

1. A Comparative Study on the Nature of Personality between Teachers and Non-teachers

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Present study aimed at comparing the personality attributes in terms of 'humanness function' as depicted in 'Manusanhita' and ego functions as introduced by western psychology, between two samples comprising of working male graduates (mean age=35 years) employed in secondary schools for teaching (N=60) and in organisations other than schools including self-employment (N=50). Data were collected by the two standardized instruments from this purposive sample belonged to the suburban middle class Bengalee community. Findings revealed that the school teachers exhibit significantly better personality profile than the non-teachers.

2. Correlates of Problem-Solving in Socially Incompetent Children

Sangeeta Malik, Shanti Balda, Shakuntla Punia and Krishna Duhan

On the basis of interpersonal social problem-solving skills, 80 children were identified as socially incompetent. Social problem-solving test was used to assess children's social problem-solving skills. Social behaviour of these children was rated by their class teachers on a checklist. Results revealed that aggressive, emotional and impatient children were less likely to suggest greater number of categories and flexible strategies in interpersonal social dilemmas with their peers. Also, these children were less likely to suggest relevant and alternative strategies in social problem-solving situation. Further, results revealed that aggressive, emotional and impatient children were more likely to suggest forceful strategies and less likely to suggest non-forceful strategies for obtaining access to an object in another child's possession. For initiating friendship with an unfamiliar child, aggressive children were less likely to suggest prosocial and more likely to suggest non-normative strategies.

3. Effect of Age of Onset, Duration of Illness and Cognitive Impairment in Chronic Elderly Patients with Schizophrenia

Nawab Akhtar Khan , Archana Singh, Amrita Kanchan , K. S. Sengar & Amool R. Singh

Cognitive impairment is increasingly recognized as an important aspect of schizophrenia. It has many features in common with the negative symptoms of the illness, longer duration of the illness and early onset of the illness. It is possible that some of the characteristics attributed to negative symptoms are due to an association with cognitive impairments. To see the effect of such variables on cognitive impairment, 40 inpatients with schizophrenia (male-20 & female-20) were selected through purposive sampling technique from inpatient department of RINPAS. PGI-Battery for Assessment of Mental Efficiency in the

Elderly (PGI-AMEE) was administered on both groups. Results show that cognitive impairment is positively correlated with negative symptoms, longer duration of the illness and early onset of the illness.

4. Influences of Parenting Practices on Adolescents' Emotional and Behavioral Problems: Implications for School Counsellors

Sudha Banth, Rupali Cheema

Indian counsellors are invaded by the parents and teachers with increased expressions of inability in dealing with a wide array of emotional and behavioral problems of adolescents. The study intends to assess whether problematic behavior of adolescents is associated with inadequate parenting practices by identifying types of parenting practices amongst parents of problematic adolescents. Parenting practices checklist (Walsh, 2005) was administered on mother-father dyads of 315 problematic adolescents (178 adolescent males and 137 adolescent females) in the age range of 13-15 years. The study revealed that 70% mothers and 75% fathers of problematic adolescent males operate with average to poor parenting practices whereas 67% mothers and 71% fathers of problematic adolescent females operate with similar levels of parenting practices reflecting that when adolescents' display emotional and behavioral problems, parents are poorly equipped with adequate communication and motivational skills for resolving conflicts, setting limits, contracting, supervising, consistent disciplining and solving atypical problems of adolescents. T-test showed no significant difference in the mean scores of fathers and mothers of problematic males as well as females on parenting practices. These results indicate an urgent need to develop and impart parent training programs to sensitize and mobilize parents in order to help them acquire new ways of dealing with emotional and behavioral problems of adolescents.

5. Loneliness, Boredomproneness and Anxiety among Working and Non-working Mothers in a Developmental Sequelae

Nilanjana Sanyal, Sraboni Chatterjee

Women are no longer just the inmates of home. In the global world village of technologically advanced 21 st century, they are stepping out of their traditional role of home-makers only and joining the population mass in working sphere. The query seems to be "Is it just a piece of fancy on their part?" or "there are orientational change in their characterology to suit the conditions of the flowing century?" The issue has been addressed within the periphery of selected psychosocial variables, where the findings established their interconnections and brought out distinctly different personality profiles of four selected sub-samples of working and not formally working of early and late aged mothers. The study covered selected variables like loneliness, boredomproneness, anxiety. The sample consisted of two hundred mothers, divided equally in terms of working condition and non-working condition for two age groups.

Differences were located in loneliness, boredomproneness and anxiety level. Early aged mothers (both working and non-working) tend to possess less loneliness, boredom proneness and anxiety level than late aged counterparts. In correlational analysis significant interrelationships were established between the selected variables.

6. Perceived Differences in Work-family Conflict and Self-efficacy of Employees Working in Private and Public Sector Enterprises

Ranita Basu

Present investigation has assessed to find out the differences in self efficacy and work-family conflict on a group of employees who are working in service organizations (private and public sector). Self efficacy test and work family conflict test was used for the said purpose. Total 200 employees were selected, 100 from each sector. In both the scales high scores reveals high self efficacy as well as high work family conflict. In this investigation work family conflict was measured in terms of work to family conflict and family to work conflict. Two hypotheses were drawn for this investigation. From the statistical analysis (t-test) it was found that there is no such significant difference on the employees of both organizations in terms of self efficacy. But marked difference was noticed in case of work-family conflict, on those same employees of both sectors. However, in the era of globalization the implications of results are discussed toward a possibility and importance of increasing the self-efficacy and decreasing the work-family conflicts among the employees to provide a competitive and successful dimension in changing work scenario.

7. Piagetian Concept of Cognitive Development in Urban Elementary School Students

Lipika Bhattacharya, Prasanta Kumar Roy, Srabonti Roy & Pritha Mukhopadhyay

Academic pressure at an early age without considering the child's maturation level is becoming more prevalent and may adversely affect general mental health of the child. Moreover, in the present era the trend of education is to provide the children with boom of information when child's brain is not prepared to assimilate it in the knowledge structure.

The present study endeavours to investigate the domains of cognition that includes preconception, intuition, capacity for concrete operation and communication of children through age span between 2 years and 6 years based on Piaget's cognitive development tasks.

In totality 150 developmentally appropriate children equally divided into gender and five age groups, i.e. 2 years, 3 years, 4 years, 5 years and 6 years based on inclusion and exclusion criteria were randomly selected from kindergarten and primary schools of north of Kolkata. They were assessed by 2 experts on Southern California Ordinal Scales of Development [SCOSD] (Ashurst et al., 1985), a scale based on Piaget's concept of cognitive development. Age specific differences were found following Piaget's theory of cognitive development ensuring its validity in Indian culture. Sample of this study was found to be developing in congruence with Piaget's stages of cognitive development. They are at par with their predecessors half a century back in their process of acquiring object concept, perceptual relationship, language attachment, classification, intuitive reasoning, ordinal relationship abilities.

This study is able to highlight age appropriate cognitive development in children.