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WITH REFERENCE OF MEERUT DISTRICT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, ATTITUDE TOWARDS MODERNITY & LOCUS OF CONTROL OF THE CHILDREN OF WORKING WOMEN & NON-WORKING WOMEN: A STUDY

Sushma Sharma*¹, Dr. S.P.Singh²

¹CM J university, Meghalaya.

²MCAT, CCS University, Meerut.

INTRODUCTION

Nobody denies the importance of mother in child's development either it is physical, moral, emotional, social or intellectual. Mother plays a vital role in the life of a child. She is the foundation of the 'home'. The future of the child depends upon mother's nourishment. In a household where parents love each other, the child feels secure. The child's sense of belongings and being loved by his family eventually determines his attitude towards the external group i.e. the community in which he lives and plays.

A Child learns first by his mother and his family as it has been said that, family is the first school' for the child. She not only feeds, takes care, nourishes but scolds also. In this way the mother is the symbol of pain and warmth. It is essential for mental health of a child that he should experience a warm intimate and continuous relationship with his mother. The child must feel that he is an object of pleasure and pride to his mother.

Within two decades the values of society have been changed. Parents are becoming more and more materialistic. Due to economic value mothers are moving towards jobs which are changing the family's culture and structure. The traditional belief was that woman must stay at home with their children in order to promote their all round development. Psychologists argue that first three to five years of child's life have great importance. A child needs more attention. He will suffer various negative consequences due to this maternal deprivation. It also has a negative effect on personality and growth of the child.

Now the question arises if child's personality is affected by the employment of mother or not. It is generally considered that the children of working women are more achievement oriented. On the contrary, some people argue that mother should be completely devoted to her children for their proper development. But it is a matter of discussion till now, whether mother's employment affects the personality of her children or not. It should be discussed also is there any difference between the children of working women and non-working women about their academic achievement, attitude towards modernity and locus of control.

DEFINITION OF IMPORTANT TERMS

1. Working women and Non-Working Women

In this study working women refer to the category of females, who are independent. And non-

working women refer to the category of those women who are either illiterate or educated housewives.

2. Academic Achievement

Academic achievement is the degree of attainment of the students after a period of learning exercise and is measured by examination in different subjects. It predicts on individual's ability to perform after a specific instruction programme or course. It can predict on individual's ability to acquire new knowledge, skill in a given area such as science, mathematics or any foreign language learning. Academic achievement is the record which indicates the scholastic performance of a student in school subjects.

3. Attitude Towards Modernity

Attitude towards modernity indicates thoughts and conscious or unconscious behaviour of a person towards changing social values and norms.

4. Locus of Control

The concept of Locus of control is given by Rotters. Locus of control refers to person's belief about the responsibility regarding his/her success or failure. Person, loving outer locus of control feels outer sources such as 'God', 'DESTINY' etc. responsible for his/her achievements or failures. While the person loving internal locus of control, feels himself/herself responsible for the same.

Statement of the Problem

The present study is designed to compare the children of working women and non-working women. The problem is stated as, "A Study of Academic Achievement, Attitude towards Modernity & Locus of Control of the Children of Working Women & Non-Working Women with Reference of Meerut District"

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The study has been designed to achieve following objectives:-

- (1) To compare the academic achievement of the children of working women and non-working women.
- (2) To compare the attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women.
- (3) To compare the locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women.
- (4) To study the relationship between academic achievement and attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women.
- 5) To study the relationship between academic achievement and locus of control of the children of working women and non- working women.

(6) To study the relationship between attitude towards modernity and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

Following hypotheses will be formulated and stated to realise the objectives of the study:

- (1) There is no significant difference in the academic achievement of the children of working women and non-working women.
- (2) There is no significant difference in the attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women.
- (3) There is no significant difference in the locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women.
- (4) There is no significant relationship between the academic achievement and attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women.
- (5) There is no significant relationship between the academic achievement and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women.
- (6) There is no significant relationship between the attitude towards modernity and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women.

DELIMITATIONS

The study is confined to -

- (1) Children of 13 to 16 years old.
- (2) Children of Meerut Distt.

METHOD OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the present study is to compare the children of working women and non-working women with regard to their academic achievement, attitude towards modernity and locus of control. Considering the nature and objectives of the present study, 'Descriptive Survey' method of research will be used along with causal comparative and co-relational approaches.

