

# Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) of College Going Students towards People with Disabilities

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## BACKGROUND

According to the 2011 census data of India the population with disabilities is around 26.8 million which is 2.21% of India's total population. Worldwide, an estimated 650 million people live with disability and about quarter of them are younger than 18 years of age (World Health Organisation, 2011). People with disability (differently abled people) face a lot of challenges to avail services like healthcare, education, employment, transport etc. Further the knowledge and attitude of society towards such individuals leads to discrimination and harassment against them or their inclusion within the mainstream.

## METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted on 130 under graduate and post graduate students of AMITY UNIVERSITY, NOIDA. The study was a cross sectional survey of students towards people with disabilities. A pre tested structured questionnaire including statements assessing attitude, knowledge and practice of students towards people with disability was used to collect information about the participants and their behavior towards disable people. Later biostatistical tools were employed to draw conclusions and to find out the results of the study.

## RESULT

The attitudes of students in the college were generally positive. 61.53% of the students would like a handicapped friend as much as their other friends, 93.07% would not try to stay away from handicapped person. In terms of practice 57.67% students have done something which has been very helpful for a person with disability, 90% of people tend to be more patient with people with disabilities. 90.76% students have knowledge that a child born with intellectual disability is not due to sin in previous life and 89.22 students have knowledge that a person with intellectual disability benefits from school/college.

## CONCLUSION

In this KAP study, the attitudes of majority of the students towards people with disability were generally positive. Since interpersonal contact is associated with positive attitudes towards people with disabilities interventions should be directed towards promoting interpersonal relationship and inclusive education practices in colleges/schools in order to build integrated society.