

MENTAL HEALTH AMONG CHILDREN WITH ORTHOPAEDICALLY HANDICAPPED

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ABSTRACT

Orthopaedically handicapped are those who have a physical defect or deformity which causes an interference with the normal functioning of bones, joints and muscles. The types of orthopaedically handicapped people are (a) partial full loss of the upper extremities, unilateral or bilateral, (b) partial full loss of lower extremities, unilateral or bilateral, (C) Congenital deformities like absence of limbs, deformed limbs, (d) Deformities caused by diseases like poliomyelitis and Leprosy. A major problem with the handicapped children is their limited ability to perform ordinary daily activities. They may also experience psychological problems.

The family members should not try to do too much whereas the handicapped persons should feel independent and should be allowed to solve their own problems and make decisions whenever possible. Mental health is the adjustment of human beings to the world and each other with the maximum of effectiveness and happiness. It is the ability to maintain temper and intelligence. Mental health plays an important role in both the way people behave and the way they feel. Emotionally healthy individuals accept themselves as they are. Hence the researcher had made an attempt to study the mental health of children with orthopaedically handicapped using Mental health inventory of V.D. Augustine (1978). The researcher had adopted descriptive design.

KEYWORDS: Bilateral, Congenital, Deformities, Handicapped, Unilateral