

**“A STUDY TO ASSESS THE ATTITUDE TOWARDS CARE OF ELDERLY
AMONG THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN SELECTED SCHOOLS AT
HONAVAR TALUK, UTTARA KANNADA DISTRICT”**

BY

MS. ALEENA SABU

Submitted to



Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bangalore, Karnataka

Under Short term Research Grants for Undergraduate Students of Institutions Affiliated to

RGHUS for the year 2025-26

And

In Partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Bachelor of Sciences in Nursing

Under the guidance of

A Sagaya Arockia Mary



St. Ignatius Institute of Health Sciences,

Honavar, Uttar Kannada

2025-26

DECLARATION BY THE CANDIDATE

I hereby declare that this project titled “A study to assess the attitude towards care of elderly among the high school students in selected schools at Honavar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District” is a bonafide and genuine work to carried out under the guidance of A Sagaya Arockia Mary, Principal, St. Ignatius Institute of Health Sciences, Honavar.

Date:

Signature of the candidate

Place:

Ms. Aleena Sabu

CERTIFICATE BY GUIDE

This is to certify that project “A study to assess the attitude towards care of elderly among the high school students in selected schools at Honavar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District” is a bonafide and genuine work to carried out by Ms. Aleena Sabu under the Short-term Research Grants for Undergraduate Students of Institutions affiliated to RGUHS for the year 2025-26.

Date:

Signature of the guide

Place:

A Sagaya Arockia Mary

Principal

Dept. of Child Health Nursing

ENDORSEMENT BY THE PRINCIPAL/ HEAD OF THE INSTITUTION

This is to certify that the project entitled “A study to assess the attitude towards care of elderly among the high school students in selected schools at Honavar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District” is a bonafide and genuine work to carried out by Ms. Aleena Sabu under the Short-term Research Grants for Undergraduate Students of Institutions Affiliated to RGUHS for the year 2025-26 under the guidance of A Sagaya Arockia Mary, Principal, St. Ignatius Institute of Health Sciences, Honavar.

Date:

Seal & Signature of the Principal

Place:

A. Sagaya Arockia Mary

RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
SHORT-TERM RESEARCH GRANT FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

2025-2026

FINAL REPORT

1. **Title of the Project:** “A study to assess the attitude towards care of elderly among high school students in selected schools at Honavar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District.”
2. **Project code of the Project** (provided by RGUHS):**UG25NUR0608**
3. **Name of the Student, email and mobile number:** Ms. Aleena Sabu,
Email Id: aleenasabu886@gmail.com, Mobile No: 8050733914
4. **Name of the Guide, Designation, email and mobile number:** A. Sagaya Arockia Mary, Professor cum principal, Email Id: dianasra@gmail.com, Mobile No: 7760925504
5. **Name of the Department:** Department of Child Health Nursing, St. Ignatius Institute of Health Sciences, Honavar.
6. **Date of commencement of research activity:**13.01.2026
7. **Date of completion:**14.04.2026

8. Objectives stated and objectives achieved:

1. To assess the attitude towards care of elderly among high school students.
2. To find out association between attitude towards elderly and selected demographic variables among high school students.

Objectives achieved: The above stated objectives were achieved.

9. **Full details of summary of methods adopted supported by necessary tables, charts, diagrams and photographs.**

Statement of the problem

“A study to assess the attitude towards care of elderly among high school students in selected schools at Honavar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District.”

Hypothesis:

The following hypothesis was tested at 0.05 level of significance.

H₀₁: There is no significant association between attitude towards care of elderly and selected demographic variables among high school students.

H₁: There is a significant association between attitude towards care of elderly and selected demographic variables among high school students.

Research approach: Research approach used in the study was quantitative research approach.

Research design: Research design used in the study was descriptive cross sectional design.

Variables:**Demographic variables:**

The demographic variables consisted of age in years, gender, class of studying, education of mother, education of father, occupation of mother, occupation of father, family income per month (INR), type of family, place of residence, religion, birth order, grandparent's status (alive/deceased), co-residence with elderly (living at home), caregiving experience (previous care provided in general needs), co-residence with elderly with sickness and caregiving experience (care of elderly with sickness)

Setting: The study was conducted at New English Medium School and Shree Jnaneshwari High school in Honavar taluk, Uttara Kannada district.

Target population:

The target population in the study was the high school students studying at various schools in Honavar taluk.

Accessible population:

The accessible population in the study was the high school students studying at New English Medium School and Shree Jnaneshwari High school in Honavar taluk and who were available during the data collection period

Sample: The sample for the study was the high school students studying at New English Medium School and Shree Jnaneshwari High School and who fulfilled the inclusion and extrusion criteria.

Sampling technique: The sampling technique used was non- probability purposive sampling.

Sample size: The sample size consisted of 100 high school students.

Inclusion criteria:

- High school students who were boys or girls aged 13-16 years.
- High school students studying in 9th or 10th grade.
- Subjects, who were able to comprehend, follow the instructions and respond.
- Subjects who were available at the time of data collection
- Who obtained the informed consent from the parents/ guardians and provided assent to participate in the study

Exclusion criteria:

- High school students who were seriously or suffering from terminal illness at the time of data collection.

- Subjects diagnosed with mental disorder and were not able to comprehend the process of the study
- Subjects having hearing impairment
- Subjects who had previously participated in similar studies related to attitude towards the care of elderly in the last 6 months.

Description of research tool

Tool 1: Structured proforma to collect demographic variables among high school students.

The demographic variables consisted of age in years, gender, class of studying, education of mother, education of father, occupation of mother, occupation of father, family income per month (INR), type of family, place of residence, religion, birth order, grandparent's status (alive/deceased), co-residence with elderly (living at home), caregiving experience (previous care provided in general needs), co-residence with elderly with sickness and caregiving experience (care of elderly with sickness)

Tool 2: Self structured likert scale to assess the attitude of students towards care of elderly among high school students.

