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Exploring the Role of Parents in Assisting Social Adaptation of Children with Autism in Dhaka City: A Qualitative Study

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Abstract. Autism spectrum disorder is a diversity of developmental differences in behavior, communication and social interaction. The children with autism are different from ordinary children. Therefore, this study aims to explore the present situation of autistic children in Dhaka city and also tries to address the strengths and weakness of autistic children. The study also attempts to figure out the fundamental rights enjoyed by autistic children. Besides, to find out the role of parents to adapt autistic children in society is also a target of this study. To fulfill the objectives this study has been framed with qualitative methods where case study, key informant interviews and focus group discussion have been implemented. The children with autism are the part of a family, a society and a nation. Still they are neglected, avoided, underestimated and even considered as a curse. Their qualities are not evaluated. They are supposed to enjoy some fundamental needs. But these needs are not ensured for them properly. As a result, the parents become the sufferer along with the children with autism. Still they play a pivotal role to assist them for social adaptation in Dhaka City.

Keywords. Autism, Children with autism, Fundamental rights, Role of Parents

Introduction

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) refers to a class of neurodevelopment disorders characterized by deficiencies in social interaction and communication, as well as the presence of behaviors, activities and interests that are repetitive and restrictive (Kocsis, 2013). It is now understood as neurogenesis with significant heterogeneity in terms of specific origin (Jensen & Spannagel, The Spectrum of Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Spectrum of Needs, Services, and Challenges, 2011). In another angle, it is a neurobehavioral condition defined by inadequate and duplicate patterns of social communication and behavior. This lifelong condition is a neurobehavioral condition that affects the functioning of the brain and how people communicate and interact with the people around them (Suborna, Masud, & Hasan, 2021). Actually, autism spectrum disorder is separated from other disabilities which are characterized by repetitive and characteristic patterns of behavior and difficulties in social interactions. In recent years, epidemiological studies have shown rapid increase in the prevalence of ASD. The disease manifests at an early age in children and last for life. (Akhter, Hussain, & Biswas, 2018).

Therefore, autism spectrum disorder is considered to be an umbrella term used to cover a range of difficulties in three main areas of development. The label means difficulty in: 1. Communication skills, 2. Social interaction and imagination and flexible thinking skills. It is a developmental disorder, which means a disorder or impairment that affects an individual during childhood. Hence, the symptoms are usually evident by the age of three (perepa, 2007). Recently, the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) in Bangladesh confirmed that almost 2 in 1000 children have been suffering from ASD in Bangladesh. Wherein, the urban prevalence is higher than the rural area (star, 2023) and in Dhaka city, the common approach towards autism is rarely positive and it is seen as a social obstruction. Even today, all most all believe that autism is a God-given curse and the children with ASDs are born as infatuated by the Devil. Besides, parenting is also accused to be bad. Specially mother get the blame when she goes out to work. Under such a circumstance the families that have children with ASDs frequently experience high levels of stress.

A child with autism may have several symptoms. These symptoms vary from children to children. In Dhaka city, the symptoms have been seen in children with autism are eating non edibles, lack of balanced diet, difficulty in sleeping, insensitivity, susceptibility to allergies, self-injurious behavior, perseverance (doing over and over again) inability to accept change, over activity, severe sensory difficulties indicated by getting very upset with certain types of sensory stimuli, speech and nonverbal communication, making eye contact, understanding expression and feelings, interacting with peers, initiating pretend and imaginary play, sensitivities (sounds, touch, movement, and changes) are remarkable. There is no exact statistical data of the number of children with ASD in Bangladesh, as there is no national epidemiological study on autism in Bangladesh. According to the Ministry of Social Welfare, nearly 1.4 million individuals may have autism in Bangladesh (Rahman, Akhter, Biswas, & Md. Abdullah, 2016). Bangladesh was among the first countries to ratify two most significant global treaties that protect the rights of children with disabilities, one is the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), in 1990, and another one is the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), in 2007 (Bangladesh, 2014).

The National Parliament of the Government of Bangladesh has also taken a number of legislative and policy actions. As a result, two important laws have been enacted, one is the Disability Right Law 2013 to protect dignity and rights to education, physical and psychological improvement, participation, get the national identity card, employment inherited property rights etc. and another one is the Neuro-Developmental Disability Protection Trust Act, 2013, mainly to provide physical, psychological and economic assistance, security and rehabilitation etc. (CRI, 2014).

