of the total 182 teachers assessed, 79.7 % were aware about AIDS while remaining 20.3% had not heard of it. Awareness among graduate teachers was significantly higher than non – graduates.

Aggarwal and Kumar (1996) aimed to assess the existing level of knowledge of school children of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> classes about AIDS. They found significant differences in knowledge among the rural – urban and male – female students.



Panditet. al. (1997) studied the level of awareness, knowledge and attitude regarding HIV/AIDS amongst senior secondary school teachers. 74 school teachers were selected randomly from Govt. schools of East Delhi, out of which 25.6% respondents thought that HIV/ AIDS was curable after IEC intervention, while 77% of teachers recommended that Family Life Style Education (FLSE) should be started from Middle school level onwards. 47.2% recommended doctors as the most suitable persons to impart the same.

The present research aimed to find out AIDS Awareness among Educated Working Mothers of Adolescents regarding AIDS dangerous disease—in fighting against the disease and curbing it. By adopting this effective communication strategy they can educate their wards about HIV/AIDS. Educated working mother can create more effective awareness about AIDS/HIV.

**Objective of the Study**

To compare AIDS Awareness among educated working Mothers of adolescents in teaching profession and medical profession.

**Hypothesis**

There exists no significant difference in AIDS Awareness between Educated working mothers of adolescents in teaching profession and medical profession.

**Design of the Study**

The present study aims at studying AIDS Awareness among Educated Working Mothers of Adolescent. For this purpose descriptive survey method was employed. The technique of t ratio was employed to find out the differences in AIDS Awareness among Educated Working Mothers of Adolescent in teaching profession&, medical profession.

**Sample:** The study was conducted on the sample of 200 educated working mothers out of which 100 in teaching profession, 100 in medical profession, were selected on the basis of random sampling.

**Tool for Collecting Data**

The tool was employed AIDS AWARENESS TEST by Dr. RavinderKaur( ExPrincipal of MalwaCentral College of Education for Women, Ludhiana to assess the knowledge of AIDS among educated working mothers of adolescents.

**Analysis and Interpretation**

**Table-1, Significance of the Difference between Means of AIDS Awareness of Educated Working Mothers of Adolescents in Teaching and Medical Profession.**

S.No.	Group	N	M	S.D	SE <sub>M</sub>	t-value
1.	Teaching	100	74.61	8.00	.80	2.25*
2.	Medical	100	71.43	10.28	1.03	

\*significant at .05 level

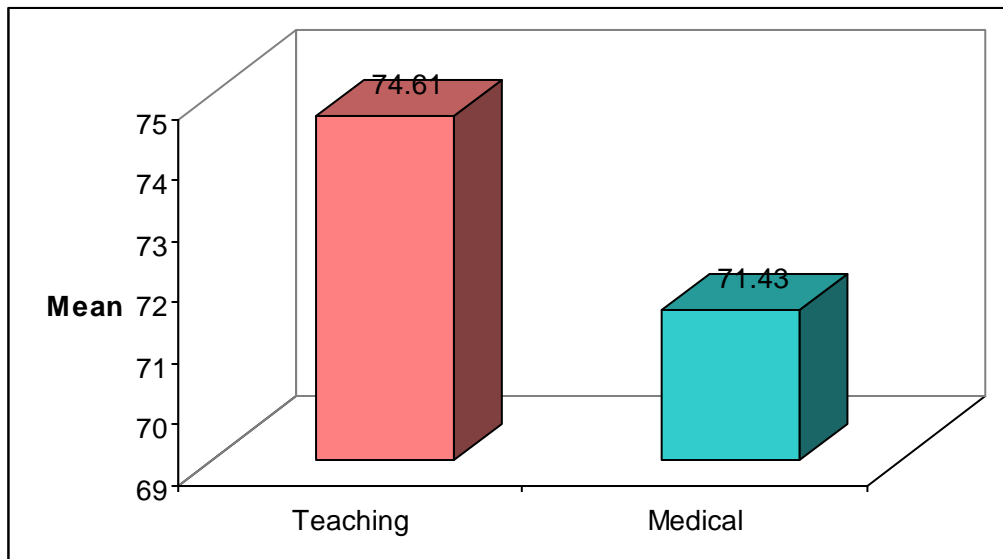
**Table 1** revealed that the mean scores of AIDS awareness of educated working mothers of adolescents in teaching and medical profession as 74.61 and 71.43 respectively and their standard deviation as 8.00 and 10.28 respectively. The t-ratio was calculated as 2.25 which is significant at .05 level of confidence. This revealed that a significant difference exists between AIDS awareness of educated working mothers of adolescents in teaching and medical profession.

**Conclusion**

Therefore the hypothesis 1 stating that there exists no significant difference between AIDS awareness of educated working mothers of adolescents in teaching and medical profession stands rejected. It may further be stated that mean score of educated working mothers of adolescents in teaching profession was higher than their counterparts in medical profession indicating that the educated working mothers of adolescents in teaching profession are more aware about AIDS than those in medical profession.



**Fig. 1 Bar Graph showing Difference of Means of AIDS Awareness of Educated Working Mothers of Adolescents in Teaching and Medical Profession.**



#### **Educational Implications**

1. The results that have accrued from the present study can be helpful to the curriculum planners in designing curricular activities of pre service training course for teachers in order to enhance AIDS awareness among teacher trainees
2. It is suggested that AIDS awareness programme/activities like exhibitions, quizzes, debate & seminars should be conducted for mothers as well as students to create awareness about aids/hiv.

#### **References**

1. Aggarwal, A.K. and Kumar, R. (1996) Awareness of AIDS among School Children in Haryana. Indian Journal of Public Health; 40(2); PP - 38- 45.
2. Best, J.W and Kahn, J.V. (1993) Research in Education. Prentice Hall of India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
3. Garrett, H.E. and Woodworth, R.S (2004) Statistics in Psychology and Education Paragon International Publishers, New Delhi.
4. Gosala, S. and Kumar, N.P (2001) HIV/AIDS Awareness in Pondicherry – A Population Based Sample Survey. (Abstract) Third International Conference on “AIDS INDIA”, Chennai, Dec. 1-5, 2001. p – 245.
5. Koul, L. (1984) Methodology of Educational Research. Vikas Publishing House Pvt.Ltd., New Delhi.
6. Srivastava, V.K., Nirupam, S and Chandra, R. (1992) AIDS Awareness among School Teachers. CARC calling; 5(3): P - 23.
7. Pandit, K., Bhasin, S. ,Dubey, K.K and Aggarwal, O.P . (1997) AIDS Awareness, Knowledge and Attitude Amongst the Senior Secondary School Teachers in East Delhi Schools. The Indian Journal of Community Health; 9(2): pp 171-176.
8. Meenakshi (1992) First Course in Methodology of Research; KaliaParkashan, Patiala.
9. Mishra, R.C. (2005) HIV/AIDS Education.A.P.H. Publishing Corporation, New Delhi.