



MORAL JUDGMENT OF ADOLESCENTS WITH RESPECT TO THEIR HOME AND SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

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Abstract

The present study was designed to predict moral judgment of adolescents on the basis of home and school environment. For this purpose a total sample of 500 adolescent students studying in 11th and 12th grades was taken randomly from the Govt. Sen. Sec. Schools of South Haryana of India. In order to collect the data, Moral judgment test by Km. Ranjana Gupta and Home and School environment inventory by K.S. Mishra were administered on the participants. The result of multiple regression analysis showed significant contribution of home and school environment to moral judgment of adolescents. The study found out that 23% of moral judgment of adolescent can be predicted on the basis of home and school environment. The obtained result has significance both for family and society.

Keywords: Moral Judgment, Home Environment, School Environment



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Introduction: How to prepare our selves in choosing the right choices and leaving the wrong ones is learnt by a term morality. The child learns and experiences from their home, from the surroundings, emotional experiences help in the improving their skills of sociality and help them in judging between wrong and right. The word morality subsequently describes the manners and the way of interacting with society in good manner. It is the self-regulation of conduct with the due consideration for both one's own welfare and the welfare of others. Broadly speaking morality helps in choosing right and the wrong, by deciding particular system to be followed and also help an individual in determining what is bad or good for him. The adolescents of today faces with more moral alternatives than members of the older generations ever had to face. This is due to many reasons. The most important of them are: A) movement in modern society, which results in the adolescents leaving the neighborhood and family group early in life. B) Rapid change in all phases of life. Generally capability of making right and proper decision comes under the term competency of judgment and it is the same thing brought into notice by concept of moral judgment. Moral judgments are made

about those actions which involve choices. It is only possible when people have alternatives for their actions which may be either morally good or bad. It requires the ability to look for common features of apparently different situation and to evaluate the situation as 'right' or 'wrong'. According to Jean Piaget there are numerous stages passed by a child which brings development and growth in it. But most of his findings fit into two stage theory. Children below 10 years think about moral dilemma in one way. Older children consider them differently. For younger children rules are fixed but for older children rules are perceived from relativistic point of view. In each stage of development there are certain tasks or activities, skills, understanding and attitudes that must be met before a person moves on to a higher level of development. Some researchers from Psychology believes that Moral Judgements are the result of several cognitive processes (Keltner, Horberg, & Oveis, 2006). Adolescence is the stage of preparation for playing the role of an ideal adult of the society. With the development of their intellectual abilities, moral thinking and reasoning, they can make sound moral judgment. Adolescents enter into the state of interaction and social relationship by getting rid of their feeling of egocentrism and self-centeredness; as now they become more aware to this emotion that what rest of the crowd thinks about them and what is the matter of concern in relation to them in the eyes of other people. Youth now a days is surrounded by the negativity and destructivity which is being spread in society through cyber mode in the form of messages which deny youth to listen to their parental advices or even family and social values. Main problem associated with such negative messages is that these are so much well established and deep rooted in our culture that it becomes almost impossible to protect youth or adolescence from their bombardment. These are some of the crucial factors which produce a huge impact on the adolescents and also hinder the development of child on the grounds of morality. Now a days it is a matter of serious discussion all around the world. So, it is essential to develop moral judgment ability of adolescents so that they can see their rights in clear perspective with rights of others and the relationship of one's own future wellbeing and also take decisions for the betterment of humanity rather than for its destruction.

Objectives:

1. To study the influence of home environment and school environment on the moral judgment of adolescent students.
2. To predict moral judgment of adolescent students on the basis of home environment and school environment.

Research Hypotheses:

1. There is no significant influence of home environment and school environment on the moral judgment of adolescent students.
2. Home environment and school environment has no significant role in predicting moral judgment of adolescent students.

Research Method: The research method was descriptive survey method which is concerned with the present conditions, situations and events.

Sample of the study: In the present study , 500 Govt. Senior Secondary School students from five districts i.e. Gurgaon, Faridabad, Rewari, Palwal, Mohindergarh of South Haryana formed the sample. The stratified random sampling technique was used.

Tools Used:

1. Moral Judgment Test for Adolescent by Km. Ranjana Gupta. It includes five areas in terms of (i) Immanent Justice. (ii) Moral Realism. (iii) Retribution vs. Restitution. (iv) Efficacy of severe punishment. (v) Communicable Responsibility.**2. Home Environment Inventory by K.S. Mishra.** 100 items related to ten dimensions- Control, Protectiveness, Punishment, Conformity, Social isolation, Reward, Deprivation of privileges, Nurturance, Rejection, and Permissiveness. **3. School Environment Inventory by K.S. Mishra.** Used to measure psycho-social climate of schools as perceived by the pupils.70 items related to six dimensions of school environment—creative stimulation, cognitive encouragement, permissiveness, acceptance, rejection and control. Time-20 minutes. Meant for High School and Intermediate students.

Statistical Techniques Used: The collected data was analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 17 which provides broad range data handling capability. The multiple regression analysis was used to predict dependent variable on the basis of independent variables taken in the present study.

Data Analysis and Discussion:

Influence of home environment and school environment on the moral judgment of adolescent students.

In pursuance of the **Objective 1**, i.e. “To study the influence of home environment and school environment on the moral judgment of adolescent students” multiple regression analysis and multiple coefficient of correlation was carried out as shown in tables given below.

