Appendix
Appendix

SAMPLE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name with Address

Age

Place of birth

Gender

Marital status

Level of education

Socio economic status Lower/Middle/Upper class

Number of children

You are living in a Joint /Extended/Nuclear family/Old age home

Please answer the following questions as frankly as possible -

Section A Regarding the awareness of the Maintenance and Welfare of parents and senior citizens Act.

Q1 Do you know about the maintenance and welfare of parents and senior citizens act?
   a) Yes       b) No

Q2 Do know about that “Maintenance” in the act means that the children have to take care of their parents’ housing, clothing, financial, medical, spiritual, recreational requirement?
   a) Yes       b) No

Q3 Do you know that it is the duty and responsibility of the children to protect their parents’ life and property?
   a) Yes       b) No
Q4 Do you know that if adults do not look after their old parents, they can apply for maintenance allowance?
   a) Yes  b) No

Q5 Do you know that if adults are unable to provide monthly allowance to their parents. They may get imprisonment upto 3 months or a fine for Rs. 5,000 or both?
   a) Yes  b) No

Q6 Do you know that a senior citizen who has transferred his property either to his son, daughter or any other near relative by virtue of his will can cancel the same by applying to the Tribunal at any time.
   a) Yes  b) No

SECTION B
Perception and Indian value system regarding the provisions of the Maintenance and welfare of parents and senior citizens Act.

Q1 Do you think that this act is an attack on the Indian family system?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree

Q2 Do you think that the Act will weaken the family ties?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree
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Q3 Do you think parents filing a complaint against children not justified?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree

Q4 You feel elder people’s emotional and companion requirement can be enforced by the law?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree

Q5 Do you think that old parents will prefer not to go to court even if abused?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree

Q6 Do you think that after knowing about this act adults will be scared to force their old parents to leave their home and seek refuge in an old age home?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree
Q7  Do you think that old parents would be reluctant to openly challenge their own children?  
   a) Strongly agree  
   b) Agree  
   c) Uncertain  
   d) Disagree  
   e) Strongly disagree  
Q8  Do you think that old parents will have to face the society’s ire if they go against their own children?  
   a) Strongly agree  
   b) Agree  
   c) Uncertain  
   d) Disagree  
   e) Strongly disagree  
Q9  Do you think that adults will become more responsible and start looking after their old parents?  
   a) Strongly agree  
   b) Agree  
   c) Uncertain  
   d) Disagree  
   e) Strongly disagree  
Q10 Do you think that act will ensure parents are cared for?  
   a) Strongly agree  
   b) Agree  
   c) Uncertain  
   d) Disagree  
   e) Strongly disagree
Q11  Do you think that the Act will provide a feeling of security to parents?
   a)  Strongly agree
   b)  Agree
   c)  Uncertain
   d)  Disagree
   e)  Strongly disagree

Q12  Do you think that filing a complaint against your own children unethical?
   a)  Strongly agree
   b)  Agree
   c)  Uncertain
   d)  Disagree
   e)  Strongly disagree

Q13  Do you think that this act will weaken the family tradition?
   a)  Strongly agree
   b)  Agree
   c)  Uncertain
   d)  Disagree
   e)  Strongly disagree

Q14  In case your children are neglecting you, will you take the help of the Act?
   a)  Yes
   b)  No

Q15  Do you think that this is the right initiative taken by the government?
   a)  Strongly agree
   b)  Agree
   c)  Uncertain
   d)  Disagree
   e)  Strongly disagree
SECTION C

Regarding the Impact & benefit of the Maintenance and Welfare of parents and Senior Citizen Act.

Q1  Do you think that old parents will not take benefit from the Act if their children subject them to inhuman treatment?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree

Q2  Do you think that act will prevent the elder abuse?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree

Q3  Do you think that the act has not made any difference in the life of the elderly?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree
SECTION D

Will the MWPSC act prevent the elder abuse

I would like your opinion on this brief incident describing the abuse against an elderly

A 75-year old paralyzed women, Palaniappan was dumped in a garbage by a couple in Tamil Nadu. She alleged that her grandson and daughter decided to do away with her as they no more wanted to take the burden of the old lady.

Q1  Do you think that ailing grandparents are a burden on their own children?
   a)  Strongly agree
   b)  Agree
   c)  Uncertain
   d)  Disagree
   e)  Strongly disagree

Q 2  Do you think that Palaniappan’s daughter and grandson did the right thing by throwing her into a garbage bin?
   a)  Strongly agree
   b)  Agree
   c)  Uncertain
   d)  Disagree
   e)  Strongly disagree

Q 3  Do you think that Palaniappan’s daughter and grandson should be punished for their cruel action?
   a)  Strongly agree
   b)  Agree
   c)  Uncertain
   d)  Disagree
   e)  Strongly disagree
Q 4 Do you think that physically and cognitively unhealthy old people will find it difficult to go to a police station, lawyer or to a court?
   a) Strongly
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree

Q5 Do you think that after knowing about the Act, people like Palaniappan’s daughter and grandson will become more responsible and start looking after their elderly?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree

Q 6 Do you think that people like Palaniappan will actually get the benefit made by the provision of this Act?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree

Q.7 Elderly enjoy good position in family?
   a) Strongly agree
   b) Agree
   c) Uncertain
   d) Disagree
   e) Strongly disagree
FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION SAMPLE QUESTIONAIRRE

(A) Opening questions

1. Tell us your name and something about yourself.

2. Many elderly people are facing abuse in terms of Physical, Social, Emotional and Financial in their own house. Are you aware of any instance of abuse in your life?

