

Elderly Abuse in Rural and Urban Areas of Guntur District - A Comparative Study

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ABSTRACT

"Beautiful old people are works of art!". There is still time for us to help the 'art' that is our beautiful elders" said by **Eleanor Roosevelt**. Elder abuse is a term referring to any knowing, intentional, or negligent act by a care-giver or any other person that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to a vulnerable adult. Therefore, we can say that mistreatment by the care given to the elderly is a normal thing or phenomenon as the family structure is changed from a joint to a nuclear family. There is no space for elderly people in the family. They are considered a burden and useless, which results, in ignorance of the elderly.

According to the 2011 Census, there are 104 million elderly persons (aged 60 years or above) in India. The proportion of the elderly was 8.6% in 2011 and is rising. Also, the average Indian can expect to live at least 18 years beyond the age of 60, which means the dependency ratio is also rising. In this connection since the elderly abuse is a burning topic there is a great need in studying and knowing the problems of elderly, types of elderly abuse and features of elderly abuse etc. An attempt is made in this paper to Examining the socioeconomic and demographic profiles of respondents of the age of abuse and analysis of responses of elderly people on different types of abuse faced in the study area.

Key words: Elderly Abuse, Problems of Elderly abuse, Features of elderly abuse, legal and welfare schemes for elders.

INTRODUCTION

The occurrence of elder abuse is a widespread societal matter that has implications for the well-being and fundamental rights of numerous elderly individuals globally. Consequently, it is a topic that warrants the consideration and involvement of the international community.

India is experiencing a demographic shift towards an aging population. The current state of aging in India reveals that there is a population of 77 million individuals classified as older people. Moreover, this figure is projected to increase to 177 million within the next 25 years. The average life expectancy has risen significantly over the past several decades, increasing from 40 years in 1951 to 64 years at present. Consequently, individuals today may expect to live around 20 years longer than their counterparts from half a century ago.

Nevertheless, this is not devoid of issues. The current aging situation places significant demands on various dimensions of care for the elderly, including financial, healthcare, and housing considerations.

The enhanced security measures for elderly individuals in India have been increasingly apparent with the advent of the twenty-first century. The increasing longevity of elderly individuals has resulted in smaller and more crowded households, leading to heightened levels of stress within joint and extended family structures. Even in situations where older individuals are living together, they experience marginalization, loneliness, and insecurity as a result of the generation gap and shifts in societal norms and behaviors. The prolongation of life expectancy is accompanied by the emergence of chronic functional impairments, necessitating the adoption of specific strategies by older individuals to effectively carry out basic tasks such as activities of daily living. The conventional practice of women assuming responsibility for the care of elderly family members within the household is undergoing a gradual transformation, as women increasingly engage in activities beyond domestic confines and pursue their professional aspirations. An increasing awareness is emerging among elderly individuals that they are frequently being viewed as a source of burden by their offspring.

MEANING AND DEFINITION OF ELDER ABUSE

Elder abuse frequently occurs within the familial context, with the perpetration mostly attributed to a family member of the elderly individual. This typically encompasses adult children, although the older person's spouse or partner may also be implicated. The occurrence of elder abuse carries significant ramifications for both individuals and society, encompassing severe bodily harm, enduring psychological effects, heightened likelihood of being placed in a nursing home, higher utilization of emergency services, hospitalization, and mortality.

Elder abuse is also called "**elder mistreatment**", "**senior abuse**", "**abuse in later life**", "**abuse of older adults**", "**abuse of older women**", and "**abuse of older men**". Elder abuse can be defined as a singular or recurring act, or the absence of appropriate action, that takes place inside a relationship where trust is expected. This behavior results in hurt or anguish being inflicted onto an older individual. The term utilized by the World Health Organization (WHO) has been derived from a definition proposed by Action on Elder Abuse in the United Kingdom.

According to the available research, the World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that approximately 15.7% of individuals aged 60 years and older experience instances of abuse. It is probable that the prevalence rates mentioned are underestimated due to the underreporting of numerous instances of elder abuse. The global population is projected to witness an increase in the number of individuals afflicted, as numerous countries are currently undergoing a significant demographic shift characterized by a rapid increase in the proportion of elderly individuals. The scope of the WHO definition encompasses a broader range of relationships compared to the concept of 'family violence'. It recognizes that relationships based on trust extend beyond the confines of the traditional notion of 'family' and the specific set of relationships outlined in the Terms of Reference. Nevertheless, there exists a strong correlation between elder abuse and family violence. Similar to domestic violence, elder abuse encompasses several forms such as physical, sexual, psychological, or financial mistreatment, typically perpetrated by a member of the victim's own family. Similar to the prevalence of familial violence, existing data indicates that women are more prone to experiencing elder abuse compared to males.