Though these acts are enacted to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, there is a gap in the implementation and mechanism of these acts in the practical field of Bangladesh to the improvement of person with disabilities as well as ensure and protect their rights (Murshid & Haque, 2020). Besides, the Bangladesh Government provides disability allowance or child disability grants to the children with disability from the low-income family. This disability grant is managed by the Bangladesh Ministry of Social Welfare (National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS) of Bangladesh, 2014). But the reality is children with autism in Dhaka city can rarely enjoy those due to misinformation, miscommunication and maladministration and so on. According to Ackerman (Ackerman, S. Thormann, & Huq , 2005) in the context of Bangladesh, parents who have children with any kind of disability have to face challenges in economic, social and educational dimensions. Parenting a child with a developmental disability influences

a person emotionally, physically, socially, financially and it is a mix of emotions and experiences altogether (Carroll, 2013).

And the experience of parenting a child with a disability/ASD is undeniably stressful (Carroll, 2013). Moreover, the growing and developmental process of an autistic child is very stressful and challenging for the parents (Begum, Islam, & Rahman, 2020). According to (Smith, Oliver, A, & Innocenti, 2001), family, functioning resources and the level of child disability are the two essential elements that are related to parental stress. Furthermore, Parents who have children with autism face huge social stigma (Woodgate, Ateah, & Secco, 2008). Children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in Dhaka city possess some specific strengths as well. These strengths are usually different from the ordinary people. The children with autism in Dhaka city have high stamina, good long term memory, good music, dancing, drawing abilities, performing a learnt task accurately, learning and remembering (facts and remembering), visual problem solving (math problems, puzzles, how things work), following routines and schedules, thinking about the world from a different perspective, leading to innovative and creative ideas or solutions to the problems and decorating rooms respectively.

On the other hand, acute weaknesses have also been seen among the children with autism in Dhaka city. The children with autism are not ordinary. They have some specific problems and the problems are their weakness. Some cannot speak properly, some cannot respond, some do one work over and over again etc. As the children with autism are not ordinary, some fundamental rights should be ensured for them. Some fundamental rights like right to equity and non-discrimination, right to respect for home and family, right to health and rehabilitation, right to quality education, right to protection from exploitation, violence and abuse, right to humanitarian in emergencies, right to participate in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport etc are supposed to enjoy by the children with autism. But the reality is children with autism in Dhaka city can rarely enjoy those due to misinformation, miscommunication and maladministration and so on.

Under this circumstance, parents play a vital role to adapt the children with autism in the society of Dhaka city. Parent-implemented intervention provides a child with the most possible opportunities to learn, since he is learning during his everyday life, each and every day. And because he is learning new things at home with the people closest to him, learning becomes natural, motivating, and fun. When parents and speech language pathologists team up and collaborate in this way, it ensures that a child with autism spectrum disorder learns from the best possible teachers – his parents. When a child is born with autism, a challenge comes to the child as well as its parents. Both the child and parents start fighting against the challenges. Sometimes, some benevolent persons and government help in various ways to ensure the fundamental needs. But, from the beginning to the rest of the life the child and the parents fight to ensure rights and adapt in the society.

Objectives of the study:

The broad objective of the study is to know the current situation, strengths and weakness, the enjoyment of the fundamental rights and the role of parents for the adaptation of the autistic children and the specific objectives are:

- ❖ To explore the present situation of the autistic children.
- ❖ To address the strengths and weakness of autistic children.
- ❖ To figure out the fundamental rights enjoyed by autistic children.
- ❖ To find out the role of parents to adapt autistic children in society.

Methodology

This study has been framed with the help of a qualitative method. Both primary and secondary sources of information have been used in this research. In the qualitative method, semi structured interview questionnaires in case studies and key informant interviews have been used for collecting data. The respondents have replied to multiple answers in almost all questions in their own way. In addition, secondary data was collected from records, published study papers, journal articles, books, newspapers and relevant literature. Moreover, to explore the present situation of the autistic children, to address the strengths and weaknesses of autistic children, to figure out the fundamental rights enjoyed by autistic children and to find out the role of parents to adapt autistic children in society, a specific area has been chosen for the study. The area is Dhaka city. In Dhaka City Corporation both north and south areas were the sampling zone and 50 parents of the children with autism in Dhaka city were asked to collect qualitative data. Moreover, the respondents are irrespective of professions, religions and status.

