PERCEPTION OF STUDENTS ON PARENTAL CARE

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ABSTRACT

This study attempts to portray the parental role and their involvement in the upbringing of their children, as perceived by the under graduate student respondents. The demographic attributes analyzed were the education, occupation, income, family type and residential status of the parents. Parental care includes five dimensions namely, Interaction, Appreciation, Rapport, Money monitoring and Family outing. The study enlightens the fact that there is no significant relationship between the abovementioned demographic variables and the various dimensions of parental care.

Key words: Parental care, Perception, Interaction, Appreciation, Rapport, Money Monitoring

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INTRODUCTION

Parenting is defined as "The rearing of a child or children, especially the care, love and guidance by a parent". The role of being a parentisdescribed by taking into analysis the biological, psychological, social and financial dimensions. The parents' roles are of the maximum importance for personality development of the children. Basic traditional roles of being a parent are: nurture and educate children, discipline them, manage home and financially support family. Modern roles brought an active participation of fathers in children care. The main idea is that parents must be child centered and should aim to optimal growth and development of their children, to help them have satisfactory biological, social, psychological and emotional growth.

MEANING OF PERCEPTION

Perception is a process by which individuals organize and interpret their sensory impressions in order to give meaning to their environment. However, what we perceive can be substantially different from the objective reality.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Michelle Jennison, Kim Beswick, *University of Tasmania in his* study found that 75 per cent of the respondents agreed that, the hands-on activities in the intervention lessons had been helpful to their learning. 88 per cent of the respondents opined that learning in a small group was helpful and more enjoyable than learning alone. The participants in this study were positive, about the use of hands-on activities and group work in learning about fractions, and felt increased involvement with the lessons and the ability these activities afforded to visualize fractions.

The study made by Asikhia O. A., *Lagos State. Nigeria, concluded that the* teachers believe that students' poor academic performance is not influenced by teachers' qualification while students perceived that teacher's qualification do affect their academic performance. The difference in their perceptions could be because students have high expectations for teachers and believe that any teacher who fall below their expectations will not aid their academic performance.

Teachers perceive that teaching method and learning material influence students' academic performance and not the personal and environment factors.. But students perceive that students' personal and environment factors influence their academic performance.

Victor I. Igbinedion, Benin, Nigeria conducted a study on the factors of perception which influences the choice of vocational studies. The main purpose of this study was to determine the perceived factors like , parents, peer group, gender and interest that influence students' choice of secretarial studies as a vocational education program When the factors were ranked by the male students, was revealed that the most influential factor is the peer group with a mean percentage of 66 and the next highest influential factor is the parental factor with the mean percentage of 63.

The study conducted by A.AAdediwura et al., stated that the average academic performance of students in five selected subjects correlate and depend significantly on students' perception of teachers 'knowledge of subject matter and teachers' teaching skills and if a pupil likes a teacher it is possible that he will like the subject the teacher teaches and will in turn make progress in the subject.

Gilberto Gerra, Laura Angioni, has made an attempt to conducted a research on students temperament, traits and parental care perception which result shows that poor school achievements, and lower parental care were found associated with illicit drug use and "alcohol abuse"

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The need for the study evolves from the changing attitude, perception and behavior of the youngsters. Various external factors like excessive exposure to internet, highly influencing media, peer pressure, wide employment opportunities and changing cultural scenario and various internal factors like, family type, education, occupation, income, residential status of the parents play a vital role in influencing the perception of students about their parents' care.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study will provide the relationship between the parents' education, occupation, income, residential status and family type and parental care as perceived by the students. The Parental Care include five dimensions namely Interaction with their children, Appreciation and Recognition, Maintaining rapport with the friends and teachers of their children, Monitoring the money issues and taking children to outing like films, picnics and functions. Future research

can be done on the impact of this parental care in their studies, performance etc. The scope of the study is limited to 100 respondents who are undergraduate management students which can, by and large be expanded in future studies. The variables analyzed can also be increased to have a precise result.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To explore the undergraduate students' perception on Parental Care.
- To find out the association between Parental Care and Profile Variables i.e., Family Type, Income, Education, Occupation and Residential Status

HYPOTHESIS FRAMED

- There is no significant association between parental care and family type.
- There is no significant association between parental care and education of parents.
- There is no significant association between parental care and occupation.
- There is no significant association between parental care and Income of the parents.
- There is no significant relationship between parental care and residential status.
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METHODOLOGY

In this study, survey method of research is adopted and it was conducted in 3 Arts Colleges, situated in Medavakkam area in Chennai, with only undergraduate management students as respondents. A Structured Questionnaire was used to collect Primary Data from the student respondents. Simple random sampling method was adopted to select 100 respondents.

TOOLS USED FOR ANALYSIS

Percentage Analysis was used to analysis the demographic attributes and ANOVA two way factors were used to test the hypotheses.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

- The sample size is restricted to only 100 respondents, due to time and financial constraints.
- The sample size 100 cannot be generalized to entire universe.
- The sample respondents comprised only of undergraduate students from management discipline and not from science discipline.

