

1. Comparative Study of Basic Concepts Among Preschoolers

Krishna Duhan : Department of Human Development and Family Studies I. C. College of Home Science CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar – 125004

The present investigation was carried out in rural and urban areas of Hisar district of Haryana state. To assess the concept development status among preschoolers sample was drawn from rural Anganwadies and preschool laboratory run under the department of Human Development and Family Studies, COHS, CCSHAU using Boehm Test of Basic Concepts – R (1986). Results of rural and urban children were compared to study differences in the performance of rural and urban children. The results revealed that out of 50 concepts, only 13 concepts were understood by 51 to 100 per cent of the rural children which means majority of the children had clarity of only few concepts. With regard to urban sample, results found that 50 to 92 per cent children had clarity of 45 concepts and only 5 concepts were not understood by 27 to 41 per cent children which show more clarity of basic concepts in urban scenario. Study further revealed significant difference between performance of urban and rural children on basic concepts.

KEY WORDS: Basic Concepts, Rural Children, Urban Children

2. Diagnostic and Therapeutic Dilemmas in a Case with Landau-Kleffner Syndrome

Poulami Chakraborty, Zoramsiami, Indranil Chatterjee
&

Nilanjan Paul : BASLP (intern) AYJNIHH, ERC, Kolkata

This case study was aimed to document a patient who was provisionally diagnosed as acquired epileptic aphasia secondary to Landau-Kleffner syndrome with respect to diagnostic and intervention dilemmas. Speech and language evaluation reports showed acquired childhood aphasia with no component of dysarthria. Psychological evaluation revealed average intellectual ability. The case received speech and language therapy for 12 sessions. Therapeutic approaches of deblocking, indirect language stimulation etc. were applied. After 12 sessions, the child's predominant gestural mode of communication was substituted by a verbal mode of communication which consisted of phrases and simple sentences. There was a significant improvement in semantics and syntax comprehension and production but no improvement in pragmatic skills. Some autistic traits were observed after 12 sessions which was rare and highly debated area in literature. Although generalization cannot be drawn from a single case study, it establishes the existence of such an entity.

KEY WORDS: Acquired Epileptic Aphasia, Landau-Kleffner Syndrome, Dysarthria, Autistic traits

3. Home Support and Vocabulary Development in Young Children

Leena (Research Scholar), Bimla Dhanda (Associate Professor) & Chandra Kala Singh (Associate Professor) :
Department of Human Development and Family Studies, I.C. College of Home Science CCS Haryana Agriculture
University, Hisar - 125004

The present investigation was carried out in Hisar and Rohtak districts of Haryana to assess the vocabulary development of rural preschooler in relation to environment provided in the home. Experimental material comprised 200 preschoolers selected from both the districts Hisar (100) and Rohtak (100) during the age of 2 to 3½ years. The chisquare test was applied to see the association between two variables home environment, specially language stimulation and variety in experience were the factors which significantly influenced vocabulary development of children in Hisar district. Learning stimulation, physical stimulation and academic stimulation had significant association with vocabulary of children in Rohtak. Other aspects of home environment such as warmth - affection and modelling were associated with vocabulary of preschoolers in both the districts. Overall home environment had highly significant association with vocabulary development in both the districts indicating that home was the seat of learning vocabulary in preschoolers.

4. Middle Adulthood: Connotations across cultures

Nabamita Chakraborty (Research Scholar) & Sanjukta Das (Associate Professor) : Department of Psychology
University of Calcutta

The current research attempted an exploration of the different conceptions of the span of middle adulthood in terms of objective calendar age. It was observed that in most of the reviewed literary evidence, middle adulthood as a life phase spanned the thirty-five to seventy year age range. A life-event approach towards demarcating the exact entry and exit points of midlife places emphasis on the life-events of marriage, career establishment and childbirth, as marking the entry, and retirement as marking the exit point of the phase. An exploration of the diverse cultural backgrounds of different parts of the world and the research undertaken in these contexts, as well as the respective connotations attached by them to the phase of middle adulthood has revealed how these differences regulate the age boundaries of midlife. Implications and conclusions of the findings from the review are mentioned.

Keywords: Middle Adulthood; Life-span; Age-boundary; Developmental Task; Life-events; Culture.

5. Patterns of Social Competence Among Adolescents from Authoritative, Authoritarian and Permissive Families

Poonam (Research Scholar)

&

Shakuntala Punia (Professor) : Department of Human Development and Family Studies, College of Home Science, C.C.S. Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar-125004

Developmental psychologists have been interested in how parents influence the development of children's social and instrumental competence since at least the 1920s. One of the most robust approaches to this area is the study of what has been called "parenting style." This research paper defines parenting style, explores three types and discusses the consequences of the different styles for social competence of adolescents. The data were gathered for the mean age of 14-15 years on 270 Indian adolescents in a survey study design. The parenting style of fathers and mothers was based on their demand and responsiveness. These scales classified mothers into three parenting styles as follows: authoritative, authoritarian and permissive. The social competence was also categorized in terms of five factors i.e. prosocial attitude, social tolerance, social maturity, social competition and social leadership dimensions. The mean scores of the adolescents' social competence whose parents had permissive and authoritative parenting style was higher than that for the two other groups for all the dimensions ($p < 0.05$). The results showed that with the expectation of controlling roles, the supportive role of parents can be more effective in providing opportunities for social competence performance.

Keywords: Adolescence, Perception, Parenting Style, Authoritative, Authoritarian, Permissive, Social Competence.

6. Signature Strengths of Middle Rung Army Officers and Bank Managers

Sudha Banth (Reader) & Pooja Singh (Junior Research fellow) : Department of Psychology, Panjab University, Chandigarh

Peterson & Seligman (2004) put forward a classification of character strengths which includes 24 widely recognized character strengths organized under six virtues. The assessment of character is presently quite limited in society in general, and in the organizational realm in particular. The present study is a venture towards identifying the signature strengths (top five character strengths) in middle rung army officers and bank managers. The army officers were expected to possess the signature strengths of bravery, love, hope, creativity, fairness, perseverance, perspective and leadership. The bank managers were expected to possess the signature strengths of leadership, open mindedness, perseverance, fairness, forgiveness, gratitude, and love. The signature strengths were measured using Values-in-action Inventory of Strengths (Peterson and Seligman, 2003). The mean scores were calculated for all the 24 character strengths in army officers and bank managers respectively. The signature strengths were identified and then compared using t-ratios. The results of the present study can be used retrospectively for selection and training purposes in the army and banking sector.