

Valid and Reliable Tool: Assess the Attitude of Primary School Teachers on Behavioral and Emotional Problems (ATSB) of Children

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ABSTRACT

The foundation of good research and of good decision making in evidence based practice nursing is the trustworthiness of data. The significant qualities in the decision making process in tool construction are reliability and validity. In India, epidemiology and behavioural disorder of children is not studied on form. It is the right time to assess on obstruction that affects normal development of children. The authors described the sequential process of development of attitude scale to assess behaviour and emotional problem of children among primary school teachers. It is a self administered 42 items Likert scale that quantifies 6 aspects of attitude of primary school teachers. The attitude aspects covered are academic Performance, rules and regulations, communication and distractibility, disobedience, aggression and peculiar behaviour. The sequential steps carried out in development of tool are extensive literature review, item construction, item analysis, validity, reliability, and piloting the tool. Tool was submitted for content validity to seven experts and content validity ratio was one. Item analysis was computed. Test retest reliability was computed and item to item correlation computed using chronbach's alpha. The r value was 0.82 which indicate that the tool was highly reliable.

Keywords: Knowledge, Attitude, Primary school teacher, Behavioural problems, Emotional problems, School children, School, reliability, validity.

INTRODUCTION

India has 375 million children, more than any other in the world. There are more children under the age of 14 and above 14 in India than the entire of USA. According to World Health Report 15 % of children have serious emotional disturbance.¹ An epidemiological study conducted by ICMR on child and adolescence psychiatric disorder indicated the overall prevalence of mental and behavioural disorders in Indian children to be 12.5%. mental disorder found as 5 of the top 10 leading cause

of disability among above 5 year age group of children worldwide.² Besides the increase in number of children seeking help for emotional problems, over the years, the type of problems has also undergone a tremendous change.

A study conducted in various different area of India put forwarded the prevalence which range from 1.16% to 43.1 %.

METHOD

Tool development is the crucial part of the entire study. The development of attitude scale took following sequential step.

1. Extensive Literature Review
2. Preparation of blue print
3. Item Construction

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4. **Item Analysis**
5. **Content Validity**
6. **Reliability**
7. **Extensive Review**

Review aids in general idea on the topic which has already been published. The review helps the author to evaluate the topic critically and also categorises and compares scholarly literature and tools which are already exist.³ Books, journals and scientific database such as PubMed, CINHAI, Google scholar etc were reviewed. Similar papers and questionnaire related to measurement of attitude scale for primary school teacher to identify the behavioural and emotional problems of school children were searched and the search was limited to English language only. The most relevant tools reviewed were Teachers Attitude Inclusion Inventory (TAII), Teachers' Sense of Efficacy Scale (TSES), and The Opinions Relative to Mainstreaming Scale (ORMS). The main aim of this large study is to assess the teacher's attitude towards behavioural and emotional problem of children. It is clear after extensive review that existing scales are not appropriate for the aim of the study. Therefore authors develop this instrument, Attitude of Teachers towards Students with Behavioural problems (ATSB scale), after the literature review.

Preparation of blue print

According to Anderson & Morgan (2006) and Haladyna (1999) Blue print follows under development of scale construction.⁴ It gives the foundation and guide in the development of the items.⁵ In this article the behavioural and emotional problems of children being assessed and classify the items into six dimensions i.e., academic Performance, rules and regulations, communication and distractibility, disobedience, aggression and peculiar behaviour aspects.

Blue print followed development of items. (Table 1)

Item selection and development

The items were developed on the basis of blueprint. Item was self administered 42 items Likert scale that quantifies 6 aspect of attitude of primary school teachers given on blueprint. Likert scale is a tool which is used to estimate the psychological aspect such as attitude, opinion and values. In this type of measurement an individual indicate the extent of agree or disagree with

the statement ahead to respond.⁶ This scale ATSB is a five point Likert scale has 42 item. The item in the scale ATSB were critically reviewed by author with help of guide after that it validated by 7 experts.

Content Validity

According to Polit D.F. & Beck C.T (2008) content validity point out the representation of sample which is intended to be computed by the item of the scale.⁷ Content Validity refers to the degree which the item in an instrument adequately represents the universe of content. (Kothari 2004).⁸ The content validity was obtained from three Doctoral degree experts in psychiatry nursing, two psychiatrist one psychologist and paediatrician respectively were taken. Content validity ratio was computed and it is estimated as 0.75 it clearly indicates that the scale is valid. No items were deleted from the instruments and minor revision regarding the clarity or wording of the item were suggested. Those revisions were incorporated into the instrument and the received items were in the subsequent reliability test.

RELIABILITY OF THE ATSB

Haladyna (1999) and DeVon etal (2007) referred reliability as the parallel result with which an instrument measure and it is determine by internal consistency. To establish reliability the ATSB was administered on 30 primary school teachers. After scoring the tool correlation of the test was found by using cronbach's alpha coefficient of reliability formula.

$$\alpha = \frac{N \cdot \bar{c}}{\bar{v} + (N - 1) \cdot \bar{c}}$$

In this study, the internal consistency was measured through cronbach's alpha. It ranges from 0 to 1.