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- The study is based on the prevailing condition, results of which need not be consistent in future.

ANALYSIS AND INTREPRETATION

Table 1:Respondents' Opinion on Parental Care

S.No	PC variables	SA%	A %	UND %	D %	SD %
1.	Interaction	23	53	8	10	6
2.	Appreciation	67	28	1	2	2
3.	Rapport	4	31	19	41	5
4.	Monitoring	29	36	17	16	2
5.	Family outing	27	39	15	10	9

(SA – Strongly Agree; A – Agree; UND – Undecided; D – Disagree; SD – Strongly Disagree)

Inference

53 percentage of the respondents agreed that their parents interact with them adequately.67 percentage of the respondents strongly agreed that their parents appreciate them when they get good marks or won prizes.

31 percentage of the respondents agreed that their parents maintain good rapport with their teachers and friends.36 percentage of the respondents agreed that their parents monitor and question monetary issues.39 percentage agreed that they go to functions, shopping and films with their parents.

Chart1

Respondents Opinion on Parental Care

Table 2

ANOVA for significant association between

Parental Care and Family Type

Parental Care Variables	Family Type	Mean	Std. Deviation	F	Sig.
Interaction	Nuclear	3.83	1.03	0.054	0.81
	Joint	3.76	1.25		
Appreciation	Nuclear	4.63	0.78	0.29	0.58
	Joint	4.52	0.51		
Rapport	Nuclear	2.96	1.05	0.268	0.48
	Joint	3.00	1.11		
Money monitoring	Nuclear	4.36	0.80	0.51	0.81
	Joint	3.58	1.41		
Family outing	Nuclear	3.79	1.15	0.24	0.48
	Joint	3.52	1.46		

An analysis was made to find out the association between the family type (Nuclear family or Joint family) and the five dimensions of parental care viz., interaction, appreciation, rapport, money monitoring and family outing. It was found that there is no significant relationship between the family type and parental care variables. Hence, the Null Hypothesis is accepted.

Table 3

ANOVA for significant association between

Parental Care and Residential Status

Parental Care Variables	Residential Status	Mean	Std. Deviation	F	Sig.
Interaction	Day Scholar	3.76	1.14	0.580	0.678
	Relative	3.50	0.70		
	Friends	3.57	0.85		
	Hosteller	4.03	1.06		
	Stay alone	4.00	1.033		
Appreciation	Day Scholar	4.43	0.94	2.153	.080
	Relative	4.50	0.70		
	Friends	4.64	0.49		
	Hosteller	4.90	0.29		
	Stay alone	5.00	0.30		
Rapport	Day Scholar	2.86	1.07	0.817	0.518
	Relative	3.00	1.41		
	Friends	2.85	0.94		
	Hosteller	3.21	1.00		
	Stay alone	2.00	0.66.		
Money monitoring	Day Scholar	4.23	0.99	0.053	0.995
	Relative	4.50	0.70		
	Friends	4.21	1.05		
	Hosteller	4.21	0.97		
	Stay alone	4.00	0.48		
Family outing	Day Scholar	3.51	1.31	1.182	0.324
	Relative	4.50	0.70		
	Friends	3.85	0.94		
	Hosteller	3.96	1.12		
	Staying alone	5.00	.0.31		

An analysis was made to find out the association between the residential status of the respondents, i. e. respondents staying with parents, staying with relatives, staying with friends, staying in hostel and staying alone, and the five dimensions of parental care viz., interaction, appreciation, rapport, money monitoring and family outing. It was found that there is no

significant relationship between the residential status and parental care variables. Whatever may be the residential status the parental care is the same. Hence, the Null Hypothesis is accepted.

Table 4

ANOVA for significant association between

Parental Care and Parents' Education

Parental Care variables	Education	Mean	Std. Deviation	F	Sig.
Interaction	Profession	4.14	1.06	0.316	0.814
	PG	3.71	0.99		
	Degree	3.72	1.12		
	School	3.84	1.08		
Appreciation	Profession	4.57	1.13	0.462	0.710
	PG	4.42	1.08		
	Degree	4.72	0.45		
	School	4.63	0.69		
Rapport	Profession	3.57	0.78	1.899	0.135
	PG	3.21	1.25		
	Degree	3.13	0.99		
	School	2.77	1.03		
Money monitoring	Profession	4.57	0.53	1.087	0.358
	PG	3.85	1.29		
	Degree	4.18	0.50		
	School	4.29	1.05		
Family outing	Profession	4.28	0.75	2.594	.057*
	PG	3.78	1.31		
	Degree	4.22	0.68		
	School	3.49	1.32		

*Significance at 5% level.

