



## ASSESSMENT OF BEHAVIOURAL PATTERN OF SINGLE CHILD AND CHILD WITH SIBLINGS AMONG PARENTS IN SELECTED AREAS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY.

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** Any expression of life is activity," according to Woodworth (1984). These activities are grouped together as behaviour. The term behaviour refers to motor (or) cognitive activities such as walking, swimming, dancing, and thinking, reasoning, and imagining, as well as effective actions such as feeling pleased, sad, and furious. **Objective:** To compare the behavioural pattern of single child and child with siblings among Parents in selected areas. **Material and Methods:** A comparative study assessment of behavioural pattern of Single child and child with siblings Among parents in selected areas. The Quantitative approach and a Comparative Research design was used for the study. A Non Probability Purposive Sampling Technique was used to choose 100 samples. Modified Rosenstock and Becker's health belief model is used to assess the behavioural pattern. **Result:** The data analysis was done using descriptive and inferential statistics. The mean score of single child behaviour was 24.76 and SD was 7.84 and mean score of child with siblings behaviour was 12.38 and SD was 6.30. The tabulated value for  $n=50+50-2$  i.e. 98 degrees of freedom was 1.96. The calculated 't' value i.e. 8.70 are higher than the tabulated value at 5% level of significance for overall behavioural pattern score among parents of single child and child with siblings which is statistically acceptable level of significance. **Conclusion:** The study shows that 44% of the single child had good behavioural pattern, 52% of the single child had average behavioural pattern, 4% of the single child had poor behavioural pattern. And 100% of child with siblings among parents had good behavioural pattern. It is interpreted that the significant difference was found between behavioural pattern of single child and child with siblings.

**KEYWORDS :** Behavioural Pattern, Single Child, Child With Siblings

### INTRODUCTION

Children who have half-siblings, step-siblings, or have never met their siblings, either living at the same house or at a different house - especially those who were born considerably later - may have a similar family environment to only-children, as many children who have much younger siblings from both of the same parents (generally ten or more years). Only-children are sometimes said to be more likely to develop precocious interests (from spending more time with adults) and to feel lonely.

Parents are the most important people in the lives of young children. From birth, children are learning and rely on mothers and fathers, as well as other caregivers acting in the parenting role, to protect and care for them and to chart a trajectory that promotes their overall well-being.

Parents may think a sibling might improve their child's behaviour. In fact, the personalities of only children and first born aren't very different. First born and children from small families also enjoy higher ambition and intelligence. They have more character and a better relationship with parents

All children are different and display unique behavioural characteristics. However, when their behaviours become challenging, parents start exploring child behaviour problems and solutions. On most occasions, children are considered to have normal behaviours if they are age appropriate and do not cause any harm. However, if their actions become difficult to manage, you should pay attention to them. For example, if children become emotional too often, cause destruction, or behave rudely, it may signify a behavioural issue.

Based on different experiences of many parents and research findings, in this post, we would be sharing some observations & thoughts concerning each of the two situations with all of you. Several years ago, having big families was common, and

this was seen as an advantage. This was mainly because children began working at an early age to help provide for the family. But with the changing times and the cost of living getting higher every year, having a big family is no longer considered a practical option. More parents these days are choosing to have a single child.

### Background Of The Study

"Any expression of life is activity," according to Woodworth (1984). These activities are grouped together as behaviour. The term behaviour refers to motor (or) cognitive activities such as walking, swimming, dancing, and thinking, reasoning, and imagining, as well as effective actions such as feeling pleased, sad, and furious.

According to Erikson the development needs of children between 6- 12 years is stated as Industry Vs Inferiority. Mobility and active participation in the daily activities help the child to fulfill the developmental task (Health information of India). India's various studies reveal that 5-25% of children suffer from some kind of psychiatric disorder or maladjustment. Maladjustment can be evidenced by deviation in behavior (Julia & Murthy RS).

A study conducted to determine levels of behaviour problem in primary school children, and to explore key determinants relevant to the Chinese context being an only child, urban living, school stresses, being bullied and physical punishment. Scores showed that 13.2% of the children had a behaviour problem. Girls manifest more emotional problems (2.3%) and boys more conduct problems. Emotional problems were most strongly associated with being an only child was not associated with behaviour problems (2007).

