

The Research Dialogue

An Online Quarterly Multi-Disciplinary
Peer-Reviewed / Refereed Research Journal

ISSN: 2583-438X

Volume-1, Issue-4, January 2023

www.theresearchdialogue.com



A Study of Adjustment of Orphanage-Reared Students and Family-Reared Students

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Abstract:

The objective of this study was to make comparison between orphanage-reared students and family-reared students on Adjustment. The Adjustment considered here were emotional, social and educational. A sample of 102 orphanage-reared students and 102 family-reared students studying with them in classes 6th to 8th standard were taken from three KAVAL towns (Allahabad, Varanasi and Lucknow.) of Uttar Pradesh. The data was collected using Adjustment Inventory for school children by Sinha and Singh. The study indicates that there was significant difference between orphanage-reared students and family-reared students on these Adjustment types. (Emotional, social and educational)

Keywords- *orphanage-reared students, family-reared students, emotional, social and educational adjustment.*

Introduction:

Life is a process of progressive adjustment and children should be stimulated to do their best. In the contemporary view a child is seen as a helpless being neither good nor bad at birth, one who has to be protected and moulded through discipline (Krishnan, 1998). Children therefore, need to be cherished, nurtured and developed with tender care, as their behaviour, adjustment, intellectual development, emotional security, self esteem and social attitudes are greatly influenced by the way that they are brought up. It is ultimately the parents' responsibility to see that as the child grows up. It is ultimately the parents' responsibility to see that as the child grows up, he/she is being able to discriminate good from evil, constantly adopting the former and eschewing the latter.

If proper care is given to children during their formative years, it will help them to learn and respond appropriately to life situations. Warm and affectionate parents who employ cooperative and democratic means to develop guidelines, provide for their children a laboratory for the practice of autonomy (Schaefer, 1959). The children are also resourceful, cooperative, self-reliant, well adjusted in social situations and they develop a sense of responsibility and discharge their task with assurance and efficiency (Kuppuswamy, 1984). The significance of studying depends on their parents to acquire happiness which is a foundation of security. Children from democratic families are active, fearless and outgoing in both friendly and hostile ways. They possess leadership qualities, intellectual curiosity, constructiveness and are highly active and demanding (Baldwin, 1948), whereas children reared in autocratic homes are unpopular with associates, quarrelsome, emotionally quarrelsome, emotionally unstable, more sensitive to praise and blame and less considerate of others. Poor parent-child relationships produce devastating effects on the child, which is tough to erase, even at a later stage.

Adjustment

All people have psychological and physical needs which constantly or intermittently require satisfaction. The process by which they overcome obstacles to satisfy these needs is termed as the adjustment process. It is through the process of adjustment that people establish and maintain a satisfactory relationship to the physical world around them and to other people, to the culture at large and to themselves. Adjustment is that relationship which exists between an individual and his environment especially his social environment in the satisfaction of his needs.

Objective

- To study the adjustment (emotional, social and educational) of orphanage reared students and family reared students.

Hypotheses

- There is no significant difference in emotional adjustment between the orphanage reared students and family reared students.
- There is no significant difference in social adjustment between the orphanage reared students and family reared students.
- There is no significant difference in educational adjustment between the orphanage reared students and family reared students.

Sample

Purposive sampling method was used to select 100 orphanage-reared students and 100 family-reared students studying with them in classes 6th to 8th standard from three cities (Allahabad, Varanasi and Lucknow) of Uttar Pradesh.

Description of Tools

ADJUSTMENT INVENTORY FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Adjustment Inventory has been designed for use with Hindi knowing school students (age group 14 to 18 years) of India. The inventory seeks to segregate well adjusted secondary students in the three areas of adjustment: Emotional, Social and Educational. Coefficient of reliability was determined by split-half method, Test

retest method and K-R formula-20 and came out to be 0.95, 0.93 and 0.94 respectively.

In item analysis validity coefficients were determined for each item by biserial correlation with both the criteria i) total score and ii) area score, significant level being .001. Percentile norms were computed for males and females of all the three areas (Emotional, Social and Educational) of adjustment separately as also for the whole inventory. Means and standard deviations of the population upon which norms are based. For any answer indicative of adjustment zero is given, otherwise a score of one is awarded. The inventory is designed to be aid in counseling school students of age group 14-18 years whose personal problems pertain to any of the three areas included in the test. The use of Deonagari letters A, B, and C corresponding to Emotional adjustment, Social adjustment and Educational adjustment enables the test user to discover readily questions relating to each measure. The total score indicates the general adjustment status.