Literature review of Autism:

In Bangladesh, the general attitude towards autism is mostly negative and it is seen as a social barrier. Even today, autism is considered a God-given curse and children with ASDs are taken as possessed by the Devil. Also bad parenting is accused: mothers going out to work still get the blame. As such the demands of living with a person with autism are great, and families frequently experience high levels of stress. The uniqueness of each individual with autism makes the experience of living with autism different for each family. There is no alternative but to live with autism for such families; but the concern is how better this living can be made. Recognizing and preparing for the challenges that are in store will make a tremendous difference to all involved, including parents, siblings, grandparents, extended family, and friends.

Psychological literature reveal the parental distress and family functioning impacts children in numerous ways, affecting their cognitive, behavioral and social development. Parents of autistic children to be at a higher risk for depression, social isolation and marital discord, this paper highlights the importance as well as the lack of providing psychosocial support to the families of children with autism. In this study authors have illustrated various ways of delivering effective support services for parents (Gupta & Singhal, 2005).

A. H. M. Noman khan & Dr. Md. Anisuzzaman (2011) discussed about educational situation of disabled children in their study on, "The status of un-served children in education children with disabilities in Bangladesh". The purpose of this study was to explore the situation of children with disabilities in education, barriers to inclusion, and the consequences of exclusion & to identify the possible ways and means to overcome the situation. Researcher has identified some efforts to develop complementary policy and legislative measures, extensive motivation and sensitization to the school management. The findings of the study is that, persons with disability are usually left out of development due to inadequate understanding & awareness among the general people and also the people who design the manage developmental programs.

Hossain and Islam (2008) edited a study "Disables people in Bangladesh challenges for society and family". The purpose of this paper is to identity the challenges faced by the disabled people in urban Bangladesh. The paper shows that because of the various kinds of disabilities and for the lack of opportunity, the economic condition of the disabled people is miserable. As a result they face a lot of problems in both family and social lives. They also found that most of the disabled people cannot contribute their family economically, other non-

disabled members make a cutting remark and do not consider their opinion in many aspects moreover family members are quite reluctant to take the disabled people in any social function. For these reasons disabled people feel loneliness and seized at depress. Researcher identifies that disability. Person is deprived in society. The findings of this study are bridging the gaps between disability research and public development planning, policy and development programs in Bangladesh.

In this article “Current status of service centers serving Autism Spectrum Disorder in Dhaka city” written by K N Chowdhury, et al. (2014) mentioned about the present situation of ASD in service centers. They find out that, due to lack of trained professionals people are unable to reach autistic children & there are no good educational opportunities for autistic children and no curriculums for training of teachers of autistic children by government & private institution. According to this study, late diagnosis of autism in children occurs due to poor awareness regarding autism among many doctors. Author suggests that children with autism are special needs students; they have right to the services and supports as specified in their Individualized Educational Program (IEP). In this study researcher find out some limitations such as- autistic children are deprived from many facilities, limited machinery and tools for the autistic children & the center, lack of social awareness (Chowdhury, Rahman, & Haque, 2014). In 1943, Leo Kanner officially stated that, as a diagnosis of autism spectrum is a clinical disorder at this time. Autism was extremely rare in about 2-4 out of every 10,000 children are being diagnosed. Before this recognition, there were kids are often classified as emotionally disturbed or mentally handicapped

Many primary care physicians are uncomfortable making a formal diagnosis on the autism spectrum, preferring to refer to a pediatric psychologist, developmental pediatrician, or pediatric neurologist for further assessment (Jensen & Spannagel, *The Spectrum of Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Spectrum of Needs, Services, and Challenges*, 2011). As children with autism become more involved in inclusive educational programs, educators are increasingly concerned about creating classroom communities that allow all children with autism to be accepted and accepted as members of their class. However, the inclusion of children with autism in the inclusion classroom does not guarantee that they will be acceptable, valued and included (Piercy, Wilton, & Townsend, 2002). Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a complex neurodegenerative disease class characterized by social disabilities, speech impediments, and limited, recurrent, and similar behaviors. It is a disease of the brain that usually affects a person's ability to communicate with others. ASD-type disease usually begins in childhood and lasts until adulthood. Consists of a combination of these symptoms Communication, socialization, behavioral and interest barriers as well as minimal social skills (Weiss & Lunsky, 2011). Parents often feel anxious about their autistic child. Because children with autism cannot communicate with their parents easily and fluently that's why parents have to feel their responsibilities and fulfill their needs.

