SOCIAL SUPPORT EXTENDED TO ELDERLY BY THE CAREGIVERS’ PERSPECTIVE IN COIMBATORE CITY OF TAMIL NADU, INDIA. PATTERNS AND DIFFERENTIALS

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ABSTRACT
The increased elderly population highlighted the necessity to provide social support. With the changing roles of family as well as with the increased pace of industrialization and urbanization, the older persons are in a vulnerable position both in the family and the community. The elderly need support regarding financial aspects, health care, food and shelter and welfare. Older individuals are often more dependent on the social support networks than the other age group members, because of life events such as deaths, illness, physical impairment, retirement, residential relocation, reduced income or limited income that take place during this stage. Social support is an important aspect one should take into consideration. The elderly were in more need of social support, which gives them a sense of security, emotional support and satisfaction in life. With this background, in this paper an attempt is made to understand the patterns as well as differentials of care / support extended by the caregivers’ (pertaining to social support) to the elderly persons based on the empirical data collected from selected urban areas of coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu, India.

KEYWORDS: Caregivers, Elderly, Social Support, Coimbatore