

# A Comparative Study to Assess the Wellbeing and Views of Parental and Parentless Children Living in an Orphanage



## Medical Science

**KEYWORDS :** Parental children, parentless children, well being & views on living in orphanage.

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### ABSTRACT

*The aim of the study is to assess and compare the selfreport level of psychological, educational, social wellbeing of parental and parentless children and their views living in an orphanage. In this study the sample size is 160. Out of 160 sample 80 sample for parental group consisting of children with parents and 80 sample was selected for parentless group which consists of children without parents. In Thoondamuthoor orphanage the sample selected was 60, in that 30 parental and 30 parentless children. In Podanur orphanage, the sample selected was 100 of which 60 was female (30 samples of each are parental and parentless children) and of 40 was male (20 samples of each are parental and parentless children) selected by lottery method. The tool consists of a interview schedule and self administered questionnaire with two groups to assess the views on living in orphanage and the wellbeing of orphanage children. Data analysis and interpretation was done using descriptive and inferential statistics.*

### I. INTRODUCTION

All the children were separated from the home. Some children even though they are separated they have both parents, but are not taken care by their parents due to parental negligence or broken homes. So both parental and parentless children are staying. Normally the child had innate need for love desire to form affectionate relationships and need the feeling of being safe and free from danger or threat where ever they stay which may develop the optimum development of the child. So the experience of living in orphanage is according to the perception of the individual. In the above view the investigator would like to study about the children's opinion living in orphanage and the wellbeing with parental and parentless children are same or there exists any difference. This research will help further researchers to take some actions in this area to improve wellbeing of the orphans.

### II. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A comparative study to assess the wellbeing and views of parental and parentless children living in a selected orphanage at Coimbatore.

### III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To assess and compare the self report level of wellbeing (psychological, education, social, and future dimension) of parental and parentless children in the orphanage.
- To assess and compare the views on (physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual and general) of parental and parentless children with regard to living in the orphanage.
- To associate the selected demographic variables with the level of wellbeing (psychological, educational and social) and views on living in orphanage of parental and parentless children.

### IV. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research approach is an overall plan chosen to carry out the study. The selection of research approach is the basic procedure for the research inquiry. For the present study, a descriptive survey approach was considered to be the most appropriate. The overall sample size is 160 orphanage children selected by lottery method.

### V. MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:

#### Demographic characteristics

In demographic characteristics majority (70% and 66%) of both parental and parentless children were under the age group of 13-16 years and also studying in 8<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> std. Majority (55% ) of parental children duration of stay in the orphanage was more than 6 years and majority 41.25% of parentless children duration of stay in the orphanage was 4 years-6 years.

#### Wellbeing of children

Wellbeing of the parental and parentless children were grouped

into four dimensions (psychological, educational, social and future). It was noted that majority of parental children had high wellbeing compared to parentless children and also majority of parentless children had an average wellbeing compared to parental children.

#### Views on living in orphanage

Views of both parental and parentless children were grouped into 5 aspects (physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual). It was noted that majority of parental children were satisfied in all the 5 aspects regarding views on living in orphanage compared to parentless children.

#### Significant Finding

There was a significant difference in views on living in orphanage between parental and parentless children (df-158, cv-11.61, tv-1.98) and also the study shows that there was a significant difference in the general view on living in orphanage between parental and parentless children (df-158, cv-3.65, tv-1.98).

There was a significant difference in wellbeing between parental and parentless children. The value is 9.28.

### VI. FIGURES AND TABLES

**TABLE-I**

**FREQUENCY AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF PARENTAL AND PARENTLESS CHILDREN BASED ON DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**

