

## **PSYCHOLOGICAL MAPPING IN DHRUBASHRAM**

### **ABSTRACT:**

The term 'children- in-contact with law' CCL refers to any person below the age of 18 who has come in contact with the justice system as a result of committing a crime or being suspected of committing a crime. The kind of offences that the children are usually involved in are murder or attempt to murder, theft and related offences, rape, violation of Section 14 (Foreigners') Act and so on. Some are booked as offenders with no fault of theirs, such as illegally crossing the Indo-Bangladesh or Indo-Nepal border with an adult. Judicial processes are often lengthy and often take time while the child is kept confined in an Observation Home/ Special Home. Children thus face long periods of uncertainty and instability. Children living in sheltered care become alienated from the family and society at large, deprived of love and affection.

The study was conducted on 34 male children residing in Dhrubashram which is an observational home for male children- in-contact with law to understand their needs through mapping their personalities so that some of their dominant drives, emotions, sentiments, complexes and conflicts of their personalities could be understood, thereby helping to develop a child care plan and a Dance Movement Therapy (DMT) module from it. In order to map the personality of the individuals, a standardized test of personality called the Thematic Apperception Test, familiarly known as the TAT, was administered. From the study it was found that the participants have emotional difficulties along with complexities in interpersonal relationship. Integrates

### **I. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The aim of the present study is to understand the needs of the children residing in Dhrubashram through mapping their personalities so that some of their dominant drives, emotions, sentiments, complexes and conflicts of their personalities could be understood, thereby helping to develop a child care plan and a DMT module from it.

### **II. METHOD**

**About the assessment tool (TAT)** - In order to understand the personality of the residents of Dhrubashram, TAT was administered on them. The procedure is to present a series of pictures to a subject or participant encouraging him to tell stories about them invented on the spur of the moment. The pictures are presented as a test of imagination to the subject so that he forgets his sensitive self and the necessity of defending it against the probing of the examiner, and before he knows it he has said things about an invented character that apply to himself, things which he would have been reluctant to confess in response to a direct question. Since the participants are normal neuro functioning and TAT gives an opportunity to understand the dominant drives, emotions, sentiments, complexes and conflicts of the personalities of the participants it was found to be suitable for the present study.

Sample - The test could be administered on **34** participants within the time limit given which was for 3 months from 27<sup>th</sup> August to 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2014. Accidental or haphazard sampling was done. Subjects could not be interviewed for the following reasons – court visit, got bail or left home and meeting of the time deadline.

Process of interviewing - At first some information of the participants were noted down. These included their name, age, place of residence, family members, vocation, reason for coming to Dhrubashram and their duration of stay in the home which were all collected. 10 cards each containing a picture was presented to a participant one by one and the participant was required to make up a story for each card. After the completion of this task a blank card was presented to the participant where there were no pictures and the participant was required to make up any story that he liked. The participant told all the stories aloud which were noted down.

#### Instruction for the participants

- i. 'This is a story-telling activity. I am going to show you some pictures, one at a time, and your task will be to make up a story for each card. In your story, be sure to tell what has led up to the event shown in the picture, describe what is happening at the moment, what the characters are feeling and thinking, and then give the outcome. Tell a complete story with a beginning, middle, and end. Use your imagination and creativity as much as possible. Do you understand? I will write your stories verbatim/ record your stories as you tell them.'
- ii. 'Now I am going to ask you to do something different. This is a blank card that has no picture on it, please try to imagine a picture on this blank space and tell me a story.'

The participants were instructed that they were to tell a story and not merely describe the pictures. Stories should contain these four elements:

1. Current situation (What's going on now in the picture?)
2. Thoughts and feelings of the characters. (What are they thinking/feeling?)
3. Preceding events (What happened before? What led up to this current situation?)
4. Outcome (How does the story end?)

#### Interpretation

There are no formal, normative standards for the TAT. The simplest procedure for studying TAT responses is the inspection technique. Most clinicians interpret the TAT stories informally; repetitive patterns or themes become apparent by reading through a subject's stories.

One main thing to consider in the interpretation of the TAT is that the pictures are best seen psychologically as a series of social situations and interpersonal relations. Another way to

consider them is that all characters in the stories are projected aspects of the self, keeping in mind that they may represent the ideal self, the real self, the feared self etc.

### **III. ETHICAL ISSUE**

Consent was being taken from the authorities of Dhrubashram and all the participants took part in the study voluntarily. All the data obtained from the participants are kept confidential. All names have been changed to maintain confidentiality of the individuals.

### **IV. LIMITATIONS & CHALLENGES**

#### **Limitations:**

1. All the residents of Dhrubashram could not be included in the test due to time constraint
2. In some cases it was not possible to complete the entire procedure as they left the home in between. (This happened particularly when the interview was not complete in one day.)
3. No other psychological test could be administered to correlate the findings with that of the TAT due to time limit and absence of subjects
4. Accidental sampling had to be done and no controlling technique could be applied in the study
5. The findings are due to chance factors as no generalizations could be made

#### **Challenges in data collection –**

One big challenge faced in Dhrubashram was the unavailability of a proper place for interviewing. The interview had to be conducted in the store where different people walked in any time. There was noise and a lot of talking going around while the interview was taking place. Another issue was that the duration of stay of the participants in Dhrubashram is not fixed and it keeps changing every day. So if due to time constraint the interview was not able to be completed in one sitting then there was no guarantee that the participants would be available for the interview the next day. This was a typical problem with the participants from India.