As to the medical lexicon, the phrase "Elder abuse" encompasses a broad range of detrimental actions directed towards an older adult, including but not limited to physical, psychological, emotional, or sexual abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation.

The World Health Organization (WHO) delineated the concept of Elder abuse in the Toronto Declaration on the Global Prevention of Elder Abuse. According to this declaration, Elder abuse encompasses a singular or recurring act, or the absence of suitable action, transpiring within any interpersonal connection characterized by a sense of reliance, resulting in detrimental consequences or emotional anguish for an older individual.

As to the Australian Law Reform Commission, Elder abuse encompasses a range of manifestations, including but not limited to physical, psychological or emotional, sexual, and financial abuse. It may also arise as a consequence of deliberate or inadvertent disregard. This terminology is employed by various governmental and non-governmental entities, and it was utilized in the AIFS research. The provided information will serve as a foundational basis for this investigation. The definition of elder abuse encompasses various components, including the specific act or omission, the presence of injury or distress, the consideration of intention, the identification of the 'abuser' and the nature of the relationship involved, as well as the designation of the victim as a 'older person'. Additional inquiries pertain to the correlation between elder abuse and domestic violence, as well as the intricacies observed within specific contextual settings.

SIGNS OF ELDER ABUSE

The National Center on Elder Abuse encourages people to watch for these signs of mistreatment. (Chart courtesy of National Center on Elder Abuse)

Type of Abuse	Signs and Symptoms
Physical abuse	Bruises, untreated wounds, sprains, broken glasses, lab findings of medication overdose
Sexual abuse	Bruises around breasts or genitals, torn or bloody underclothing, unexplained venereal disease
Emotional/psychological abuse	Being upset or withdrawn, unusual dementia-like behavior (rocking, sucking)
Neglect	Poor hygiene, untreated bed sores, dehydration, soiled bedding
Financial	Sudden changes in banking practices, the inclusion of additional names on bank cards, abrupt changes to a will
Self-neglect	Untreated medical conditions, unclean living area, lack of medical items like dentures or glasses

RISK FACTORS OF ELDER ABUSE

Risk factors for elder abuse include:

Age and Dependency: Older adults, especially those who are frail, disabled, or dependent on others for daily activities, are at higher risk. Dependence can make them vulnerable to mistreatment by caregivers or family members.

Caregiver Stress: Caregivers experiencing high levels of stress, burnout, or substance abuse may be more likely to engage in abusive behaviors. Overburdened caregivers may lack the necessary coping mechanisms.

Family Dynamics: Dysfunctional family relationships, including conflicts, financial disputes, and long-standing tensions, can contribute to elder abuse. Family members may take advantage of older adults in these situations.

Isolation: Social isolation of older adults can increase the risk of abuse as they may have limited contact with others who could intervene or offer support. Loneliness can make them more susceptible to abuse.

Health Consequences of Elder Abuse

The health consequences of elder abuse are serious. Elder abuse can destroy an elderly person's quality of life in the forms of Declining functional abilities, Increased dependency, sense of helplessness, and stress, Worsening psychological decline, Premature mortality and morbidity, Depression and dementia, Malnutrition, Bedsores and Death. The risk of death for elder abuse victims is three times higher than for non-victims.

FEATURES OF ELDER ABUSE

Physical Abuse: This involves the intentional use of force that results in physical harm, injury, pain, or impairment to an older adult. Physical abuse can manifest as hitting, pushing, slapping, or restraining the victim.

Emotional or Psychological Abuse: Emotional abuse encompasses behaviors that cause emotional distress, mental anguish, or degradation. Examples include yelling, humiliation, intimidation, and isolation from family and friends.

Financial Exploitation: Financial abuse involves the unauthorized or improper use of an older adult's assets or funds. Perpetrators may steal money, forge signatures, or coerce the victim into financial transactions.

Neglect: Neglect occurs when caregivers fail to meet an older adult's basic needs for food, shelter, medical care, or hygiene. It can be intentional or due to caregiver negligence.

