Affordable day-care to empower Indian women

The challenge

Women are primary caregivers for children as well as important economic providers for their families. India lacks reliable and affordable daycare for the poor. Inadequate daycare restricts women's economic opportunities. There is currently little evidence to show how daycare systems affect women's labour and educational experiences in South Asian contexts.

Mother bringing her child to the local community daycare facility.

The research

Researchers will assess the impacts of community-based daycare facilities established by Seva Mandir, a local NGO, in rural Rajasthan. Using a random control trial research design, they will investigate the effects of these facilities on empowerment, economic opportunity and health among mothers.

The expected outcomes

The research will provide policy-makers with evidence on how the provision of adequate and affordable daycare can contribute to helping communities overcome poverty and gender inequality.

A community daycare facility (*Balwadi*) established by Seva Mandir

A Seva Mandir-trained Baldwadi Sanchalinka (teacher) engaging children in a learning activity.

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