

## Curiosity among Normal and Disabled Children

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### Abstract:

*In our common opinion, curiosity is closely related to scientific discovery, exploration of the earth and the universe interest in the supernatural, puzzles, spectator sports and murder mysteries Curiosity is an emotion related to natural inquisitive behavior such as exploration, investigation and learning, evident by observation in human and many animal species. Human beings are most curious species on the earth and childhood is the stage where curiosity among individual is at it's on the peak. Curiosity is often described as natural and notable characteristic of young children. The main objective was to study curiosity among normal and disabled children. The research design was descriptive in nature. Sample selection was done from Rajnikhand and Hazratganj area of Lucknow city using purposive random sampling technique. The total sample size was 120. Findings of the study revealed that 91.0 percent normal and 82.0 percent disabled children respectively had high curiosity level. Chi-square value was found no significant when calculated for frequency of curiosity.*

**Key words:** Curiosity, normal children and physically disabled children.

## **Introduction**

In our common opinion, curiosity is closely related to scientific discovery, exploration of the earth and the universe interest in the supernatural, puzzles, spectator sports and murder mysteries. We generally think of curiosity as a favorable trait motivating our human beings learning activities. And it has also been consistently recognized as a critical motivates which influences human behavior in both positive and negative ways all stage of life. William James in his classic work “the principles of psychology”, where he described two types of curiosity: “instinctual curiosity response” and scientific curiosity”. In instinctual curiosity response attention is aroused by seeing something new, whereas is the scientific curiosity, the “brain responds to an inconsistency or a gap in its knowledge, just as the musical brain responds to a discord in what is hear.” Scientific curiosity has been cited as a major impetus behind scientific discovery, possibly eclipsing even the drive for economic gain.

Broadly conceptualized, mindfulness is defined as a receptive attention to what is happening in the present moment that, in practice, can be facilitated by an attitude of interest or curiosity. (William, 2008). Curiosity may be particularly important to the exercise of mindfulness in challenging threatening experiential context, as this attitude can make experiences more openly accessible to mindful attention (Bishop et al., 2004). Because curiosity concern an embrace of novelty and openness to new experiences It operate counter attempts to avoid or alter difficult thoughts, feeling or situations (Kashdan et al., 2009). Curiosity focuses a person’s attention and motivates them to explore their environment with an appreciation of novelty, challenge and uncertainly (Silvia & Kashdan, 2009).

Objective to study level of curiosity among normal or disabled children.

Hypothesis: Ho 1: There exist no difference between level of curiosity and health of children

## **Material and Methods**

The research design of the present study was descriptive in nature. The sample size was 120 children (60 normal and 60 physically disabled) and the sample was collected from Lucknow city using Interview Schedule along with Children Curiosity Scale, prepared by Dr. Rajiv Kumar. The sample was collected through purposive random sampling technique. The data calculated was analyzed using frequency, percentage and chi-square.

## **Result and discussion**

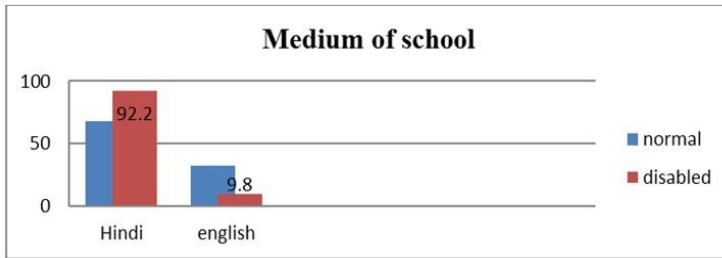
Finding of the study, as obtained after analysis of the data collected by the interview schedule along with standardized scale are described and discussed in this part of paper.

**Table.1 Distribution of respondent on the basis of age of respondents**

| S.n. | Age of respondent (year) | Normal    | Disabled  |
|------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1    | 9-11                     | 27 (45.0) | 32 (53.4) |
| 2    | 12-14                    | 33(55.0)  | 28 (46.6) |

Data in table.1 discuss distribution of respondents according to age that 45.00 percent normal and 60.4 percent disabled respondents were belonging to age group 9-11years where as 55.0 percent normal and 46.6 percent disabled respondents were belonging to age group 12-14 years.

