ABSTRACT AND KEYWORDS

This study is initiated to analyse the effectiveness of the various aspects of welfare administration in the field of child welfare. As it will be practically impossible to analyse the entire child welfare system in the state, the focus is only on institutional services for children in need of care and protection in Kerala.

Objectives of the study are to overview the theoretical framework of institutional services for children in need of care and protection in the government and non-governments sectors of Kerala, analyse its functional efficiency, identify its problems and limitations and put forward suggestions to improve the current system of institutional administration.

Hypotheses: There is a gap between vision and reality in the field of social welfare and social welfare administration in Kerala lacks scientific application of social work methods and developmental approach.

Research Design: The study is descriptive and evaluatory in nature

Universe: All government and non-government institutions for children in need of care and protection in Kerala

Sample and Sampling Technique: Six Children’s Homes in Government Sector. 106 institutions in Non-Government Sector. Multistage Random Sampling Method

Tools: Interview Schedule, Focused Interview, Observation, Case Studies

Statistical Tools: Chi-square and Co-relation

Chapterisation: The entire study is presented in nine chapters
Findings: This study has revealed that the reality on ground regarding the institutional services for children does not match the blueprint of the programme in official writing. Quality of Services is low in both sectors. Both sectors are understaffed and lack professionalism and have a bunch of dissatisfied staff as well as beneficiaries. It is revealed that the planning and implementation of welfare services are done in an unprofessional and unscientific manner. Only a professional approach can view the problems technically and render lasting results

KEYWORDS: Institutional Services, Children in Need of Care and Protection, Social Welfare Administration, Child Welfare Services