

Understanding Aspirations

An Event with the Girls of Balika Grah



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SACHETAN

(Society for Research Education and Training)

Kota

Understanding Aspirations

A Report

Presented to

District Child Protection Society, Kota

by



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Understanding Aspirations

The present report is the documentation of one day event experience with the resident girls of Balika Grah at Nanta Farm, Kota. On the occasion of National Sports Day, Sachetan decided to commemorate the sports day with the girls of Balika Grah (home) and organised a one day event.

The event had two folds- a) celebration of sports day through motivational games and b) establishing a dialogue with girls to know their aspirations and dreams. With this objective a one day workshop was planned for the resident girls. Total 30 girls participated in the workshop accompanied by the counsellor of Balika Grah and Sachetan team members.

Event Outline

The event was conducted through following sessions:

- Introduction
- Ice breaking
- Down the Memory Lane: Open discussion on games we used to play/ popular games of the area etc.
- Drawing the memories
- Relaxing games
- Feedback and Take Away.

Introductory Session

The introduction session was aimed to know the participants name and their period of stay at the Grah. The session was started with brief introduction of Sachetan and the purpose of celebrating the National

Sports day. Further the participants were encouraged to introduce themselves. For this through the index card game all the participants were asked to find their partner and share their details like name, place and stay. Index cards were having one of the paired items depicted on them like rain and umbrella (The girl with the rain card had to found the girl with the umbrella card and in this way they found their partner). After each participant got their partner they shared their details and presented about each other in the larger group.



The stay of the girls was ranged from 14 days to 20 months. There were some new comers as well as longer duration residents also. A sense of hesitation was also felt among the participants while telling their duration of stay in the home. Some older residents were felt quietly adjusted with the environment, culture of the new 'home' and obviously, apparently with the new conditions of the life. All full of hope of new life after the 'home'. The reason of their stay at 'home' was not discussed with them as Sachetan team was already briefed with

the background of the residents by the home counsellor. The introduction session gave all of us an ease to move further with some of the planned activities.

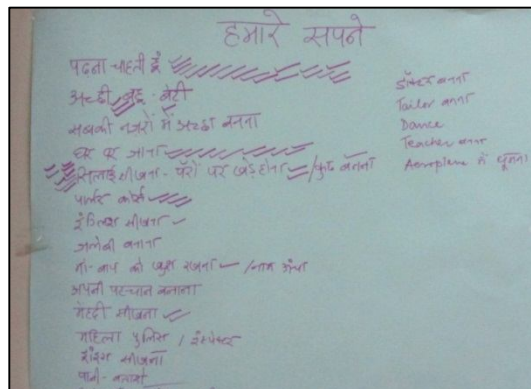
Knowing the Aspirations

The resident girls were led to the discussion that what do they want to do further in their life? What dreams or aspiration do they have? Do they have some plans for their future? It was suggested to them to share their aspirations without thinking the possibility of their fulfilment. The objective of the session was to stimulate them to express their views and feelings and on the other hand to explore the possibilities to design further interventions for the empowerment of resident girls on the part of Sachetan.

The exercise was done within the partners and each shared their partner's any three aspirations to the larger group. One by one the girls started sharing their partner's dreams and aspirations and Sachetan team member started writing them on the chart. The exercise was full of insights and inspired the team members. The most urged aspirations were like;

- Want to study/ to go to school;
- To be a good daughter and *bahu*;
- To go back to home
- To earn reputation and prestige
- To become self-dependent
- To learn skills like stitching, beautician course, mehndi, english speaking etc.

Some other noticeable aspirations were like becoming a doctor, tailor, dancer, lady constable and teacher. Few expressed unique wishes like to eat 'pani puri' and



List of Aspirations

'jalebi' or to travel in airplane. It was noticed that most of the resident girls told about their dreams by saying '**ghar vapas ja kar ye padai pura karna chahati hai...**'.



Discussing their Aspirations

The girls were getting enchanted as the list of dreams and aspirations were coming up. Gaining more respect, love and reputation in the family after going back to their home was also one of the most concerned aspirations. Similarly, eyes were brightened while telling '*acchi bahu aur beti hona chahti hun..*'.