**Fig.1 Distribution of respondent on the basis of medium of education**



Data in figure.1 showed that 67.8 percent normal and 92.2 percent disabled respondents were studying in Hindi medium whereas 32.2 percent normal and 9.8 percent disabled respondents were studying in English medium school.

| S. No | Statement  | Normal Children |              |              |              | Disabled Children |              |              |              |
|-------|--|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|       |  | Never           | Some times   | Often        | Always       | Never             | Some times   | Often        | Always       |
| 1.    | I like to visit new places   | 3<br>(4.9)      | 15<br>(25.4) | 18<br>(30.5) | 24<br>(40.0) | 1<br>(1.6)        | 16<br>(26.2) | 17<br>(27.9) | 26<br>(42.6) |
| 2.    | Try to know more about asking questions regarding the things shown or taught in the class. | 2<br>(3.3)      | 14<br>(23.7) | 22<br>(37.3) | 22<br>(37.3) | 2<br>(3.3)        | 23<br>(37.3) | 29<br>(47.5) | 6<br>(9.8)   |
| 3.    | When I see anything new in my room my attention goes toward it very soon                   | 1<br>(1.6)      | 19<br>(32.3) | 24<br>(40.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 5<br>(8.3)        | 28<br>(45.9) | 16<br>(26.2) | 11<br>(18.0) |
| 4.    | I desire to see by opening things (like television, transistor, alarm clock etc.)          | 7<br>(11.9)     | 21<br>(35.6) | 16<br>(26.2) | 16<br>(26.2) | 12<br>(19.7)      | 27<br>(44.3) | 13<br>(21.6) | 8<br>(13.1)  |
| 5.    | I desire very soon regarding anything without trying to know in details regarding it.      | 4<br>(6.6)      | 14<br>(23.7) | 15<br>(25.4) | 27<br>(45.8) | 5<br>(8.3)        | 8<br>(13.1)  | 25<br>(41.0) | 22<br>(36.1) |
| 6.    | When someone in my mohalla digs a pit, I try to know the reason of digging                 | 3<br>(4.9)      | 19<br>(32.2) | 24<br>(40.7) | 14<br>(23.0) | 13<br>(21.6)      | 23<br>(37.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 8<br>(13.1)  |
| 7.    | When my companion brings lunch- box I desire to see what food he brought in it.            | 7<br>(11.9)     | 21<br>(35.6) | 16<br>(26.2) | 16<br>(26.2) | 12<br>(19.7)      | 27<br>(44.3) | 13<br>(21.6) | 8<br>(13.1)  |
| 8.    | Taking the things in lonely place, I see how they work                                     | 2<br>(3.3)      | 14<br>(23.7) | 22<br>(37.3) | 22<br>(37.3) | 2<br>(3.3)        | 23<br>(37.3) | 29<br>(47.5) | 6<br>(9.8)   |
| 9.    | While seeing the movie I concentrate on those things on which others do not care.          | 1<br>(1.6)      | 19<br>(32.3) | 24<br>(40.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 5<br>(8.3)        | 28<br>(45.9) | 16<br>(26.2) | 11<br>(18.0) |