### **V. PROFILE OF THE SUBJECTS –**

The ages of the subjects of the study ranged from 11 to 22 years with most of their ages being around 15. Out of the 34 participants 10 participants were from Bangladesh, 3 from Myanmar and the rest 21 participants were from India. While the participants from Bangladesh and Myanmar were in Dhrubashram mainly for crossing the Indo-Bangladesh border illegally, those from India were for varied reasons. 7 Indian participants were suspects of rape, 6 participants were suspects of murder, 5 were that of theft, 1 was a suspect of eve teasing and another 2 participants were found with hashish (a type of drug)

and with a bag of bombs respectively. The average educational qualification of the participants from India and Bangladesh was till class VI, while out of the three participants from Myanmar two participants had studied till class VI and I respectively while another participant had gone to school for a few days during his childhood. While some were students the other participants came from different walks of life. Some worked as tailors, some as laborers, some were in catering service, and some were rag pickers and many others. The duration of stay of the participants of the study varied from 1 week to 2 ½ years in Dhrubashram.

## **VI. ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS–**

From the interviews of the participants it could be seen that the subjects had generally viewed the selves as inadequate, rejected, sad and impulsive. The subjects had needs for achievement (sometimes mixed with affiliation), aggression, succorance and love. The conflicts found were activity versus passivity, pleasure versus morality and autonomy versus compliance. The super ego structure was found to be external in general. The defenses used were wish fulfillment, externalization and rationalization in most cases. Projection and reaction formation were the defenses used by some.

Except for 3 or 4 participants the rest had viewed family as distant. The participants had not perceived their contemporary figures as supportive in most cases. Environment was generally perceived as uncongenial while future was mostly viewed as positive and hopeful.

To summarize the findings in a table:

SELF	Generally viewed as inadequate, rejected, sad and impulsive
NEEDS	Achievement (sometimes mixed with affiliation), aggression, succorance and love.
CONFLICT	Activity versus passivity, pleasure versus morality, autonomy versus compliance
SUPEREGO	Generally external
DEFENSES	Wish fulfillment, externalization and rationalization in most cases. Projection and reaction formation for some.
INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIP	Family perceived as distant in most cases, except for 3 or 4 participants. Contemporary figures were not perceived as supportive in most cases.
ENVIRONMENT	Generally uncongenial
FUTURE	Mostly positive

Therefore it may be said that the participants have emotional difficulties along with complexities in interpersonal relationship.

## **TAT REPORTS OF THE PARTICIPANTS**

### 1. Name – S.R

Age – 22 years

Home – Bangladesh

Parents – Both parents are living

Siblings – 2 sisters and 2 brothers

Vocation – Business. Had studied class XII.

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – coming to India illegally

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - For 6 months when interviewed.

Report - The stories were spontaneous, structured and complete. The hero of the story was usually seen as impulsive and later regretting and finally turning out to be a model for others. Self was generally viewed as inadequate and impulsive. The needs assessed on TAT were need for achievement, succorance or care, social recognition and aggression (which is passive at times). The conflicts that were seen in the hero were activity versus passivity and id versus superego. Superego was usually found to be lenient and external. The defenses used were wish fulfillment, externalization and reaction formation.

Contemporary figures were seen as critical and sometimes rejecting. Family bonding was not quite adequate and perceived to be distant. Sometimes the participant seemed to have passive aggression for the authority (parental) figures. Though environment was generally perceived to be uncongenial and threatening, future was mostly perceived to be positive.

### 2. Name – S.K

Age – 17 years

Home – India

Family – Stays with father and 2 brothers. Mother had expired during childhood

Vocation – Left study, stayed at home.

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In theft case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - Around 3 ½ months when interviewed.

Report - The stories were generally spontaneous. The hero of the story usually found him in an opposing and uncongenial environment where the contemporary figures were seen as non supportive and distrustful. The hero often got into a fight or a quarrel with the contemporary figures and had a negative future in most of the stories. Self of the hero was viewed as inadequate, impulsive and expressing dissocial urges at times. The needs assessed on TAT were mostly need for aggression, authority and power with the hero showing fear of being powerful at times. The conflict mainly seen in the hero was activity versus passivity and sometimes pleasure versus morality. Superego was external, lenient and delayed. Externalization is the defense that was mostly used.

### 3. Name – N.H

Age – 18 years

Home – Bangladesh

Parents – Both parents living, grandfather also present

Siblings – 2 younger brothers

Vocation – Used to run a shop in his home town. Had studied till class VII.

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – Illegally crossing the Indo-Bangladesh border

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram -For 6 months when interviewed.

Report - The stories were quite spontaneous and structured. In the stories the hero usually needs to receive affiliation and recognition through achievement. Self was generally viewed as potent and sometimes as sad and worried. The needs assessed on TAT were need for achievement, affiliation and recognition. Super ego was lenient and external. The conflict that was mainly seen in the hero was affiliation versus aggression. The defense that was chiefly used was intellectualization and wish fulfillment.

Family bonding was perceived to be distant. Mother was perceived to be dependent and contemporary figures were seen as supportive. Environment was generally viewed as unfriendly though future was viewed as positive.

4. Name – S.S

Age – 17 years

Home – Bangladesh

Parents – Stays with mother, father has left them

Siblings – 1 elder sister of approximately 19 years who got married some months back

Vocation – Laborer

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram - Illegally crossing the Indo-Bangladesh border

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram - For 5 months when interviewed

Report - Participant was in a low mood and narrated the stories after much effort. The hero of the story was usually perceived as sad, inadequate and rejected. Self was sometimes identified with opposite sex figure. The needs assessed on TAT were need for achievement, succorance or care and aggression. The conflict that was seen in the hero was pleasure versus morality. The defenses used were rationalization, projection and isolation.

Contemporary figures were seen as rejecting and manipulating. There was a fear of loss of love. Family bonding was seen as distant. Environment was perceived as unfriendly.

