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Bullying and victimization in schools in India

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BIOGRAPHY

Niharika Thakkar was born on September 6th, 1988, in Indore, India. Her family moved to Bombay (now Mumbai) when she was 3 years old where she completed her schooling at Jankidevi Public School. She earned her junior college degree in Science (Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics), from Mithibai College, Mumbai in 2006. By 2009, Niharika graduated with a major in Psychology, and a minor in English literature, from Fergusson College, Pune. She earned her Masters Degree, in Clinical Psychology in 2011, ranking first at Fergusson College, University of Pune in the final semester. As part of her Masters, she did a clinical internship with Dr. Hemant Chandorkar (Psychiatrist) and wrote her Masters thesis in Graphology and Personality: A Correlational study. She was also awarded the “most deserving candidate of the year” scholarship during her Masters in her final year. Thereafter, she worked at the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Mental Health at Sahyadri hospitals, Pune as a clinical Psychologist. After working for over a year, she moved to her hometown, Indore, where she headed and worked at the Department of Psychology at Ankur Rehabilitation Center, Indore. By 2014, she started working as a post-graduate teacher of Psychology at Sri Sathaya Sai Vidya Vihar School, Indore. She started as a PhD candidate at the Institute of Education and Child Studies, Leiden University under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Paul Vedder and Dr. Maïke Malda in June 2014. After Maïke moved to Amsterdam University Medical Center, Mitch van Geel became the co-supervisor. Alongside her PhD work, she also worked as a consultant-psychologist in collaboration with several Psychiatrists, and ran her clinic soon after till 2015 in Indore. Towards the end of 2015, she moved to USA. Niharika was then involved in a National Science Foundation (NSA)-funded research project that focused on the conceptual understanding of key algebra concepts from August, 2018 to November, 2019 at the Borough of Manhattan Community College,

City University of NewYork. She later moved on to work as a Research Associate at the Center for Family Services in greater New York in December 2019. In July 2020, she founded PsychLine.in, an online mental health organization that aims to provide good-quality care and education to all in India. Since the CoVid-19 pandemic, she has been dedicating all her time to her organization, and wishes to pursue her purpose in creating mental, emotional, and social health awareness in India.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Thakkar, N., van Geel, M., & Vedder, P. (2020). A systematic review of bullying and victimization among adolescents in India. *International Journal of Bullying Prevention*, 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42380-020-00081-4>

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