Apart from parents, siblings in the family are also very much affected by autism. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that siblings do not understand autism diagnostics well, so these sensitive issues need to be resolved with the help of experienced and expert people, including eliminating their problems. Typically, parents inform their other children about their autism siblings, so that they show more empathy and gain more knowledge for their autism siblings (Tanaka, Uchiyama, & Endo, 2011). Parents can take some strategies to take care of their children with autism. These strategies can be, 1.No matter how exhausted you are, get your child out in the community. 2. Join a parent group and/or your school district's special education PTA. 3. If you can afford it, hire an advocate to check out your child's school

program. 4. If possible, volunteer at school functions or offer to be a class mom. This is a great way to get to know your child's teacher and your school's administrators better. 5. No matter how difficult your child can be, take any offer of babysitting you can and get out. 6. Now that your child's program is set tackle the big issues one at a time- perhaps it's sleeping, or eating, or potty training. 7. Educate your friends and family as to what's going on in your household. 8. Make those doctor appointments for yourself that you've been putting off. Just do it. 9. Get involved in an autism walk in your community. It is so powerful to meet so many families like (and unlike) yours. It will give you strength. 10. I can't stress this one enough- take care of yourself, not just your kid. Autism is a marathon, not a sprint. You owe it to yourself and your child to be whole, healthy, and happy. Do whatever it takes to get there.

Finding of the study

The search for a comprehensive understanding of and effective treatments for autism has never been more intense, with new information appearing daily. As knowledge expands, however, it is essential to recognize the broad spectrum of families, communities, and cultures in which these individuals live and the unique challenges that exist related to cultural, racial, ethnic, religious, or other differences (Jensen & Spannagel, *The Spectrum of Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Spectrum of Needs, Services, and Challenges*, 2011). Through interrogation from the parents of the children with autism several issues have been explored. Thus the present situation of the autistic children in Dhaka city, the strengths and weakness of the children with autism, the nature of enjoyment of the fundamental rights of the autistic children and the role of the parents of the autistic children to adapt in society in the Dhaka city have been come into light.

The present situation of the autistic children

The current situation of the children with autism in Dhaka city is worst. When a child is born with autism, is not welcome warmly. Rather the child comes in the world with some challenges for itself and its parents as well. The challenges start from the family to everywhere. From the respondents the issues have been come out about these challenges are:

The challenges of autistic children in the family

Autistic children face difficulties in many ways to interact with family members, neighbors and peers. The family members of an autistic child feel stress for the child. The parents are often worried and face a numerous problems as a parent of an autistic child. Sometimes the autistic children are considered to be a curse. The family members show less interest to introduce the autistic children to others. A father of boy with autism has let us know about it,

"It is very embarrassing for me when I take my son at any social occasion like birthday party, wedding and others or even to doctor. They treat with us differently. As a result, without emergency I try to keep my child at home. I can understand that for it, he cannot know about the outer world. Still I have nothing to do. I feel very helpless." - (Abdur Rahman, father of Raju, Mirpur-Dhaka)

For children with autism, Misunderstandings between the parents is also a common phenomenon. Sometimes the relatives blame the parents of autistic children. The worst sufferer is the mother. Even the father blames the mother for the children with autism. Mother has to

face the threat of separation or divorce as well. Someone gets divorced as well and someone stays in family like a servant. The mother of an autistic child named Aklima said,

“Limon is my first child. When he was 5 we noticed him as an autistic child. My husband and family members blamed me for this. My husband was dissatisfied with him and left us. I used to work in others house. What is the fault of my son? He can't mix with others in the society. I had to change my house many times.”

Apart of her, another mother said,

For Ranu, our conjugal relationship is not good. Her father blames me. I have given birth to Ranu. She is a girl. We are poor, who will marry her. Her father blames me to be separated. I am in this family, not as a housewife but just like a servant. (Rebeka banu, Kallaynpur, Dhaka.)

Autistic children are not welcomed in our society:

It is found that society addresses autism as social problems. It is found in a study that 67.50% household members see it burden where as 6.25 percent shows friendly behavior with them and 7.08% feel pity with autistic children. Nearly 65% of autistic children face obstacle to move to their school and 13% cannot get any help from their classmates. (Md. & Abul Kalam Azad, 2016, pp. 65-76)

Society does not accept the autistic children as normal children. Autistic children are treated as a mad in the society. People keep distant from them. Parents feel difficulty in getting them admitted into the general school. A father of an autistic child named Asif, told about his experiences as follows-

“The main problem with my child is his behavior and he cannot do well in studies. He has not got any chance to get admitted into ordinary school. Neighbors comment bad things about him. Because of him, it is a scary thing to change house every time.”