It is a self-constructed Likert scale consisting of 20 items to assess the attitude of students towards care of elderly among high school students. This Likert scale consists of 4 domains such as affective, cognitive, behavioural and social domain. Each domain consisted of 5 statements. Each statement consisted of a stem and 5 options, namely "Strongly agree", "Agree", "Neutral", "Disagree" and "Strongly disagree". For the positive statements (1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18 and 20), the scoring was as follows, "Strongly agree =5", "Agree =4", "Neutral =3", "Disagree=2" and "Strongly

Disagree=1”. The negative statements (2, 4, 7, 10, 13, 14, 17 and 19) with an asterisk has reverse scores, that was “Strongly agree=1”, “Agree=2”, “Neutral=3”, “Disagree=4”, “Strongly disagree=5. The maximum score was 100 (20 items x 5= 100).

To interpret the attitude scores for domains, by using norm referenced measures (Distribution method based on mean and standard deviation) the scores were classified and interpreted into 3 categories. For Domain 1, scores are classified as follows: 1–17 indicates a negative attitude, 18–24 represents a moderately positive attitude, and a score of 25 indicates a highly positive attitude. For Domain 2, scores are classified as follows: 1–19 indicates a negative attitude, 20–24 represents a moderately positive attitude, and a score of 25 indicates a highly positive attitude. For Domain 3 and 4, scores are classified as follows: 1-16 indicates a negative attitude, 17–24 represents a moderately positive attitude, and a score of 25 indicates a highly positive attitude. For overall attitude score, scores are classified as follows: 1–74 indicates a negative attitude, 75–94 represents a moderately positive attitude, and a score of 95-100 indicates a highly positive attitude.

Validity and reliability of the tool

The content validity of the research tool was obtained from 8 experts. The experts were a Pediatrician, a Psychiatrist, a Social Worker, and specialists from the Child Health Nursing, and a lecturer from PU College. The content validity index for the likert scale to assess the attitude of students towards care of elderly was 0.98. The reliability for the likert scale to assess the attitude of students towards care of elderly was calculated using split half method. The correlation between two halves of the scale was calculated using Karl Pearson correlation coefficient. The reliability of the full scale was calculated using

the Spearman-Brown prophecy formula. The reliability of the structured knowledge questionnaire was 0.93.

Pilot study

The ethical clearance was obtained from institutional ethical committee prior to the commencement of the study. A formal permission was obtained from the Principal, St. Ignatius Institute of Health Sciences and from the Principal, Mar Thoma English Medium School to conduct the pilot study.

The study was conducted on 01.03.2026. The study was conducted in Mar Thoma English Medium School. 15 subjects were selected using a non probability purposive sampling technique based on inclusion and exclusion criteria. The researcher introduced herself and explained about the nature of the study. Written informed consent from the parents and assent was obtained from high school students. A structured demographic proforma was used to collect demographic variables and a self structured likert scale was used to assess the attitude towards the care of elderly among high school students. The tool was self administered. Subjects took 15-30 minutes to complete the tool.

Data collection method

The ethical clearance was obtained from the institutional ethical committee. A formal permission was obtained from the Principal, St. Ignatius Institute of Health Sciences, Honavar and from the Principal, New English Medium School and Shree Jnaneshwari High School in Honavar taluk. The study was conducted on 07/03/2026 for 74 students studying in New English Medium School and on 11/03/2026 for 26 students studying in Shree Jnaneshwari High School. 100 subjects were selected using a non probability purposive sampling technique based on inclusion and exclusion criteria. The researcher

introduced herself and explained about the nature of the study. Written informed consent from the parents and assent was obtained from high school students. A structured demographic proforma was used to collect demographic variables and a self structured likert scale was used to assess the attitude towards the care of elderly among high school students. The tool was self administered. Subjects took 15-30 minutes to complete the tool.

Data analysis plan

Descriptive statistics

- The frequency and percentage was used to describe the demographic variables among high school students.
- The frequency, percentage, range of score, mean, mean percentage and standard deviation were used to assess the item wise, domain wise and overall attitude towards the care of elderly among high school students.

Inferential statistics

- The Chi-square test and Fisher's exact test were used to find the significant association between attitude towards care of elderly and selected demographic variables among high school students.

