

1. Aggression and Coping Strategies

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The present study has reviewed the different studies on rural and urban mothers to cope with childhood aggression. Total sample consisted of 120 aggressive children in the age group of 4-6 years and their mothers. The results showed that in urban and rural areas, boys were more physically aggressive while girls were more verbally aggressive. In urban and rural areas, mothers of aggressive children used six different strategies to cope with physical and verbal aggression of their children.

KEY WORDS: Childhood Aggression, Structuring, Power Assertion, Psychological Controlling, Supportive.

2. Buying as a Pleasure Seeking and Mood Repair Behaviour Examination of Predictors of Compulsive Buying

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Compulsive buying, hitherto an understudied dysfunctional consumer behavior with harmful psychological and financial consequences, is now becoming a widespread phenomenon. Compulsive buying is the impulse to buy that is experienced as irresistible, manifesting itself mainly with respect to personal consumer goods, such as clothes, appearance-related products, rather than everyday household and grocery shopping (Dittmar, 2005). Its growth in the general population can be linked to the economic, social and cultural transformation of behavior during the last two decades. Though clinical perspectives treat it as a psychiatric disorder, there are perhaps other social and cultural factors already present in the general lives of consumers which need proper identification and explanation. The present study thus, attempts to improve understanding of compulsive buying through examining gender, age, endorsement of materialistic value and money attitude as key predictors, sampling 200 consumers both male and female aged between 16-45. The results confirmed previously documented gender differences, showing female consumers to be more influenced and that the younger people were found more prone to compulsive buying. The gender differences in younger sample were however, found to be less pronounced, which was contrary to the studies done in advanced countries with a prevalent consumer culture. The central findings of the study relate to two variables which have also been observed to have phenomenal impact on consumers. Materialistic value endorsement and money attitude (measured in terms of power, prestige, distrust or price sensitivity and anxiety) emerged as important predictors of individuals' compulsive buying. They were also found to significantly mediate gender differences in compulsive buying.

3. Changing views of Parents for Girl Education in West Bengal

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The attitude towards girl education is rapidly undergoing a change. No longer are professional fields the male domain. Essentially girls are looking out for careers and are not content to be mere housewives any longer. Careers in I.T, medicine, civil services and vocation like fashion designing are high on their priority list. Career guidance facilities are, however, woefully lacking. There is an explosion of information regarding availability of avenues, both in India and abroad and making the right choice is not easy. The financial angle for good higher education is also prominent while making the choice. Schools and colleges need to consider the availability of personnel and career guidance and counseling in serious manner. Girls are willing to postpone marriage even to the late age of thirty in order to secure economic independence for themselves. Parents of girls, even from communities that have traditionally been considered reserved and not forward looking, are bending towards progressive thoughts. The process needs to be started at comparatively young age where intelligence and aptitude can be tested through appropriate psychological and psychometric tests. The process encompasses the student, the parent and the teacher to be in the arena of practical benefit. The present study attempts to assess the preferences of the parents of the girl childrens career. It is observed that they prefer professional

training, higher studies and careers for their daughters.

4. Development and Standardization of an Eve-teasing Scale for Girls : Reliability and Validity Analysis

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An attempt was made to develop an Eve-teasing scale for girls with the sample of 100 girls college students of Tripura, through standard technique of item analysis following a factorial study to determine the construct validity by applying principal component analysis, as well as odd-even reliability coefficient. The results provide sufficient evidence to use the Eve-teasing scale having 2 items for further use. Consequently, with a sample of 150 under graduate college students of Tripura an additional probe was made to explore the attitude of the said group of girl students. The results provide some interesting cues about the concerned phenomena.

KEYWORDS : Eve-teasing, Standardization.