When the mother of a 13 years old girl, was asked how the neighbors behave with her daughter she replied,

“We are used to hide her because when we take her outside people stare at her like they are looking at a strange thing. Once I took her to a neighbor's house and he physically harassed her. After the incident we left the house.”

Another mother gave her statement as follows:

“My daughter has more problems with speaking and behavior. So, she cannot express her feelings properly. Neighbors look down upon and a neighbor physically assaulted her once. So, we keep her hidden from others and she is not taken to any family functions. (Farjana Hauque, Housewife)

The strengths and weakness of autistic children:

Autism is often misunderstood by the people .But there is a new movement called neurodiversity aims to accept and value these differences of autistic child and makes them special. Every child is unique. The children with autism are also unique in some certain areas.

Though they may struggle in some areas, they have some strengths and abilities. The children with autism have their own needs, weakness, strengths, personalities.

Strengths in Autism:

Many Children on the spectrum have fantastic memory skills. Many people call it as a photographic memory. They are able to remember any number or code from many years ago. Young people can solve pass codes for phone and tablets easily. Besides, Autistic children can focus on details. They can find any mistake easily. Many companies sometimes hire those on the spectrum because they can look at anything and find errors quickly.

About it a mother of child with autism told,

My son can keep in mind all. Even his observation is also very impeccable. He observes who have come to visit us and what the visitors told. After a long time, he can recall and tell everything. - Sohana, mother of Rudro, Mohammadpur, Dhaka

Children with autism are honest and they usually say what they actually mean. It can be considered as a good quality. Apart from it, these children always try to function in a timely manner. They like to do things punctually. They tend to be visual learners. They can easily remember things from cartoons, pictures, videography etc. (Super Simple, 2019)

When the parents were asked about the good qualities of their child, a mother said,

“He likes to speak the truth and wants to go to her teacher timely. He can remember tv programmes and later he can act like the carton actors. He also likes to organize home nicely and wants to keep everything clean. For this reason, his teacher gives him tasks for organizing her home and she pays 200 Taka for this.” (Mamotaz Begum, Housemaid)

Weaknesses in Autism

It is common to children with autism to have difficulty interacting with their peers. They are deemed socially awkward and have a problem of making friends. Besides, they may get stick with routines developed for them. They like to eat same foods regularly, wearing same outfits every day. Moreover, they also experience sensory sensitivities. In noisy place they may experience emotional distress. Apart from, children with autism become obsessed, focused and fixated specific topics or subjects. There may be recurring topics they talk about, such as cars, dinosaurs, animals or spots. (AUTISMSTEP, 2022)

Parents were also inquired about the weakness of their child. A mother said,

“Asif cannot speak well. He cannot mix with people. He does not like to eat homemade food. He likes to eat fast food like chips, chocolate burgers etc. consequently he is getting fat day by day. Another problem is that he does not e change his dress. He prefers to wear same dress everyday” (Safura Khatun, Housewife)

Most of the autistic children face problems with social interactions.

Another mother shared the saddest story of her son, ‘My son does not stay at home. When he gets any scope, he flees from the room. He starts running without any destination. He

cannot keep roads and address in memory. So we are always afraid of him. Moreover, he likes to enjoy and talk about the ghost, demons and dreadful animals. (Rupa, housewife, Dhaka)

The fundamental rights enjoyed by the autistic children:

Bangladesh provides various fundamental rights for the disabled children and people with ASD. Historically, individuals with autism have faced discrimination and barriers that have denied their full human and civil rights. The autistic children must enjoy following rights-

- ❖ Right to equity and non-discrimination
- ❖ Right to respect for home and family
- ❖ Right to health and rehabilitation
- ❖ Right to quality education
- ❖ Right to protection from exploitation, violence and abuse
- ❖ Right to humanitarian in emergencies
- ❖ Right to participate in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport. (Situation analysis on children with disabilities in Bangladesh., 2014)

Most of the parents are not aware of the rights of autistic children. Awareness of rights is the main requirement for pursuing and achieving rights. Autistic children cannot take part in religious and cultural programmers. When the parents were asked if any facilities are gotten from government or any organization, a father replied,

“We did not get any help from the government and other organization. But a magistrate has just bought a wheelchair.”

Another mother named Rowsanara begum said,

“We have gotten a golden card and 2500Tk for three months. We didn’t get any help from other organization. This amount of money is very insufficient for our maintenance.”