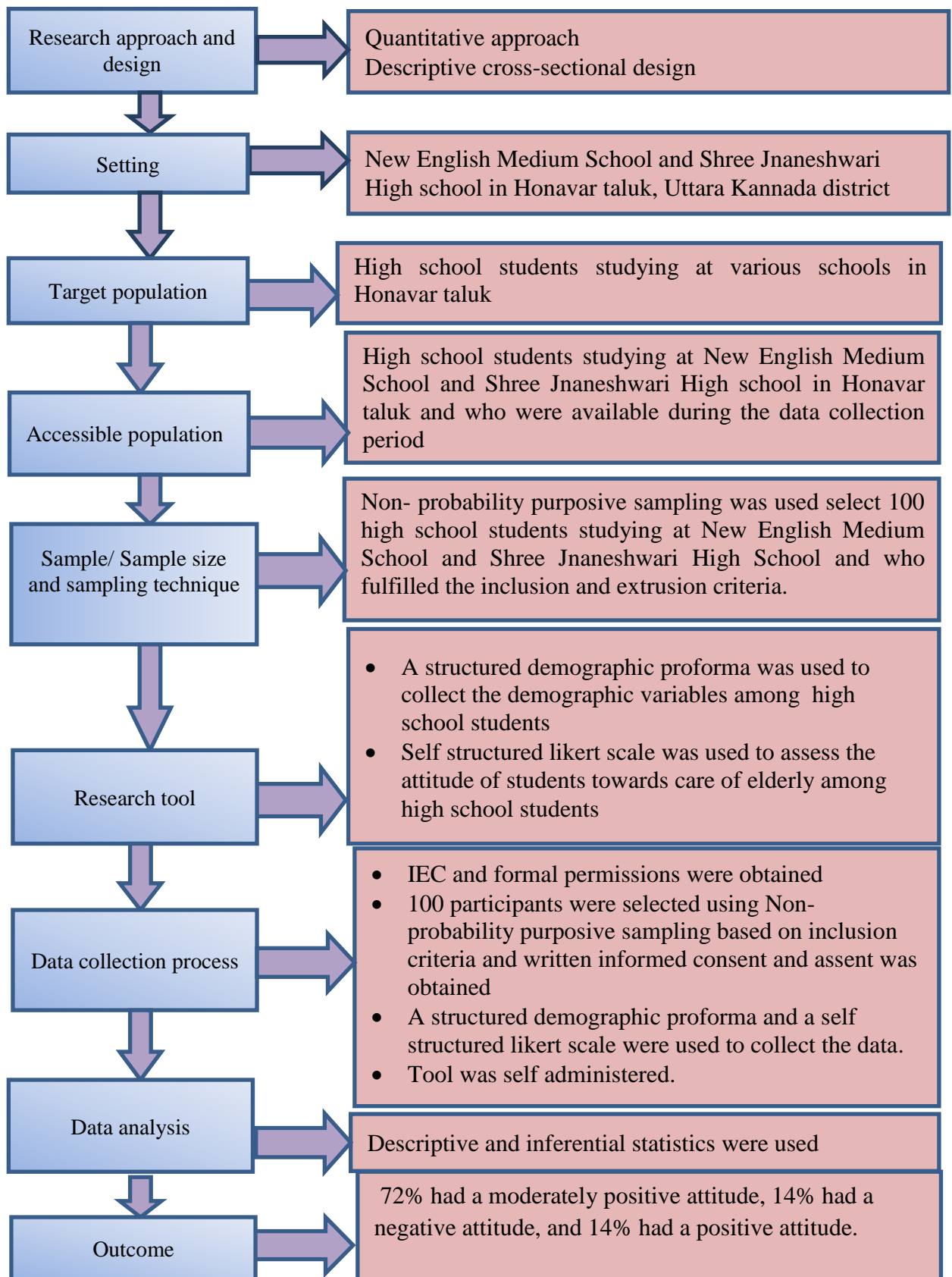


Figure1: Schematic representation of research methodology

10. Detailed analysis of results:

This section deals with the analysis and interpretation of data collected from 100 high school students studying at New English Medium School and Shree Jnaneshwari High school in Honavar taluk, Uttara Kannada District to assess the attitude towards care of elderly among them.

Objectives of the study

1. To assess the attitude towards care of elderly among high school students.
2. To find out association between attitude towards elderly and selected demographic variables among high school students.

Hypothesis:

The following hypothesis was tested at 0.05 level of significance.

H₀₁: There is no significant association between attitude towards care of elderly and selected demographic variables among high school students.

H₁: There is a significant association between attitude towards care of elderly and selected demographic variables among high school students.

Presentation of data

Section1: Description of demographic variables among high school students.

Section 2: Description of attitude towards care of elderly among high school students.

Section3: Association between attitude towards elderly and selected demographic variables among high school children

Section1: Description of demographic proforma among high school students.

Table 1.1: Frequency and percentage distribution of high school students by age in years, gender, and class of studying. **n=100**

S. No.	Demographic variables	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1	Age in years		
	13 - 14 Years	49	49
	15 - 16 Years	51	51
2	Gender		
	Boys	52	52
	Girls	48	48
3	Class of studying		
	9th Standard	56	56
	10th Standard	44	44

Table 1.1 indicates that majority (51% of the subjects) were in the 15 - 16 years age group, 52% were boys, and 56% were in the 9th standard.

Table 1.2: Frequency and percentage distribution of high school students by education of father and mother. **n=100**

S. No.	Demographic Variables	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1	Education of mother		
	Post-graduate or Professional Degree	9	9
	Graduate Degree	8	8
	Higher Secondary Certificate	31	31
	High School Certificate	45	45
	Middle School Certificate	2	2
	Less than Middle School Certificate	5	5
	Illiterate	0	0
2	Education of father		
	Post-graduate or Professional Degree	5	5
	Graduate Degree	19	19
	Higher Secondary Certificate	32	32
	High School Certificate	37	37
	Middle School Certificate	1	1
	Less than Middle School Certificate	6	6
	Illiterate	0	0

Table 1.2 indicates that 45% of the mothers and 37% of the fathers completed a high school certificate.

Table 1.3: Frequency and percentage distribution of high school students by occupation of father and mother. **n=100**

S. No.	Demographic Variables	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1	Occupation of mother		
	Legislators, Senior Officials, Managers	1	1
	Professionals	0	0
	Technicians/Associate Professionals	1	1
	Clerks	0	0
	Skilled Worker, Shop/Market Sales	6	6
	Skilled Agricultural/Fishery Workers	0	0
	Craft and Related Trade Workers	5	5
	Plant and Machine Operators	0	0
	Elementary Occupation	0	0
	Unemployed	87	87
2	Occupation of father		
	Legislators, Senior Officials, Managers	4	4
	Professionals	4	4
	Technicians/Associate Professionals	6	6
	Clerks	7	7
	Skilled Worker, Shop/Market Sales	35	35
	Skilled Agricultural/Fishery Workers	16	16
	Craft and Related Trade Workers	13	13
	Plant and Machine Operators	3	3
	Elementary Occupation	11	11
	Unemployed	1	1

Table 1.3 indicates that 87% of the mothers of the subjects were unemployed and 35% of the fathers of the subjects were engaged in skilled work or shop/market sales.

Table 1.4: Frequency and percentage distribution of high school students by family income, type of family, and place of residence. **n=100**

S. No.	Demographic Variables	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1	Family income per month in rupees		
	₹66,007 and above	9	9
	₹33,004 – ₹66,006	23	23
	₹24,753 – ₹33,003	21	21
	₹16,502 – ₹24,752	29	29
	₹9,901 – ₹16,501	18	18
	₹3,301 – ₹9,900	0	0
	≤ ₹3,300	0	0
2	Type of family		
	Nuclear family	71	71
	Joint family	29	29
3	Place of residence		
	Rural	74	74
	Urban	26	26

Table 1.4 indicates that 29% of the subjects had a family income per month ranging from 16,502-24,752, 71% were living in a nuclear family, and 74% of the subjects were residing in a rural area.