Sexual Abuse: Sexual abuse refers to non-consensual sexual contact or activity with an older adult. This includes any unwanted sexual advances, coercion, or exploitation.

Abandonment: Abandonment occurs when a caregiver deserts an older adult without arranging for their care or leaving them in unsafe conditions.

Healthcare Fraud: Some forms of elder abuse involve healthcare professionals, where they overcharge for services, prescribe unnecessary treatments, or misappropriate medications.

Isolation: Perpetrators may isolate older adults from their social support networks, preventing them from seeking help or reporting abuse.

Threats and Coercion: Elders may be subjected to threats or coercive tactics to control them or force compliance with the abuser's demands.

Self-Neglect: While not always considered abuse, self-neglect involves an older adult's inability or refusal to meet their own basic needs, which can result in harm to themselves.

CHALLENGES FACING THE ELDERLY

Ageing comes with many challenges. The loss of independence is one potential part of the process, as are diminished physical ability and age discrimination. The term senescence refers to the aging process,

including biological, emotional, intellectual, social, and spiritual changes. This section discusses some of the challenges we encounter during this process. As already observed, many older adults remain highly self-sufficient. Others require more care. Because the elderly typically no longer hold jobs, finances can be a challenge. And due to cultural misconceptions, older people can be targets of ridicule and stereotypes. The elderly face many challenges in later life, but they do not have to enter old age without dignity.

There are numerous challenges faced by senior citizens in India. They can be social, financial, and health-related challenges. Some of them are listed as follows:

Social: As Indian society is advancing towards industrialization, urbanization, and technical and technological changes, as well as being influenced by western education and globalization, senior citizens are increasingly being neglected by the younger generation and they are feeling vulnerable and lonely.

Financial

- Pensions, which in most cases, are not sufficient
- Next-generation who may or may not take care of them
- Increased health-related expenses
- Relocation of the young age population for livelihood leads to neglect, poverty, and distress of the senior citizens
- Inadequate housing facility

Health

- Numerous disabilities among senior citizens due to old age
- Health-related issues like blindness, deafness, mental illness, etc. are highly prevalent among this section of the population.
- Lack of geriatric care facilities in rural hospitals

Poverty

- The poverty rate fell year by year and elder people are facing lots of problems.
- Many social patterns in rural areas like poor wages, no proper shelter, and no proper education for poor people. In terms, they leave their parents in their native and move to other places for searching for jobs or work.
- Poor healthcare and nutritious food. Due to starvation, people are addicted to the health risks of behaviors such as cigarette smoking, alcohol consumption, and drug use, they are realizing the immediate impact of the recession on elderly poverty.

Ageism

- Assisted-living facilities, the effects of discrimination can be more severe.
- Fear losing a job, feeling dismissed by a doctor, or feeling a lack of power and control in their daily living situations.
- Contributing to the household by doing chores, cooking, and helping with child care.
- The elderly began to be seen as an expensive burden. They did not have the strength and stamina to work outside the home. What began during industrialization, a trend toward older people living apart from their grown children has become commonplace.
- Elder is still a part of some cultures. In agrarian societies, a married couple cared for their aging parents.

- Mistreatment and Abuse in household tasks, and sometimes for assistance with basic functions like eating and toileting.

NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Elder abuse may be intentional; the majority of elder abuse is done unintentionally by caregivers with good intentions who become overwhelmed or are incapable of providing appropriate care. Furthermore, not all abuse is perpetrated by another person. Some abuse is due to self-neglect.

There is a lack of interventions developed for the prevention of elder abuse. Most interventions that have been reviewed or evaluated are reactive, that is, they focus on responding to elder abuse rather than preventing it in the first place. Those interventions that have been recognized in the literature related to elder abuse are limited in their evaluation of effectiveness. Voelker (2002) supported that more scientific research is needed as much of the existing literature is anecdotal. Until then, elder abuse will remain an age-old problem brought to light with only a dim flicker. Elder abuse deserves attention so that this problem is illuminated by research that will prevent elder abuse among an aging population and provide more effective interventions for those affected by this plague against our elderly. Aging the globe is one of the biggest challenges faced by the world in the 21st century. From a demographic point of view, population aging is a consequence of both mortality and fertility. Fewer children are born and more people reach old age.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following objectives are framed for the present study:

1. Examining the socioeconomic and demographic profiles of respondents of the age of abuse.
2. Investigate the relationship between socioeconomic and demographic indicators and elder abuse in rural and urban areas and analysis of responses of elderly people on different types of abuse faced in the study area

Research Design: Exploratory and Descriptive Research Designs will be adopted to study the problem of Elderly abuse, the extent of Elderly abuse, and causative factors for Elderly abuse in the study.