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|     |   |             |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
|-----|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 10. | When I see any companion in my neighbor going on rickshaw, I like to see where is he/she going? | 5<br>(8.5)  | 17<br>(28.8) | 19<br>(32.2) | 18<br>(30.5) | 26<br>(42.6) | 23<br>(37.7) | 9<br>(14.8)  | 3<br>(4.9)   |
| 11. | I become perplexed on seeing strange things   | 5<br>(8.5)  | 18<br>(30.5) | 22<br>(37.5) | 14<br>(23.0) | 14<br>(23.0) | 32<br>(37.7) | 17<br>(27.9) | 7<br>(11.5)  |
| 12. | I use to trust fully whatever I read?   | 5<br>(8.5)  | 17<br>(28.8) | 19<br>(32.2) | 18<br>(30.5) | 26<br>(42.6) | 23<br>(37.7) | 9<br>(14.8)  | 3<br>(4.9)   |
| 13. | Before deciding for anything I try to know regarding it in details.                             | 1<br>(1.6)  | 19<br>(32.3) | 24<br>(40.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 28<br>(45.9) | 16<br>(26.2) | 11<br>(18.0) |
| 14. | After seeing any things new I try to collect more information regarding it                      | 4<br>(6.8)  | 9<br>(15.3)  | 25<br>(42.4) | 21<br>(35.6) | 11<br>(18.0) | 26<br>(42.6) | 16<br>(26.2) | 8<br>(13.1)  |
| 15. | When I see many people going on road collectively I become eager to know where are they going?  | 3<br>(4.9)  | 15<br>(25.4) | 18<br>(30.5) | 24<br>(40.0) | 1<br>(1.6)   | 16<br>(26.2) | 17<br>(27.9) | 26<br>(42.6) |
| 16. | I like to play with courageous children.  | 2<br>(3.3)  | 14<br>(23.7) | 22<br>(37.3) | 22<br>(37.3) | 2<br>(3.3)   | 23<br>(37.3) | 29<br>(47.5) | 6<br>(9.8)   |
| 17. | I am always eager to know more.   | 5<br>(8.5)  | 18<br>(30.5) | 22<br>(37.5) | 14<br>(23.0) | 14<br>(23.0) | 32<br>(37.7) | 17<br>(27.9) | 7<br>(11.5)  |
| 18. | I like to explore new -new things.  | 3<br>(4.9)  | 19<br>(32.2) | 24<br>(40.7) | 14<br>(23.0) | 13<br>(21.6) | 23<br>(37.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 8<br>(13.1)  |
| 19. | I become desire to know the prize when I see anything new in the market.                        | 4<br>(6.6)  | 14<br>(23.7) | 15<br>(25.4) | 27<br>(45.8) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 8<br>(13.1)  | 25<br>(41.0) | 22<br>(36.1) |
| 20. | I concentrate on those things which others do not care.   | 1<br>(1.6)  | 19<br>(32.3) | 24<br>(40.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 28<br>(45.9) | 16<br>(26.2) | 11<br>(18.0) |
| 21. | When I see any old historical building I try to see all around after entering it.               | 1<br>(1.6)  | 19<br>(32.3) | 24<br>(40.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 28<br>(45.9) | 16<br>(26.2) | 11<br>(18.0) |
| 22. | I keep putting questions in the classroom.  | 4<br>(6.6)  | 14<br>(23.7) | 15<br>(25.4) | 27<br>(45.8) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 8<br>(13.1)  | 25<br>(41.0) | 22<br>(36.1) |
| 23. | I remain distant from uncommon and strange things.  | 7<br>(11.9) | 21<br>(35.6) | 16<br>(26.2) | 16<br>(26.2) | 12<br>(19.7) | 27<br>(44.3) | 13<br>(21.6) | 8<br>(13.1)  |
| 24. | When any new house is being constructed, I go to see what new things are being constructed.     | 2<br>(3.3)  | 14<br>(23.7) | 22<br>(37.3) | 22<br>(37.3) | 2<br>(3.3)   | 23<br>(37.3) | 29<br>(47.5) | 6<br>(9.8)   |
| 25. | I desire to do courageous works.  | 3<br>(4.9)  | 15<br>(25.4) | 18<br>(30.5) | 24<br>(40.0) | 1<br>(1.6)   | 16<br>(26.2) | 17<br>(27.9) | 26<br>(42.6) |
| 26. | I like to know how things are made.   | 3<br>(4.9)  | 19<br>(32.2) | 24<br>(40.7) | 14<br>(23.0) | 13<br>(21.6) | 23<br>(37.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 8<br>(13.1)  |
| 27. | I like to know more by going near on seeing any new machine                                     | 1<br>(1.6)  | 19<br>(32.3) | 24<br>(40.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 28<br>(45.9) | 16<br>(26.2) | 11<br>(18.0) |
| 28. | I often asks questions with my parents  | 5<br>(8.5)  | 17<br>(28.8) | 19<br>(32.2) | 18<br>(30.5) | 26<br>(42.6) | 23<br>(37.7) | 9<br>(14.8)  | 3<br>(4.9)   |