Table 1.5: Frequency and percentage distribution of high school students by religion, and birth order. n=100

S No	Demographic variables	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1	Religion		
	Hindu	97	97
	Muslim	3	3
2	Birth order		
	1	48	48
	2	44	44
	3	7	7
	5	1	1

Table 1.5 indicates that 97% of the subjects were of the Hindu religion, and 48% of the subjects were the first-born child.

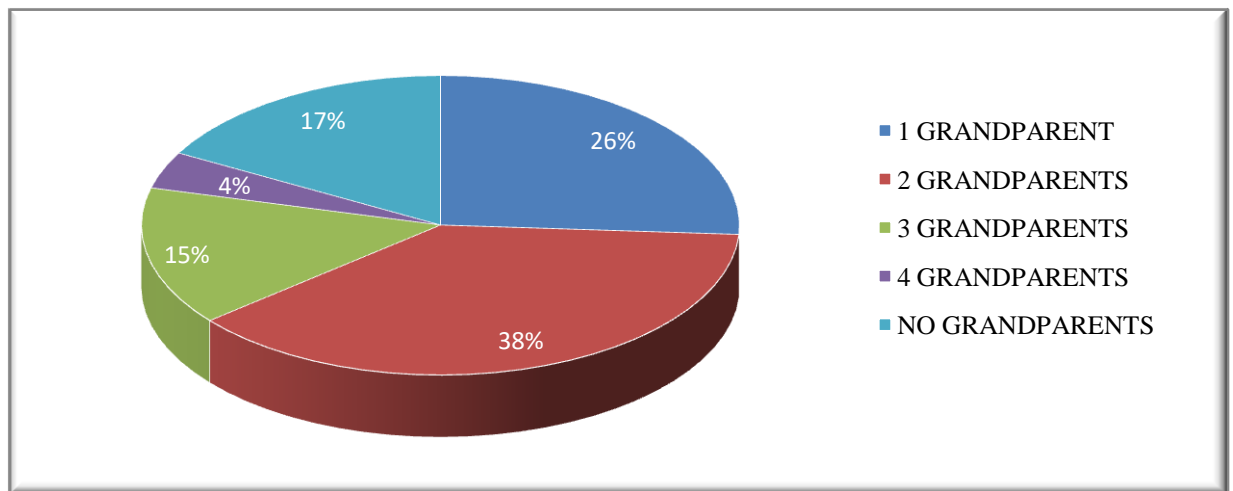


Figure 2: Percentage distribution of grandparents' status (Alive/deceased).

Figure 2 reveals that 83% subjects had grandparents and among them 26% of the subjects had 1 grandparent alive, 38% had 2 grandparents alive, 15% had 3 grandparents alive, and 4% had all four grandparents alive.

Table 1.6: Frequency and percentage distribution of high school students by co-residence with elderly (living at home), caregiving experience (previous care provided in general need), co-residence with elderly with sickness, and caregiving experience for elderly with sickness **n=100**

S No	Demographic Variables	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1	Co-residence with elderly (living at home)		
	Yes	53	53
	No	47	47
2	Caregiving experience (Previous care provided in general needs)		
	Yes	74	74
	No	26	26
3	Co-residence with elderly with sickness		
	Yes	13	13
	No	87	87
4	Caregiving experience (For elderly with sickness)		
	Yes	54	54
	No	46	46

Table 1.6 reveals that the majority (53%) of subjects was living with the elderly, 74% of the subjects had taken care of older people in their general needs, only 13 % lived with an elderly with sickness, and 54% of the subjects had taken care of an elderly with sickness.

Section 2: Description to assess the attitude towards care of elderly among high school students.

Objectives: To assess the attitude towards care of elderly among the high school students.

Table 2.1 : Domain- wise and overall scale score , range of score, mean, standard deviation and mean percentage of attitude score regarding care of elderly among high school students **n=100**

Attitude score	Scale score	Range of score	Mean	SD	Mean %
Domain 1(Affective Domain)	5-25	12-25	21.27	2.97	85.08
Domain 2 (Cognitive Domain)	5-25	11-25	21.99	2.38	87.96
Domain 3 (Behavioural Domain)	5-25	9-25	20.7	3.46	82.80
Domain 4 (Social Domain)	5-25	5-25	20.57	3.55	82.28
Overall knowledge	20-100	52-100	84.53	9.77	84.53

Table2.1 reveals that in **domain 1** (affective domain), the mean score was 21.27 ± 2.97 with scores ranging from 12 to 25. The mean percentage score for this domain was 85.08. For **domain 2** (cognitive domain), the mean score was 21.99 ± 2.38 with scores ranging from 11 to 25. The mean percentage score for this domain was 87.96. For **domain 3** (behavioral domain), the mean score was 20.7 ± 3.46 with scores ranging from 9 to 25. The mean percentage score for this domain was 82.80. For **domain 4** (social domain), the mean score was 20.57 ± 3.55 with scores ranging from 5 to 25. The mean percentage score for this domain was 82.28. For **overall attitude score**, the mean score was 84.53 ± 9.77 with scores ranging from 52 to 100. The mean percentage of overall score was 84.53.