**N=160**

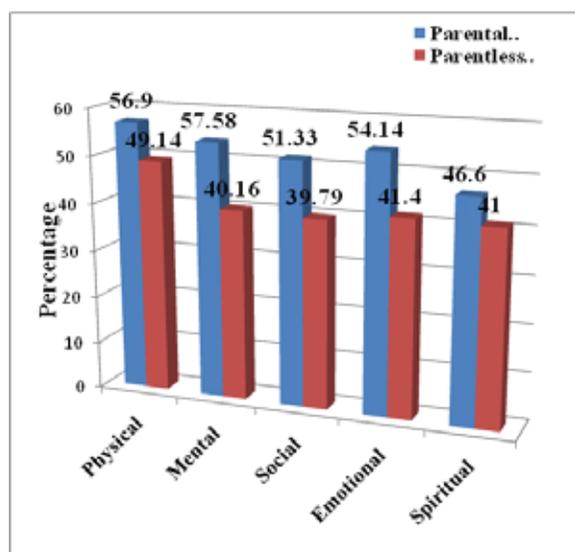
S. No	Demographic Characteristics	Parental Children N=80		Parentless Children N=80	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%
1.	a. 8-12	24	30	27	33.7
	b. 13-16	56	70	53	66.2
2.	a. Male	20	25	20	25
	b. Female	60	56.25	60	56.25
3.	a. 3-7 <sup>th</sup> std	24	30	27	33.7
	b. 8-11 <sup>th</sup> std	30	70	53	66.2
4.	a. 1-3 years	14	17.5	19	23.7
	b. 4-6 years	22	27.5	33	41.25
	c. >6 years	44	55	28	35

**TABLE - II**  
**FREQUENCY AND PERCENTAGE OF PARENTAL AND PARENTLESS CHILDREN BASED ON LEVEL OF SATISFACTION ON VARIOUS ASPECTS REGARDING VIEWS ON LIVING IN ORPHANAGE**

N=160

S. No	Aspects	Parental children (N = 80)						Parentless children (N = 80)					
		Highly satisfied		Satisfied		Not satisfied		Highly satisfied		Satisfied		Not satisfied	
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
a.	Physical	-	-	79	98.8	1	1.3	-	-	78	97.5	2	2.5
b.	Mental	-	-	72	90	8	10	-	-	35	43.8	45	56.2
c.	Social	-	-	77	96.2	3	3.8	-	-	56	70	24	30
d.	Emotional	-	-	77	96.2	3	3.8	-	-	42	52.5	38	47.5
e.	Spiritual	-	-	66	82.5	14	17.5	-	-	42	52.5	38	47.5

**MEAN SCORE LEVEL OF SATISFACTION IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF VIEW**

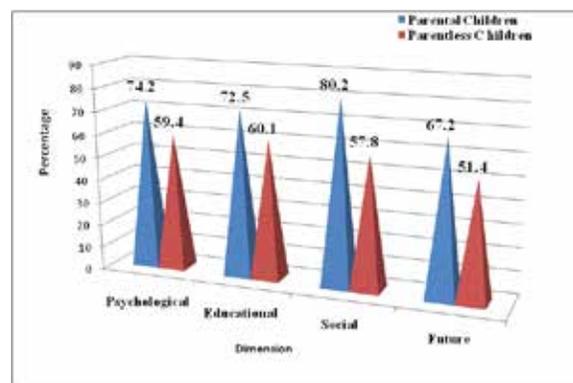


**TABLE - III**  
**FREQUENCY AND PERCENTAGE OF PARENTAL AND PARENTLESS CHILDREN BASED ON LEVEL OF WELLBEING ON VARIOUS DIMENSIONS**

N = 160

S. no	Dimension	Parental children N=80						Parentless children N=80					
		High wellbeing		Average Wellbeing		Low Well-being		High Well-being		Average Well-being		Low Well-being	
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Psychological dimension	41	51.2	37	46.2	2	2.6	15	19	64	78.2	3	3.8
2.	Educational dimension	52	64.6	28	35.4	-	-	15	18.8	64	80	1	1.2
c.	Social dimension	64	80	16	20	-	-	12	15	67	83.8	1	1.3
d.	Future	31	38.8	47	58.8	2	2.5	2	2.5	67	83.8	11	13.8

**MEAN SCORE LEVEL OF WELLBEING IN VARIOUS DIMENSIONS**



**VII. CONCLUSION**

Views on living in orphanage and wellbeing are interlinked .This study result shows that and parental children had high wellbeing , but majority of parentless children had average wellbeing. Majority of parental children are satisfied in all the 5 aspects (physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual) compared to parentless children.

**VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on the findings of the study the investigator proposed the following recommendations

- A replication of the present study can be done with large sample.
- A comparative study can be conducted with the selected different orphanage.
- Maximum publicity should be given through mass media for creating awareness to avoid children with parents in orphanage.
- A similar type of comparative study can be done between orphaned and home children

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