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|     |  |             |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
|-----|--|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 29. | When I enter the room, my attention goes all around.                                 | 4<br>(6.6)  | 14<br>(23.7) | 15<br>(25.4) | 27<br>(45.8) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 8<br>(13.1)  | 25<br>(41.0) | 22<br>(36.1) |
| 30. | I keep to solving puzzles till I do not solve them.                                  | 3<br>(4.9)  | 15<br>(25.4) | 18<br>(30.5) | 24<br>(40.0) | 1<br>(1.6)   | 16<br>(26.2) | 17<br>(27.9) | 26<br>(42.6) |
| 31. | I wonder on seeing stars in the sky.   | 1<br>(1.6)  | 19<br>(32.3) | 24<br>(40.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 28<br>(45.9) | 16<br>(26.2) | 11<br>(18.0) |
| 32. | I desire to read new story books   | 4<br>(6.6)  | 14<br>(23.7) | 15<br>(25.4) | 27<br>(45.8) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 8<br>(13.1)  | 25<br>(41.0) | 22<br>(36.1) |
| 33. | I use to trust fully when I hear anything strange.                                   | 1<br>(1.6)  | 19<br>(32.3) | 24<br>(40.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 28<br>(45.9) | 16<br>(26.2) | 11<br>(18.0) |
| 34. | I keep on seeing for a long time when an elephant come in my mohalla.                | 3<br>(4.9)  | 19<br>(32.2) | 24<br>(40.7) | 14<br>(23.0) | 13<br>(21.6) | 23<br>(37.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 8<br>(13.1)  |
| 35. | When I hear noise anywhere in my mohalla I come out from my house to see it.         | 5<br>(8.5)  | 17<br>(28.8) | 19<br>(32.2) | 18<br>(30.5) | 26<br>(42.6) | 23<br>(37.7) | 9<br>(14.8)  | 3<br>(4.9)   |
| 36. | I like to know about new animals and birds on seeing them in zoo.                    | 3<br>(4.9)  | 15<br>(25.4) | 18<br>(30.5) | 24<br>(40.0) | 1<br>(1.6)   | 16<br>(26.2) | 17<br>(27.9) | 26<br>(42.6) |
| 37. | I look very keenly the diagrams printed on newspaper.                                | 5<br>(8.5)  | 18<br>(30.5) | 22<br>(37.5) | 14<br>(23.0) | 14<br>(23.0) | 32<br>(37.7) | 17<br>(27.9) | 7<br>(11.5)  |
| 38. | On seeing new diagrams on the books I start reading it.                              | 1<br>(1.6)  | 19<br>(32.3) | 24<br>(40.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 28<br>(45.9) | 16<br>(26.2) | 11<br>(18.0) |
| 39. | I am very much desire to know regarding new strange things.                          | 1<br>(1.6)  | 19<br>(32.3) | 24<br>(40.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 28<br>(45.9) | 16<br>(26.2) | 11<br>(18.0) |
| 40. | I ask questions regarding those things only which I like.                            | 3<br>(4.9)  | 19<br>(32.2) | 24<br>(40.7) | 14<br>(23.0) | 13<br>(21.6) | 23<br>(37.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 8<br>(13.1)  |
| 41. | When I see persons working I like to know what they are doing by going near to them. | 3<br>(4.9)  | 15<br>(25.4) | 18<br>(30.5) | 24<br>(40.0) | 1<br>(1.6)   | 16<br>(26.2) | 17<br>(27.9) | 26<br>(42.6) |
| 42. | I try to find new words in the book.   | 7<br>(11.9) | 21<br>(35.6) | 16<br>(26.2) | 16<br>(26.2) | 12<br>(19.7) | 27<br>(44.3) | 13<br>(21.6) | 8<br>(13.1)  |
| 43. | I try to hear the tasks when I see the persons talking with each other.              | 1<br>(1.6)  | 19<br>(32.3) | 24<br>(40.7) | 16<br>(26.2) | 5<br>(8.3)   | 28<br>(45.9) | 16<br>(26.2) | 11<br>(18.0) |
| 44. | I try to know the name when any new student comes in my classroom.                   | 2<br>(3.3)  | 14<br>(23.7) | 22<br>(37.3) | 22<br>(37.3) | 2<br>(3.3)   | 23<br>(37.3) | 29<br>(47.5) | 6<br>(9.8)   |