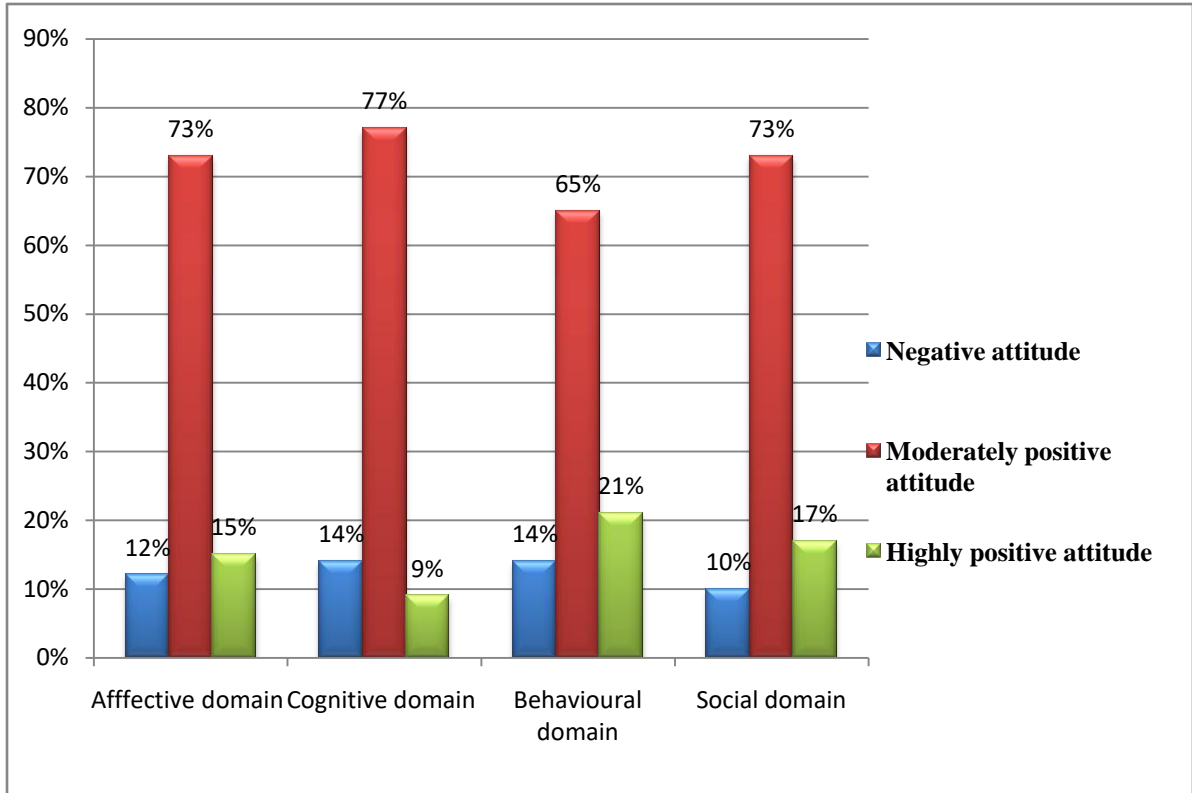


Figure 3: Percentage distribution of domain-wise attitude scores towards care of elderly among high school students.

Figure 3 illustrates that in **domain 1**, the majority (73% of subjects) had a moderately positive attitude, 15% had a highly positive attitude, and 12% had a negative attitude. In **domain 2**, the majority (77% of subjects) had a moderately positive attitude, 14% had a negative attitude, and 9% had a highly positive attitude. In **domain 3**, the majority (65% of the subjects) had a moderately positive attitude, 21% had a highly positive attitude, and a 14% had negative attitude. In **domain 4**, the majority (73% of subjects) had a moderately positive attitude, 17% had a highly positive attitude, and 10% had a negative attitude.

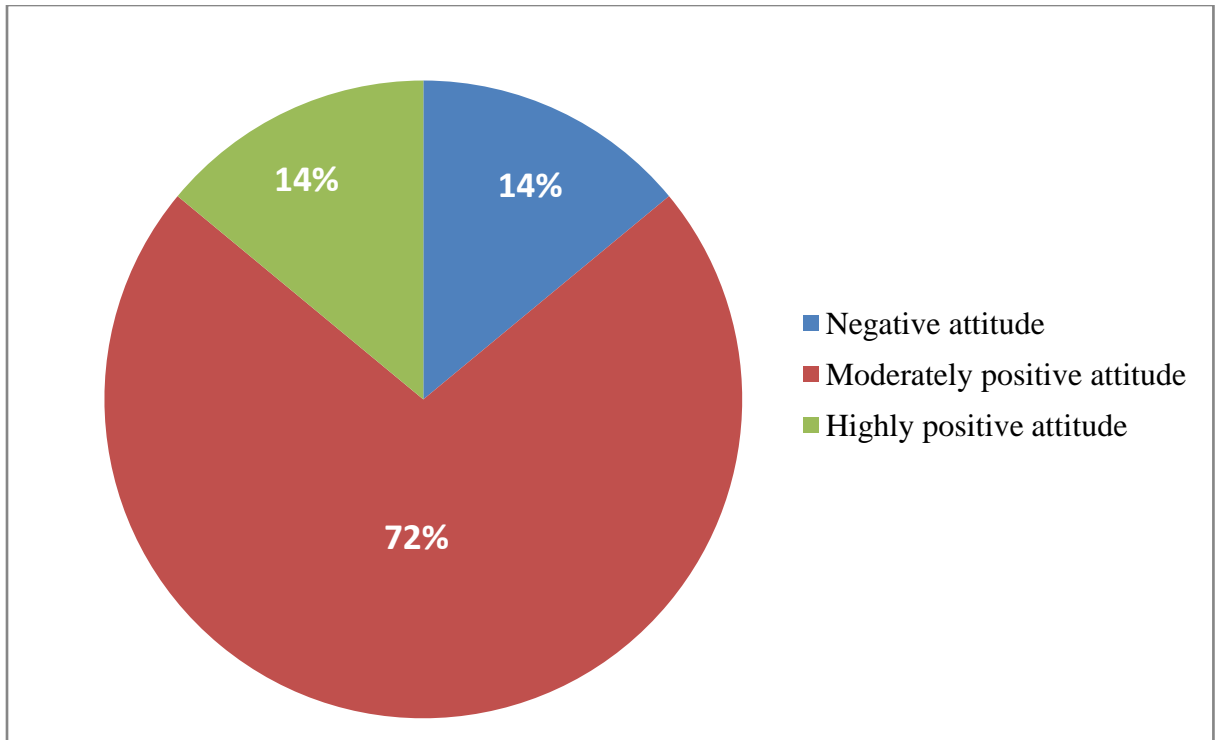


Figure 4: Percentage distribution of overall attitude score towards care of elderly among high school students.