5. Name – P.S

Age – 14

Home - Bangladesh

Parents – Stays with mother, father has left them

Siblings – 1 brother and sister, both younger to him

Vocation – Left school 4 years ago; has been working in a hotel as a waiter for last 2 months

before coming to Dhruvashram

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram - Illegally crossing the Indo-Bangladesh border

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - For 8 months when interviewed

Report - Stories were generally structured and complete. The hero of the story was generally seen as sad, helpless having a desire for achievement but was doubtful about his abilities. Self was generally viewed as inadequate and depressed. The needs of the hero assessed on TAT were need for achievement, affiliation, autonomy, love and aggression. The conflicts that were seen in the hero were autonomy versus compliance and pleasure versus morality. The defenses used were rationalization, externalization and wish fulfillment.

Contemporary figures and family bonding were seen as distant. Mother figure was found as demanding. Environment was generally perceived as threatening and future was generally seen as pessimistic.

6. Name – A.G

Age – 14 years

Home – India

Parents – Father had expired a week ago and mother was in jail when interviewed

Siblings – 1 elder brother who was also with him in Dhruvashram for the same cause

Vocation – Working as a tailor for the last 2-3 years; studied till standard II

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In murder case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - For 5 days when interviewed.

Report - Stories were structured. The hero of the story was usually perceived as sad, worried seeking a nurturing paternal figure. Self of the hero was viewed as depressed and inadequate. The needs assessed on TAT were mainly need for succorance and sometimes affiliation and aggression. A dissocial urge was also seen. The conflicts seen in the hero were trust versus mistrust and pleasure versus morality. Superego was external with feelings of guilt. Wish fulfillment was the main defense used along with projection and rationalization at times.

Family bonding was perceived as distant and not nurturing. Conflict was perceived with the mother figure. Father figure was perceived as powerful and aggressive. Environment was perceived as threatening. Future was generally seen as hopeful.

7. Name – S.G

Age – 16 years

Home – India

Parents – Father had expired a week ago and mother was in jail when interviewed;

got married 4 months back

Siblings – 1 younger brother who was also with him in Dhruvashram for the same cause

Vocation – Working as a tailor for the last 1 and half years; before that worked as a butcher for 1 year; studied till standard IV

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In murder case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - For 5 days when interviewed.

Report - Stories were generally structured. The hero sought affection mainly from the father figure. Self was generally seen as potent and sometimes as depressed. The needs of the self as seen on TAT were need for succorance, achievement and aggression. The conflicts that were seen in the hero were autonomy versus compliance and intra versus extra aggression.

Family bonding was perceived as distant. Conflict was perceived in heterosexual relationship and mother-son relationship. Environment was generally perceived as unfriendly. Future was seen as hopeful.

8. Name – H.G

Age – 18 years

Home – Bangladesh

Parents – Both parents are living

Siblings – 1 younger brother

Vocation – Was studying in standard X before coming here

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – Illegally crossing the Indo-Bangladesh border

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - For 7 months when interviewed.

Report - The stories were structured and complete. The hero of the story was generally seen as inadequate, sad and helpless. The needs assessed on TAT were achievement, aggression and authority and succorance. The conflict perceived by the hero was autonomy versus compliance. Super ego was generally external. The defenses used were externalization, rationalization and wish fulfillment.

Contemporary figures were seen as mistrusting and non supportive. Family was viewed as distant. There was a need for a supportive paternal figure. Mother figure was seen as distant though there was a need for succorance from there. Conflict was perceived in heterosexual relationship. Environment was perceived as threatening while future was generally perceived as positive.

9. Name – Z.H

Age – 17 years

Home – Bangladesh

Family members – Parents, three sisters and one brother



Vocation – Was studying in standard VII

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – Illegally crossing the Indo-Bangladesh border

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram - In Dhrubashram for 8 months when interviewed.

Report - The stories were structured and complete. The hero of the story showed the need to have a family. The self of the hero was seen as sad, inadequate and worried. The needs of the self assessed on TAT were achievement, affiliation, succorance and aggression. The conflict that was seen in the hero was activity versus passivity. Super ego was external and lenient. Wish fulfillment was the main defense used along with rationalization.

Though family was perceived to be distant, the need to have nurturing parental figures and heterosexual relation was seen in the hero. There was a fear of being alone. Environment was perceived as unfriendly. Future was generally perceived as hopeful.

10. Name – A.D

Age – 15 years

Home – India

Family members – Mother, 6 brothers, 1 sister and 3 sisters-in-law; father had expired 10 -12 years ago

Vocation - Laborer

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – In rape case

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram - 1 year when interviewed.

Report - The participant found it very difficult to construct stories from the pictures. The hero of the story was found guilty over his deeds. Self was seen as sad, lonely and rejected. The needs of the self assessed on TAT were need for aggression and achievement. Super ego was harsh and external. The defenses used were undoing and reaction formation. Though family bonding was perceived, nature of relationship could not be understood from the story. Need for a nurturing mother figure was seen in the hero. Though environment was perceived as unfriendly and threatening, future was seen as hopef

11. Name – S.D

Age – 19 years

Home – India

Family members – Parents, 1 brother and grandmother

Vocation – Currently doing graduation

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – In murder case

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram – 2 ½ years when interviewed.

Report - Stories were structured. The hero of the story was perceived to have needs for love and dissocial behavior. Self was seen as worried and lonely. The needs assessed on TAT were need for love, achievement, authority, aggression and succorance. The conflicts seen in the hero were trust versus mistrust and autonomy versus compliance. Feeling of guilt was seen in the hero. Super ego was external and very lenient at times. The defenses seen in the hero were externalization, projection and rationalization.