STUDY VARIABLES

Present study involves four variables, one independent variable and three dependent variables -

<u>Independent Variable</u>	<u>Dependent variable</u>
1. Children of working women and non-working women.	1. Academic achievement 2. Attitude towards modernity. 3. Locus of control

RESEARCH TOOLS EMPLOYED

To measure the above variables the following tools will be used in the present study:

<u>Dependent Variables</u>	<u>Tools</u>
1. Academic achievement	1. Academic Achievement will be considered in terms of the marks obtained by the students in their previous class promotion examination (that is class VII examination).
2. Attitude towards modernity.	2. Consumable Booklet of the Modernization scale -R.S.Singh, A.N.Tripathi & Ramji Lal
3. Locus of Control	3. Rotter's Locus of control (I-E Scale)- Dr. Anand Kumar & Dr. Satyendra Nath Shrivastava.

POPULATION & SAMPLE

The School going children in the age group of 13 to 16 years of the working women and non-working women of Meerut Distt. Will constitute the population of the study. As for the sample 500 children 13 to 16 years of age of Meerut District will be selected. 50% of which will be of working women and 50% of non-working women. Students of the class VIII standard of these institutions will be contacted.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUE

The researcher proposes to apply 't' test to compare the academic achievement, attitude towards modernity and locus of control of the children of working women and non working women and to find out the relationship between the variables, required co-relational technique will be applied.

CONCLUSION

Having interpreted the data presented in the Vth chapter of present research report the investigator proposes to present conclusions drawn by her. Needless to say, the conclusions in the present study on "A study of academic achievement, attitude towards modernity and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women", are being presented in the context of six objectives of the study. Besides this, the chapter attempts to throw light on the validity of the hypotheses described in the introductory chapter of the present research report.

Before presenting the conclusions drawn in the present study and also before throwing light on the validity of the hypotheses of the study, it seems important to mention the objectives. These were:

1. To compare the academic achievement of the children of working women and non-working women.
2. To compare the attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women.
3. To compare the locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women.

4. To study the relationship between academic achievement and attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women.
5. To study the relationship between academic achievement and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women.
6. To study the relationship between attitude towards modernity and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women.

The conclusions drawn in respect of each one of these six objectives are being presented under the following heads:

1. To compare the academic achievement of the children of working women and non-working women:

The study in hand concludes that the academic achievement of the children of working women and non-working women has no significant difference. This conclusion gets support from test of significance ('t') applied on data. This result is also supported by **Triedi (1988)** who tried to test scholastic achievement of adolescent children of working and non-working women. She concluded that the difference between the achievement scores of the children of working and non-working women was not significant.

This study reveals that the children of working women are not affected by their mother's occupation. The children of working women and non-working women have equal academic achievement. Thus we can say that there is no significant difference between the academic achievement of the children of working women and non-working women.

2. To compare the attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women:

This study reveals that the children of working women and non-working women are not affected by their mother's occupation regarding attitude towards modernity. Thus children belonging to the both groups have equal attitude towards modernity. The components of attitude towards modernity were also compared between these two groups, they were socio-religious, marriage, position of women and education. No significant difference was found between the children of working women and non-working women regarding socio-religious, marriage and position of women. But the difference between attitude towards education of both groups was found significant. The children of non-working women have higher scores regarding education. The reason behind it may be that non-working women pay more attention towards their children's education as they have more time for their children than working women.

But when we study attitude towards modernity as overall, we find no significant difference between the children of working women and non-working women. It proves that mother's occupation does not affect her child's attitude towards modernity. Thus there is no significant

difference between the attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women.

3. To compare the locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women.

The study in hand shows that there is no significant difference between the locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women. Thus the children of both groups have equal locus of control. The children of working women are not affected by their mother's occupation. More number of children have external locus of control than the internal locus of control.

4. To study the relationship between the academic achievement and attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women.

The study in hand shows that no relationship is found out between the academic achievement and attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women. This conclusion gets support from correlation (r) applied on data.

The ' r ' value of academic achievement and attitude towards modernity of the children of working women is found to be 0.31 and the ' r ' value of academic achievement and attitude towards modernity of the children of non-working women is found to be 0.21 which shows a low relationship. Thus it may be concluded that the relationship exists between academic achievement and attitude towards modernity of the children of working and non-working women yet the magnitude of relationship is very low.

This shows that mother's occupation does not affect her child's academic achievement and attitude towards modernity. Thus there is no significant relationship between the academic achievement and attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women.

5. To study the relationship between the academic achievement and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women.

The study in hand concludes that no relationship exists between the academic achievement and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women. It shows that mother's occupation does not affect her child's academic achievement and locus of control. Both variables of the children of working women are negligibly negatively correlated.

Bhogayata (1989) concluded that locus of control and academic achievement of the children of non-working women have highly negative correlation.

Thus it is clear from this study that there is no significant relationship between the children of working women and non-working women.

6. To study the relationship between attitude towards modernity and locus of control of the children of working women and non- working women.

