

Mother's Employment and Aggression of Board Students: A comparative Study

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Abstract

The present study aimed to find out the difference in the aggression level of Board Students of employed and non-employed mothers. A sample of 200 students was taken from five CBSE affiliated schools of Pithoragarh district (Uttarakhand). Personal data schedule along with the aggression scale (Pal and Naqvi (2000)) were administered to all participants. Stratified random sampling was used to select the sample. t-test was applied to check the level of significance between the two groups. Significant difference was found between the male and female adolescents of 10th standard of employed mothers and even between the male and female adolescents of 12th standard of employed mothers. Male and female adolescents of 12th standard of non-employed mother have also shown significant difference on the level of aggression. In all the three cases male adolescents have shown higher aggression than female adolescents.

Keywords- Aggression, Mother, Adolescents.

Aggression is a form of behavior which is characterized by physical or verbal attack. Aggression may be directed outward, against others, or inward, against the self, leading to self-destructive or suicidal actions. It may be driven by emotional arousal, often some form of frustration, or it may be instrumental, when it is used to secure a reward. Ferguson and Beaver (2009) have defined aggressive behavior as "Behaviour which is intended to increase the social dominance of the organism relative to the dominance position of other organisms." Mothers have been the glue that holds a family together because it is up to them to provide the loving care and support needed by growing children. Rohner (1975) reported that maternal rejection correlates significantly and negatively with generosity in the child, that is the more rejection a child perceives, the less generosity he/she exhibits in the behavior. Today more mothers work outside the home than before. The child usually feels lonely and unhappy when the mother is away for a major part of the day. Children of such families are more expected to share in the household activities as compared to children of non-working mothers. Young children are more affected by the mother's employment than the older children, the girls are more affected than boys within the family (Hoffman, 1989).

During the development from childhood to adolescence the parents are playing an important role in shaping emotion regulation, identity, self-esteem and they are responsible for their children's behaviour (Shaffer & K 2010). "Adolescence" which is a period of change during which the individual experiences both physiological and psychological changes characterized by rapid physical, biological and hormonal changes resulting into psychological,

behavioural and sexual maturation between the ages of 10-19 years in an individual. Symmonds (1949) observed that an individual's attitude towards himself grew out of attitudes towards him/her by his parents during childhood. Hence, the behaviour developed during adolescence and adulthood is all based on previous learning of childhood. Thakur &

Grewal (2021), stated that the adolescents having less cohesive family environment in terms of commitment, help and support will be more aggressive. Families having conflicts will lead to aggressive adolescents. Even rejection leads to aggression. It was said that adolescents having less active participation in social and recreational activities in the family environment will also show high levels of aggression. Estevez, Jimenez & Moreno (2018), have found that boys' aggressive behavior is more closely related to emotional distress (symptomatology and perceived stress) than that of girls. Girls with higher levels of peer aggression develop much more negative attitudes towards the institutional authority and the teachers than boys who have similar levels of peer aggression. Lopez, Perez, Ochoa & Ruiz (2008) found out that girls are more likely to develop aggressive behaviours because of poor parenting practices (Blum et al., 2003; Farrington & Painter, 2003; Kats, 2000) whereas in male academic failure and negative interactions with peers and teachers in the classroom might lead to development of attitudes of rejection and rebelliousness regarding the school context. Huesmann et al., (2003) has said early exposure to TV violence predicts aggression in adulthood. Children have genetic predispositions for these behaviors and if they are spanked by their parents stated by Barnes (2012), particularly for boys.

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Tucker et al., (2013) stated that sibling aggression linked to poor mental health. Lacourse et al., (2014), stated that the development of physical aggression in toddlers is strongly associated with genetic factors and to a lesser degree with the environment. Singh and Kumar (2018), found out that there was no significant difference between male and female and even between adolescent students from nuclear and joint families.

There have been various studies done on aggression in Board students of employed and non- employed mothers in many countries and in India but not done in Pithoragarh district of Kumaun in Uttarakhand. Since it is one of the vast areas of Uttarakhand which is culturally rich, developing at a medium pace and region with almost similar socio-economic status, forms it to be an interesting and untouched area for research. It is hypothesized that there would be no significant difference in the level of aggression between male and female adolescents of 10th and 12th standard of employed and non- employed mothers.

Method

Sample

The total sample collected comprised of 200 students from Pithoragarh Nagar Palika of Pithoragarh District. The subjects were from middle class and from 5 different Schools which were randomly selected. They were from classes 10th and 12th of Academic session 2016-2017. The age of the participant was between 14-18 years. Adolescents were from nuclear families and of same socio economic status i.e., middle class of 3rd grade pay parents. Initially Personal Data Schedule was distributed to students to assemble the desired population. And the next day the test for aggression was provided to the selected students.