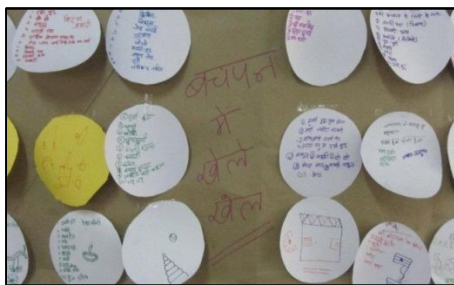
Games We Played

Next session was devoted to refreshing the childhood memories of games which used to be played by the girls. Girls were offered to write the names or draw the games which they used to play often.



Memorising the Childhood Games

It was interesting to know that the exercise cherished the traditional games like rope skipping, *kabbadi*, *langdi-tang*, *satoliya* and



Refreshing the Childhood Games

kankar/patise, ikkal-dukkaal chuppan-chupai etc. The girls shared their experiences and memories of games. They also shared some old games like *baraf-pani* which might be out of knowledge frame of today's children. This was an eye opening exercise too as it came out that there was only one girl who was aware of the names of cricket player like Dhoni and others. In the list of games the name of cricket and football was mentioned by very few girls.

Each participant wrote or drew the games played by them and pasted on a card sheet. They all were excited to know what others had written. They reviewed each other's list and giggled a lot finding the similarities.



Girls Reviewing the List of Games

The girls were now ready to enjoy and play some games. They played innovative games and some relaxing games like balloon dance and blast the balloon which were enjoyed by the girls a lot.



Girls Enjoying Relaxation Game

Feedback and Take Away

It was almost four hours workshop of involvement with girls. A sense of opening with each other had been started. It was the moment of building trust and mutual understanding among all of us. A formal feedback session was taken up and all the participants were requested to jot down their experience of involvement with today's event. The feedback was expression of not only what they felt but also what activities they wanted, should be organised for them in future. The pictorial documentation of feedbacks of some participants has been given as follows-

आज का कार्यक्रम हमें
बहुत अच्छा लगा आप जब हमें कुछ
सीखते हैं तो हमें बहुत कुछ सिखाने को
मिला मुझे बलून डांस मुझे बहुत अच्छा लगा
हम भाव चाहते हैं श्री आगे भी आप आएं
और अच्छी बातें बताएं आपमें हमसे हम
बनौ के बारे में मुझे बहुत अच्छा लगा

हमें आज के कार्यक्रम में
हमें बलून डांस अच्छा लगा और आप
आये हमें अच्छे खेल खिलाएं इसी तरह आप
दुबारा आये और कुछ हमें सिखाने में मारिए
कुकीरूस इंगलिश यज्ञा और भी कोई खेल

(आज का कार्यक्रम)
मुझे बलून एलास्टिक बहुत अच्छा लगा
मुझे मेरे सपने में पढ़ने वाली बात
अच्छी लगी।

मे पढ़ना चाहती हूँ मुझे पढ़ना अच्छा
है सिखाई सिखाना है।
कम भी आप आप हमारे सामील
होते हैं सिखाया था

आज का कार्यक्रम अच्छा
लागा!
कमि वेलुन डाय अच्छा लगा
आप यहाँ आये वहाँ भी अच्छा लगा!
आप फिर आये और अच्छे - अच्छे खेल विषय
सिखें कम इंगलिश पढ़ना सिखाना है।
आम अच्छे कार्यक्रम और अच्छी बातें बताएँ

It was the first interaction of SACHETAN with the inmate girls of the 'home'. As facilitator SACHETAN felt that the inmate girls have desire to have engagement with some new interventions at the short intervals so that they can have value addition in their life; whenever they meet their families after the 'home' they could present themselves as more worth member for the family. This small interaction has led SACHETAN to formulate some more concrete and long term programs (coaching on English, Hindi and Maths, vocational training, soft skill training, healing and spiritual program, recreational events etc.) for the girls so that it could have an impact on their lives and contribution to the society in real sense. SACHETAN wishes to be the part of this endeavour of the government in future with full partnership.

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साप्ताहिक न्याय एवं अधिवारिता विभाग, कोटा
आपका हार्दिक स्वागत है।