The study in hand shows that no relationship is found between the attitude towards modernity and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women. This conclusion gets support from correlation value applied on data. It reveals that mother's occupation does not affect her child's attitude towards modernity and locus of control. The 'r' value of both variables of the children of working women is - 0.37 and the 'r' value of both variables of the children of non-working women is - 0.28. It reveals that the attitude towards modernity and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women are negatively correlated though the magnitude of the negative correlation is rather low.

Validity Of The Hypotheses Framed In The Study

On the basis of conclusions drawn by the investigator in respect of each one of the six objectives of the study, it now seems necessary to examine the magnitude of validity of her hypotheses.

The first hypothesis of the study was "There is no significant difference in the academic achievement of the children of working women and non-working women". The conclusions drawn in the study lend strong support to this hypothesis. It can be safely stated that children of both groups i.e. working women and non-working women have approximately equal academic achievement. There is not any significant difference between them. Therefore the hypothesis is valid.

The second hypothesis of the study was, "There is no significant difference between the attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women". The conclusions drawn in the study lend strong support to this hypothesis. It can be stated that attitude towards modernity of the children is not affected by their mother's occupation. Though the children of working women are more socio-religious than the children of non-working women on the one hand, while on the other hand the children of non-working women have higher scores regarding marriage, position of women and education than the children of working women. The differences in mean scores of both the groups is very low leading to the conclusion that no significant difference was found between the children of working women and non-working women regarding attitude towards modernity. Therefore the hypothesis is valid.

The third hypothesis is that, "There is no significant difference between the locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women". The conclusions drawn in the study also lend strong support to this hypothesis. It can be safely stated that mother's occupation does not affect the child's locus of control. In this way the children of both groups i.e. working women and non-working women have equal locus of control. There is no significant difference between the locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women. The hypothesis, therefore, is valid.

The fourth hypothesis is that, "There is no significant relationship between the academic achievement and attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women". The conclusions drawn in the study lend strong support to this hypothesis. It can be stated that the academic achievement and attitude towards modernity of the children of working women and non-working women have no significant relationship. Therefore the hypothesis is valid.

The fifth hypothesis is that, "there is no significant relationship between the academic achievement and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women". The conclusions drawn in the study, lend strong support to this hypothesis too. On the basis of it, it can be said that there exists no significant relationship between academic achievement and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women. Therefore the hypothesis is valid.

The sixth hypothesis is that, "There is no significant relationship between the attitude towards modernity and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women". The conclusions drawn in the study lend strong support to this hypothesis. On the basis of it, it can be safely state that no significant relationship exists between attitude towards modernity and locus of control of the children of working women and non-working women. The hypothesis, therefore, is valid.

The Educationists, parents and guardians therefore need to keep a view on the significance of quantity and quality of time devoted to their children for their all round development especially cognitive, affective and social. The rational for need of keeping this particular fact in view owes its viability to the fact that a child flourishes up to its maximum potential when there is optimum interaction between the children and the guardians.

Needless to say, optimum level of interactions between these two basic human personnels will not be achieved unless each member tends to accept the other with love, affection and understanding. In this context, the present study on relationship between mother's being working and non-working and academic achievement, attitude towards modernity and locus of control of children becomes highly significant.

LIMITATIONS

The generalization of the results of the present study depends upon the representatives of the sample and specification of the study. Due to shortage of time and other personal hindrances, the investigator felt the following limitations in proper investigation:

1. The present study was conducted only on the pupils in the age range of 13 to 16 years.
2. The present study was conducted on a small sample of 500 students, out of which 250 students are the children of working women and 250 of non-working women. Such a sample is not enough to draw the conclusions.

3. The study remained confined to the children of Meerut District only. The rural areas were not considered in the present study.
4. Time of mothers devoted to their children vary from profession to profession. While the duration of maternal deprivation is an important variable that affects child's personality. So the effect of mothers' profession should also be taken into consideration.
5. Due to the time limits and limitation of resources, researcher could not go beyond particular level.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCHES

It is neither possible nor feasible to investigate all the variables at different levels due to personal limitations. So some suggestions are made with the view to improve the quality of research in educational field in future. These suggestions are -

1. The duration of maternal deprivation as an important variable may be studied for further researches.
2. Similar studies can be conducted at, primary and secondary level or other levels also.
3. This study can be conducted in longitudinal manner.
4. Gender differences may also be taken into considerations.
5. Various dimensions of personality of the children of working women and non-working women may be studied for further researches.
6. Tool developing is a time consuming and arduous process. So for academic achievement, this researcher has used the marks obtained by the students in previous class. Researchers may construct their own tools for this purpose.
7. Larger sample size may be taken for further researches.

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