Figure 4 illustrates that 72% had a moderately positive attitude, 14% had a negative attitude, and 14% had a positive attitude.

Table 2.2.1: Domain 1: Individual item-wise frequency and percentage distribution of attitude score towards care of elderly among the high school students. **n=100**

S No	Statement	Attitude score									
		Strongly Agree		Agree		Neutral		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
		f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Domain 1 : Affective domain											
1	I am happy to listen to the stories of older people.	64	64	23	23	13	13	0	0	0	0
2*	I feel uncomfortable being with older people.	6	6	7	7	9	9	23	23	55	55
3	I stay calm, when older people do their work slowly.	42	42	42	42	9	9	4	4	3	3
4*	I feel uncomfortable seeing the wrinkles and skin changes in older people	8	8	2	2	10	10	23	23	57	57
5	I feel bad when I see older people doing their work alone	58	58	28	28	4	4	3	3	7	7

Table 2.2.1 reveals that 87% of the subjects were happy to listen to the stories of the older people, 78% expressed that they were comfortable being with older people, 84% stay calm when the older people do their work slowly, 80% felt comfortable seeing the wrinkles and skin changes in older people and 86% felt bad when the older people does their work alone.

Table 2.2.2: Domain 2: Individual item-wise frequency and percentage distribution of attitude score towards care of elderly among high school students. **n=100**

S No	Statement	Attitude score									
		Strongly Agree		Agree		Neutral		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
		f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Domain 2 : Cognitive domain											
6	I feel it is my duty to take care of older people.	75	75	21	21	2	2	0	0	2	2
7*	I feel older people should be taken care of only by nurses/ doctors not by family.	4	4	1	1	6	6	26	26	63	63
8	I listen to the advice given by older people because it is more valuable in my life.	67	67	21	21	8	8	1	1	3	3
9	I feel providing care to the older people makes me more kind.	52	52	36	36	11	11	0	0	1	1
10*	I feel that taking care of older people takes away too much of my personal time	7	7	5	5	11	11	33	33	44	44

Table 2.2.2 reveals that 96% of the subjects felt that it is their duty to take care of the older people, 89 % expressed that older people must be taken care by the family. 88% expressed that they listen to the advice given by older people, 88% expressed that providing care to the older people makes them more kind and only 12 % felt that taking care of the older people takes too much of their personal time.

Table 2.2.3: Domain 3: Individual item-wise frequency and percentage distribution of attitude towards care of elderly among high school students. **n=100**

S No	Statement	Attitude score									
		Strongly Agree		Agree		Neutral		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
		f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Domain 3: behavioral domain											
11	I am ready to give up my free time to help the older people	50	50	39	39	9	9	1	1	1	1
12	I like to wake up at anytime in the day or night to help the older people	45	45	32	32	20	20	2	2	1	1
13*	I am not willing to help the older people in their sickness	4	4	1	1	9	9	32	32	54	54
14*	I will try to leave the room when older people are there	15	15	14	14	8	8	24	24	39	39
15	I am proud to tell my friends that I help the older people	50	50	29	29	15	15	2	2	4	4

Table 2.2.3 reveals that 89% of the subjects are ready to give up their free time to help the older people, 77% were ready to wake up at anytime in the day or night to help the older people. 86% were willing to help the older people in sickness, 63% used to be with elderly in their room, and 79 % were proud to tell their friends that they help the older people.

Table 2.2.4: Individual item-wise frequency and percentage distribution of attitude towards care of elderly among high school students. n=100

S No	Statement	Attitude score									
		Strongly Agree		Agree		Neutral		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
		f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Domain 4 :social domain											
16	If I get a chance, I like to live with grandparents or older people	56	56	31	31	8	8	2	2	3	3
17*	I feel the older people should not interfere with my personal things	8	8	9	9	19	19	28	28	36	36
18	I am happy to do voluntary service in the old age homes	35	35	42	42	16	16	2	2	5	5
19*	I am not willing to help the older people with the money that I have	1	1	9	9	18	18	42	42	30	30
20	If I get an opportunity, I will do many welfare activities for the good of older people	67	67	24	24	5	5	1	1	3	3

Table 2.2.4 reveals that 87% of the subjects expressed that they like to live with the older people, 64% expressed that older people have rights to interfere with my personal things, 77 % were happy to do voluntary service in old age homes, 72% were willing to help the older people with the money they have and 91% expressed that they will do many welfare activities for the good of older people.

Section 3: Association of attitude towards elderly with selected demographic variables among high school students.

Objective: To find out the association between attitude towards elderly and selected demographic variables among high school students.

Hypothesis

The following hypothesis was tested at 0.05 level of significance.

H₀₁: There is no significant association between the attitude towards care of elderly and demographic variables among high school students.

H₁: There is a significant association between the attitude towards care of elderly and demographic variables among high school students.

Table 3.1: Frequency, test of significance, df, and p- value to find the association between the attitude towards care of elderly and age in years among high school students.

Demographic variables	Frequency	Attitude score		Test of significance	df	p-value
		< Mean Score	≥ Mean Score			
		84.53	84.53			
Age in years						
13-14 Years	49	20	29	$\chi^2=0.388$	1	0.533
15-16 Years	51	25	26			NS

NS: Not Significant; χ^2 = Chi- square test

Table 3.1 depicts that, there was no statistically significant association between attitude towards care of elderly and age in years ($\chi^2= 0.388$; $df=1$; $p=0.533$) among high school students.

Table 3.2: Frequency, test of significance, df, and p- value to find the association between the attitude towards care of elderly and gender, class of studying among the high school students.