Tools

There were two tools used for the extraction of data they were:-

Personal Data Schedule was developed to investigate the socio-economic status, mother's employment, age, gender, area of residence etc.

Aggression Scale developed by Pal and Naqvi(2000) was used to calculate the level of aggression in adolescents. This test comprised of 60 questions. For each question there were given six possible responses from most desirable action to least desirable action. Students were asked to tick their responses, answering all the question was compulsory. The reliability coefficient of the test was 0.78 making it highly reliable. And the validity was 0.78 making the results valid for deriving any conclusion from the

result. Higher the score higher was the level of aggression.

Results and Discussion

Dependent variable used in the study is aggression and independent variables include class, gender and employment type of mothers. The result of statistical analysis i.e. t-test done on the variables are presented and tested for significance at 0.05 level of confidence. Our hypothesis was rejected for groups 3,7 and 8 from the above table, as there was a significant difference found in these groups. In all the three cases male have shown greater level of aggression than female. The possible reasons could be- Female in hills either partly or not share at all the responsibility of house, this can make men more stressed and aggressive. It is seen that employed mothers are strict and using any strictness for training has different impact on male and female making male more aggressive (Barnes, 2012). Male engage more in violent TV shows and video games as compared to female, this increase the level of aggression for male adolescents (Huesmann et al., 2003). It can be seen that male spend more time outside than female adolescents, which may lead to more of intake of outside food and confectionary. As stated by Moore et al.(2009), who have more confectionary were more violent. Often Parents have more fondness towards male than female in Indian society. This over indulgence on the contrary can make male adolescents more rebellion and frustrated as compared to female adolescents Ley (1943) & Coleman (1950). All the other groups apart from group 3,6 and 7 did not differ significantly and our hypothesis was accepted, the possible reasons could be due to demographic similarity. As both the families had same socio-economic status, which resulted in the same upbringing pattern in both the groups. Barnes (2012) stated that children with genetic predisposition will become more aggressive. As both the groups had similar influence, so they may have similar level of frustrations. Pithoragarh has almost equal sex-ratio, parents give equal opportunity to both their children (male and female), hence aggression patterns were similar. Students were from only CBSE Board so the level of academic pressure was equal irrespective of their class. Huesman et al., (2003) supports the result of the study that there will be no significant difference between male and female of different classes of employed and non-employed mothers.

Conclusion

The results of the study has shown that there was a significant difference between the male and female

adolescents of 10th standard of employed mothers and between the male and female adolescents of 12th standard of employed mothers. Significant difference was even found between male and female of 12th standard of non-employed mothers. Male have

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Table 1. Showing Mean, SD and t value of students of class 10 and 12 of employed and non-employed mothers

Group	Class	Gender	State of employment of mothers	No of Cases	Mean	SD	t Value	Significant value at 0.05 level
1.	10	Male	Employed	15	79.4	18.92	0.44	Not significant
	10	Male	Non-employed	15	76.4			
2.	10	Female	Employed	15	64.6	17.28	0.27	Not significant
	10	Female	Non-employed	15	66.3			
3.	10	Male	Employed	15	79.4	13.97	2.9	Significant
	10	Female	Employed	15	64.6			
4.	10	Male	Non-employed	15	76.4	21.4	0.16	Not significant
	10	Female	Non-employed	15	66.3			
5.	12	Male	Employed	15	75.6	18.27	1.52	Not Significant
	12	Male	Non-employed	15	85.5			
6.	12	Female	Employed	15	62.9	18.07	0.67	Not significant
	12	Female	Non-employed	15	67.3			
7.	12	Male	Employed	15	75.6	14.18	2.48	Significant
	12	Female	Employed	15	62.9			
8.	12	Male	Non-employed	15	85.5	21.43	2.36	Significant
	12	Female	Non-employed	15	67.3			
9.	10	Male	Employed	15	79.4	13.02	0.82	Not significant
	12	Male	Employed	15	75.6			
10.	10	Female	Employed	15	64.6	15.06	0.31	Not significant
	12	Female	Employed	15	62.9			
11.	10	Male	Non-employed	15	76.4	22.85	1.13	Not significant
	12	Male	Non-employed	15	85.5			
12.	10	Female	Non-employed	15	66.3	19.96	0.13	Not significant
	12	Female	Non-employed	15	67.3			

shown higher level of aggression compared to female in all the three cases. Other groups have shown no significant difference on the basis of gender, mother's employment or class. Our study clearly indicates that aggression can be transferred genetically and behaviourally and family environment affects ones growth and development. This study can help mothers to understand their role in the emotional health of a child and adolescents may learn how important it is to have a good emotional bonding to ensure good mental health of them and their family members.

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