(B) Introduction

1. Whether you are aware about the laws & policies developed by the government for their protection.

2. Are you aware about the Maintenance welfare of Parents senior citizen act?

(Transition question)

Think and express your opinion- Is the formulation of the act the right step taken by the government? Whether you support the legislation or not?

(C) Key question

Think and express your view- Adults will not humiliate their parents after knowing about the provisions of the Act?

Is it justified to file case when children abuse their parents and its relation to Indian value system.

(D) Ending question

1. Express your opinion on what do you think are the primary reasons for children not taking care of the elderly.

2. Are you aware of any person who has benefitted from the provision of the act?

3. What you have learnt as a result of participation in this discussion. Explain in detail.
Please give suggestions if any.

Thank you.

Demographic background – The last section of the instrument consists of questions on demographic characteristics such as age, gender, marital status & place of birth.

**IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW SCHEDULE**

**Instrument Development** Instrument was developed to tap the attitude of the elderly, their awareness, Impact & perception of the provisions of the Act as well as its relation with the Indian value system.

Questionnaire based on Elder abuse scenarios was developed to guide the Interview. In order to measure the Respondent’s responses to cases involving Elder abuse, the original vignettes were developed to examine the perception, attitudes, impact & awareness about the Act & its relation with the Indian value system. In the vignettes, potential victims were elderly women & all situations involved family members as potential perpetrators. The vignettes in the present study include-

A 75-year old paralyzed women, Krishna was dumped in a garbage by a couple in Tamil Nadu. She alleged that her grandson and daughter decided to do away with her as they no more wanted to take the burden of the old lady.

Responses to the Elder abuse was operationalized to have the following domains

1. Whether the Elderly are aware about the laws & policies developed by the government for their protection.
2. Impact, Perception & Attitudes towards the Act
3. Relationship between the Act & the Indian value system
4. Are you aware of any case there, in the status of elderly parents have improved after enactment of the act?
5. What is the primary reason for children neglecting their elderly?
6) How the elderly should be educated about this act?
7) What steps should the government take to empower the elderly in our country?
8) Should there be law which could make it compulsory for the children to take care of their aged parents?

9) Are you aware of any instance where in the elderly parents are subjected to abuse by their own children. Would it be ethical for the government to interfere in people personal choices?

Consent to participate in Research and Ethical consideration

You are asked to participate in research study by Sarabjit Kaur from the Psychology department at Delhi University. The results from this study will be contributed to the doctoral dissertation. Your participation in this research is voluntary. If you choose not to participate, it will not adversely affect you in any way. You may withdraw from the study at any time without consequences of any kind. Also, you may refuse to answer any question and still remain in the study. You are welcome to ask questions about anything. Any information that is obtained in connection with this study will remain confidential and will be disclosed only with your permission or as required by law. Research data and personal information of participants in this study will be kept secured. Only the researcher will have access to the data. If the results from research are published or discussed in conference, no information will included that would reveal your identity

Ethical Considerations

The research is based on voluntary participation by informed persons. Privacy and security were primary concerns in this research. Preparations were also made in case an unusual situation arose where a participant required or requested help to deal with his/her emotional response to interview content - Planned interventions included receiving support from the research team and if necessary assisting the participant in making contact with the psychologist linked to the study. None of the participants has contacted the research team to seek help or to report any adverse reactions to subject content or investigation style. On the contrary, comments from participants following the interviews have indicated that they felt this research was needed and timely. Despite the risk that interview questions might cause feelings of uneasiness, there was deemed to be a greater potential for beneficence that outweighed the risks by
providing participants with the opportunity to tell their stories in an open and encouraging environment. There are many sources that report that the very act of telling one’s story is in itself an emancipating experience that provides opportunities for healing (cf. Anderson and Hatten 2000; Mishler 1986; Polkinghorne 1986). There is also a potential for beneficence that lies within the expanded knowledge base these studies provide which, in turn, could expedite care of individuals and families living abusive situations.

There are also ethical implications when gathering Participants in order to discuss a possibly threatening topic. Precautions to protect Participants were taken such as, options for declining participation, being able to leave during the interview, insuring confidentiality, and, as named above, providing access for post-interview support. However, it is impossible to know whether any participants felt that they were pressured into participation. Research interviews are surely opportunities for participants to find release and insights. Rather, researchers must keep in mind the possibility of shame in elder abuse witnesses, and not lose sight of this potential predicament while interviewing.