Demographic variables	Frequency	Attitude score		Test of significance	df	p-value
		< Mean Score	≥ Mean Score			
		84.53	84.53			
Gender						
Male	52	32	20	$\chi^2=10.62$	1	0.001*S
Female	48	13	35			
Class of studying						
9th Standard	56	25	31	$\chi^2=0.00$	1	1
10th Standard	44	20	24			NS

*S: Significant at 0.05 level; NS: Not Significant; χ^2 = Chi- square test

Table 3.2 depicts that, there was a statistically significant association between attitude towards care of elderly and gender ($\chi^2= 10.62$; $df=1$; $p=0.001$) among high school students and there was no significant association with class of studying ($\chi^2= 0.00$; $df=1$; $p=1$). Hence H_{01} : There is no significant association between the attitude towards care of elderly and demographic variables among high school children was **rejected** and H_1 was **accepted**.

Table 3.3: Frequency, test of significance, df, and p- value to find the association between the attitude towards care of elderly and education of mother and father among high school students. n=100

Demographic Variables	Frequency	Attitude score		Test of significance	df	p-value
		< Mean Score 84.53	≥ Mean Score 84.53			
Education of mother						
Post-graduate or Professional Degree	9	3	6	Fisher's exact test	5	0.589
Graduate Degree	8	4	4			NS
Higher Secondary Certificate	31	18	13			
High School Certificate	45	17	28			
Middle School Certificate	2	1	1			
Less than Middle School Certificate	5	2	3			
Education of father						
Post-graduate or Professional Degree	5	0	5	Fisher's exact test	5	0.245
Graduate Degree	19	11	8			NS
Higher Secondary Certificate	32	13	19			
High School Certificate	37	18	19			
Middle School Certificate	1	0	1			
Less than Middle School Certificate	6	3	3			

NS: Not Significant

Table 3.3 depicts that, there was no statistically significant association between attitude towards care of elderly and education of mother (p=0.589; df=5) and father (p=0.245; df=5) among high school students.

Table 3.4: Frequency, test of significance, df, and p- value to find the association between the attitude towards care of elderly and occupation of mother and father among the high school students.

Demographic variables	Frequency	Attitude score		Test of significance	df	p-value
		< Mean	≥ Mean			
		Score 84.53	Score 84.53			
Occupation of mother						
Legislators, Senior Officials, Managers	1	1	0	Fisher's	4	0.624
Professionals	0	0	0	exact test		NS
Technicians/Associate Professionals	1	1	0			
Clerk	0	0	0			
Skilled Worker, Shop/Market Sales	6	3	3			
Skilled Agricultural/Fishery Workers	0	0	0			
Craft and Related Trade Workers	5	2	3			
Elementary Occupation	0	0	0			
Unemployed	87	38	49			
Occupation of father						
Legislators, Senior Officials, Managers	4	3	1	Fisher's	9	0.828
Professionals	4	3	1	exact test		NS
Technicians/Associate Professionals	6	2	4			
Clerks	7	3	4			
Skilled Worker, Shop/Market Sales	35	15	20			
Skilled Agricultural/Fishery Workers	16	6	10			
Craft and Related Trade Workers	13	6	7			
Plant and Machine Operators	3	1	2			
Elementary Occupation	11	5	6			
Unemployed	1	1	0			

NS: Not Significant

Table 3 .4 depicts that, there was no statistically significant association between attitude towards care of elderly and occupation of mother (p=0.624;df=4) and father (p=0.828; df=9) among high school students.

Table 3.5: Frequency, test of significance, df, and p- value to find the association between the attitude towards care of elderly and family income per month in rupees, type of family, place of residence, religion, birth order among high school students.

n=100

Demographic variables	Frequency	Attitude score		Test of significance	df	p-value
		< Mean Score 84.53	≥ Mean Score 84.53			
Family income per month in rupees						
₹66,007 and above	9	5	4	Fisher's exact test	4	0.332
₹33,004 – ₹66,006	23	11	12		NS	
₹24,753 – ₹33,003	21	9	12			
₹16,502 – ₹24,752	29	9	20			
₹9,901 – ₹16,501	18	11	7			
Type of family						
Nuclear Family	71	32	39	$\chi^2=0.00$	1	1
Joint Family	29	13	16		NS	
Place of residence						
Rural	74	31	43	$\chi^2=0.68$	1	0.409
Urban	26	14	12		NS	
Religion						
Hindu	97	43	54	Fisher's exact test	1	0.587
Muslim	3	2	1		NS	
Birth order						
1	48	22	26	Fisher's exact test	3	0.742
2	44	19	25		NS	
3	7	4	3			
5	1	0	1			

NS: Not Significant; χ^2 = Chi- square test

Table 3.5 depicts that, there was no statistically significant association between attitude towards care of elderly and family income per month in rupees($p=0.332$; $df=4$) , type of family($\chi^2= 0.00$; $df=1$; $p=1$), place of residence($\chi^2=0.68$; $df=1$; $p=0.409$), religion ($p=0.587$; $df=1$) , birth order($p=0.742$; $df=3$) among high school students.

Table 3.6: Frequency, test of significance, df, and p- value to find the association between the attitude towards care of elderly and grandparent’s status (alive/deceased), co-residence with elderly (living at home), caregiving experience (previous care provided in general needs), co-residence with elderly with sickness and caregiving experience (care of elderly with sickness) among high school students.

Demographic variables	Frequency	Attitude score		Test of significance	df	p-value
		< Mean	≥ Mean			
		Score	Score			
84.53 84.53						
Grandparent’s status (alive/deceased)						
Yes	83	35	48	0.980	1	0.332
No	17	10	7			NS
Co-residence with elderly (living at home)						
Yes	53	25	28	0.069	1	0.793
No	47	20	27			NS
Caregiving experience (previous care provided in general needs)						
Yes	74	29	45	3.032	1	0.082
No	26	16	10			NS
Co-residence with elderly with sickness						
Yes	13	9	4	Fisher’s	1	0.076
No	87	36	51	exact test		NS
Caregiving experience (care of elderly with sickness)						
Yes	54	22	32	0.527	1	0.468
No	46	23	23			NS

NS: Not Significant; χ^2 = Chi- square test

Table 3.6 depicts that, there was no statistically significant association between attitude towards care of elderly and grandparent’s status ($\chi^2=0.980$; $df=1$; $p=0.332$), co-residence with elderly ($\chi^2=0.069$; $df=1$; $p=0.793$), caregiving experience (previous care provided in general needs) ($\chi^2=3.032$; $df=1$; $p=0.082$), co-residence with elderly with sickness ($p=0.076$; $df=1$), and caregiving experience (care of elderly with sickness) ($\chi^2=0.527$; $df=1$; $p=0.468$), among high school students.

