



Parental Attitude and Personality of Working and Non Working Mothers

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Abstract

The study was aimed at assessing the impact of parenting style of working and nonworking mothers on the personality of their children. The sample, incidentally chosen consisted of 50 working and 50 nonworking mothers of Bhagalpur town. Both the groups were comparable in certain demographic variables. Personal data sheet and Eysenck Personality questionnaire were used for eliciting response from the subjects under study. It was hypothesised that parenting styles will have varying impact on the childrearing of working and nonworking mothers differently. The hypothesis was partially confirmed.

Keywords: Parenting style and personality, Personality and parenting.

Introduction

Parents influence their child's social skills directly, indirectly and through management of their activities. In fact, parents are in charge of their child's experience and social interactions and hence the environment the child is exposed to with the parent's permission shapes their future behaviour.

Parenting style can be of three categories authoritarian, permissive and authoritative.

Authoritative parents have been found to have the most effective parenting style in all sorts of ways academic, social, emotional and behavioural. Like authoritarian parents, the authoritative parents expect a lot from their children. Effective parenting is defined as the ability to interact and engage with children in such a way that they learn and grow into remarkable adults. Such parents connect with children on a meaningful and personal level. The child inherits the characteristics of father and mother due to the genes that are passed on them by the parents. The information found in the cells of the parents is called genes. Chromosomes found in the structure

of cells are encoded with information which helps in shaping the characteristic of a child. Some of the issues that come in to play include the following:

- a) Employer issues – Maternity, compensated working hours, child care facilities at the work place, gender discrimination of working parents especially in the academic field.
- b) Employee Issues – Fatigue/spousal support, parental support system, child care issues, child health issues.

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In the Asian countries in the joint family system grandparents and other non working family members fulfil the need of child care. They take over the job of child care when the mother is at work recognising that the working mother is an important member of the family. They also provide her the necessary support to perform her dual role efficiently. Among working mothers the level of stress is reflected in their relationships at home. She is stressed to report for work on time to send her child to school and to fulfil the children's deadlines of time including food and dress. She is also pressed for time to look after her home simultaneously.

The household chores are still considered the woman's main domain of working. Women shoulder additional responsibility of the work place as well as of their domestic front.

Sexual relationship can also be quite strained in working mothers which can be attributed to lack of time and to fatigue especially where both parents have long working hours. The working mother has to keep in mind the stance that she is working not just for her own sustenance but also for the betterment of the family.

Singh (1966) in his study says that a child of working women tends to be free, open minded, self reliant, independent, brave, flexible and easy to get up. As compared to boys daughter of a working mother see their parents as less hostile, less authoritarian and more loving. Bundura and Walter (1963) feel that a kid who is deprived of their parent's love and attention are more aggressive and rebellious in nature.

Working women are the ones who earn salary outside the home along with the care taking of their child and the household chores. Such women do all housework and shoulder all social responsibilities without any expectation of monetary return.

In India there are studies to indicate the nexus between the two (e.g. Sahitya et al. 2021). These studies are made in relation to the impact of mother's employment on account of conditions of the family, the upbringing of an adolescent and its behavioural development.

Hypothesis

It was hypothesised that child rearing attitude of working and non working mothers will be related to some meaningfully related personality factors.

Sample

The study was conducted on a sample of 50 working women (govt. sector) and 50 non working women of district Bhagalpur. The subjects were chosen incidentally and were comparable in terms of certain demographic valuables as age, family size, area of residence, education etc.

Tools of Study

The data for the study was collected by using the following tools:

- A. Personal Data sheet (PDS):- Personal Data sheet was prepared by the researcher for the sake of comparability.
- B. Eysenck Personality questionnaire.

Procedure of the study

The subjects selected for the study were administered the Personal Data sheet and the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire. They were contacted personally and requested to tender their responses honestly and sincerely.

Table No. 1
Correlation between Parental Attitude and hostility

Sample	Variable	No	R value	Df	p
Working mother	RP and hostility	50	.45	48	ns
	LR and hostility	50	.05	48	ns
	PR and hostility	50	.13	48	ns
Non working mother	RP and hostility	50	.38	48	ns
	LR and hostility	50	.41	48	ns
	PN and hostility	50	.49	48	ns

From the Table No.1 it is quite evident that correlation between Restrictive Permissive and hostility in working mothers is .45 (df 48) which is non significant and the correlation between loving-rejecting and hostility is .05 (df 48) which is also non-significant. In the case of relationship between protecting neglecting dimensions and hostility the value is .13 (df 48) which is also likewise. Working mother's protecting attitude develops hostility among children. In non-working sample the correlation between Restrictive permissive

dimension and hostility is .38 and between Loving-rejecting dimension and hostility the r value is .42 (df 48) which is non Significant and between Protecting Neglecting and Hostility the r value is .39 (df 48) which is also non significant.

Table No. 2

Correlation between Parental attitude and anxiety

Sample	Variable	No	R value	Df	p
Working mother	RP and Anxiety	50	.74	48	<.01
	LR and Anxiety	50	.29	48	ns
Non working mother	RP and Anxiety	50	.62	48	<.01
	LR and Anxiety	50	.29	48	ns
	PN and Anxiety	50	.78	48	<.01

From the perusal of table-2 it can be seen that in working mothers the correlation between restrictive permissive parenting is .74 and loving restricting and anxiety is not significant. Among Nonworking mothers the correlation between restrictive permissive and between loving restricting and anxiety is .27 and between protecting and neglecting and anxiety is .78 which is significant at .01 level of confidence.

Table No. 3

Co-relation between parental attitude and extraversion

Sample	Variable	No	R value	Df	p
Working mother	RP and Extra version	50	.39	48	<.01
	LR and Extra version	50	.81	48	<.01
Non working mother	RP and Extraversion	50	.42	48	ns
	LR and Extra version	50	.48	48	ns
	PN and Extra version	50	.69	48	<.01

From the above table it is revealed that in working mother group the correlation between Restrictive permissive dimension and extraversion is .39 (df 48) which is non significant and between loving Rejecting and anxiety the r value is .81. It is also clear that the correlations tend to somewhat support the hypothesis.

Table No. 4

Correlation between parental attitude and neuroticism

Sample	Variable	No	R value	Df	p
Working mother	RP and Neuroticism	50	.28	48	ns
	LR and Neuroticism	50	.38	48	ns
Non working	RP and	50	.41	48	ns

mother	Neuroticism LR and Neuroticism	50	.38	48	ns
	PN and Neuroticism	50	.40	48	ns

It is evident from Table 4 that protecting neglecting and Neuroticism are not related .40 (df 48) The same trend is evident in other styles also. Thus over all the results show no relationship between maternal attitude and neuroticism of their children.

Discussion and Conclusion:

The findings of this study only partially confirm the hypothesis. Only Loving rejecting dimension of parental attitude bear significant results. It was found that parent who care, love and feel concerned about their children, induce confidence in the child. The present study reveals that the attitude of working mothers influence the parenting of children but non-working mothers fail to influence the personality of their children. Results further indicate that working mothers, are more concerned with the development of their offspring than their non-working mothers. Children of working mothers are more influenced by loving attitude than the children of non-working mothers. Probably children of non-working mothers do not take their mothers attitudes seriously. This fact is borne in the subsequent findings as well.

References:

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