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A STUDY OF STATUS OF PARENTAL SUPPORT IN BACHPAN - AN INSTITUTE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION



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Introduction

After the independence the policy makers of our country decided that education should be made easily available for all. For this they prescribed different schemes and provisions for the application of the concept of education for all. When we talk about the concept of education for all, the physically and mentally challenged are also included. But as we know that the needs and requirements of these exceptional children are different from the normal. They need special support and hence we need some specialists of this field as well as certain special institutes which undertake their work according to the needs and requirements of these kinds of children.

Now days we can easily see many non governmental organizations are working in this field. But for the proper fulfillment of the needs and requirements of these children these institutions need proper infrastructure, human resources in the form of specialized teachers, doctors, physiotherapist, psychiatrist etc and financial resources as well. The investigator found an institute “BACHPAN Day Care Centre” situated in Lucknow district of Uttar Pradesh which is providing pre primary level education to few categories of special children. These categories are visually impaired children, hearing impaired children & mentally retarded children. These kinds of institutes also need help and support from parents in different manners. For proper educational development of these children the parents of them could be of immense importance. The institute could ask help from the

parents for catering the educational needs of their children. But for effective parental participation there is a need of proper parent teacher collaboration.

There is a very strong relationship between school and the parents. Both of these are responsible for the educational growth and development of the child. But at times teachers also fails to recognize the importance of parents in education of their children. They feel that the parents are causes of their children’s problems or they are the roadblock to educational efforts. But several researches showed that there is a considerable impact of parental support on achievement of the child. Parental support is very much effective particularly for language development, social development and recognition skills. Parents often have insights regarding the characteristics and needs of their children that can be helpful in devising the treatment and educational programs. Whatever may be the mutual participation there are numerous studies that have highlighted the parents role in education and treatment of children with special needs.

Need of the Study

From the above discussion we can easily say that active parental participation is needed for proper educational development of children. BACHPAN is an institute for special children. So the investigator decided to study the status of parental participation in BACHPAN.

Review of Related Literature

‘A case study of a successful community- campus partnership: Changing the environment through

collaboration' conducted by **Elkins & Beth** in 2002.

The goal of this study was to learn about the structures, resources and purposes that have formed and sustained one successful community campus partnership. The researcher broke new grounds by being the first to apply the group development framework, structuration theory, and the 9 principles of good practice for community campus partnership formed to reduce underage drinking and irresponsible behavior of individuals under the influence of alcohol.

Three primary forms of data were collected: background data, 22 individual interview and participants observations. The data provided information about the formation, evolution and sustainability of the partnership.

The findings revealed that highly successful 11 years partnership in the study met all 9 principles of good practice. The researcher also discovers the 10th principle. The partnership is a community campus partnership which emerged as one of the most important findings. This study provides new opportunity for group theory and partnership principles by offering practical application for community campus partnerships to successful form and sustain over time.

'A description of the components of the middle school model that hinder or facilitate the successful transition of the emotional & behavioral disordered students into a regular education environment: A single case study' was done by **Clyde** in 2004. The purpose of this study is to explore which components middle school program, as a supportive environment, promotes the social and emotional competencies of the E.B.D. students. The researcher designed a single case study to obtain the perception of the middle school team, identified transitioning E.B.D. Student, & parent.

The results of this study showed that the middle school environment participating in this study did have the capacity to support the transition of an E.B.D. Student. The middle school component that had the most impact on the transitioning process was: Developmental approach to discipline, Support of intellectual development, Equity of outcomes, Climate & organization, Relationship learning/ Interpersonal context & Grade level training.

Objectives of the Study

(a) To study the genesis of "BACPHAN" with special reference to : - It's history - Area & target population - It's objectives Curricular practices (b) To Study & analyze the status of parental participation in BACHPAN. (c) To suggest some strategies to enrich parental participation in BACHPAN.

Methodology

Methodology of qualitative research was adopted by the researcher. The population for the study is all the institutes which are working for special children & the sample is "BACHPAN Day Care Centre" situated in Lucknow district of Uttar Pradesh. Tools applied for data collection were related documents, self made interview schedule for Principal, self made interview schedule for Teachers, self made interview schedule for Parents. All the seven teachers were interviewed and 45 parents (15 each of visually impaired, hearing impaired and mentally retarded) were interviewed.

Research Outcomes

Research outcomes are given as follows.

A) The first purpose of the study was to explore information regarding history, target population, objectives and curricular practices being used in BACHPAN. On the basis of data collected, following information gathered.

(1) The institute had been started as a pilot project on 2nd of October 2004. After this seven more branches were opened in different districts till early 2007. This school was started as a program under the scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan by the department of Disabled Welfare. (2) BACHPAN was started keeping in view of the disabled children of age group between 3-8 years. So all the students of this age group having visual, hearing and mental disability are the target population for the institute. (3) The major objective of the institute is to provide pre-primary level of education to these children so that they can be well fit in normal school at later stages. (4) It was found that institution provides proper individual attention to each Child. First of all they arrange full medical check up for each child. After that in starting they give more emphasis on psychomotor training so that the child could use their remaining senses up to the maximum extent. Proper emphasis on cognitive training was also given. There are different teachers for cognitive training of visually