



COMPARATIVE STUDY OF HOSTILITY AND LOCUS OF CONTROL AMONG ORPHANS AND NON ORPHANS

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ABSTRACT The study focuses on the locus of control and hostility among orphans (103) and non orphans(n=110) from various orphanages and schools in Vijayawada District, Andhra Pradesh. Participants from both the groups were given locus of control inventory and Hostility questionnaire. The scores were compared and it shows that there is significant difference among both groups. Orphan children show increased hostility and external locus of control than non orphan children. We need to impart psychological intervention to orphan children to improve their emotional well being and improve Self.

KEYWORDS : Locus of control, Hostility, Orphan, Non orphan

INTRODUCTION

The personality of an adult or person is determined by the early life experiences. The way the personality has been treated by the family and society determines one's behavior patterns and personality.

Emery (1982) concludes that there is strong relation between marital discord and behavior problems in Children. Emery and Leary (1982) found that disturbances in the marital cord increases the frequency and severity of behavior problems. This finding remain consistent with the finding of (Chawla and Gupta, 1979)

Self esteem gets disturbed due to parental loss (Partridge and Tamara, 1987)

Bowlby (1973) has postulated that the survival value of an instinctive fear response keeps an infant proximal to the caretaker (usually the mother) resulting in an attachment. Loss of attachment figure, for any reason results in anxiety in the child.

Orphan children have feeling of insecurity ,inferiority and hostility(Prakesh and Saran,1966).When children got separated from parents they become depress and apathy,develops"an acute and distress syndrome"(Bowlby,1973,Rutter,1979)

Sometimes when children got separated from parents they tend to adapt to new situations (Rutter, 1972)

Children remain in orphanages (Skeels&Fillimore, 1937) or with mentally retarded mothers (Speer, 1940) have lower intelligence comparable to children who reared in favorable environment.

Few studies have been reported in India, though many children reside in India. The present study helps us to gain insight regarding problems faced by the orphans. The study focuses on comparing the hostility and locus of control between orphans and non orphans.

Locus of control: The degree to which a person feels reinforcing events in the environment as subject to his personal control, perceiving the events as being a consequence of his own action and thereby controllable(internal control) or as being unrelated to this own behaviors and therefore beyond personal control(external control)(Rotter,1966)

Hostility: An attitudinal response that endures, an explicit verbal response involving negative feelings (ill will) and negative evaluations of people and events(Buss,1961)

AIM:

To compare the level of hostility and locus of control between orphan and non orphan children.

METHODS AND MATERIALS:

The sample consists of 103 orphan children (who have been in orphanage) and 110 children taken from different schools. The samples were collected from Vijayawada district. The average age of

sample is 13+

Semi structured interview schedule to assess demographic profile and locus of control inventory and hostility questionnaire were administered to orphan and non orphan children.

TOOLS

1. Locus of Control Inventory

The inventory has 13 items. It was developed by John (1982).It is a five point rating scale. The split half reliability is 0.63.Likert type scoring method is used.

2. Hostility Questionnaire

The questionnaire has 20 items. The split half reliability of the questionnaire is 0.66.This scale is model after the popular "Buss Durkee Inventory" (Buss, 1961)

RESULTS

The data was analyzed using t-test

Table 1: comparison between locus of control and hostility among orphans and non orphan children

Variable	Orphans(N=103)		Non orphans(110)		T- Value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Locus of control	20.22	16.43	7.17	9.41	6.49
Hostility	9.13	3.42	6.5	2.8	5.33

The results obtained indicate that orphan and non orphan children significantly differ in the hostility ($t=5.33$, $P<001$) and in locus of control ($t=6.49$, $P, 0.01$)

It is evident from the results that orphan children shows high level of hostility and decreased locus of control. This shows rearing environment causes difference in the level of hostility and locus of control .Lack of parental love leads to sense of powerlessness .In the life of orphans there is increased chance of frustration, annoyance, presence of antecedents of anger. Orphan have increased external locus of control.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Findings of this study indicate that orphan children shows significant difference in hostility and locus of control compared to non orphans children. The findings must be taken into account for intervention. The study concludes that orphan children have increased hostility feeling and external locus of control. Therefore additional support must be given to orphan children to improve quality of life by reducing feeling of hostility.

IMPLICATIONS

Holistic Care is needed to improve the psychological well being of the orphan children. Continuing Education Programme is needed for the orphans for the effective management.

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