Family bonding was seen as distant. Mistrust was seen in heterosexual relationship. Environment was perceived as unfriendly.

12. Name – J.I

Age – 13 years

Home – Bangladesh

Parents – Father present, mother has expired; has a step-mother

Siblings – 2 brothers and 3 sisters; 1 his own and the rest are steps

Vocation – Was studying in standard VI

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – Coming to India illegally

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram - In Dhrubashram for 5 months

Report - The hero of the story was found to be suffering from feelings of guilt. Self was seen as worried, inadequate, sad and impulsive. Need for aggression was high along with needs for achievement and succorance. The conflicts found were pleasure versus morality, id versus super ego. Reaction formation was the main defense used. Other defenses were wish fulfillment, externalization and projection. Contemporary figures were usually seen as mistrustful and deceiving. Conflict and mistrust was seen in heterosexual relationship. Environment was uncongenial. Future was perceived to be hopeful.

13. Name – S.N

Age – 15 years, officially 16

Home – India

Family – Parents, 1 brother, grandparents, uncle and aunt

Vocation – Was studying in standard IX

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – In rape case

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram - 1 week when interviewed.

Report - Stories were structured. The hero was mainly found to be having feeling of guilt. Self was seen as sad and impulsive. The needs of the hero assessed on TAT were need for succorance, love and aggression. The conflict seen in the hero was id versus superego. Superego was generally external. Defenses used were undoing and projection. Family was perceived as distant. Environment was threatening. Future was perceived to be hopeful.

14. Name – M.D

Age – 17 years

Home – India

Family – Mother, 1 brother and 2 sisters; father has again married; works as a tailor in Mumbai

Vocation – Shoe-maker; studied till standard VII

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – In theft case

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram - For 3 months when interviewed.

Report – The hero of the story was worried about his future and hopes for a better prospect. Self was seen as sad, rejected and revengeful at times. The needs assessed on TAT were need for succorance, aggression and love. The conflict seen in the hero was id versus superego and autonomy versus compliance. The defenses used were wish fulfillment, rationalization and projection. Family was viewed as distant. Contemporary figures were seen as unfriendly. Environment was perceived as uncongenial. Future was generally viewed as positive.

15. Name – R.G

Age – 15 years

Home – Bangladesh

Family – Parents, 1 brother and 2 sisters

Vocation – Studied till standard III; left school 5-6 years ago; sometimes worked as a laborer

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – Coming to India illegally

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram - 5 and half months when interviewed.

Report – Stories were structured and complete. The hero of the story had a need for passivity accompanied by a guilt feeling and a conflict of activity versus passivity. The other needs assessed on TAT were need for love, aggression and authority.

The other conflicts seen were pleasure versus morality and autonomy versus compliance. Self was seen as sad, impulsive, rejected and deceived. Super ego was external. The defenses used were externalization, rationalization and wish fulfillment. Mistrust in heterosexual relationship. Environment was seen as demanding and future was generally viewed as positive.

16. Name – M.A

Age – 16 years

Home – At present in Kashmir; previously in Myanmar

Family – Mother and 13 siblings; father had expired 2 weeks ago in an accident

Vocation – Was studying in standard VI

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – Coming to India illegally

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram – 1 and half years when interviewed.

Report – Stories were structured and complete. The hero of the story had a need for passivity while having a conflict of activity versus passivity and was worried about the potentiality of the self. Self was also seen as worried, less potent, helpless and sometimes deceived. The other need found was need for authority. Rationalization was the defense used. Contemporary figures were seen as unsupportive. There was mistrust for the environment. Future was hopeful.

17. Name – N.A

Age – 11 years

Home – At present in Kashmir; previously in Myanmar

Family – Parents, 2 sisters and 3 brothers

Vocation – Studied till standard I; used to cut wood and sell it with his father after they had left their home in Myanmar

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – Coming to India illegally

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram 1 ½ years when interviewed.

Report – Stories were spontaneous. The self of the hero was rejected who usually found himself in an uncongenial and threatening environment. Self was also seen as playful, sad and helpless. The needs assessed on TAT were need for achievement, aggression, care and sometimes of altruism. The defenses used were mainly rationalization and wish fulfillment. Contemporary figures were seen as demanding and unfriendly. Future was seen as positive.

18. Name – M.N

Age – 12 years

Home – India

Family – Parents, 1 brother and 2 sisters

Vocation – Doing vehicle servicing for more than 1 year; studied till standard II

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – Found with bag of bombs

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram - For more than 2 months when interviewed when interviewed.

Report - Stories were structured. The hero of the story generally found himself in an uncongenial or threatening environment where the self of the hero was seen as sad, worried, confined and less potent. The needs assessed on TAT were need for succorance, achievement and aggression. The conflicts seen in the hero were autonomy versus compliance and pleasure versus morality. The defenses used were rationalization. Family perception was inadequate and parental figures were seen as punitive. Environment was seen as threatening and future was usually seen as negative.

19. Name – L.H

Age – 14 years

Home – India

Family – Parents, 1sister and 1 brother

Vocation – Rag picker

Reason for coming to Dhrubashram – For theft case

Duration of stay in Dhrubashram - 2-3 months when interviewed

Report - Stories were structured and spontaneous. The hero of the story usually had a major need for aggression. The other needs of the hero assessed on TAT were need for achievement and care. Self of the hero was seen as sad, worried and less potent. The main

conflict found was intra aggression versus extra aggression. Defense used was rationalization. Super ego was generally external. Contemporary figures were seen as threatening and heterosexual relationship was seen as conflicting. Environment was perceived as uncongenial. Future was sometimes seen as positive and sometimes as negative.

