

1. THE ROLE OF MARITAL STATUS ON PERCEPTION OF STRESS AND DEPRESSIVE SYMPTOMS AMONG BENGALI WOMEN.

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The present study was conducted to explore whether there is any difference in the depressive symptoms and perception of stress among married and un-married Bengali women. The aims of the study were to determine (i) whether there is any difference between married and unmarried women in terms of depressive symptoms, (ii) whether there is any difference between married and unmarried women in terms of perception of stress. The sample consisted of about 87 women (37 married and 50 unmarried) in the age group of 25-30 years. Beck depression inventory and Perceived stress scale-10 were administered. The analyses revealed no significant differences between married and un-married women of Kolkata in terms of depressive and stress symptoms. Unmarried women scored only slightly higher with respect to signs of depressive and stress symptoms than the married counterparts. The results have been discussed in terms of future implications and research scopes.

KEYWORDS: depressive symptoms, marital status, perception of stress.

2. OCCUPATIONAL STRESSORS AMONG MERCHANT MARINE OFFICERS

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The present study on occupational stressors of merchant marine officers aimed at finding out the stressor variables (Life Event Stress and Organizational Role Stress). Accordingly, the responses had collected from 200 officers (100 merchant marine officers and 100 ground level officers) from different organizations by using three tools (1. General Information Schedule, 2. Life Event Stress and 3. Organizational Role Stress Scale). The responses were treated for 't' and ANOVA. Results highlighted the followings:

1. In general, perceived stress-originating life events of the merchant marine and non-marine officers were centering around five categories of occupation specific events relating to communication and information network, challenges of new technology and technical problems, favourable and unfavourable issues, risk-prone work situation and work condition, and imbalances between work-family-environment.
2. There were significant differences between mariners and non-mariners with respect to the level of Life Event Stress and Organizational Role Stress.

KEYWORDS: Occupational Stress of merchant marine officers, Life Event Stress, Organizational Role Stress.

3. PSYCHOMETRIC VALIDATION OF HIGH FREQUENCY WORD LISTS IN BANGLA FOR EVALUATING SPEECH PERCEPTION

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Individuals with sensorineural hearing loss especially in presbycusis, tend to have the greatest amount of hearing loss in high frequencies. A person with high frequency hearing loss would have difficulty mainly in perception of high frequency speech sounds. They are able to perceive speech in quiet environment but have difficulty in noisy environment. Traditional speech audiometry does not give a complete understanding of the communication problem of a person with high frequency hearing loss as most of the speech identification tests are standardized and developed for individuals having flat frequency hearing loss. Also an individual's perception of speech is reported to be influenced by his or her mother tongue. Thus administering a speech test in a subject's mother tongue is ideal. So far there is no test material in Bangla language to assess the speech perception problem in high frequency hearing loss for Bengali population. The present study aimed to develop two 25 items word lists for the purpose of assessing the speech perception problem in high frequency hearing loss subjects in native Bangla speakers. In order to achieve familiarity of the test material 179 CVC words with high frequency phonemes were collected from Bangla Sansad Dictionary (Mallick,1998). These words were subjected to familiarity rating testing by 10 native speakers of Bangla. Standardization of test material was done on 30 normal hearing subjects who are native speakers of Bangla. In Interlist variability, the performance between the two ears and the performance between the PB scores and high frequency scores were measured in normal hearing subjects. Results showed no significant difference for all the three above mentioned comparison. To evaluate the utility of the test material it was administered on 15 native Bangla speakers with high frequency hearing loss. The performance scores of high frequency word list between normal and high frequency and hearing loss subjects were measured. Also the performance scores of PB word lists and high frequency word lists were measured for high frequency hearing loss subjects. Results showed there was significant difference in both the comparison in high frequency hearing loss individuals. Based on the above findings it can be concluded that the material can be used to assess the communication problem in the native Bangla speakers with high frequency hearing loss. However, its utility yet to be proved in selection of hearing aids.

4. MOBILE USE PATTERN AND CHANGING ATTITUDES TOWARDS INTIMACY: A STUDY AMONG THE YOUNG ADULTS OF KOLKATA

Titir Chatterjee

In today's world, "growing up" is not what it used to be. This concept of "growing up" differs with advancement of technology, knowledge and exposure of the society. The youth of today are constantly immersed in technological advancements that promote nonstop communication and instant gratification, especially through mobile phones. The creation of various portable technological devices has slowly ingrained the idea of instant gratification among the youth of today. The present study is aimed at analyzing the pattern of mobile usage among the young adults of Kolkata and to point out the role that these patterns play in changing their attitudes towards intimacy. Samples are derived from unmarried college going young adults of Kolkata area within the age group of 18 – 23 years. The major object of this study is to find out the changing trends of intimacy and commitment towards relationships among the young adult age group according to their mobile usage pattern. The findings of this study indicate that there is a directional change in the attitudes of the respondents towards intimacy and sexuality according to their accessibility and usage of mobile phones. Moreover, it was also found that the intentions of mobile usage sometimes do differ with gender.

KEYWORDS: Mobile Phone, Attitudes, Intimacy, Young Adults

5. SUICIDAL IDEATION AND QUALITY OF MARITAL LIFE OF DEPRESSIVE WOMEN WITH CHILD AND WITHOUT CHILD

Sambita Mukherjee and Prof. D .C Nath

People with depressed mood show loss of energy and interest, guilt feeling, difficulty in concentrating, loss of appetite, poor social relation, and thoughts of death or suicidal ideation. There is a prevalent notion that having a child might jeopardize a depressive woman's marital relationship and lower the quality of marital life and that it can also increase the level of her depression since she is overburdened with child. This study shows whether the presence of child can help improve the quality of marital life and decrease the chances of suicidal risk of depressive women. For this study, a sample of 80 depressive patients (female) were selected through purposive sampling technique. Out of these 80 patients 40 had no issue and 40 had issues. Marital Quality Scale and Suicidal Ideation Questionnaire were used in collecting data. Results showed that suicidal ideation is lower and quality of marital life is better among the depressive women having child than depressive women without child.

KEYWORDS : Suicidal, Ideation, Marital life, Depressive women.