### Need Of The Study

According to several research in India, 5 to 25% of youngsters suffer from a psychiatric condition or maladjustment. Deviation in conduct can indicate maladjustment (Julia &

Murthy RS). Suggestions are that 5587 people aged 15 to 32 years old committed crimes. They recognise their vulnerability to antisocial behaviour. According to the 1996 completion registration, 4984 respondents had grown up with siblings and 257 had grown up as lone children.

Around 13-14 percent of all schoolchildren in the world have behavioural issues. In urban squatter colonies, a cross-sectional study was done. The self-reported strengths and challenges 8 questionnaires were used to measure the behavioural problems of these youngsters. The prevalence of behavioural issues among working children was discovered to be 9.8%. Peer difficulties were the most common (16.9%), followed by behaviour problems (16.7%). The prevalence of school-age children's behavioural patterns was discovered to be 20.11 percent among boys and 19.67 percent among girls. According to parents, the overall prevalence was 19.89 percent. As per teacher report total prevalence was 17.3% as per Fernades (2005)

The prevalence of behavioural problem measured using the behavioural check list ranged from 17.6-39%. Dyslexia is a neurological condition, which according to some estimate, may affect as much as 10% of all children in India.

In accordance with the cited studies, investigator finds that different researcher are having different opinion and angle towards behavioural problem. Several studies have been conducted in association with single child behavioural pattern and some are siblings behavioural problem, Hence investigator felt the necessity to assess the comparison of Behavioural Pattern of Single Child and Child with Siblings among Parents in selected areas of the city.

#### Statement Of Problem

"Assessment Of Behavioural Pattern Of Single Child And Child With Siblings Among Parents In Selected Areas : A Comparative Study."

#### OBJECTIVE

##### Primary Objective

To compare the behavioural pattern of single child and child with siblings among Parents in selected areas.

##### Secondary Objective

- To assess the behavioural pattern of single child among Parents in selected areas.
- To assess the behavioural pattern of child with siblings among parents in selected areas .
- To compare the score between behavioural pattern of single child and child with siblings among parents in selected areas.
- To Find out the association between the behavioural pattern of single child and child with siblings with selected demographic variable.

#### Assumption

The current study assumes that

- ❖ Behavioural patterns of single child will differ from child with siblings.
- ❖ Single child may have more behavioural issues in comparison to child with siblings.
- ❖ Child with siblings may have less adjustment problem than single child

#### Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework used for the present study is "by Rosen stock's and Becker and Health Belief Model" (1974)

#### Methodology

##### Research Approach

In this study, Quantitative approach is used.

##### Research Design

In this study a "comparative research design" is used to

identify, describe and explore the existing phenomenon.

#### Setting Of The Study

Selected areas of the city

#### Sample

In this study sample consisted of 50 parents of single child and 50 parents of child with siblings.

#### Sample Size

50 parents of single child, 50 parents of child with siblings

#### Sampling Technique

Non Probability Purposive Sampling Technique

#### Desription Of Tool

- Section A – Self – Administered Questionnaire on Demographic data
- Section B - Self-Administered Rating Scale on Behavioural Pattern

#### Major Findings Of The Study

##### Section I : Distribution Of Parents With Single Child And Child With Siblings With Regards To Demographic Variables.

- 8% parents of single child and none of them parents of child with siblings were in the age group of 22 – 25 years, 22% parents of single child and 18% parents of child with siblings were in the age group of 26-29 years, 54% parents of single child and 42% parents of child with siblings were in the age group of 30-33 years and 16% parents of single child and 40% parents of child with siblings were more than 34 years.
- 28% parents of single child and 42% parents of child with siblings were educated upto primary standard, 62% parents of single child and 48% parents of child with siblings were educated upto secondary standard , each 4% parents of single child and child with siblings were educated upto graduation, 4% parents of single child and 2 % parents of child with siblings were educated upto post graduation and 2% parents of single child and 4% parents of child with siblings were educated in others.
- 62% parents of single child and 60% parents of child with siblings were homemaker, 6% parents of single child and 2% parents of child with siblings were doing private job, 32% parents of single child and 38% parents of child with siblings were self employed and none of them parents of single child and child with siblings had government job.
- 4% parents of single child and child with siblings were having monthly family income of below Rs10000, 48% parents of single child and 80% parents of child with siblings were having monthly family income of Rs 10001-20000, 32% parents of single child and 6% parents of child with siblings were having monthly family income of Rs 20001-30000 and 16% parents of single child and 10% parents of child with siblings were having monthly family income of more than 30000 Rs.
- 50% parents of single child and 88% parents of child with siblings were Hindu, 16% parents of single child and 2% parents of child with siblings were Muslim, 2% parents of single child and none of them parents of child with siblings were Christian, 32% parents of single child and 10% parents of child with siblings were Buddhist and none of them parents of single child and child with siblings were others.
- 64% parents of single child and 36% parents of child with siblings were from nuclear families, 36% parents of single child and 48% parents of child with siblings were from joint family and none of them parents of single child and 16% parents of child with siblings were from extended families.
- 20% of single child and 28% of child with siblings were in the age group of 3-5 year, 40% of single child and 26% of child with siblings were in the age group 6-8 years, 36% of single child and 34% of child with siblings were in the age group of 9-11 years and 4% of single child and 12% of child with siblings were in the age group of 12-14 years.
- 52% of single child and 50% of child with siblings were