Autistic children are deprived of different kinds of supports:

Autistic children deprived of various kinds of supports like information support, financial support, and general treatment support, ordinary education support etc. The contribution of government for the autistic children is not sufficient. When the teachers of the autistic schools were asked about their education, they reported the high cost of education in that school. Even the parents are not aware of the fundamental needs of their children.

When the parents were asked if their children get any healthcare support, a mother replied,

“I took my child, in the health care centre and hospital. Truly speaking, I have not observed sufficient equipments and well trained doctors and nurses those who will be good for my child’s mental health.” Helena Bagum, mother of Rotna, Kollaynpur, Dhaka.

Another mother shared her opinion about threat for her child,

“No treatment is going on due to lack of money. How even common illness such as fever and cold are seen by doctor.” (Mamotaz Begum, housemaid)

Beside treatment, the respondents were asked about the education facilities for their children with Autism. One mother informed that,

“I went to an ordinary school with my daughter, Bristi. I tried to get her admitted. But the other students of her class make a laugh at her, irritate her. For that reason, the teachers are also disturbed. Indirectly they do not want to get her admitted there. They do not want to disturb many other students for only my daughter Bristi. I also went to other schools which are for special children. But it is a matter of sorrow that these schools are also not good for her with special curriculum, structure, suitable environment and good teachers”. Shekh fazlul karim, father of Bristi, Mohammadpur, Dhaka

The role of parents to adapt autistic children in society:

The role of the parents to adapt the autistic children in society is very important especially when the difficulties in behavior and communication and social interaction appear in. Families having children with ASD face many challenges, still move on for social adaptation.

About this, a father says,

“I heard about autism in my student life. When I came to know my daughter is an autistic child. I started facing a huge problem. Still I have kept myself cool and I consulted with a doctor, I inspired her to mix with other children so that she can learn from them. Difficulty has grasped me; still I cannot keep it aside. I am trying my level best. Treatment is going on. We believe that she will recover soon.”(A.K.M Samsuzzaman, Government jobholder)

Parents, especially mother of the children of autism believes that their children despite having autism can do everything like ordinary children. Their faith is their strength to take care of their children. They move on in spite of huge problems.

Another respondent says,

“My son is the gift of the Almighty. The almighty is the best considered and master planner. He has sent my son in my womb. So, I cannot neglect my son as he is not ordinary. Though I have to face a lot of problems from everywhere, I am trying my level best to take care of him so that he can do everything like others”. (Rehena Morshed, dhaka)

Conclusion

Autism is an extending developmental disorder that growing in our world. Dhaka city is not exception of it. But the parents are playing a vital role in assisting social adaptation of children with autism. The study explores the parental role in details where the present situation of the autistic children, the strengths and weakness of autistic children, the fundamental rights that are supposed to enjoy by autistic children and the role of parents to adapt autistic children in society are included.

The study finds the current situation of children with autism in Dhaka city is very deplorable. They face a lot of problems. Negligence, avoidance, melancholy, underestimation and so on are common scenario. They are treated like a curse of their parents. Their parents also face massive problems socially, culturally and mentally. Sometimes these problems become an issue of divorce and separation between the parents. The mother becomes the worst sufferer when she is victim to the threat of separation and divorce from the father. If not divorce and separation the mother has to tolerate all like a culprit.

Besides, the study reveals several strengths and weakness of the children with autism. In strengths, excellent memory skills, attention on details, honest and direct communication, often punctual and thrive with routine, rule oriented and visual learners are remarkable, In weakness, strained social interactions, routines, restrictive and repetitive habits, sensory sensitivity, sensory sensitivity are notable.

The study discloses that the children with autism don't get sufficient support and their fundamental needs remain unfulfilled. Though the children with autism are supposed to enjoy the right to equity and non-discrimination, respect for home and family, health and rehabilitation, to quality education, protection from exploitation, violence and abuse, humanitarian in emergencies, participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and so on, these are met up due to insufficient equipment, improper curriculum, maladministration, miscommunication and so on.

The study figures out the core role played by the parents of the children with autism in assisting social adaptation. The study shows that parents suffers miserably, quarrels each other feels melancholy, still fights against ongoing social attitude, negligence, avoidance for their children's adaption in society. Parents play a vital role in socialization of children with autism by involving them in various activities. There is a lack of initiatives from the government and other organization. So, autism is considered and remained as a social problem. The challenges experienced by the autistic children can be minimized by increasing social awareness and through the involvement of the government beside the pivotal role of parents.

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