20. Name – U.K.D

Age – 16 years

Home – India

Family – Parents, 1 sister and 1 brother

Vocation – Was studying in standard X

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In murder case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - For 1 and half months when interviewed.

Report - Stories were structured and spontaneous. Self was seen as sad. The needs assessed on TAT were need for succorance, aggression and authority. The conflicts seen were autonomy versus compliance. Super ego was external with the presence of guilt feeling. The defenses used were reaction formation and isolation. Family perception was inadequate. Environment was seen as demanding and future was viewed as positive.

21. Name – A.P

Age – 16 years

Home – India

Family – Father separated from childhood; stays in mother's place with mother, grandmother, grandfather, 2 cousin sisters

Vocation – Was studying in standard IX

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In murder case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - Around 2 months when interviewed

Report - Stories were structured. Self was seen as worried and impulsive. The needs assessed on TAT were achievement, succorance and aggression. The conflict seen was approach versus approach. The defenses used were externalization and rationalization. Mistrust in heterosexual relation and distant relation with maternal figure. Environment was perceived as uncongenial. Future was hopeful.

22. Name – S.A

Age – 22 years

Home – Myanmar; at presents his family has been living in Kashmir for the last 1 and half years

Family – Parents, 2 sisters and 2 brothers

Vocation – Cultivation; went to school for few days

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – Coming to India illegally

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram – For 13 months when interviewed.

Report - Stories were structured. The hero of the story was sad, worried, and helpless and usually found himself in an uncongenial environment. The needs assessed on TAT were need for succorance, love and altruism. Conflict was trust versus mistrust. Defense used was wish fulfillment, isolation. Parental figures were seen as demanding and other contemporary figures were seen as supportive. Future was seen as positive.

23. Name – S.R

Age – 16 years

Home – India

Family – Parents and 1 brother.

Vocation – In catering service for around 1 and half years

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In eve teasing case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - In Dhruvashram for 2 months when interviewed

Report – Self of the hero was seen as sad. The needs of the hero assessed on TAT were need for succorance, love, aggression and sometimes achievement. The conflicts seen were activity versus passivity and autonomy versus compliance. Super ego was external and lenient with the presence of guilt feelings at times. Defense used was mainly rationalization and undoing at times. Family was perceived as distant. Future was generally viewed as positive.

24. Name – Z.A

Age – 17 years

Home – India

Family – Mother and 4 brothers; father had expired 2 and half years ago

Vocation – Was studying in standard X

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – Was found with hashish, a type of drug.

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - 3 months when interviewed

Report - - Stories were structured. The self of the hero was seen as worried, deceived at times and very depressed. The needs assessed on TAT were need for succorance, achievement, aggression and autonomy. The conflict found was trust versus mistrust. Super ego was lenient. Defenses used were rationalization and externalization. Contemporary figures were not nurturing. Environment was perceived as uncongenial. Future was sometimes seen as positive and sometimes as negative.

25. Name – K.M

Age – 15 years

Home – India

Family – Mother, step father and 1 brother; biological father had expired during childhood

Vocation – Making sweets; studied till standard IV

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In rape case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - Approximately for 1 month when interviewed

Report – Stories were structured. The self of the hero was seen as sad and worried and yearned for a mother figure. The other needs assessed on TAT are need for succorance and aggression. The conflict found was trust versus mistrust. Defenses used were externalization, wish fulfillment, reaction formation and projection. Family perception was inadequate and aggressive towards maternal figure. Environment was uncongenial. Future was viewed as positive.

26. Name – A.J

Age – 16 years

Home – India

Family – Parents, 2 brothers and 2 sisters

Vocation – Working as a tailor for 2 years; went to school for few days during childhood

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In rape case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram – 1 and half years when interviewed

Report - Self of the hero was seen as sad, worried and rejected. The needs assessed on TAT were need for love, aggression, authority and passivity. The conflict seen was autonomy versus compliance. The defenses used were rationalization and wish fulfillment. Contemporary figures were seen as stressful. Environment was seen as uncongenial and future was seen as positive.

27. Name – S.P

Age – About 13 years

Home – India

Family – Father and step mother; own mis mother had left 3 years ago

Vocation – Cooking in a hotel for last 3 years; left school some years ago

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In theft case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - More than 1 year when interviewed

Report - Stories were spontaneous, structured and complete. The hero of the story seemed to be sad and rejected, deceived having feelings of guilt. Self of the hero was seen as worried, inadequate, confined and impulsive. The needs of the hero were need for aggression, achievement, affiliation, autonomy and dissocial behavior. Conflicts seen were pleasure versus morality trust versus mistrust. Super ego was external and delayed. Defenses used were projection, wish fulfillment, reaction formation, externalization. Aggression was expressed towards parental figures and mistrust towards contemporary figures. Environment was perceived as uncongenial. Future was sometimes optimistic and sometimes pessimistic.

28. Name – M.S.H.G

Age – 13 years

Home – Bangladesh

Family – Parents

Siblings – 2 elder sisters both married

Vocation – Used to collect papers and bottles; worked in Delhi for 1 year; studied till standard V

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – Caught in border with family

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - About 21 days when interviewed

Report - The stories were structured, spontaneous and complete. The self of the hero was sad, worried, inadequate and confined who found himself in an uncongenial and threatening environment. The needs assessed on TAT were need for succorance and aggression. The conflicts seen were autonomy versus compliance. Defense used was rationalization. Contemporary figures were seen as rejecting. Future was sometimes positive and sometimes negative.

