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Children's Perception on Parents in The Present Scenario-An Investigation

Education

KEYWORDS : Parents, Children Parenting Style, Perception

K. SUDHAKAR Ph.D Education, Research Scholar,, Department of Education,,Annamalai University

Dr.N.O.NELLAIYAPEN Dean, Professor and Head (Rtd.), Department of Education, Annamalai University

ABSTRACT

Parenting is a challenging job on earth as they are responsible for the physical, emotional and mental development of another human being. So the children perceive their parents actions, emotions, behaviour, in total the whole personality in their own way as they experience (or) involve in day to day works with them. Parenting style is an important dimension of parenting which parents use when they interact with their children. Parents want their children to grow into socially mature individuals and they have to adopt a parenting style in order to aid this process and also they may feel frustrated in trying to discover the best way to accomplish. Normative survey method has been adopted in this study. The stratified random sampling technique has been used in the selection was used to collect the data from a sample of 400 high school students in Tiruvallur district in Tamilnadu State. For the assessment of Children's perception of parenting ,the tool constructed and validated by Dr.Anand Pyari and dr.Raj Kumari kalra(2013) was used. On comparing, the mean scores of different parenting style perceived by the children, the children perceived their parents as accepting style (M=30.72) in comparison with other parenting styles in entire as well as sub samples.

INTRODUCTION

Perception

Senses are crucial to perception. Humans have five sensory organs which is the gate way of knowledge through experiences faced (or) participated (or) involved creates a concept (or) decision that leads to perception of the object, person (or) situation. Perception is the awareness of objects and situations and events constitute the world as they consist of things located in space. The process of awareness of any of these objects situations and events is called perception. All forms of awareness are not perception, only when the awareness involves the presence of an object, event (or) situation that is 'here' and 'now' then it is known as perception. Also perception refers to what is immediately experienced by a person and the processes giving rise to our immediate experience of the world.

Children's Perception on Parents and their Style of Parenting

Parenting is a challenging job on earth as they are responsible for the physical, emotional and mental development of another human being. So the children perceive their parents actions, emotions, behaviour, in total the whole personality in their own way as they experience (or) involve in day to day works with them.

Children, who are completely exposed to their parents, forms a concept either positive (or) negative (or) till more fabricated into types which creates a permanent mark in their minds.

Parenting Styles

Parenting style can be defined as "the characteristic pattern of behaviour exhibited by a given parent toward a particular child/" or it can be said as "a psychological construct representing standard strategies parents use in raising their children. In other words, parenting style is an important dimension of parenting which parents use when they interact with their children. Parents want their children to grow into socially mature individuals and they have to adopt a parenting style in order to aid this process and also they may feel frustrated in trying to discover the best way to accomplish this.

Diana Baumrind (1967, 1971) conducted a research on 'Parenting Styles. The sample was the preschool children, where information was gathered by observing the children on several occasions in nursery school and at home. She used these information to rate the child on such behavioural dimensions as sociability, self-reliance, achievement, moodiness and self-control. She also interviewed their parents and watched them while they were interacting with their children at home. When analyzed the parental data, she found that individual parents generally used one of three parenting styles, namely, authoritative, authoritarian and permissive. Hence, it could said that from the two major dimensions of parenting, namely, acceptance/ responsiveness and demandingness/ control, Baumrind identified three general parenting styles: authoritative, authoritarian and permissive. Later, Baumrind, Maccoby and Martin expanded these parenting styles to four: authoritative, authoritarian, indulgent and neglectful.

Diana Baumrind believes that parents should be neither punitive nor aloof. Rather, they should develop rules for their children and be affectionate with them. She and others emphasize the following four types of parenting styles.

Authoritarian Parenting

Authoritarian parenting expects the children to follow the rules strictly framed by their parents. Disobedience to the rules leads to punishment. Logic behind these rules are not explained to the children and made to follow blindly. These parents are not responsive to their children but have high demands. According to Diana Baumrind (1971), the authoritarian parents are status-Ego-Oriented, obedience and expect their orders to be followed without questioning.