5. Exploring the Classification of Students' Achievement - Trends and Search for Psychological Differences

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The study attempted to classify students according to their achievement - trends in science and mathematics and to differentiate among the groups of students manifesting different achievement - trends in terms of their psychological characteristics viz., scientific knowledge and aptitude, study habits, cognitive style, self-concept, neuroticism, extraversion - introversion and intelligence. A sample of 297 students of class 12 (science stream) studying in Kendriya Vidyalayas of Kolkata region was selected using the techniques of area and multi-stage random sampling. Standardized tools were administered to assess the psychological variables. After classification 191 students were found to display unstable achievement - trend while 102 pupils showed declining trend. Multivariate discriminant Analysis failed to distinguish the two groups with regard to the psychological attributes of the students possibly because the classification was limited in precision. The need for more accurate means of classification is highlighted.

6. FAIRY TALE TEST'S VALIDATION IN TWO CASES OF ORTHOPEDICALLY-CHALLENGED CHILDREN

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The Fairy Tale Test is a recently developed projective test for children aged 6-12 yrs. It has been applied in different cultures including the Indian Perspective and has been found much useful in probing into the personality dynamics of children in details. The present paper attempts to make an effort to validate the test on two orthopedically-challenged children. Test findings appeared to support the tunes of behavioural observations of the children, thereby providing evidences for the validation of the test. The Fairy Tale Test appeared to provide an enriched platter of personality traits to help explain the bearing of the children's debilitating challenged condition on their personality.

Key words: Fairy Tale Test, Orthopedically Challenged Condition

7. General Conduct of the Students as Perceived by the School Teachers of Kolkata and Howrah Districts of West Bengal

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The aim of the present investigation was to study the general conduct of the students as perceived by the school teachers of Kolkata and Howrah districts of West Bengal. Accordingly, a group of 120 (60 from Kolkata and 60 from Howrah) teachers were selected as sample in this investigation. Both male and female teachers were considered in this investigation. A General Information Schedule and Perceived General Conduct Questionnaire were administered to them by giving proper instruction. Findings revealed that general conduct of the students as perceived by the teachers of Howrah district is better in comparison to the teachers of Kolkata district West Bengal. Besides this, there are some significant

factors (good and bad) regarding the general conduct of the students as expressed by both group of teachers. Not only this, duration of service of the teachers is another important area to measure for its impact on rating the general conduct of the students. Teachers' perception about the students is a very important factor in the existing situation as students are the future generation of the society. So, adequate measures may be taken to build for good and appropriate general conduct of the students as far as possible.

8. Impact of Emotional Competence Training on Managerial Effectiveness of Bank Managers

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The current study aimed at framing and administering an emotional competence training program to enhance the managerial effectiveness of middle line managers. The study comprised of framing an emotional competence training module based on guidelines of consortium for research on emotional intelligence. This module was administered to a sample of 50 male, married bank managers in the age group of 35-45 years who had low baseline scores on emotional competence and follow up scores were taken after 15 days and 1 month of the training program. The pre-training and post-training scores on emotional competence and managerial effectiveness were compared using T-ratio to judge the efficacy of the emotional competence training module. The results showed a significant improvement in emotional competence and managerial effectiveness scores of the middle line bank managers, implying the effectiveness of training module adapted on guidelines of consortium for research on emotional intelligence on the sample of Indian managers in raising their emotional competence and managerial effectiveness.

9. Level of Awareness among Counsellors regarding HIV/AIDS: Pre-Training Assessment

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AIDS has turned into a pandemic affecting millions of men, women and children in all continents. Behavioural surveillance surveys show that awareness levels on human immunodeficiency viruses/acquired immune deficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) vary widely among the states in our country. The aim of the present study was to assess the level of pre training awareness among AIDS counsellors regarding AIDS, its transmission and prevention. A total of 106 AIDS counsellors came to RINPAS for 12 days training in AIDS counselling. The counsellors belonged to Jharkhand and Bihar AIDS Control

Society. Questionnaires based on the guidelines of National AIDS Control Society were administered on the counsellors before training. It was found that there was lack of information among the AIDS counsellors in the areas of principles of transmission of AIDS, self care strategies of counsellors, advantages of group of supervision of counsellors and how to make service more user friendly for men having sex with men (MSM). Findings suggest that for effective counseling, counsellors should be provided with scientific information in these areas.