Result in Table 2 indicated that 40 percent normal respondents and 42 percent disabled respondents said that they always like to visit new places. Around 37.3% normal respondents and 47.5

percent disabled respondent said that they often try to know more about asking questions regarding the things shown or thought in the class. Less than half of the respondents 40.7 percent normal often said and 45.9 percent disabled respondents said sometimes when they see anything new in their room their attention goes toward it very.

Few respondent 26.2 normal often said and 44.3 percent disabled respondents sometimes said that they desire to see by opening things (like television, transistor alarm clock etc.), 45.8 percent normal respondent said that they always desire very soon regarding anything without trying to know in details regarding it, while 41.0 percent disabled respondents said that they often desire very soon regarding anything without trying to know in details regarding it. Nearly 40.7 percent normal respondents said often while 37.7 percent disabled respondents said sometime when someone in their mohalla digs a pit; they try to know the reason of digging. About 35.6 percent normal respondents and 44.3 percent disabled respondents said that sometimes when their companion brings lunch box they desire to see what food he brought in it. Few 37.3 percent normal respondents said always while 47.5 percent disabled respondents said often taking the things in lonely place, they see how they work, while 40.7 percent normal respondents said often while 45.9 percent disabled respondents said sometimes while seeing the movie they concentrate on those things on which others do not care.

The result shows that 32.2 percent normal respondents said often while 42.6 percent disabled respondents said never when they see any companion in their neighbor going on rickshaw; they like to see where he/she is going. While near about 40 percent respondents said sometimes they become perplexed on seeing strange things. The result shows that 32.2 percent normal respondents said often while 42.6 percent disabled respondents said never they use to trust fully whatever they read? Less than half of the respondent's 40.7 percent normal respondents said often while 45.9 percent

disabled respondents said sometimes before deciding for anything they try to know regarding it in details. The result shows that 42.4 percent normal respondents said often while 42.6 percent disabled respondents were said sometimes after seeing any things new they try to collect more information regarding it. Near about 40 percent respondents said always when they see many people going on road collectively they become eager to know where they are going.

Around 37.3 percent normal respondents said always while 47.5 percent disabled respondents said that often they like to play with courageous children. Less than half of the 40 percent respondents said that sometimes they always eager to know more. The result shows that 40.7 percent respondents said often while 37.7 percent disabled respondents said that sometimes they like to explore new-new things. The less than of the respondent respondents 45.8 percent said always while 41 percent disabled respondents said often they become desire to know the prize when they see anything new in the market. The result shows that 40.7 percent normal respondents said often while 45.9 percent disabled respondents said that sometimes they concentrate on those things which others do not care and when they see any old historical building they try to see all around after entering it. The less than half of the respondents 45.8 percent normal respondents said always while 41 percent disabled respondents said that often they keep putting questions in the classroom. The results show that 35.6 percent normal respondents while 44.3 percent disabled respondents said that sometimes they remain distant from uncommon and strange things. While 37.3 percent normal respondents and 47.5 percent disabled respondents said often when any new house is being constructed, they go to see what new things are being constructed.