Authoritative Parenting

Here, the authoritative parents frames rules and guidelines to their children to follow but be democratic. These parents are responsive to their children and ready to listen to their questions. As when the children fail to meet the expectations, these parents forgive them rather than punishing and be more nurturing. Baumrind, D (1971), suggests that these parents imparts clear standards for their children's conduct and monitor them. They are not intrusive (or) restrictive but assertive. Their disciplinary

methods are not punitive but supportive. They expect their children to be assertive, responsible, self-regulated and co-operative.

Permissive Parenting
Here, the permissive parents (the indulgent parents) have few demands to their children. They rarely discipline their children becaue they have low expectations towards maturity and self-control. Baumrind (1971), permissive parents are responsive than demanding. They are not traditional, lenient, do not expect mature behaviour, allow self regulation (considerably) and avoid confrontation. Permissive parents are nurturing and communicative with their children, often taking the role as a friend than to be parent.

Uninvolved Parents
Uninvolved parents are characterized by few demands, low responsiveness and little communication. While these parents fulfill their children's basic needs, they are detached from their life. In extreme cases, these parents may even reject (or) neglect the needs of their children.

Thus, the children assess the parenting style of their parents by perceiving and categories under the above discussed forms which affects them from their character formation to achievements in life.

ASSESSMENT OF CHILD PERCEPTION OF PARENTING
The assessment of child perception of parenting mainly done through survey method which is more appropriate by seeking responses from the children about their parents. Hence the investigator after thorough study on various related literatures and tools to assess the perception of children, used AnandPyari and RajkumariKalra's children's perception of parenting scale which specifies (or) categories the style into six areas as

1. Democratic
Parents who are supportive, allows their children to participate, to question and to involve in home affairs. Here the rules and guidelines are framed to follow, monitored with nurturing attitude.

2. Autocratic
Autocratic parenting is a restrictive, punitive style where the parents compels their child to follow their direction, place firm limits and controls on the child. Also there is very little verbal exchange. Here the strict rules are set to keep the child in an order with any kind of warmth and affection.

3. Accepting
Accepting parents tends to display a reasonable amount of support and affection towards their children. They recognize the efforts of the children in various activities and express a deal of warmth. They admire and cheer their children.

4. Rejecting
Rejecting parents are neither responsive (nor) demanding. They may be unaware (or) careless of the child's need for affection and discipline. Here the parents are detached from their children's life.

5. Over Protecting
Over protecting style is that the parents exhibit extreme care which curbs the independence and individualism of the child. Here the parents are over cautious on every step made by their child which leads to dependence, lack of self esteem and mainly lack of socialization.

6. Over Demanding
Over demanding is the style that the parents expects more from the child irrespective of their child's ability and capacity. Here the parents pushes hard harshly in every activity of the child to excel in turn creates stress and pain for them.

Thus the assessment of children's perception of parenting was done by the investigator.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY
The investigator of the present study framed the following objectives:

To find out the predominant style of parenting perceived by the high school students.

To find out the level of children's perception of parenting in different parenting styles of high school students with regard to entire and sub samples based on

Gender (Male / Female)

Type of family (Joint / Nuclear)

Parents' Educational Qualification (Illiterate / School Education / College Education)

Parents' Occupation (Self Employee / Salaried / Daily Wages).

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY
The following were the hypotheses framed from the formulated objectives:

The predominant parenting style in children's perception of parenting among different parenting styles of high school students will be in the form of democratic.

The predominant parenting style in children's perception of parenting among different parenting styles of high school students based on sub samples will be in the form of democratic.

METHODOLOGY, SAMPLE AND TOOLS USED FOR THE STUDY
The normative survey method has been adopted in this study. The stratified random sampling technique has been used in the selection was used to collect the data from a sample of 400 high school students in Tiruvallur district in Tamilnadu State. For the assessment of Children's perception of parenting constructed and validated by Dr.AnandPyari and Dr.RajKumariKalra (2013).

