



PERSONALITY TRAITS IN CHILDREN OF WORKING AND NON WORKING MOTHERS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

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Abstract

Women Empowerment has been stressed since last several years by the government of India. The purpose of this study was to compare the personality traits of working and non-working women. A sample of 60 students of Secondary level were taken from different schools of Bahadurgarh. The Hindi edition of DPI test developed by Dr. Mahesh Bhargave was used for this purpose. 't' test was used as statistical technique in this study. The results highlighted that children of working mothers were less emotionally stable as compared to those of nonworking mothers. Children of working & non-working mothers showed significant differences in all six personality traits measured by the investigator viz. Activity-Passivity; Enthusiastic-Non Enthusiastic; Assertive-Submissive; Suspicious-Trusting; Depressive-Non Depressive and Emotional Stability- Emotional Unstability. The children of non-working women found to be more active, enthusiastic, assertive, trusting & non depressive.

Key-words: *personality traits, working mothers, non-working mothers.*



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Introduction

With the emergence of a new economic pattern, increasing opportunities for education, rising standard of living and increased modernization, women from the middle and upper class families have started coming out of their traditional role of a home maker to join the work force. The number of working women has been increasing year by year. Women are existing under cultural norms and values so the working women have to make adjustments with the family members. So this leads to a number of stress and strain among working women, which in turn affect the personality of their children.

Sociologists, social psychologists and educationists got interested in the field of children of working and non-working mothers to find out the problems that the children of working and non-working mothers face. It was found that the working women had less time for her child care and thus has both positive and negative influence over the child's development. This working status of mother can affect a child's development and can interfere with their ability to adjust themselves to lead a normal life.

Alexander & Shetty (2014) identified that preschool children of working mothers have more behavioral problems than those of non-working mothers. It was found that the nurses can play a major role in diminishing the behavioral problems by providing guidance and counseling for the children and their mothers. Mohammad & Anand (2013) concluded that there is no significant relationship between the extroversion personality trait and academic achievement of male children. There is no significant relationship found between the introversion personality trait and academic achievement of male children whereas a significant difference existed between the academic achievement of children of working and non-working mothers.

Khan & Hassan (2012) analyzed that children of working and non-working mothers show significant difference in self – awareness, empathy, self- motivation, emotional stability, managing relations, integrity, self-development and altruistic behavior. Vijayalaxmi & Bowlby (2007) found that the adolescent children of home makers have significantly higher self-concept & higher achievement motivation than the children of employed mothers.

Recent evidence by the World Health Organization¹ indicates that by 2020 childhood psychiatric disorders will rise over 50% and it may be attributed to genetic, psychological or environmental factors of the child. A study conducted on behavior problems among preschool children in New Delhi revealed that 22% of them had behavioral problems. The National Survey on Drug Use and Health Report states that during the past two decades, there have been marked changes in patient services for preschool children with behavioral problems (Alexander & Shetty, 2014). Hence an attempt was made to identify the personality traits of children of working mothers and to compare with that of non- working mothers.

Objectives of the Study

1. To identify the personality traits of children of working mothers.
2. To identify the personality traits of children of non-working mothers.
3. To compare the personality traits of children of working & non-working mothers.

Hypotheses

“There is no significant difference between the personality traits of children of working and non-working mothers.”

Research Design

In the present study, descriptive survey method was used.

- **Sample**

¹ The World Health Organization is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is concerned with international public health. It was established on 7 April 1948, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

The sample consisted of 60 students includes both boys and girls of IX & X class from school of Bahadurgarh. The sample includes 30 children of working & 30 children of non-working mothers.

• **Tools Used**

The Hindi edition of DPI test developed by Dr.Mahesh Bhargave was used to determine the personality traits of children of working and non-working mothers. The test is reliable & valid.

• **Statistical Techniques Used**

In order to know the personality traits of working & non-working mothers & to compare them simple statistical technique such as Mean , S.D & ‘t’ test were used b the researcher.

Analysis Of Data

The data was analysed under six heads and listed below:

1. Activity-Passivity:
2. Enthusiastic-Non Enthusiastic
3. Assertive-Submissive
4. Suspicious-Trusting
5. Depressive-Non Depressive
6. Emotional Stability- Emotional Unstability

Table 1: Mean & S.D. of the Scores of 6 Personality factors of the childrens.

Category	Mean	S.D	‘t’ value	Table value at 0.1	Table value at 0.5
Working Mother	65	254.06	0.486	2.76	2.05
Non-Working Mother	74	421			

As the table value of ‘t’ is greater than the critical value of ‘t’, hence the null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore significant difference exists between the personality traits of children of Working & Non- Working Mothers.

Headwise Analysis

1. Activity-Passivity: In this area the children of working mothers were found to be more active than the children of non- working mothers (mean value 11.03 & 9.47) due to more indepenence and autonomy in working. While children of non-working mothers depend more on their mother for each task and thus become passive in nature.
2. Enthusiastic-Non Enthusiastic: The children of non-working mothers were found to be more enthusiastic, compared to children of working mothers.

3. Assertive-Submissive: The investigator found that the children of non-working mothers seem to be more assertive as compared to others. They are always ready to face the world of competition thereby having the quality of aggression but usually show stubbornness and dominant behavior.
4. Suspicious-Trusting: It was observed that the children of working women were more suspicious as compared to their counter parts. It is difficult for them to trust anybody easily.
5. Depressive-Non Depressive: The children of working mothers were observed to be emotional due to neglect from the family at times and consequently more depressive than children of non-working mothers.
6. Emotional Stability- Emotional Unstability: In the matter of socialibility and emotionality , it was found that the children of working mother were more easily affected by feelings. They were emotionally less stable. They seemed to have a very low ego-strength and lacked emotional stability to a great extent.

Conclusion

The researcher highlighted the problems faced by the children of working mothers & found that the care provided the mother is very much responsible for the development of the personality of children. It is only home where child's allround development takes place. Initiatives like increased maternity, Child Care Leave started by Government of India in the year 2008 may be encouraged. It is further suggested that such some more steps should be taken by the Government to facilitate the working women for proper care of her children.

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