

INTELLIGENCE AND SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT OF JOINT AND NUCLEAR FAMILY CHILDREN STUDYING AT HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

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Abstract

Indian society is always considered as traditional and well cultured society due to its joint family system since ancient times. Family plays very significant role in development of children. The impact of globalization and modernization resulted into breaking of traditional system of joint family into nuclear family in India. The Joint and nuclear both type of systems of families have their own advantages and disadvantages in terms of raising of children and providing facilities to family members. The present study is an attempt to compare the intelligence and social adjustment level of children belonging to joint and nuclear family. To study the impact of family type on intelligence and social adjustment of high school students a sample of sample of 2400 students belonging to joint and nuclear family has been selected. The intelligence and social adjustment score of children belonging to joint and nuclear family is compared using t test. It has been found that children belonging to joint family having better intelligence and social adjustment than the children belong to nuclear family at high school level.

Keywords: Intelligence, social-adjustment, joint family, Nuclear family, high school level

Home, family or a household is the oldest and fundamental unit of any Society. Family is considered as a group of people that includes grandparents, adults, youngsters, husband –wife and their children. They all are related to each other as Mother-Father, brother-Sister or brother-brother and so on. In some old societies, servants were also considered as family members. That is why, the origin of English word ‘Family’ is considered to be from ‘Famulus’ which means servant. Thus, a family is a small society which is generally organized by Mother-Father and one or more children. This is the simplest form of a family. Its complicated form can be observed in some joint families of India, in which, in addition to mother-father and their children, there are maternal uncle-aunt, paternal uncle-aunt, and grandparents and so on living together.

According to D.N Mujumdar, “A family is a group of individuals staying in one house, under one roof, who are blood-related and firmly attached to each other by essential interests and mutual bindings”

Basically family is a primary group, which is eternal and sensitive. It has been developed slowly, in which mother-father are given responsibility of upbringing their child right from the birth to reaching up to adult hood. The members of family stay at one place and live life together in which care and love plays very important role. Family is mixture of joy, happiness, anger, fear, surprise, disgust. Members of family are connected to each other with emotions, and relations.

Salient Features of Family

A family provides stability a stable sexual relationship between a man and a woman. It is a Universal institution, which is found in each and every part of the world, though its forms may be different. Members of a family are emotionally attached to each other and provide emotional support to each other which is the basis of their relations and bonding. A family consists of generation of parents living together provide security, care and emotional stability to each other. The small family consists of parents and their children only. In such family, sometimes members especially children feel isolated and emotional insecurity.

Nuclear family vs. Joint family

Composition: A typical nuclear family consists of a husband, a wife, a couple of children. The number of members is very few in a nuclear family. In a joint family system, the number of dependents living under the roof is much larger. Those living with a joint family may include, grandparents, married brothers, and sisters, wives of sons, grandsons, granddaughters, other dependents and relatives.

Responsibility: The responsibility of a nuclear family rests on the couple. The joint-family system lays down a responsibility on the head of the family. The elder trains the younger ones for different occupations, marries them, give them a start in life, and takes care of the family responsibility and hold firm control.

Bond of unity and affection: Compared to nuclear family, there is higher bond of unity and affection among different family members and relations in a joint family. In a joint family, the prosperity and adversity of the family are shared equally.

Subsistence: The subsistence of a nuclear family is dependent upon either on husband or wife, or both. A joint family system ensures a minimum of subsistence to all the members of the family.

Freedom: In a nuclear family, the young couple gets more freedom. They can freely do the things that they like. They can also take risk with their money and display their enterprising nature. In a joint family, the individuals get less freedom. The family members have joint rights in family property and wealth. There is less scope for the development of individuality.

Role of social adjustment and Intelligence

Adjustment of members with each other and to a situation plays very significant role in success of any system. Social adjustment is an attempt of an individual to consider the standards, values and desires of a society to be accepted. It is the reaction to the demands and pressures of a social setting imposed upon the individual. It refers to various types of social and interpersonal relations in society. Social adjustment is the dealing of any situation with new standards and values as per societal and family standards. It requires possession of certain skills and competencies in a person, termed as social skills and social competency. Social skill is the specific set of abilities including cognition, verbal and non verbal behavior that are required for effective social performance. On the other hand, social competence is referred as overall ability of the person to behave favorably on his/her social setting. Basically social adjustment is the meeting of societal desires with social competency.

Intelligence refers to the ability of a person to perceive and retain the information and be able to apply in novel situation. It plays a very important in human life to understand the situation and solve the problems. It is helpful to understand and handle critical conditions and situations of life. It is a cognitive process which gives capacity to learn, comprehend information, ideas to solve problems of everyday life. It also refers to the ability of a person to get experience, think and develop ideas and to communicate it effectively.