Study Area: Mangalagiri Mandal of Guntur District in Andhra Pradesh has been selected for the study. Sample from four villages in the Mangalagiri Mandal jurisdiction are considered as Rural areas and samples from Mangalagiri town are considered as the urban area for the study.

Selection of the sampling: Thus a total sample of 300 (150 males, 150 females) will be selected for the study by using the convenience sampling method through baseline surveys.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Gender-wise analysis of elderly abused

Gender-wise analysis of elderly abused

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	150	50.00
Female	150	50.00
Total	300	100.00

The above table shows that 50% of elderly abused are male and 50% are females. This indicates an inter-generational cycle of older people and poverty. An equal number of males and females participated in the study so that nature, frequency, intensity, and reasons, related to males and females can be studied

broadly. As India increases its population every year the number of older people also increases. The sample consisted of 300 populations (150 men and 150 women) living with their families in a community belonging to the middle socio-economic class family background.

Age-wise analysis of elderly abused

To identify the age-wise profile of the elderly people, the collected data was analysed and presented in the following table.

Age-wise analysis of elderly abused

Age (in Years)	Frequency	Percentage
60 to 65	96	32.0
66 to 70	91	30.3
71 to 75	78	26.0
76 and above	35	11.7
Total	300	100.0

The table clearly shows that 62.3% of elderly abused are aged between 60 to 70 years, and the remaining 37.7% belong to the age group 71 years and above. This implies that elderly people are having some problems. Among the 37.7%, the elderly abused belong to the 75+ age group 11.7% and it is not agreed be less, which can be explained by the fact that they have facing elder mistreatment, and people who are unable to work (because of old age or other problems related to age such as chronic diseases) have to face them as to be a burden for the family. The life of People of the elderly abused in the villages of the marginalized is so tough and even the same appeared in the urban areas though they have expensive health, security, and protection.

Religion wise analysis of elderly abused

The collected data was analysed on the religion of the sample and presented in the following table.

Religion-wise analysis of the elderly abused

Religion	Frequency	Percentage
Hindu	198	66.0
Christian	67	22.3
Muslim	35	11.7
Total	300	100.0

An overwhelming majority (66%) of the elderly abused population in rural and urban areas of the Mangalagiri Mandal are Hindus; whereas 22.3% are Christian and 11.7% are Muslim. It shows that the Hindu population of elderly abused belongs to the state and other minority groups like Muslims and Christians hailed from other parts of the country and a very negligible percentage may be from the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. From the table, it found that the Christian community is more than the Muslim community of elderly abused has more in Mangalagiri Mandal.

Locality of the elderly abused

The collected data was segregated based on one locality of the people of elderly abuse and was presented and analysed in the following table.

Locality of the elderly abused

Locality	Frequency	Percentage
Rural	150	50.00
Urban	150	50.00
Total	300	100.00

From the above table, it shows that 50% of the elderly abused population are from rural and urban areas equally. The survey highlights that locality plays a major factor in this study. An overwhelming majority of the people assumed that elderly abuse is only in the urban locality and it does not appear in rural localities. This study tries to find the gaps between urban and rural localities regarding senior citizens' abuse during their living conditions.

Community-wise analysis of the elderly abused

The data collected from the elderly abused were segregated according to their community and presented in the following table.

Community-wise analysis of the elderly abused

Community	Frequency	Percentage
Open (General) Category (OC)	164	54.7
Backward Community/OBC	77	25.7
Scheduled Caste (SC)	34	11.3
Scheduled Tribe (ST)	13	4.3
Minority	12	4.0
Total	300	100.0

According to the Census 2011, the elderly abused population in India is 104 million (60+ years), consisting of 8.6% of the total population. Whereas in Andhra Pradesh 82,78,241 older people (60+ years), consist 9.78% of the total population. In our study, we make a conscious effort to segregate the caste-wise data of the elderly abused population. However, no caste-wise breakup of Elderly abused census data was found in Mangalagiri Mandal.