11. Contributions made towards increasing the state of knowledge in the subject.

Nursing practice: The findings of the study

- Emphasizes that teachers and school health nurses need to educate high school children regarding the importance of caring for the elderly and developing a positive attitude towards them.
- Emphasizes that teachers and school health nurses have adequate knowledge on care of elderly, respect for elders and healthy intergenerational relationships in schools to create a positive attitude among students.
- Emphasizes the nursing staff working in hospital to have adequate knowledge on importance of positive attitude towards the care of elderly.
- Emphasizes the need for displaying the educational materials on care of elderly and responsibilities of younger generations towards the care of older people in schools to promote awareness and positive attitudes to the high school students
- The school health nurses and teachers should provide counseling and guidance to students on respecting, helping and supporting the elderly individuals.
- Emphasizes the need to conduct the regular awareness programs.

Nursing education: The findings of the study

- Enlighten the nursing educators regarding the attitude towards the care of elderly among the students to improve the attitude towards the elderly or the older people.
- Emphasizes the need for preparing the nursing student to provide the guidance and education on the respect and care for the elderly.
- Emphasizes the need for motivating the nursing students to prepare the written value based educational material on expressing positive attitude towards the elderly.

Nursing administration: the findings of the study

- Emphasizes the need for incorporating the concept of positive attitude and care towards the older people in maintaining the mentally healthy environment.
- Emphasizes the need for taking initiative in organizing the awareness programmes on positive attitude towards the care of elderly in the schools.
- The school administrators should ensure to conduct school based educational programs to improve student's attitude towards caring for the elderly.
- Emphasizes the need for the introduction of the elderly care in the nursing curriculum.
- Emphasizes the need for conducting academic sessions on elderly care and its need among the nursing and other younger generation students.

Nursing research: the study findings

- Enable the nursing students and professional to undertake more researchers in the area of developing and implementation of more value based educational material on obtaining a positive and respectful attitude in order to maintain a healthy and respectful behavior towards the elderly.
- Emphasizes on conducting qualitative studies to know the cause of the negative attitude towards the elderly and create various ways to tackle the cause.
- Emphasizes on more interventional studies to promote positive behavioral patterns towards the elderly.

12. Conclusions, summarizing the achievements and indication of scope of future work:

Conclusion, summarizing the achievements

The findings of the study revealed that **in overall attitude score**, 72% had moderately positive attitude, 14% had a negative attitude, and 14% had a positive attitude. **In the affective domain** the majority (73% of subjects) had a moderately positive attitude, 15% had a highly positive attitude, and 12% had a negative attitude. **In, cognitive domain**, the majority (77% of subjects) had a moderately positive attitude, 14% had a negative attitude, and 9% had a highly positive attitude. **In behavioural domain**, the majority (65% of the subjects) had a moderately positive attitude, 21% had a highly positive attitude, and a 14% had negative attitude. **In social domain**, the majority (73% of subjects) had a moderately positive attitude, 17% had a highly positive attitude, and 10% had a negative attitude. The researcher identified that most of the students were having moderately positive attitude towards elderly in taking of them. Hence intergenerational programmes, counselling, guidance, moral education need to incorporated in the school curriculum, as well as parents and family members need to be supportive in order to have a healthy relationship among the younger and older generation.

Scope of future work:

- Interventions studies can be conducted to improve the positive attitude of adolescents and children towards of care elderly
- Comparative studies can be conducted to assess the care elderly between students from urban and rural area, students studying in government and private schools,

parents and children, teachers and students, students studying in different schools of board

- Interventional studies can be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of a Planned Teaching Programme (PTP) on elderly care attitudes.
- In-depth interviews can be conducted to explore the near-significant link between previous caregiving experience and attitude.

8. **Abstract (300 words for possible publication in *RGUHS Journals/Other Journals*).**

Introduction: The populations in the world are aging rapidly leading to many challenges in nearly every country of the world. The elderly is a very important component or aspect in the current generation because many of the old aged is isolated from the families. Since the children are the future of the nation, it is important to shape their attitude towards the care of elderly. Hence the researcher felt the need to assess the attitude of high school students towards care of elderly.

Methodology: The quantitative approach with descriptive cross sectional design was used. Non-probability purposive sampling was used to select 100 subjects. Written informed consent from parents and assent from students were obtained. A structured demographic proforma and self structured likert scale to assess the attitude was used to collect the data. Tool was self administered.


Result: In the affective domain the majority 73% of subjects had a moderately positive attitude, in, cognitive domain, the majority (77% of subjects) had a moderately positive attitude, in behavioural domain, the majority (65% of the subjects) had a moderately positive attitude, and in social domain, the majority (73% of subjects) had a moderately

positive attitude. **In overall attitude score**, 72% had moderately positive attitude, 14% had a negative attitude, and 14% had a positive attitude.

Discussion: The researcher identified that most of the students were having moderately positive attitude towards elderly in taking of them. Hence intergenerational programmes, counselling, guidance, moral education need to be incorporated in the school curriculum, as well as parents and family members need to be supportive in order to have a healthy relationship among the younger and older generation.

Key words: Caring attitude; Elderly

Name and signature with date

1. ALEENA SABU 
(Name of the student)

2. A. SAGAYA AROCKIA MARY 
(Name of the Guide)



(Head of the Institution)

PRINCIPAL
ST. IGNATIUS INSTITUTE
OF HEALTH SCIENCES
PRABHAT NAGAR
HONAVAR - 581 334 (N.K.)