

An Evaluative Study of Self Concept and Academic Achievement of Working Mothers

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ABSTRACT

The present study was undertaken to find out the self-confidence and academic achievement of children of working and non-working mothers of Kashmir. 800 children was selected as sample for the present study (in which 400 children of working mothers and 400 children of non-working mothers) by using simple random sampling technique. Rekha Gupta's Agnihotri Self – confidence Inventory was used for data collection. For statistical analysis mean, SD, t-test and Correlation was used. The results of the study revealed that children of working mothers have found high self-confidence than the children of non-working mothers. The result also revealed that there is no significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers on academic achievement. It was also found that positive correlation was found between self-confidence and academic achievement.

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Introduction

Education in the largest sense is an act or an experience that has a formative effect on the mind, character or physical ability of an individual. In its technical sense, education is the process by which society deliberately transmits its accumulated knowledge, skills and values from one generation to another of society. Education in real sense is to humanize humanity and to make life progressive cultured and civilized. It is very important for the progress of the individual and society. It is through education that man develops his thinking and reasoning, problem solving and creativity, intelligence and aptitude, positive sentiments and skills, good values and attitudes. Education is a dialogue between the past, present and the future, so that the coming generations receive the accumulated lessons of the heritage and carry it forward (UNESCO, 1998). Success which is generally seen as internal ability within an individual is indeed also prejudiced by many external factors including the behaviour of parents during childhood. Although the father is a significant role model, the role of mother in child's growth is indubitable. In this reverence the influence of the profession of a mother, particularly, whether the mother is working or not becomes a central factor for scrutiny. The foremost

distress is that maternal employment clearly confines the amount of instance dedicated to raising children. The involvement of the mothers is influential, the individuality of their children can not be neglected, but an unparalleled figure of women, especially mothers are inflowing in the field of employment due to monetary obligation or in explore of individuality. This had pilot to drastic shift in the conventional role of mother as a "care taker" to a "bread earner" and has changed child nurture goals and preparations. The outcomes of mother's employment on children have pessimistic and optimistic actions. Therefore it's necessary to find out the diversity in psycho social disturbance of children of working and non working mothers. This will facilitate the employing mothers to develop the care given in the direction of their children. This will also assist them to contemplate on their emotional and behavioural personality. This in turn reproduces their personality enhancement.

Self-confidence is the thought that one will bring out in an accurate, perfect or well-organized way. Self- confidence is having self-sufficiency in oneself. Self-confidence can distantly be illustrated as the ability of a person to struggle. Developing self-confidence can provide you the inspiration to accept



challenges and weaknesses, so as to acquire trust and understanding in an individual. Self-confidence is approach which permits individuals to have positive yet critical views of themselves and their circumstances. Self-confident individuals believe their own abilities have a common way of control in their life's. Self-confidence is vital to good psychological alteration, individual pleasure and efficient performance in children and adults. The name Self-confidence is used to demote to individual's judgement about themselves. Children with over all high ideas are certain about their aptitude to achieve their objectives, scholastic competency and association with guardians and other people. Children with low Self-confidence lean to be anxious about strange ideas and avoid attracting deliberation.

Need and Importance

Self-confidence is an approach that you hold about yourself that let you to go forward and reach your aims. The most imperative thing to defend is confidence and faith in person. It is the groundwork of all personal accomplishments. You can achieve higher goals of life when you believe in yourself. Self-confidence is frequently a more essential asset than ability, knowledge or even experience. Self-confidence can alter your whole life to the

better but not having Self-confidence will absolutely have a negative effect on your every part of life. Self-confidence is an important factor for better academic excellence. Building Self-confidence in students is one of the most significant both for parents as well as educationists to set good environment for learning, which is key constituent to high achievement. Building confidence in children can help in preventing student dropouts, ensure children to maintain their love for learning and help them to achieve their dreams and goals.

After making the survey of the related literature, it is obvious that many studies have been conducted on various areas, but no such study has been conducted on the "Self-confidence of children of working and non-working mothers of Kashmir." In this background the researcher is interested to work on present study. The problem under study is a humble attempt to assess the Self-confidence of children of working and non-working mothers. The research is very useful and helpful for educationists, policy makers, planners, teachers, administrators, and especially to the parents.



Objectives

The following objectives were formulated for the present investigation:

- a) To study and compare children of working and non-working mothers on self confidence.
- b) To study and compare children of working and non-working mothers on academic achievement.

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated for the present investigation:

- a) There is a significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers on self confidence.
- b) There is a significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers on academic achievement.

1. Academic Achievement

Academic achievement for the present study means the aggregate marks obtained by the sample students in all the subjects in their 8th class examination conducted by District Institute of Education and Training (DIET).

2. Working Mothers

Working mothers in the present study referred to educated women with educational qualification as 12th and above, and are engaged in any government, semi-government or private organization

Methodology

The present study was explored by using descriptive method.

Plan and Procedure:

Design of the Sample

The sample for the present study consists of 800 children, (children of working mothers 400 and children of non-working mothers 400 of Kashmir) drawn from various high and higher secondary school students of district Srinagar, Anantnag, Budgam and Pulwama.

| Group | Respondents |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Children of working mothers | 400 |
| Children of non-working mothers | 400 |
| Total | 800 |



Tools

The following tools were used for the present study-

- a) Self Confidence inventory by Rekha Gupta Agnihotri.

Academic achievement for the present study means the aggregate marks obtained by the sample subjects in all the subjects in their 8th class.

Statistical Analysis

After collecting the data, it was statistically analysed by computing mean, S.D., t-test and Correlation.

Table 1: Showing mean comparison between children of working and non-working mothers on Self Confidence (N= 300 in each group)

| Variable | Group | Mean | Std. Deviation | t-value | Level of Significance |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------|----------------|---------|---------------------------|
| Self Confidence | Children of working mothers | 26.57 | 6.95 | 4.61 | Significant at 0.01 level |
| | Children of non-working mothers | 23.92 | 7.10 | | |

The perusal of the above table displays the comparison between children of working and non-working mothers on self-confidence. The obtained t. value is (4.61) which show that there is significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers on self-confidence which is significant at 0.01 level. It indicates that children of working mothers have high self-confidence than the children of non-working mothers. Children of working



Major Findings

The major findings of the present study are as under:

- a) The results depicted that there is a significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers on self-confidence. It was also found that children of working mothers have high self-confidence than the children of non working mothers. Children of working mothers show more confidence and are able to accept challenges and weaknesses readily.
- b) The results indicated that there is no significant difference between children of working and non working mothers on academic achievement. Both the groups get equal opportunity to achieve educational goals.

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