29. Name – R.D

Age – 16 years

Home – India

Parents – Stays with father; mother had expired a year back

Siblings – 1 elder sister, married

Vocation – Was studying in standard X

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In rape case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - For 1 month when interviewed

Report – Self was seen as rejected, sad. The needs assessed on TAT were need for succorance, love and achievement. The conflict seen was pleasure versus morality. The defense used was mainly rationalization. Super ego was generally external. Contemporary figures and environment were generally perceived as unfriendly. Future was perceived to be positive.

30. Name – K.M

Age – 14 years

Home – India

Parents – Both present

Siblings – 5 brothers and 2 sisters

Vocation – Sometimes worked as a laborer and presently was working in the field with his father; Studied till standard IV

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In rape case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - For 2 weeks when interviewed when interviewed

Report - Stories were structured and spontaneous. The hero had a high need for love and the self of the hero was seen as depressed accompanied with fear of rejection. The other needs were need for aggression and succorance. The conflicts seen were mainly



approach versus avoidance and activity versus passivity. The defenses used were projection, reaction formation and wish fulfillment. There was difficulty in family perception, mistrust for contemporary figures and passive aggression towards authority figures. Environment was threatening and non supportive. Future was generally positive.

31. Name – Sa.D

Age – 13 years

Home – India

Family – Parents, 1 brother

Vocation – Worked in catering sector for 1 month

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In theft case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - 2 months when interviewed

Report - The hero of the story seemed to be worried. The needs assessed on TAT were need for succorance and love and there was fear for loss of love. The conflict seen was activity versus passivity. Defense used was isolation. Family perception was inadequate. Environment was unfriendly. Future was positive.

32. Name – I.P

Age – 15 years

Home – India

Family – 1 brother, parents and grandparents

Vocation – Driving for 1 month; studied till standard VIII

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In murder case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - For 1 and half months when interviewed

Report – Stories were structured, complete and generally spontaneous. The main need of the hero of the story was need for love. The other needs were need for aggression and sometimes for power, authority and dissocial behavior. Self was seen as worried, sad, rejected and deceived. The conflicts seen were trust versus mistrust and pleasure versus morality and at times autonomy versus compliance.

Defenses used were projection and rationalization. Super ego was external and delayed. Sometimes there was feeling of guilt. There was mistrust for contemporary figures. Environment was perceived as uncongenial. Future was positive.

33. Name – Sh.S

Age – 15 years

Home – Bangladesh

Family – Parents and 3 sisters

Vocation – Worked for 4 years as a laborer in India; studied till standard V

Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – Coming to India illegally

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - For 4 months when interviewed

Report – The participant told the stories after a lot of effort. The needs assessed on TAT were need for passivity, love and succorance and sometimes achievement and aggression. The conflict seen was between achievement and ability. Defense used was rationalization. Family perception was inadequate and distant relationship was found with the mother figure. Environment was seen as uncongenial at times and future was generally seen as positive.

34. Name – R.R.D

Age – 15 years

Home - India

Family – Parents, brother, sister-in-law and niece

Vocation – Was studying in standard IX

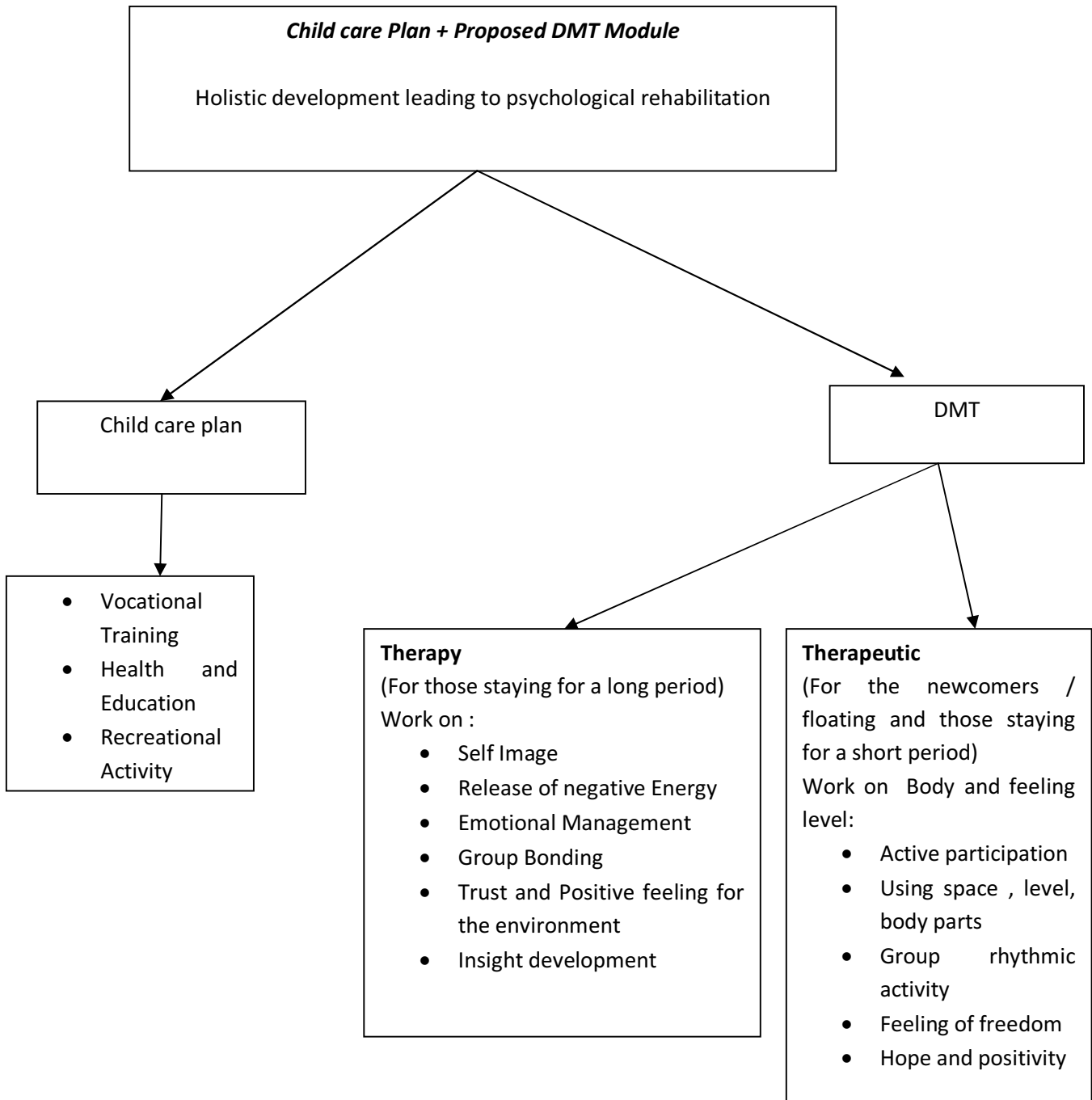
Reason for coming to Dhruvashram – In rape case