Hypothesis 1. There is no significant influence of home environment and school environment on the moral judgment of adolescent students.

Table 1 Model Summary

Model Summary									
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	R Square Change	Change Statistics			
						F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.487 ^a	.238	.235	6.94537	.238	77.455	2	497	.000

a. Predictors: (Constant), TotalSE, TotalHE

Strong point of the model: Analysis in table1, depicts the coefficient of determination (the percentage variation in the dependent variable due to change in the independent variables) R^2 equals 0.238, i.e., SE (school environment), HE(home environment) explain 23% of MJ(moral judgment) leaving 76% unexplained. The P-value of .000 (Less than 0.01) means that model of MJ is significant at the 0.01 level of significance.

From table 1, F-ratio was significant at 0.01 levels.

Table 2. Anova

ANOVA ^b					
Model	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1 Regression	7472.587	2	3736.294	77.455	.000 ^a
Residual	23974.363	497	48.238		
Total	31446.950	499			

a. Predictors: (Constant), TotalSE, TotalHE

b. Dependent Variable: TotalMJ

ANOVA findings in Table 2. Shows that there is correlation between the predictors variables (SE, HE) and response variable (MJ) since p-value of .000 is less than 0.01.

Table 3 Coefficient of Regression Equation

Coefficients ^a								
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	Correlations		
	B	Std. Error	Beta			Zero-order	Partial	Part
(Constant)	65.781	3.592		18.311	.000			
1 TotalHE	-.038	.011	-.131	-3.326	.001	-.069	-.148	-.130
TotalSE	.189	.015	.487	12.320	.000	.470	.484	.483

a. Dependent Variable: TotalMJ

The results of the regression analysis in Table 3, depicts home environment and school environment has significantly influenced moral judgment (MJ). Ranking of the individual

independent variables, showed that, SE is highly related with MJ, followed by HE respectively.

Table 4. Mean SD, R² and Prediction Level of Moral Judgment, Home environment and School Environment

Variables	Mean	Std. Deviation	Partial Correlation	Level of Significance	R ² - value	R adjusted	Prediction Level
Moral Judgment (Dependent)	90.4100	7.93851					
Home Environment (Constant)	234.662	27.31559	-.148(r _{12,3})	0.01	.238	.235	23%
School Environment (Constant)	177.832	20.44877	.484(r _{13,2})	0.01			

Multiple regression analysis used to find out influence of home & school environment on moral judgment of adolescent students. Result of multiple regression analysis for moral judgment as criteria or dependent variable and home and school environment as predictors together of adolescent students. The table 4, shows that R² value is 0.238 and adjusted R is 0.235 and prediction level is 23% approximately which indicates that when school and home environment are taken as predictors, the influence of the two variables together on moral judgment of adolescent students comes out to be 0.238. It means the home and school environment together influence 23% variation to the moral judgment of adolescent students.

Table 5. Inter correlation value of Moral Judgment (Dependent), Home Environment (Constant) and School Environment (Constant)

Correlations			
	Total MJ	Total HE	Total SE
Total MJ	1.000	-.069	.470**
Total HE		1.000	.128**
Total SE			1.000

From table 5, it is clearly evident that inter correlation value of moral judgment and home environment is -0.069 which is not significant at any level of significance. Hence moral judgment is not influenced by home environment independently. Further it is observed that inter correlation value of moral judgment and school environment is 0.470 which is significant at 0.01 levels which indicates that moral judgment and school environment are positively correlated. It is also observed that inter correlation value of home environment and school environment is 0.128 which is significant at 0.01 which shows that home environment supports positive environment of school and vice-versa is also true.

Hence, the null hypothesis 1, i.e. “There is no significant influence of home environment and school environment on the moral judgment of adolescent students” is rejected.

Role of home and school environment in predicting moral judgment of adolescent students

In pursuance of the **Objective 2**, i. e “To predict moral judgment of adolescent students on the basis of home environment and school environment” multiple regression analysis was conceded out as given in the table 4.

Hypothesis 2. Home environment and school environment has no significant role in predicting moral judgment of adolescent students.

Result of multiple regression analysis for Moral Judgment as a criteria or dependent variable and home and school environment as predictors together of adolescent students. In the above table 4, shows that R^2 –value is .238 and adjusted R is .235 and prediction level is 23% approximately which indicates that when home and school environment were taken as predictors. The involvement of the two variables collectively on moral judgment of adolescent students comes out to be 0.238. It means the home and school environment together contribute 23% variance to the moral judgment of adolescent students. Thus the null hypothesis no. 2, i.e. “home environment and school environment has no significant role in predicting moral judgment of adolescent students” is rejected. The result shows that 23% variance in moral judgment of adolescent students may be predicted due to home and school environment.

Conclusions:

This study concluded that home and school environment have significant influence on moral judgment of adolescents. In order to enhance and develop adolescent’s social skills and decision making ability, proper environment should be provided at home and school through different modes. It may be due to guidance and teaching provided by school, motivation provided by parents and teachers and favorable atmosphere provided by home and school. Students moral judgment level can be raised by creative stimulation, cognitive encouragement and controlling their behavior. This study also found that moral judgment can be predicted on the basis of home and school environment. Efforts should be done to get better results with respect to good home and school environment. Adolescents misbehaves and wrong doing behavior can be controlled through this study.

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