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION DATA
The following statistical techniques have been used in the present study

Descriptive Analysis
Differential Analysis
The analysis and interpretation are made based on following table

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Table 1 shows Mean and Standard Deviation for the Children's Perception of Parenting Scores of High School Students

Variables		N	Democratic		Autocratic		Accepting		Rejecting		Over Protecting		Over Demanding	
			Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Entire Sample		**400**	**26.66**	**6.23**	**29.15**	**4.82**	**30.72**	**4.76**	**24.36**	**5.32**	**25.88**	**4.58**	**26.04**	**4.58**
Gender	Male	200	25.76	4.80	28.56	5.18	30.88	5.18	24.87	4.59	25.24	4.77	25.81	4.95
	Female	200	27.36	6.99	29.83	4.47	30.80	4.54	23.70	5.88	26.31	4.58	27.16	4.13
Type of family	Joint family	82	25.39	5.58	28.38	5.63	30.94	5.91	24.40	5.68	25.83	4.71	25.00	5.40
	Nuclear family	318	26.88	6.17	29.34	4.60	30.68	4.40	24.81	5.28	25.99	4.64	26.22	4.41
Parental Educational qualification	Illiterate	101	25.93	4.63	28.45	5.02	30.13	4.54	24.79	4.84	25.21	5.05	25.26	4.58
	School Education	272	27.05	6.53	29.60	4.85	30.49	5.09	24.43	5.62	26.00	4.53	26.31	4.82
	College Education	27	23.93	4.08	27.89	4.27	30.59	4.01	24.56	4.43	25.56	5.02	25.41	3.71
Parental Occupation	Self-Employee	40	31.07	12.18	29.98	4.85	32.23	4.20	23.58	6.42	28.28	3.04	27.73	4.74
	Salaried	169	26.17	4.49	28.76	4.55	30.67	4.37	24.47	4.87	25.96	4.65	25.99	4.50
	Daily wages	191	25.95	4.87	29.20	5.10	30.65	5.32	24.43	5.52	25.08	4.81	25.08	4.81

From the table 1, on comparing, the mean scores of different parenting style perceived by the children, the children perceived their parents as accepting style (M=30.72) in comparison with other parenting styles in entire as well as sub samples. Thus stated hypothesis, the predominant parenting style will be democratic is rejected and it is concluded that the accepting parenting style is perceived by the children is predominant that other styles perceived by the children all entire and sub samples chosen for the study.

DISCUSSION

The present study reveals that, about 50% of total sample experience (or) perceive all style of parenting from the study, the accepting style was predominant with its mean score (M=30.72) that was perceived by the children/high school students than other styles of parents.All the styles of parenting (democratic, accepting) falls in average category whereas, the styles (autocratic, rejecting, over protecting, over demanding) falls in high category perceived by the children about their parents parenting. **Kyounho Kim and Ronald, P. Rohner (2008)** perceived that 26% of youth are raised by authoritative fathers did not perform significantly better than youth raised by permissive fathers.**Vialle et al. (2004)** found that females perceive their mothers to be having authoritative parenting style. **Habibah and Tan (2009)** found that majority of the students have a perception that their parents are authoritative, followed by authoritarian and permissive.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The study reveals that the children perceive their parents as accepting parenting style which is welcoming note whereas it alarms to see nearly 26% and 29% of students experience their parents as both over protecting, demanding and autocratic style of parenting. These rates should be reduced by arranging parent child interaction sessions then and there in the schools (or) public places to refine the role of parents.

To enhance the role of parents and enlighten them, that would influence their children/students to have all round personality, the recommendations are

The school authorities can train the parents in family management skills such as formation healthy eating behaviours budgeting, working with each family member, cleaning habits and laundry skills to improve the parental care.

Parents must develop their parenting practices such as parental supervision autonomy of child, life skills and safety to eradicate their children's unwanted behaviour.

Parents must create their own parenting styles by combining various factors as per the individual need of their own children.

Parents must offer consistently love, encouragement, support and guidance in a reasonable manner (i.e.) which not be low as well as excessive.

Parents should take true interest in the discovery process the bondage between them and their child which would strength the link.

Parents should avoid comparison with other children as there exists individual differences in abilities, skills and personality that may acquired by the child through genetic (or) environmental factors related to the child. Rewards should be given to the child that fits the behaviour but in should not be as bribe given (or) promised before the completion (or) action of behaviour. Thus rewards and positive reinforcement are ways to discipline a child.

CONCLUSION

Thus the parents has to enlightened more about their role in the life of their children that feasible (or) reasonable amount of care, love and protection/affection so that it should provide freedom for the children to develop their abilities which would help him/her to face the future world of 21st century.

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