Duration of stay in Dhruvashram - For a week when interviewed.

Report – Stories were structured, complete and generally spontaneous. The hero of the story seemed to have an underlying anxiety related to physical harm. The needs assessed on TAT were need for succorance, love and aggression which was sometimes intra aggression. The conflicts seen were autonomy versus compliance and pleasure versus morality. The main defense used was rationalization. Maternal figure was seen as dominant and paternal figure was seen as dependent and helpless. Environment was seen as demanding and future was generally seen as positive.

## **VII. GOING AHEAD**

The study was conceived to enable the twofold development of a child care plan and a realistic DMT module that would act as a tool for psycho-social support of the residents of Dhruvashram. In order to understand the needs of the residents of Dhruvashram through psychological intervention it was discovered that the participants generally had inadequate self image with emotional difficulties along with complexities in interpersonal relationship. Along with meeting these needs it should also be kept in mind that Dhruvashram has a floating population where a change might be expected every day as a new child may come anytime and their stay can be for a day or even for a year or more. While the stay of residents from India is usually short that of the residents from other countries is usually quite long. Inside the home the movements of the inhabitants is very restricted and often they spend inactive time there. Hence keeping the needs of the participants and their contextual realities in mind a model is proposed for their overall well being.



## APPENDIX: 1

Stories told by one participant who is 13 years old and has been charged for theft.

Card 1: He wants to play the guitar but he doesn't know how to play it. He would try by himself because there is nobody to teach him. He is sitting and thinking how to learn it. Everybody knows how to play the guitar except him. Perhaps his friends would teach him. He needs his parents his family to teach him. If he learns to play it he would be in a better position. He would go to different prestigious places to play the guitar and would be applauded by many. He would become a rich man. There are so many things to know about the guitar. Everybody would say that the boy is good. His friends would call him and he would think which one to go for i.e. play with them or play the guitar. After he has tried by himself he would go to a big person who would teach him to play the guitar. He wants to earn respect for his parents and himself. His goal in life was to play the guitar. The boy is thinking that he would always do the right thing, would never steal anybody else's belongings and would never lie; he would only listen to his friends and nobody else. He is alone at present. The string of his guitar got torn and there is darkness around him and he is thinking whom to call.

Previously his parents played guitar and that's why he also wants to be like them. His parents also wanted that and they thought that their son shouldn't steal or do any other mischievous things. Afterwards the boy would think that he should try to put the string by himself and doesn't need to call anybody. He should have the guts.

On enquiry – The boy his at his own home at present and his parents in their home. He told his parents that he would try to learn on his own. He can only learn if he wants and tries by himself. The boy is 12 or 13 years old. He stole money, dress and other things before and now he realizes that he shouldn't have done that. Somebody else told him to steal. People would call him a thief so he wants to leave that and play the guitar.

Card 2: The girl has books in her hands, she is going to study. Her father is with a horse and her mother is standing near her. The girl is feeling sorry to see that her mother and she have dress but her father has none to wear. They were very poor. She is thinking that I am beautiful unlike my parents and studying in a school my parents shouldn't be in this condition. She is thinking that I need to study to be successful and look after my parents. I've done many bad works in my life now I should do some good. She would study and when she would fare well in her examination her parents would congratulate her. If she passes in her exams she would get some money with which she would help her parents to get a house. I need to be a successful person. When she goes to school if the any girl teases her or fights with her and tell her that she is not a good girl and cannot read the girl (seen in the picture) might get angry and inform her parents about it. Her parents would go with her to school and tell them not to disturb the girl in her studies. The other girls

used to beat this girl everyday and one day the girl's parents went to her school riding the horse to take her back. Her parents told her that she is a good girl and shouldn't quarrel with others and listen to the teacher. One day the girl saw her father to be very angry as the other girls beat her and the girl thought that she would not go to school and get beaten by others. Rather, she should stay back with her parents. She would leave school.

Previously both her parents were teachers. Now they do household jobs. They grew different types of vegetables in their land. The girl's future was doomed and the one responsible for that should be punished.