The less than half of the respondents 40 percent normal respondents and 42.6 disabled respondents said that always they desire to do courageous works. The result shows that 40.7 percent normal respondents said often while 37.7 percent



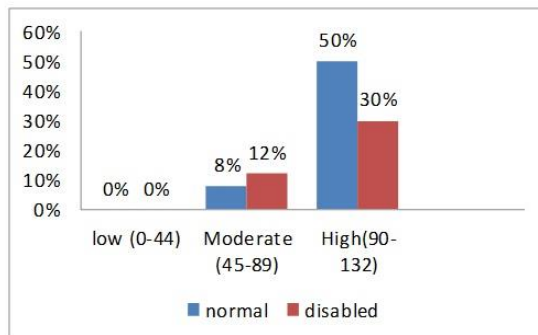
disabled respondents said sometimes they like to know how things are made. The result shows that 40.7 percent normal respondents said often while 45.9 percent disabled respondents said sometimes they like to know more by going near on seeing any new machine. The respondents 32.2 percent normal respondents said often while 37.7 percent disabled respondents said sometimes they often asks questions with their parents. The result shows that 45.8 percent normal respondents said always while 41 percent disabled respondents said often when they enter the room, their attention goes all around. The less than half of the respondents 40 percent respondents said always they keep to solving puzzles till they do not solve them.

The results shows that 40.7 percent normal respondents said often while 45.9 percent disabled respondents said that sometimes they wonder on seeing stars in the sky. The less than half of the respondents 45.8 percent normal respondents said that always while 41 percent disabled respondents said that often they desired to read new stories books. The 40.7 percent normal respondents said that often while 45.9 percent disabled respondents said that sometimes they used to trust fully when they hear anything strange. The respondents 40.7 percent normal respondents said often while 37.7 percent disabled respondents said that sometimes they keep on seeing for long time when an elephant come in their mohalla. The results shows that 32.2 percent normal respondents said that often while 42.6 percent disabled respondents said that never when they hear noise anywhere in their mohalla they come out from their house to see it. The 40 percent normal and 42 percent disabled respondents said that always they like to know about new animals and birds on seeing them in zoo. The near about 40 percent both groups of respondents said often they look very keenly the diagrams printed on newspaper.

The results shows that 40.7 percent normal respondents said that often while 45.9 percent disabled respondents said that sometimes on seeing new diagrams on the books they start reading it and they are very much desire to know regarding

new strange things. Less than half of the respondents 40 percent respondents said that often they ask questions regarding those things only which they like. While 40 percent normal respondents and 42.6 percent disabled respondents said that always when they see persons working they like to know what they are doing by going near to them. The 35.6 percent normal respondents while 44.3 percent disabled respondents said that sometimes they try to find new words in the book. The results shows that 40.7 percent normal respondents said often and 45.9 percent disabled respondents said that sometimes they try to hear the tasks when they see the persons talking with each other. The 37.3 percent normal respondents while 47.5 percent disabled respondents said that often that they try to know the name when any new student comes in their classroom.

**Fig.2 Distribution of respondent on the basis of level of curiosity**



Data in figure.2 showed that 8.0 percent normal and 12.0 percent disabled respondents were moderate level of curiosity where as 50.0 percent normal and 30.0 percent disabled respondents were having high level of curiosity and no anyone respondent have low level of curiosity.

Table.3 Chi-square value between Health of respondent (normal and disabled) children and level of curiosity of respondent

| Variable                             | Df | $\chi^2$ | Level of significant |
|--------------------------------------|----|----------|----------------------|
| Health of children (normal/disabled) | 2  | 0.52     | .05                  |

Table No. 3 discusses the chi- square value between health of respondent and level of curiosity.

Value computed to 0.05 at level of significant reveals that the calculated value of chi-squire was less then table value 0.50, thus having no significant relationship. Therefore the null hypothesis was accepted which means that there exists no relationship between Normal and Disabled children and their curiosity level. The finding of this study were contradictory with the study concluded by Devi Sarala (2012)

## **Conclusion**

Curiosity is a process of creating, maintaining and resolving conceptual conflicts. The highly curious person will have a high regard for the uniqueness of the signal and for the integrity of the cognitive map, and so will be to either assimilate or accommodate. Curiosity is a state commonly experienced by all people, and there are some events which arouse curiosity in almost everyone.

The conclusion of the present study represents that there was a non- significant difference found in the chi- square between curiosities among normal and disabled children. It might be due to facilities availabilities at health problems care given to them as well as parents support.

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