boys and 48% of single child and 50% child with siblings were girl.

- All (100%) parents of single child had one children in their family and 80% parents of child with siblings had two children in their families and 20% parents are more then three children in the family.

**Section II : Assessment Of Behavioural Pattern Of Single Child And Child With Siblings Among Parents In Selected Area**

**The Table Showing Frequency Percentage Wise Distribution Of Assessment With Level Of Behavioural Pattern Among Parents With Single Child n=50**

Level of Behavioural Pattern Score	Score Range	Level of Behavioural Pattern Score	
		Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Good Behavioural Pattern	0-25	22	44
Average Behavioural Pattern	26-38	26	52
Poor Behavioural Pattern	39-50	2	4
Minimum score		7	

**Table Showing Question Wise Assessment Of Behavioural Pattern Of Single Child And Child With Siblings Among Parents In Selected Areas.**

SR. NO	ITEM Whether your child .....	NEVER0		SOME TIME 1		ALWAYS 2	
		Single child	Child with siblings	Single child	Child with siblings	Single child	Child with siblings
<b>PHYSICAL FACTOR :</b>							
1	Bites finger nails	20 (40%)	38 (76%)	15 (30%)	4 (8%)	15 (30%)	8 (16%)
2	Hyperactive	4 (8%)	22 (44%)	35 (70%)	23(46%)	11(22%)	5 (10%)
3.	Gets hurt frequently	15 (30%)	30(60%)	22(44%)	14 (28%)	13 (26%)	6 (12%)
<b>EMOTIONAL FACTOR :</b>							
4	Feels sad or unhappy	35 (70%)	40 (80%)	12(24%)	10 (20%)	3 (6%)	0 (0%)
5	Feels or complains that no one loves him/her	24 (48%)	33(66%)	11 (22%)	10 (20%)	15 (30%)	7 (14%)
6	Overeats very often	19 (38%)	42 (84%)	23 (46%)	7 (14%)	8 (16%)	1 (2%)
7	Complains of loneliness	29(58%)	48 (96%)	14 (28%)	1(2%)	7 (14%)	1 (2%)
8	Throws temper tantrum	5 (10%)	25 (50%)	20 (40%)	5 (10%)	25(50%)	20 (40%)
9.	Worries a lot	20 (40%)	38 (76%)	20(40%)	10(20%)	10 (20%)	2 (4%)
10.	Too fearful or anxious	22 (44%)	41 (82%)	13 (26%)	6 (12%)	15 (30%)	3(6%)
11.	Easily becomes jealous	5 (10%)	26(52%)	22(44%)	10 (20%)	23(46%)	14 (28%)
<b>SOCIAL FACTOR :</b>							
12.	Shows little affection towards people	18 (36%)	47 (94%)	24(48%)	2 (4%)	8(16%)	1 (2%)
13.	Acts too young for his / her age	11 (22%)	31 (62%)	7 (14%)	12 (24%)	32 (64%)	7 (14%)
14.	Refuses to share	23 (46%)	35 (70%)	13 (26%)	8 (16%)	14 (28%)	7 (14%)
15.	Fights with others	16 (32%)	23 (46%)	16 (32%)	15 (30%)	12 (24%)	23 (46%)
16.	A lot of argument	12 (24%)	21 (42%)	21 (42%)	14 (28%)	17 (34%)	15 (30%)
17.	Demands teacher's attention	20 (40%)	41 (82%)	25 (50%)	7 (14%)	5 (10%)	2 (4%)
<b>MENTAL FACTOR :</b>							
18.	Doesn't feel guilty of mistake	11 (22%)	29 (58%)	21 (42%)	12 (24%)	18(36%)	9 (18%)
19.	Feel he / she has to be perfect	10 (20%)	35 (70%)	26 (52%)	11 (22%)	14 (28%)	4 (8%)
20.	Blames others for his or her troubles	12 (24%)	29 (58%)	15 (30%)	6 (12%)	23 (46%)	15 (30%)
21.	Can't concentrate , can't pay attention for long period	9 (18%)	22 (44%)	28 (56%)	15 (30%)	13 (26%)	13 (26%)
22.	Is stubborn	2 (4%)	15 (30%)	13 (26%)	11 (22%)	35 (70%)	24 (48%)
<b>OTHER FACTOR :</b>							
23.	Use inappropriate language for communication	20 (40%)	42 (84%)	7 (14%)	8 (16%)	23 (46%)	0 (0%)
24.	Break rules at home, school or elsewhere	18(36%)	38 (76%)	23 (46%)	9 (18%)	9 (18%)	3 (6%)
25.	Destroys his/her own things	19 (38%)	30 (60%)	18 (36%)	9 (18%)	13(26%)	11 (22%)