The findings reveal that there are 25.7% BC/OBC, 11.3% SC, 4.3% ST and 4% Minorities among the elderly abused population surveyed. It shows that 45.3% of the elderly abused population is a reserved category and 54.7% belongs to the open/general caste. This demonstrates that most of the disadvantaged communities are deprived of basic human rights and lives in extremely vulnerable condition. Apart from economic factors, social factors such as discrimination and stigma faced in native villages could be a reason for elder are not move along with their children and staying at their place. The caste identities of the people also become a huge factor in migration to cities, where the people perceive themselves to be relatively more secure in this regard.

Literacy wise analysis of the People elderly abused

The investigator pooled the data and distributed the sample group of the elderly abuse population in terms of their literacy status and presented it in the following table.

Literacy-wise analysis of the elderly abused

Literacy Status	Frequency	Percentage
Illiterate	137	45.7

up to class 5	94	31.3
6th to 10th class	56	18.7
college education or Diploma	5	1.7
Higher education	8	2.6
Total	300	100.0

The above table highlights that 54.3% of the elderly abused population is literate. Out of the total sample, 45.7% are illiterate, and 31.3% of the elderly abused are studied up to class 5; 18.7% are between class 6th to 10th. It's also found that 1.7% of the population are completed a college education or Diploma, and 2.6% are completed higher education.

Marital Status of the elderly abused

The investigator analysed the marital status of the elderly abused population and presented it in the below table.

Marital Status of the elderly abused

Marital Status	Frequency	Percentage
Married	118	39.3
Widowed	96	32.0
Divorced	65	21.7
Separated	9	3.0
Alone and not having anybody	12	4.0
Total	300	100.00

Above table indicates that the married elderly abused are 39.3% of the sample. The rest 60.7% are either living alone or without their spouse. Out of them, 32% are widowed, 21.7% are divorced, 3% are separated, and 4% are either alone or not having any blood relationship. This shows that the collected sample of elderly people is even staying alone or staying with others and are facing abuse from the persons with whom they are associated.

Occupation of the elderly abused

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Casual worker or Skilled worker	114	38.0
Self-employee or employer	87	29.0
Working in a private job	54	18.0
Retired Govt. Employee	10	3.3
Not working due to ill health	29	9.7
Do not do any work or do domestic work	6	2.0
Total	300	100.00

Above table indicates that 38% of the elderly abused population are working as casual workers or skilled workers; 29% are managing themselves as self-employed or employer; 18% are doing jobs in a private organization; 3.3% are retired from government service; 9.7% are presently not doing any work due to

their ill health; and 2% are don't engage any type of above-mentioned works and just they are doing domestic work because of isolate or other reason.

Children/Family members of the elderly abused

The collected data were analysed about knowing the children and family members of the sample group of the elderly abused population and presented in the following table.

Children/Family members of the elderly abused

Having Children / Family members	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	190	63.3
No	110	36.7
Total	300	100.00

From the above table, it revealed that 63.3% of the elderly abused populations are having children or family members. 36.7% population are as isolates and they don't have any blood relations as of now. Among them, some are divorced, living alone, widowed, or do not know about their family members too. It shows that the Mangalagiri mandal authority can take a study on these isolates and trace their blood relatives with some identification mechanism with technology and bring them back to their relatives.

Living arrangements of the elderly abused

The investigator wants to know to describe clearly the living arrangements and profile of the sample group of the elderly abused population and presented the collected data in the following table.

Living arrangements of the elderly abused

Living Arrangement	Frequency	Percentage
Alone	54	18.0
With Spouse only	64	21.3
With family members	62	20.7
With relatives	36	12.0
With friends or unknown persons	84	28.0
Total	300	100.00

The above table accentuates that 18% responded that they are living alone; 21.3% are living with a spouse only; 20.7% are staying with family members. Besides 12% of the People of the elderly abused population are living with their relatives but not with any members, and 28% of them are living with their friends or unknown relatives. This information when matched with table 6.7, is even married and alone older people also residing either with their family members or close relatives or with friends.

Responses of the elderly abused on who abused you more?

In general, the elderly population is facing abuse from family members or relatives in one or another situation due to time to time cultural and societal changes occurring in the society. Due to that young generation are not caring the old generation. To know whether it may be a reason for the abuse or not, the investigator collected the information on the statement, and the data were segregated according to their responses and presented in the given table.

Responses of the elderly abused who abused you more?