It is simplest method to test the internal consistency of a questionnaire. Internal consistency is the extent to which a group of item measure the same construct as evidenced by how well they very together or intern correlate. A high co relational signals a high internal consistency. Generally a questionnaire with α alone 0.7 is considered reliable. In this questionnaire ATSB, α value of all the item are above 0.7, it shows that the item are positively contribute to the reliability of a questionnaire. The α remain the same when an item is deleted, the average α almost the same and the correlation between

the total score and the item score are high.(Table2 &Table 3)

Description of Final ATSB

The final ATSB scale had 42 items in 6 areas

that is academic Performance, rules and regulations, communication and distractibility, disobedience, aggression and peculiar behaviour. The score which ranges from 1-5 according to the item which is strongly agree, agree, partially agree, disagree, and strongly disagree.

Table 1: BLUE PRINT OF STRUCTURED ATTITUDE SCALE

Sl. No.	Content	Item Numbers	Positive items	Negative items	Total no. of items	Percen-tage
	Academic performance	1-7	6	1	7	16.6%
	Rules & Regulation	8-15	5	3	8	19.04%
	Communication and distractibility	16-20	3	2	5	11.9%
	Disobedience	21-25	2	3	5	11.9%
	Aggression	26-30	3	2	5	11.9%
	Peculiar behaviour	31-42	10	2	12	28.6%
Total			29	13	42	99.94%

Table 2: ITEM TO ITEM CORRELATION

Item No	Scale Mean if Item Deleted	Scale Variance if Item Deleted	Corrected Item-Total Correlation	Cronbach's Alpha if Item Deleted
1	144.74	321.707	.286	.877
2	145.40	318.898	.376	.876
3	145.00	320.327	.358	.876
4	144.98	321.653	.355	.876
5	145.10	315.480	.442	.874
6	145.14	315.225	.529	.873
7	145.02	315.979	.434	.875
8	144.90	328.990	.077	.880
9	145.32	324.059	.180	.879
10	145.54	317.233	.387	.875
11	145.66	305.331	.658	.870
12	145.20	316.898	.331	.876
13	145.58	318.738	.330	.876
14	145.36	312.235	.448	.874
15	145.34	321.290	.315	.876
16	145.64	316.970	.399	.875
17	146.04	315.713	.359	.876
18	145.38	308.526	.568	.872
19	145.80	317.306	.319	.877
20	145.54	309.274	.567	.872
21	145.66	306.188	.660	.870

Cont... Table 2: ITEM TO ITEM CORRELATION

22	145.70	318.622	.333	.876
23	145.40	305.265	.664	.870
24	145.96	313.590	.403	.875
25	146.08	319.014	.270	.878
26	145.32	313.079	.579	.873
27	145.48	319.683	.317	.876
28	145.82	308.396	.514	.873
29	145.84	315.566	.371	.876
30	145.56	313.109	.448	.874
31	145.22	323.808	.191	.879
32	145.04	314.978	.430	.874
33	144.86	325.347	.146	.879
34	145.00	323.184	.186	.879
35	145.54	316.213	.306	.877
36	145.38	328.567	.070	.881
37	145.24	322.472	.255	.877
38	145.62	320.036	.304	.877
39	145.64	314.439	.417	.875
40	145.88	324.312	.193	.878
41	145.58	319.391	.313	.877
42	145.68	329.242	.049	.881

	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Range	Maximum / Minimum	Variance	No of Items
Item Variances	1.128	.612	1.721	1.109	2.811	.058	42

DISCUSSION

ATSB is instrument for measuring attitude of primary school teachers towards behaviour and emotional problem of children has 42 items. The psychometric characteristic of instrument has confirmed from Madhya Pradesh Betul based population of India. Total reliability of ATSB 42 questionnaires was 0.8 using **Cronbach's Alpha**. The findings of this research can be generalised to the population within the inclusion criteria not the people within the exclusion criteria. Therefore authors are suggested to conduct similar studies in different statically population and different cities of India. It also can be applied in other countries.

CONCLUSION

In this article authors have presented sequential steps of development of attitude scale for primary school

teachers toward behaviour and emotional problem among school children. The ATSB is a new tool includes 42 items found useful to assess the attitude of primary school teachers towards behaviour and emotional problem. The ATSB is valid and reliable tool.

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Conflict of Interest – Nil

Ethical Committee—Ethical clearance was obtained from ethical committee of Himalayan University Itanagar Arunachal Pradesh. Prior to the data collection written administrative permission was obtained from school authority. Written informed consent taken from the school teachers before data collection. Confidentiality of the data was ensured through allotment of unique code.

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