



HOW WE LANDED IN OLD AGE HOME: A CASE STUDY

Mr. Thirumalesha Babu T. R.¹ and

Dr. Sandeep Kadirudiyavar²

¹Research Scholar in Sociology,
Research and Development Centre, Bharathiar
University, Coimbatore and Assistant Professor of
Sociology, Government First Grade College,
Koratagere, Tumkur District, Karnataka State.

²Research Supervisor of Sociology, Research and Development Centre, Bharathiar University,
Coimbatore and Associate Professor, Acharya Institute of Management and Sciences, Peenya,
Bangalore, Karnataka State.



ABSTRACT:

Aging was a stage of respect in earlier days which has turned into curse due to lack of time and willingness among children to take care of their parents is normal phenomenon in contemporary society in the country. Apart from this challenge in the families, due to self-preferences and lack of compatibility among married couples, children are increasingly becoming victims due to dissolution of marriage, subsequent remarriages and remarriage. The children of re married couple and their compatibility issues complicates sometimes peace of mind in the family.

KEYWORDS: *Compatibility, attitude, psychosomatic, backdrop, bondage, financial, assertiveness.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Physical challenges of aging starts encountering in earlier 60s due to factors including malnourishment, poverty, (Gulzar, F., Zafar, M. I., Ahmad, A., & Ali, T., 2008) The elderly face a wide range of traumatic situations including loneliness, anguish (Salahuddin & Jalbani, 2006) In addition to those there is a responsive aspect of elderly which entails attitudes, self-perception (Ayranci and Ozdag, 2005; Muhammad et al., 2009) and psychosomatic capabilities about self and the world. Old age offers varying meanings in different societies while the aging process is also not uniform for all individuals.

The study was carried out with the objective to understand the reason for parents of remarried couples landing in the old age home even though financially they are sound and the daughter in law of both the couples were wanted them at their home with their children to play and enjoy their life.

A pair of aged couples was interviewed to elucidate the causes for their exit from the company of their son and daughter in law. The emotional, perceptual, societal aspects were studied for the said couple. Human perception varies from situation to situation. Understanding human expectations in the backdrop of changed priorities in the personal life increases the dynamism within the family and subsequently it conflicts human relationship. We find ample number of studies regarding aging and physical, psychological, social, financial, emotional aspects in the country. But the Peculiar cases of grandparents stuck between the broken first marriage of their children and subsequently they remarrying and living with their own child from the earlier family then having another baby of their own is a challenging emotional bondage for elderly grandparents. In the western countries we may find lot of incidents of "your child, my child and our children" however the culture of parents staying along with their children after their children's marriage is not prevalent. So the grandparents need not think

of emotional conflict of care taking of a child which has no blood relationship with them. But in India husband with a single child and wife with a single child remarrying and having another child living along with their grandparents put forth lot of blame games and challenging tasks towards grandparents. Because in our country it is expected that when son and daughter are working the grandparents are expected to take care of their grandchildren and we supportive for the working couples.

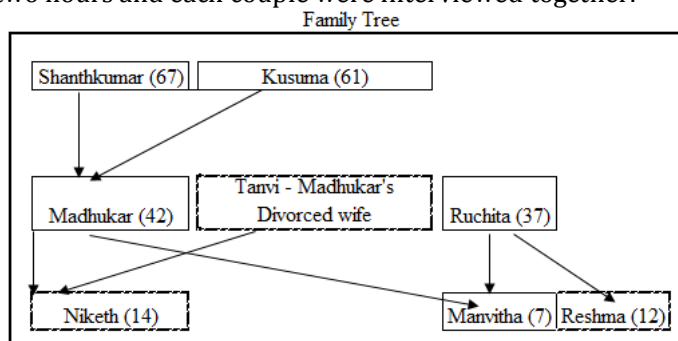
II. LITERATURE REVIEW

There is a clear shift from the joint family system, where family played the role of many social institutions, to a nuclear family system where specialized services in the society are required. **(Faisal Bashir 2017)** Their understandings are composite and are sturdily impacted by issues like cultural lookout, the assertiveness of family, financial comfort. Some studies show that, the culture is in a temporary phase, changing from joint family system to the nuclear. The tradition of joint family in the culture of Indian society is disappearing slowly, which was based on the love, affection and tradition. **(Yadav Lalan 2014)**. This switch has obstructed the elderly people harmfully. They are also in the transition phase; these elderly people had evidenced a different culture and family system in which senior citizens were the responsibility of 'the family'. **(Faisal Bashir 2017)**. People have started in believing in "Nuclear family" rather than combined or joint. **(Yadav Lalan 2014)**. *Government efforts are increasing rapidly in the field of contemporary, social, economic, public interest and other factors to reduce maltreatment against the old citizens. (Yadav Lalan 2014).*

Unlike this study many other studies have carried out have revealed that the purpose of them getting on to old age home are negligence due to their children. A research carried out by Yadav Lalan from Barkatullah University states in his study on **A sociological study of Old persons residing in an Old age Home of Delhi, India** There are 16 males and 24 females, majority at them were Hindu 70%, were from upper Castes 90% rest are Muslim, Sikhs, Christians and other backward classes and schedule Caste. Almost 12% of the residents of old age home are illiterate or never been to school. 52% of aged livings in old age home are in age group of 71-80 years. 18% of old age home residents enjoyed active married life for more than 40 years and 60 % of residents are widows/widower and without partners in old age home because of death of their respective partners. Various studies have reported that 10-15 percent of elderly population suffer from significant and treatable depression. **(Yadav Lalan 2014)**

III. METHOD

The study was carried out using qualitative methodology. Data was collected using semi-structured in-depth interviews and observations. The sample was recognized purposively. Two elderly parents of Couples who were remarried after their divorce & had child in their earlier marriage and who gave birth to another child were interviewed. The elderly couples who were interviewed had their stay in old age home for more than a year were interviewed. Husband and wife of both the couples were interviewed. Interviews were held in three sittings for both the couples and each interactive session continued was nearly two hours and each couple were interviewed together.



