

A STUDY ON EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE OF PARENTALLY ACCEPTED AND REJECTED CHILDREN

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Abstract

The study was undertaken to study the emotional intelligence of parentally accepted and rejected children. The study was conducted in two phases. The initial sample comprised of 828 (8th class students) subjects selected randomly from Government middle and high schools of Gulab Bagh, Pattan and Sogam educational zones of Srinagar, Baramulla and Kupwara districts of Kashmir Valley respectively. Rohner's Parental Acceptance-rejection Questionnaire (PARQ) Child Form- (1978) was used to identify the parentally accepted and rejected children. The final sample comprised of parentally accepted children (N=204) and parentally rejected children (N=204). Emotional Intelligence Scale of Hyde, et al. (2001) was used to collect the data. The data was analysed by using Mean, S.D and t-test. The results of the study reveal that parentally accepted children have high emotional intelligence in comparison to parentally rejected children. They possess self-awareness, empathy, self-motivation, emotional stability, ability to manage relations, high integrity; are concerned about self-development; are oriented towards values, have ability to meet commitments and possess altruistic behaviour while as parentally rejected children possess low level of self-awareness, low level of empathy, low level of self-motivation, low emotional stability, low ability to manage relations, low integrity, are less concerned about self-development, less oriented towards values, possess low ability to meet commitments, and possess low altruistic behaviour.

Key words: Emotional Intelligence, parental acceptance & parental rejection.

Introduction:

This is an accepted truth that parent child relationship is one of the most overwhelming, meaningful and powerful relationship out of all interpersonal relations. A new born baby who is like a small tiny creature is reared in a family environment under immediate parental care. The quality of interaction within the home or family environment essentially determines the quality of emotional state of the youngster. Generally speaking parental care is characterized by love, affection, warmth, acceptance etc. However, in certain cases where the home environment is not so conducive, parental care may take an ugly shape in the form of hatred, hostility, aggression, repression and finally rejection of the child. It is worth to note that researchers in the field of interpersonal relationships are attempting to study the possible consequences of acceptance or rejection of the child by their

parents.

According to both Par theory parent's love-related (i.e., accepting-rejecting) parenting styles affect the development of offspring's mental representations about themselves and about how sensitively and reliably they can expect their caregivers to respond to their emotional needs (Bowlby, 1969; Ainsworth, 1989; Rohner, et al. 2010). The theory speculates that these representations are likely to generalize to other close relationships, influencing offspring's appraisal and behaviour's in intimate relationship throughout life (Rohner, et al., 2008).

Studies confirmed the relationship of parental rejection and self-esteem both in the samples of children (e.g. Matejcek & Kadubcova, 1983, Kapur & Sukhdeep, 1986); and adolescents (Kitahara, 1987; Haque, 1988). In addition, the relationship was found with

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