KEY WORDS: HIV Transmission, Mode of Non-Transmission, HIV Counselling.

10. Personality Dimensions and Mental Health Conditions of Parents with Mentally Retarded Children

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The possibility of having a child with mental retardation (MR) is traumatic and the causes in some cases still vague. Thus, an attempt is taken to study the personality dimensions and mental health conditions of parents having children with mental retardation.

Sixty parents with at least one child with mental retardation and a matched group of parents with no disabled children were administered with a general information schedule for demographic information. Eysenck's Personality Questionnaire, Revised (EPQ-R) and General Health Questionnaire Revised (GHQ-R) of Goldberg and Hiller to study personality dimensions and mental health conditions respectively.

The results of EPQ-R revealed personality from three dimensions namely psychoticism (P) neuroticism (N) and extraversion (E). Psychoticism score was within the normal range for all the groups. The mothers of the children with MR have the highest neuroticism score and the lowest extraversion score, making them anxiety prone, stressed, having negative feelings and withdrawn. They also have the highest GHQ-R score, signifying some adjustment problems, while the father revealed no such symptoms. The findings are relevant for health care professionals, social workers and counselors.

KEY WORDS: Personality, Psychoticism, Neuroticism, Extraversion, Mental Health Condition.

11. Statistical Assessment of Agreement : Some Recent Thoughts

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Statistical methods have been used quite often to assess the level of agreement between comparable but different data-generating sources referred to as *raters*. A rater could be, for example, a medical laboratory, a clinical chemist, a psychologist, a radiologist, a clinician, a nurse, a psychiatric classification system, a specialist or a general measurement instrument. Measurements of agreement are of great

importance for assessing the acceptability of new or generic process, methodology and formulation in many fields of laboratory performance, instrument or assay validation, method/expert comparisons and the like. There are numerous examples that illustrate these situations: the agreement of laboratory measurements collected in various laboratories, the agreement of a newly developed method with gold standard method, the agreement of experts in the same/closely related fields [such as, for example, retina specialists/general ophthalmologists/photographers/nurses in a retinopathy screening study using photographic image], scales of psychological measurements with specifications, the agreement of observed values with predicted values etc.

One of the most popular indices of agreement was originally presented by Cohen (1960) namely Cohens Kappa statistic, as a reliability index for measuring agreement between two raters employing nominal scales. Later, in 1968, Cohen extended the original Kappa statistic by presenting the Weighted Kappa which assigns unequal scores to such pairs. Moreover, in the work of Landis and Koch (1977), it was found that Weighted Kappa is appropriate for measuring agreement when the categories of response are ordinal. There are recent theoretical advances in our understanding of this measure (Kappa).

When the measurements are taken in a continuous scale, a natural way to study agreement between two rates is to examine the extent of Pearsonian Correlation (ρ) between the two sets of paired data generated in the process. Lawrence Lin and his co-authors, in a series of papers, examined this aspect of agreement and proposed a number of alternative procedures for assessing the extent of agreement.

Extensions have also been made to allow for more than two raters (Posner et al., 1990; Lehmann et al., 1995), more than two possible ratings (Donner and Eliasziw, 1992; Lau, 1993), ordinal data (Fleiss, 1971; Fleiss and Cohen, 1973; Banerjee et al., 1999), and Bayesian analysis (Basu et al., 2000). In addition, many other applications of kappa statistic in a variety of different contexts can be found recently in Pinfold et al. (2000), Barnhart and Williamson (2002), Blair et al. (2002), Lin et al. (2002), Washington et al. (2003), Glenn et al. (2005), and Ruamviboonsuk et al. (2005, 2006).

In this short communication, we intend to discuss some issues related to assessment of agreement when the categories of response are ordinal.