People who abused you more	Frequency	Percentage
Spouse	119	39.7
Children/ Daughter in Law or Son in Law	91	30.3
Grandchildren	48	16.0
Relatives	14	4.7
Co-workers	4	1.3
Friends or Neighbours	11	3.7
Caregivers or Help providers	5	1.7
Strangers	4	1.3
Others	4	1.3
Total	300	100.00

From the above table, it is observed that 39.7% of the elderly abused population of the sample group are got abused by their life partner either in one way or another as in the cases of family matters. On the same side, 30.3% responded that the abuse was faced by their Children (son or daughter) or Daughter in Laws or Son in Laws who are staying along with them due to not having support from their spouse. 16 % of the respondents felt that their grandchildren treated them like they do not know anything or their behavior is not supported them or sometimes they scold them in terms of abusive language.

In urban areas, generally, we saw a lot of elders are more dependent on drivers, cooks, housekeepers, and watchmen because their children are busy with their work and well-settled in other places and seldom come back to see and meet them, as they think that their responsibility by sending money can be finished and in homes, they have been ill-treated by the help providers.

In rural areas, most of the elders are depends on their neighbors, relatives, caregivers, and others because their children are going to agriculture or daily work. No one is looking after them at the home.

The tradition of violence prevails in the family leading the socialization process in a negative and declining direction. Children are learning what their parents are showing and teaching them. This learned behavior deteriorated the future of the nation.

ANALYSIS OF RESPONSES OF ELDERLY PEOPLE ON DIFFERENT TYPES OF ABUSE FACED IN THE STUDY AREA

As we discussed in chapter 1.5, elder abuse is majorly divided into 6 types, and whether these types of abuse work out at the field level or not? To identify this, the investigator added the forms of the types of abuse in the constructed research tool for the study and collected the responses from the sample, and analysed them accordingly.

i. Physical Abuse

To know the various forms of physical abuse faced by elderly people, the investigator collected the information on the statement and segregated it according to their responses, and presented it in the below table.

Various forms of Physical abuse of the People of Elderly People

Various forms of Physical Abuse	Frequency	Percentage
Not Abused	9	3.0
Slapping	127	42.3

Hitting or Kicking	97	32.3
Restraints	44	14.7
Confinement	17	5.7
Giving too much medication or the wrong medication	6	2.0
Total	300	100.00

From the above table, it is found that 42.3% of elderly people are faced physical abuse such as slapping, 32.3% are facing hitting or kicking type of physical abuse, 14.7% are facing restraints, 5.7% are confinement, 2% are faced high medication or wrong medication, and 3% are not facing any type physical abuse.

Significance difference between the opinion of elderly people on different forms of Physical Abuse

Locality	Different forms of Physical Abuse faced						Total	Chi-Square Value
	Not abused	slapping	Hitting or kicking	restraints	confinement	giving too much medication or the wrong medication		
Rural	5	66	45	22	9	3	150	0.872@
Urban	4	61	52	22	8	3	150	
Total	9	127	97	44	17	6	300	

From above table it is revealed that the Chi-Square value between the rural and urban locality of the elderly people of Mangalagiri Mandal on different forms of physical abuse is 0.872 which is less than the table value of 0.01 level of significance. Hence, the hypothesis is accepted at a 0.01 level of significance. It indicates that there was no significant difference between the rural and urban localities of the elderly people of Mangalagiri Mandal regarding different forms of physical abuse.

It was inferred that there is a different opinions of people on different forms of physical abuse. It resulted from the table that the majority of the people opinioned that they are facing physical abuse in the form of slaps, hitting, or kicking mostly and restraints, confinement, giving too much medication, or wrong medication in less form.

ii. Emotional/Psychological Abuse

To know the various forms of emotional abuse by elderly people, the investigator collected the information on the statement, segregated their responses, and presented it in the table shown below.

Various forms of Emotional abuse of the elderly people

Various forms of Emotional abuse	Frequency	Percentage
Not Abused	50	16.7
Blaming or threatening	91	30.3
False accusations	69	23.0
Isolating the elder from friends and	60	20.0

activities		
Humiliating and ignoring	30	10.0
Total	300	100.00

From the above table, it is found that 30.3% of the elderly people are facing emotional abuse in the way of blaming or threatening, 23% are facing false accusations, 20% are facing isolating the elder from friends and activities, 10% are as humiliating and ignoring, and 16.7% are not facing any type emotional abuse.