An analysis was made to find out the association between parents' education, i.e., Professional Education, Post-Graduation, Graduation and School education, and the five dimensions of parental care viz., interaction, appreciation, rapport, money monitoring and family outing. It was found that there is no significant relationship between the parental education and first four parental care variables. Hence, the Null Hypothesis is accepted. But there is significant relationship between the variable, 'family outing' and parents' education at 5% level.

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Table 5

ANOVA for significant association between

Parental Care and Occupation

Parental Care Variables	Occupation	Mean	Std. Deviation	F	Sig.
Interaction	Business	3.61	1.15	1.188	0.319
	Profession	4.33	0.50		
	Gvnt/Priv	3.88	0.98		
	Other	3.75	1.35		
Appreciation	Business	4.70	0.52	1.806	0.151
	Profession	4.77	0.44		
	Gvnt/Priv	4.64	0.80		
	Other	4.16	1.11		
Rapport	Business	2.76	0.98	5.409	0.002**
	Profession	4.22	0.66		
	Gvnt/Priv	2.86	0.96		
	Other	3.00	1.27		
Money monitoring	Business	4.02	1.21	1.067	0.367
	Profession	4.33	0.50		
	Gvnt/Priv	4.26	0.91		
	Other	4.58	0.51		
Family outing	Business	3.61	1.18	4.236	0.007**
	Profession	4.44	1.01		
	Gvnt/Priv	3.95	1.04		
	Other	2.83	1.52		

** Significance at 1% level.

An analysis was made to find out the association between parents' occupation, i.e., Business, Profession, Government or Private Employees and other jobs like driver, painter etc., and the five dimensions of parental care viz., interaction, appreciation, rapport, money monitoring and family outing. It was found that there is no significant relationship between the parental education and interaction, appreciation and money monitoring. Hence, the Null Hypothesis is accepted. But there is significant relationship between t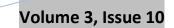he variables, 'rapport' and 'family is outing and parents' occupation at 1% level. These variables are influenced by the occupation pattern of the parents.

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Table 6

ANOVA for significant association between

Parental Care and Income

Parental Care Variables	Income	Mean	Std. Deviation	F	Sig
Interaction	Below 100,000	3.60	0.894	1.266	0.289
	100,000 - 2 lac	3.81	1.07		
	2 lac - 3 lac	4.11	0.73		
	3 lac - 4 lac	3.50	1.33		
	above 4 lac	3.62	1.31		
Appreciation	Below 100,000	3.80	0.44	2.906	0.026*
	100,000 - 2 lac	4.66	0.83		
	2 lac - 3 lac	4.85	0.35		
	3 lac - 4 lac	4.50	0.78		
	above 4 lac	4.43	1.03		
Rapport	Below 100,000	2.60	1.34	2.588	0.042*
	100,000 - 2 lac	3.00	1.10		
	2 lac - 3 lac	3.35	0.91		
	3 lac - 4 lac	2.77	0.94		
	above 4 lac	2.43	1.09		
Money monitoring	Below 100,000	4.20	1.30	2.093	0.088
	100,000 - 2 lac	4.29	0.99		
	2 lac - 3 lac	4.32	0.75		
	3 lac - 4 lac	4.50	0.61		
	above 4 lac	3.62	1.36		
Family outing	Below 100,000	2.60	1.34	2.551	0.044*
	100,000 - 2 lac	3.40	1.21		
	2 lac - 3 lac	4.05	1.04		
	3 lac - 4 lac	3.77	1.21		
	above 4 lac	4.00	1.26		

* Significance at 5% level.

An analysis was made to find out the association between parents' income and the five dimensions of parental care viz., interaction, appreciation, rapport, money monitoring and family outing. It was found that there is significant relationship between the parents' income and the parental care variables, appreciation, rapport and family outing at 5% significance level. The income of the parents has a significance influence in appreciating their ward with gifts,

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maintaining rapport with their wards' friends and teachers and taking their ward to outing. Hence, the Null Hypothesis is rejected.

FINDINGS

- A majority of 76 percentage of the respondents agreed that their parents interact with them.
- A majority of 95 percentage agreed that their parents appreciate them, when they get good marks or won prizes
- 35 percentage of the respondents opined that their parents have good rapport with teachers and friends
- 65 percentage of the respondents agreed that their parents question and monitor spending habits.
- 66 percentage of the respondents said that they go outing with family
- There is no significant relationship between the Parental Care Attributes viz., Interaction, Appreciation, Rapport, Money Monitoring and Family Outing and the internal variables like Family Type, Residential Status, Education , Occupation and Income. But there exists a significant relationship between occupation and family outing, occupation and rapport, Income and family outing, income and appreciation.

CONCLUSION

Parenting is an art of bringing up children and it is always understood as the toughest responsibilities of human being.Indian parents mostly practice positive parenthood. The sample respondents' perception and understanding of their parents' care, is positive and it is perceived in right sense. This study gives a deep insight on the concept of perception and understanding of youngsters towards their parent's role and involvement. It is also noted that the internal factors like gender difference, family type, education, occupation, income and residential status do not play a significant role in perceiving the parental care.

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