Maximum score	39
Mean score	24.76 ± 7.84

**The Table Showing Frequency Percentage Wise Distribution Of Assessment With Level Of Behavioural Pattern Among Parents With Child With Siblings n=50**

Level of Behavioural Pattern Score	Score Range	Level of Behavioural Pattern Score	
		Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Good Behavioural Pattern	0-25	50	100
Average Behavioural Pattern	26-38	0	0
Poor Behavioural Pattern	39-50	0	0
Minimum score		0	
Maximum score		25	
Mean score		12.38 ± 6.30	

**Section – III :Question Wise Assessment Of Bhehvioural Pattern Of Single Child And Child With Siblings Among Parents In Selected Areas.**

**Section IV: Description On Comparison Of Behavioural Pattern Of Single Child And Child With Siblings Among Parents In Selected Area**

**Table Showing Comparison Of Behavioural Pattern Score Of Single Child And Child With Siblings**

Single Child N=50, Child With Siblings N=50

Parents	Mean	SD	Mean Difference	df	Table value	Calculated t-value	p-value
Single Child	24.76	7.84	12.38 ± 1.42	98	1.96	8.70	0.0001
Child with Siblings	12.38	6.30					S, p < 0.05

**Section-v A : Association Of Behavioural Pattern Score Of Single Child Among Parents In Relation To Demographic Variables**

The findings reveals that there is association of behavioural pattern with parents age, education status, monthly family income, Religion and rest of other demographic variables were not associated with the behavioural pattern of single child among parents.

**Section-v B : Association Of Behavioural Pattern Score Of Child With Siblings Among Parents In Relation To Demographic Variables**

The findings reveals that there is association of behavioural pattern with parents age, monthly family income, child gender and rest of other demographic variables were not associated with the behavioural pattern of child with siblings among parents.

**CONCLUSION**

After the detailed analysis, the study leads to following conclusion, The study shows that 44% of the single child had good behavioural pattern, 52% of the single child had average behavioural pattern, 4% of the single child had poor behavioural pattern.

Minimum behavioural pattern score was 7 and maximum behavioural pattern score was 39.

Mean behavioural pattern score was 24.76 ± 7.84.

And 100 % of child with siblings among parents had good behavioural pattern.

Minimum behavioural pattern score was 0 and Maximum behavioural pattern score was 25.

Mean behavioural pattern score was 12.38 ± 6.3006.

It is interpreted that the significant difference was found between behavioural pattern of single child and child with siblings.

There is association of behavioural pattern with parents age, education status, monthly family income, Religion and rest of other demographic variables were not associated with the behavioural pattern score of single child and there is association of behavioural pattern with parents age, monthly family income, child gender and rest of other demographic variables were not associated with the behavioural pattern score of child with siblings.

**Recommendation**

- Similar study can be conducted to find out the behavioural pattern of the single child family.
- Since the present study was conducted on moderate sample, more extensive studies on wider sample are recommended.
- A study can be conducted to identify the effectiveness of a structured teaching program in modification of children behavioural pattern.
- A study can be done to find out the risk for altered growth and development of children living with behavioural pattern.

- In this study awareness program can be arranged for the whole community regarding behavioural pattern of single child and child with siblings.

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