Significance difference between the opinion of elderly people on different forms of Emotional Abuse

Locality	Different forms of Emotional Abuse Faced					Total	Chi-Square Value
	Not abused	Blaming or threatening	False accusations	Isolating the elder from friends and activities	Humiliating and ignoring		
Rural	21	46	36	34	13	150	3.021@
Urban	29	45	33	26	17	150	
Total	50	91	69	60	30	300	

From above table it is revealed that the Chi-Square value for the rural and urban locality of the elderly people of Mangalagiri Mandal on different forms of emotional abuse is 3.021 which is less than the table value of 0.01 level of significance. Hence, the hypothesis is accepted at a 0.01 level of significance. It indicates that there was no significant difference between the rural and urban localities of the elderly people of Mangalagiri Mandal in the form of emotional abuse.

It was inferred that there is no different opinion of the people on the statement and also given on different options. It is derived from the table that the majority of the people opinioned that they abuse in the form of blaming or threatening, false accusations, isolating the elder from friends and activities, humiliating and ignoring. It says that 50 members out of 300 samples are not facing any type of emotional abuse.

iii. Sexual Abuse

To know the various forms of sexual abuse faced by elderly people, the investigator collected information on the forms of sexual abuse was segregated according to their responses and presented in the table given below.

Various forms of Sexual abuse of the elderly abused

Various forms of Sexual abuse	Frequency	Percentage
Not Abused	249	83.0
Forcing you to take part in conversations of sexual dialogue	42	14.0
Performing activities of sexual nature	09	3.0
Total	300	100.00

From the above table, it is found that 14% of the elderly people are facing different forms of sexual abuse in the way of forcing themselves to take part in conversations of sexual dialogue, 3% are facing performing activities of sexual nature, and 83% are not facing any form of sexual abuse. It shows that

there are very less sexual abuse cases appeared in the selected sample area. Even sexual abuse was seen from the data, but it is a very negligible percentage i.e., 3% of the sample are facing it.

To identify the significant difference between the rural and urban areas of elderly people of Mangalagiri Mandal, Andhra Pradesh on the different forms of Sexual abuse was tested with the Chi-Square test and the results are presented below.

Significance difference between the opinion of elderly people on different forms of Sexual Abuse

Locality	Different forms of Sexual Abuse faced			Total	Chi-Square Value
	Not abused	Forcing you to take part in conversations of sexual dialogue	Performing activities of sexual nature		
Rural	116	26	8	150	8.986**
Urban	133	16	1	150	
Total	249	42	9	300	

From the above table it is revealed that the Chi-Square value for the rural and urban locality of the elderly people of Mangalagiri Mandal on different forms of sexual abuse is 8.986, which is greater than the table value of 0.01 level of significance. Hence, the hypothesis is rejected at a 0.01 level of significance. It indicates that there was a significant difference between the rural and urban localities of the elderly people of Mangalagiri Mandal regarding different forms of sexual abuse.

It is derived from the table that the majority of the people opinioned that they abuse in the form of blaming or threatening, false accusations, isolating the elder from friends and activities, humiliating and ignoring. It says that 50 members out of 300 samples are not facing any type of emotional abuse.

CONCLUSION

The present research study is a piece of work on the problems of elderly people in rural and urban areas of Mangalagiri Mandal of Guntur District. This study presents a mixed method of research on the randomly selected 300 elderly people from rural and urban areas of Mangalagiri Mandal.

Older persons are considered as most revered members of society in our country but treated otherwise when it comes to practical behaviour with older people. Old age is a stage of life that every human being ultimately reaches and it is inevitable. At this time people dread old age but what the youth should be aiming for is to create a world where people do not fear old age as a phase that they consider an inescapable prison but look forward to it as a phase of vacation where they can enjoy and have their loved ones to care of them after decades of having worked so hard and showered their loved ones with care and love. This aim cannot be achieved through administrative means only this requires the people of the society to understand the severity and urgency of the situation to be made known to the masses. The real solutions are not new laws and provisions; the real solution lies with the people themselves. If they start treating the old aged people as if they deserve to be treated with respect and love, then this problem will cease to exist. The Government of India is moving towards Skill India, Health India, and Fit India programmes as well as welfare schemes promoting the public in the country. The government of India and its states also thought to bring 100 percent and ensure that no elderly people are left behind.

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