



**A STUDY OF LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ASPIRATION OF THE CHILDREN OF
WORKING AND NON-WORKING MOTHERS**

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Abstract

The sample for the proposed study was consists of 100 children`s in which 50 were children of working mothers and 50 were children of non-working mothers. The sample was taken from different secondary schools of District Anantnag. The data for the present study was collected with the help of the Dr. Mahesh Bhargava and Prof. M.A. Level of aspiration means an individual`s future expectations or ambitions. It refers to the estimate of one`s future in a given task. The findings of the study revealed that working mothers are personally determinant, well environment determinants, high in level of aspiration towards their children as compared to children of working mothers.

Keywords: Educational Aspiration, Children, Working and Non-working mothers



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Introduction

When mother enters the employment market, their children face crises just from their early age. These children are reared usually by servants who are a bit older than these Children. These servants usually cannot take proper care of these children as their mothers can. They face

hardships in terms of emotional support or rearing. After these children are sent to school, usually both father and mother go to attend their jobs. Children after reaching home find the door locked from outside and wait for their parents to open the lock. In nuclear families most of the times these children sleep near the door.

These children don't get proper care from their mothers even when they return home after completing days work. They are usually exhausted and hardly get time to care for their children. With this back ground it is felt that the stress of the children of working mothers may not be the same as that of children of non working mothers. In the same way , their coping strategies locus of control cannot be at par with the children of non-working mothers if the intervening variable of education of mothers is controlled. Level of stress of children of working mothers is expected to be more than the level of children of non-working mothers. Therefore, the present investigator wants to study the level of stress of children of working and non-working mothers. Secondly, the investigator wants to find out whether the coping strategies adopted by children of working mothers are different than the children of non-working mothers . Thirdly, the investigator wants to find out the locus of control of children of working and non-working mothers.

According to the Office for National Statistics, 66 per cent of mothers are now in some form of paid work. In 1996, the figure was 61 per cent. The number of working mothers is now around 5.3 million, up from 4.5 million in 1996. Most mothers (66 per cent) today work. Many love what they do and are fulfilled by their job; but many others watch those clock hands at work move s-l-o-w-l-y towards closing time and then they rush off to real life – with their families.

If the mother who stays home to raise her children is held up as a role model, the implication is that the working mother fails her children and society. If a working mother is applauded as our contemporary ideal, on the other hand, the stay-at-home, by implication, is a slacker. (Blair 2012)

Period of adolescent is the most crucial period in the life of human being. Adolescence is the time when the surge of life reaches its highest peak. The adolescent's life is, or might be, full of hopes. The adolescents are eager to interact with new experiences, to find new relationships to examine resources of inner strength and fathom the strength of inner ability. The adolescent tries to have freedom to think and set his own goals and discover means to achieve them. Adolescent's personality is a result of many forces. Their total personality is the sum total of attributes and qualities of heredity and environmental factors which operate together on the lives

of these individuals. In the interaction of adolescent's personality all conditions and basic abilities interplay their part. They give a sense of 'Self' to them. Development of Self is an important phase of adolescence stage. Self is very complicated. It is composed of, according to some Psychologists, many psychological states like feelings, attitudes, impressions, habits dispositions, likes and dislikes. It refers to the image which adolescents hold about themselves.

Aspirations begin to be shaped early in a child's life, but are modified by experiences and the environment. Aspirations tend to decline as children mature, in response to their growing understanding of the world and what is possible, and to constraints imposed by previous choices and achievements. This decline is particularly marked for those facing multiple barriers.

Objectives of the Study

The following objectives were formulated for the present investigation.

1. To study the level of aspiration of children of working and non-working mothers.
2. To compare the working and non-working mothers on level of aspiration.

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated for the present investigation.

1. There is a significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers on level of aspiration.

Operational Definitions of Terms and Variables

1. **Level of Aspiration:** In the present study, level of aspiration refers to the scores obtained by the subjects on Shah and Bhargava's Level of Aspiration Scale on the following two determinants: (i) Environment, (ii) Personal.
2. **Working mothers:** Working mothers in the present study shall refer to educated women with educational qualification as graduation and above and are engaged in any government/semi-government, or private salaried job.
3. **Non-working mothers:** Non working mothers in the present study shall refer to educated women with educational qualification as graduation and above but not engaged in any Government/Semi-Government and private job.

Sample

The sample for the proposed study was consists of 100 children's in which 50 were children of working mothers and 50 were children of non-working mothers. The sample was taken from different secondary schools of District Anantnag.

Tools Used

The data for the present study was collected with the help of the Dr. Mahesh Bhargava and Prof. M.A. Level of aspiration means an individual’s future expectations or ambitions. It refers to the estimate of one’s future in a given task.

Results And Discussion

Table 1: Showing the mean comparison between children of working and non-working mothers on dimensions of level of aspiration (N=50 each)

Dimension	Category	Mean	S.D	t-test	Level of Significance
Personal Determinants	Children of working mothers	4.51	9.29	2.16	Significant at 0.01 level
	Children of non-working mothers	6.52	8.43		
Environment Determinants	Children of working mothers	3.19	2.14	2.84	Significant at 0.01 level
	Children of non-working mothers	2.42	1.64		

The above table No. 1 shows the mean comparison between children of working and non-working mothers on different dimensions of level of aspiration. The above table revealed that there is significant difference between children of working and non-working mother on personal determinants dimension of level of aspiration. However the mean favours children of non-working mothers that implies the children of working mothers are personally determinant as compared to children of working mothers.

Further, the above table shows the mean comparison between children of working and non-working mothers on environment determinants dimension of level of aspiration. The table revealed that there is a significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers in environment determinants dimension of level of aspiration. However, the mean favours children of working mothers that implies children of working mothers are well environment determinants as compared to children of non-working mothers.

Table 2: Showing the mean comparison between children of working and non-working mothers on composite score of level of aspiration

Category	N	Mean	S.D	t-test	Level of Significance
Children of working mothers	50	9.65	3.85	2.82	Significant at 0.01 level
Children of non-working mothers	50	15.69	5.08		

The above table No. 2 shows the mean comparison between children of working and non-working mothers. The table revealed that there is a significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers on composite score of working and non-working mothers. The table further shows that mean favours children of non-working mothers which shows that children of non-working mothers are high in level of aspiration towards their children as compared to children of working mothers.

It is evidence from the above analysis, the hypothesis no. 1, which reads as, “There is a significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers on level of aspiration”, stands accepted.

CONCLUSIONS

1. There is significant difference between children of working and non-working mother on personal determinants dimension of level of aspiration. However the mean favours children of non-working mothers that implies the children of working mothers are personally determinant as compared to children of working mothers.
2. There is a significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers in environment determinants dimension of level of aspiration. However, the mean favours children of working mothers that implies children of working mothers are well environment determinants as compared to children of non-working mothers.
3. There is a significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers on composite score of working and non-working mothers. However the mean favours children of non-working mothers which shows that children of non-working mothers are high in level of aspiration towards their children as compared to children of working mothers.

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