It is assumed that social surrounding plays very important role in development of intelligence and capacity of social adjustment among people, exposure to variety of situation since inception certainly develops special ability of intelligence, emotional intelligence and social adjustment.

Need and Importance of the Research

Family is the single most important influence in a child's life. From their first moments of life, children depend on parents and family for protection and fulfillment of needs for survival. Parents and family form a child's first relationships and considered as child's first teacher. They are the role models for child to act and experience the world around him/ her. Before entering in formal education system a child learn adjustment and building of capacity through interaction with parents and other family members his/her early years of life, families play an important role in molding the behavior of children in early days of their life.

Family is the only place where children get genuine affection and get training of socialization. Joint and nuclear family systems have their own impact on development of intelligence and ability of individual to adjust in variety of situations of social and personal life. The adolescent refers to be the era between childhood and adulthood sometimes called as teenage. During the period of adolescence children face several problems related with social and emotional adjustment, cognitive and physical development.

Therefore, to understand these problems of teens and try to make expected changes is the main purpose of this research, with the help of understanding these problems proper steps can be taken in future.

INTELLIGENCE AND SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT IN JOINT AND NUCLEAR FAMILY

The practice of nuclear family system is increasing in India that leads to variety of social changes. Therefore, it has become important to understand the role of family structure on development of children. The main purpose of this study is to compare the social adjustment and intelligence of children belonging to joint and nuclear family studying at higher secondary level.

Objectives

To study the intelligence and social adjustment of children belongs to joint and nuclear family system studying at higher secondary level; To compare the intelligence and social adjustment of children belongs to joint and nuclear family system studying at higher secondary level.

Hypothesis

There will be no significant difference between the mean Intelligence score of children belongs to joint and nuclear family system studying at higher secondary level; There will be no significant difference between the mean social adjustment score of children belongs to joint and nuclear family system studying at higher secondary level.

Methodology

Purposive Random Sampling technique was used for selection of sample. Children belong to joint and nuclear family system studying at higher secondary level from Mahatma Gandhi Sindhu high School Nagpur city were selected as the sample. A sample was 2400 students' age range between 14 to 18 years were taken and divided into two groups on the basis of the family structure they belong as nuclear and joint family group.

Both the groups were administered the Adolescent Adjustment Scale developed by Dubey,R. and Intelligence test developed by R.K.Ojha and K.Roy Choudhary. The data were analyzed using t test

Table 1 Intelligence score of joint and nuclear family students

| Group | No. of Student | Mean | S.D. | t |
|----------------|----------------|--------|--------|-------|
| Joint family | 1200 | 92.308 | 18.152 | 4.084 |
| Nuclear family | 1200 | 89.598 | 14.098 | |

The calculate t value is greater than 0.01 level. It indicated that there is a significant difference the mean intelligence score of children belongs to nuclear and joint family group. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. Thus it could be said that the intelligence level of children belongs to joint family system is higher than the children belongs to nuclear family studying at higher secondary level. This indicates that family structure plays significant role in development of intelligence of higher secondary level students. Due to bigger family size the children get opportunity to interact with variety of ideas and situations. They have better perception as compared to children belongs to small family i.e. nuclear family

Table 2 Social adjustment score of joint and nuclear family students

| Group | No. of Student | Mean | S.D. | T |
|----------------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|
| Joint family | 1200 | 35.174 | 5.745 | 21.878 |
| Nuclear family | 1200 | 30.950 | 3.424 | |

The calculate t value is greater than 0.01 level. It indicated that there is a significant difference the mean social adjustment score of children belongs to nuclear and joint family group. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected.

After analysis of the data collected, it has been observed that student belongs to joint family show better adjustment then students belong to nuclear family. This indicates that family structure plays significant role in development of social adjustment among children studying at higher secondary level. In majority of nuclear families both the parents are working and hardly giving quality time to children for their social development and adjustment.

The joint family structure provides better opportunity to children to learn better socialization skills and competency. Their adjustment in different social situation is better than the children belongs to nuclear family. The joint family children interact with variety of situations and face competition amongst the members which built better adjustment capacity.

Educational Implications

The present study has its implications for nuclear and joint families. It has been found that children belongs to joint family system shows better intelligence and social adjustment as compared to children belongs to nuclear families. Due to modernization and urbanization the traditional joint system of family is converting into nuclear family system which results into feeling of isolation amongst the members of family specially children. They suffer a variety of adjustment and emotional problems as elderly guidance is not available frequently to them. Hence it is the responsibility of the parents, teachers, administrators and other community members to provide quality time they should promote healthy dialogue between members of family. They must discuss the problems of younger generation and provide solutions with proper guidance.

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