Family demography is explained above in this case study to understand the emotional tantrums which are experienced directly by the grandparents which led them towards out of the family and opted for the shelter in the old age home. Usually in Indian social settings occupants of old age homes are due to their children are not able to take care of them because they are busy in their profession or elderly peoples inability to work, poor health, lack of income, and family attitude of negligence but this case study the respondents have no reasons stated herewith. Only emotional factor driven them out of their son's home as they were sandwiched between the conflict of the child from their son's first marriage and second wife's child further the child of current daughter in law and son.

IV. DISCUSSION

Mr. Shanthakumar aged about 67 years living with his spouse aged about Ms. Kusuma aged about 61 years had person Mr Madhukar currently he is nearly 42 years old. He had a son Mr. Niketh age about aged about 14 years from his divorced wife Ms Tanvi who may be aged 38 years. After his legal separation from his wife he married Ms. Ruchitha, who is nearly about 37 years who had a daughter Reshma aged about 12 years started living in the house of Shanta Kumar and kusuma. From the second marriage Madhukar and Ruchita gave birth to female baby aged about seven years at the time of interview. According to respondent couples nearly 7 years back it was a Happy Family. Son and daughter in law very cordial with the respondents and in the beginning aniket who is the son of madhukar and who had a direct blood relationship with the respondents had great affection with them. Respondent couples new daughter in law's daughter reshma also had compatibility with the respondents. But Reshma had no direct blood relationship with the respondents which was there in their subconscious mind.

From the interaction at the time of interview it was shared by the respondents that, reshma's behaviour or approach has no compatibility to their son whereas unknowingly respondent behaviour might be somewhere not very affectionate towards this girl who was the daughter of their daughter in law but not the daughter of their son. By the second marriage of their son they had second grandchild manvitha who was treated as competitor to Reshma. In the same house there are three children now with whom the respondents share direct blood relationship but a girl reshma was a kind of outsider for the respondents. As stated by the respondents they made deliberate attempts not to make any sort of discrimination in comparison with other two children who had direct blood relationship with the respondents. According to them, they had a guilt always that they are not doing equal justice 3 kids.

Family with no financial challenges, conflict between son or daughter in law or within them led towards the old age home is quite surprising. Respond in couples had guilt within them according to the statement the made at the time of interview. They were making deliberate attempt to treat they all three grandchildren equally but there was no compatibility between grandchildren. They always went on picking up arguments and exchange of high voltage emotional blames in connection to the treatment of grandparents towards them. Several times reshma categorically told, "I am not your phone grand daughter so you don't be equal attention that you are paying to Niket and Manvitha". Respondent elderly couple have not expressed this objection statement of their daughter in laws daughter because it may hurt her. Similar kind of approaches and blames subsequent arguments between the direct bloodletting grandchildren and singled out granddaughter reshma.

Most of the time the direct arguments went on and on between the children where the respondent grandparents were just audience and could make no claim to control because they will also the reason for all this happening which was out of the control. They could not even express this the son or daughter in law who is extremely taking care of the respondents well-being, happiness and health. The respondents is sandwiched between defect of direct blood relationship and the daughter of their daughter in law whom they were treating equally as long as they claim that they meet no discrimination. All three children where managing there these type arguments kept secret from their parents. Their parents were not aware what is happening at home.

Within the family and especially the perceptions between the grandchildren regarding their grandparents feelings and responses as perceived buy the three kids where deliberated time and again

which has ruined totally the atmosphere of the house. The deliberations and arguments were referred to the respondents - where they are the reason for all the perceived feelings of negligence, discrimination and what not of the grandchildren has suffocated and their survival in the family. There was exchange of gift between the kids or at the time of festival but in the absence of their own parents partiality flavored comments were made in reference to the grandparents which made them to take a decision of moving out of their lovingly daughter in law and sons residence which is a unique case in Indian societal context. When a perception is not managed in the family appropriately, or when family members talk according to their will and wish without empathizing others emotions, feelings similar kind of suffocation would take place and aged hearts bleed emotionally and take up a drastic decision of moving to old age homes.

Many studies have been carried in Indian social settings which has revealed economic factors and availability of person at home, issues of compatibility between family members have driven elderly citizens out of their residence. Some To conclude, human perceptions are totally related to a person's perceptual capacity and personal priorities. In this case study elderly parents are sandwiched between direct blood relative grandchildren and the Grand daughter who is the result of "marriage of convenience". The perception of guilt, uncomfortability within the family where there is no financial challenge or no difference of opinion between son and daughter-in-law has taken them to take the decision of moving to old age home. Said elderly parents have anticipated blame from the daughter of their daughter in law and also the precaution they have taken not to be part of any blame game between their grandchildren. In this entire case study the respondent couples have expressed their high level of compatibility and compatibility with their son and daughter in law. The respondent elderly parents where financially sound and educated have taken the decision of self sustainability being staying away from refurbished family of their son. families might be having different challenges like family dispute connected to financial concerns might have been ruined the relationship within the family.

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Research Scholar in Sociology, Research and Development Centre, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore and Assistant Professor of Sociology, Government First Grade College, Koratagere, Tumkur District, Karnataka State.