Card 3: One girl is sitting and crying and she was thinking why I am like this. Neither could I study nor could I see my parents. Now she is alone at home. Her parents and her friends had all left her. She is thinking that I should not go on crying like this I need to bring my parents back. She would bring them back and ask them to forgive her. She promised not to fight with other girls. All the boys and girls had left her as she fought with them and her friends also fought with her. She thought that if I be a good boy then no one would fight with me. Then s/he went to school and made friends with others but again fought with them. Then her parents said that you are not a good girl/boy. Being their daughter she used to beat her parents. Her parents told her we are your parents we are elder to you and you are beating us? You shouldn't do it. She again asked for forgiveness. But they asked her how many times will you say this? You've already said this 5-6 times before. The girl was a thief she stole others' belongings and told her mother that I fought with others. She bit her mother again and asked her where was her (the girl's) locker? The girl threatened her parents with a knife to open her locker so that the girl (named Ruma, name given by the participant) could take her money. When her parents refused to do she pushed her father hard. He got hit badly and died. She blocked the breath of her mother with a pillow and she also died. She left home and ate at a place that was priced Rs 23. She had Rs 22 with her and didn't have Re 1. The owner of the hotel rebuked her and took the money. She cried for her parents. The police found her from there and put her to jail.

Her future life will be ruined. No one would make friends with her as she has killed her own parents and they would say what if she killed their parents also. Right now she felt helpless.

Card 4 – This is a husband and this is his wife. They are planning to shift in a better house. But they don't have any money in their locker to buy a big house. They are worried. The

husband is saying that you are a good wife of mine but you need to do some work. They are thinking hard as they don't have money to do any work. They cut wood illegally and sell that. One day the husband asks the wife to bring an axe for cutting wood. The wife while going to bring it falls on quicksand. The husband returns home. Three people come and state that they know everything and his wife and he do and ask him where his wife is. The husband says that he doesn't know anything and tells them to go away. Then at night the man i.e. the husband, sees three moons. He is very confused to see that. Some music is coming from the moons. Listening to that the man started walking and he also falls on a quicksand. Both the man and his wife have died in this way. Now that he is dead he is thinking that I'm suffering for my own deed. I had made so many plans to kill my wife now I'm also dead along with my wife.

He made plans to kill his wife because she lied that she doesn't have any money. She had lied because she was not his wife. She had disguised to be his wife and wanted to steal his money. His wife was away from him staying in a different place.

Card 6 – Here is a mother and her son. The son is asking his mother to give 1 crore rupees. His mother is saying that she is an old woman from where will she get so much of money. When his mother refuses to give the money he beats her. His mother is saying how can you beat me? I've grown you up with all the care. Then the mother complains to the police. The police put the son in jail. The son draws a picture of his mother with a stone on the wall of the jail and cries. The other residents of the jail used to eat snatch his egg and eat it and he had a fight with them. Then the mother brought back her son from jail and said that he cannot fool her and say that he has got a lot of money. The son says that he is telling the truth and tells his mother that you are a fraud; you have stolen all my money. His mother actually stole all his money. When the son asked her to open the locker he found he found money, gold etc. The mother asks for forgiveness. He saw his ring in his mother's hand and when the mother refuses to give it back they entered a fight. The mother stabbed her son and when she discovered that he is dead she started mourning. Police took the mother to jail and she sentenced lifelong imprisonment.

Card 7 – These two people are planning to steal something. They steal in partners. One of them has seen a piece of diamond and telling the other person that they should steal it. The other person at first said that they shouldn't do it as it belonged to somebody else but then agreed with the other person. They were planning to steal and sell the diamond which would make them rich. They stole the diamond. One person said that we could sell it for one lakh the other person said that it was enough. So the first person said that they shouldn't be too greedy. If they are caught public would beat them and if police catches them. They would be severely punished. The other person however said nothing would happen to them and if police manages to catch them they would say that they have not

stolen it. They started to flee in different countries and finally came in hold of the police and were sentenced to death for stealing diamond. The two persons wanted to share a word with their parents. After their parents came they had said that they would like to take the punishment. All four of them wanted to take the punishment and the judge being confused said that the court was adjourned for the day and the next hearing would take place in the following day. By that time the elder person seen in the picture managed to escape while the younger one preferred to stay back and the later informed the judge about it. The judge said that he would let the younger person go and would punish the other person when he would be caught.

Card 8 – Here it can be seen that one person has been killed by the other persons with a gun and knife and now they are operating the person. They are trying to take his kidneys and eyes out. They want to sell those. They have gathered enough money by killing other persons and selling the body parts. The person standing in front is a good doctor and the other persons are thieves. The thieves have different weapons and the doctor has none. The thieves want to kill the doctor who is the authority figure and is the most able and become doctors themselves. One day the thieves stabbed the doctor and the doctor in return have put the knife back to the stomachs of the two thieves. Then the policeman comes and asks the doctor, “Who are you?” He replies, “I’m a doctor of this place.” So the police ask, “How could you do this being a doctor?” The doctor says that he has not done anything to the person lying down all that have been done by the thieves. The police ask how this is possible they are dead. The policeman takes him to the police station. The court gives him four years imprisonment. The doctor asks the judge, “What is my offense sir? I’ve not done anything. The judge replies don’t act too smart otherwise I’ll give you more years of imprisonment. So the doctor keeps quiet. Later the doctor was made a policeman. So he feels good thinking that from a prisoner I’m turned into a police. The man again kills a person so he is suspended and has been sent to jail again. After he is out of the jail he gets the job of garbage cleaner. Again and again he has been killing many people and taking their money. Later he has been sentenced to death. The doctor was not good from the beginning. He killed people to become the biggest doctor and have a lot of money.

Blank Card– One girl is sitting alone. She has no friends and is in search of one. One day she sees a boy passing by. She likes the boy and although girls don’t generally make friends with boys she makes it as she is in need of friends. However this boy is not good, he rapes the girl and kills her. Then the boy goes to another girl and tells her that he would rape her also. This girl has a good friend called Kalu and he tries to protect the girl from the bad boy named Lalu. One day Lalu falls sick. Lalu has a good friend who tells him that so far you’ve only done heinous acts from now on do some good to others. Lalu asks for forgiveness from others and dies from a disease.

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