Result

Analysis and interpretation

The obtained data was subjected to necessary statistical computation. The data was mainly interpreted in terms of mean. T-ratio was used to find out significant difference.

It was hypothesized that there is no significant difference in the adjustment between the orphanage-reared students and family-reared students. To test this hypothesis mean, standard deviation and t-test were calculated separately for the three areas of adjustment and reported in the table.

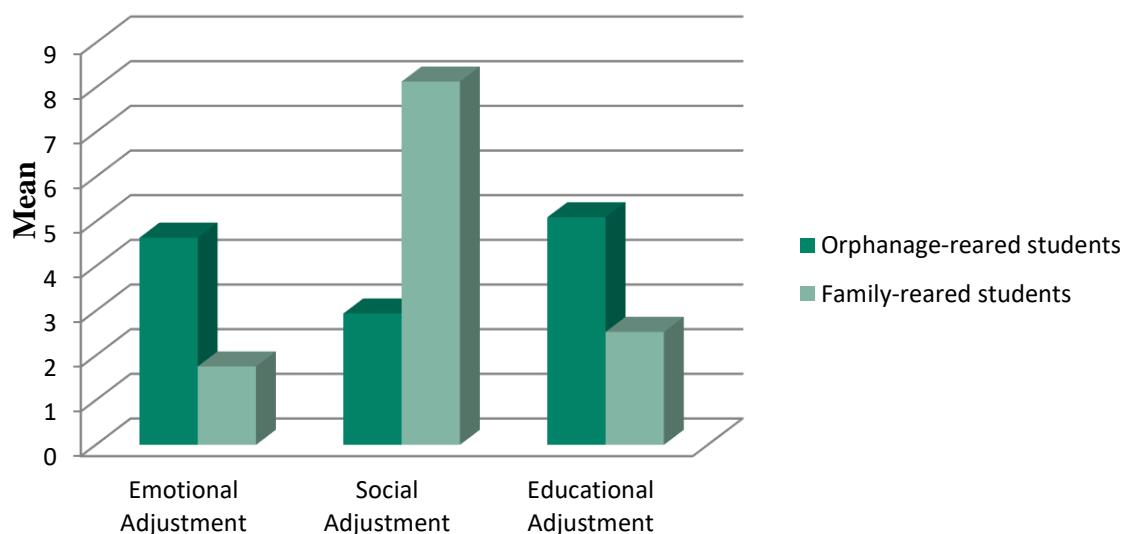
Table

Comparison between orphanage-reared students and family-reared students on Adjustment

S.No.	Variable	Orphanage-reared students		Family-reared students		T-ratio
		N=102		N=102		
		Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	
1.	Emotional Adjustment	4.6381	4.13736	1.7549	1.7549	6.664**
2.	Social Adjustment	2.9412	1.80112	8.1333	2.62776	16.535**
3.	Educational Adjustment	5.0952	3.54510	2.5294	1.59023	6.685**

**Significant at .01 level

Graph showing means on Adjustment for orphanage-reared and family-reared students



From the observation of the table it is evident that t-ratios are significant for emotional, social and educational adjustment since the obtained t-value is more than the table value at .01 level. ($p < .01, df = 117$). So, it can be inferred that orphanage-reared students and family-reared students differ from one another for these adjustment types. According to the norms of the test it can be interpreted that orphanage-reared students have scored more for emotional adjustment social and educational adjustment than family-reared students which means that orphanage-reared students are less emotionally, socially and educationally stable than family-reared students. The reason behind this is that children from deficient environment is unable to satisfy the needs of food, shelter and clothing, there is lack of opportunities for social contacts because of geographic isolation and unfavourable social attitudes, the need of security, belongingness, acceptance, love, identification and approval are not fulfilled. A feeling of alienation, fear from challenges, a desire to cling to familiar, many feelings of guilt and shame, limited trust in adults, tendency to respond with trigger-like reactions, having low standard of conduct, negative attitude towards school, teachers and free use of violence (Krogman, 1956) lack of order in general life and orientation to the environment and better desire for living. (Parker 1968 and Riessman 1962). The findings of the study support the findings of Bossio 1965, Youngleson 1973, Ushashree 1980, Nagar 1985, Zaidi 1986 and Manral 1988 who determined that maladjustment was revealed by deprived children which affected their intellectual, emotional and social development.

Findings of the study

There was difference in three areas of adjustment between orphanage-reared students and family-reared students. Orphanage-reared students were found to have less emotional and educational adjustment than family-reared students. Family-reared students have better social adjustment than orphanage-reared students.

Conclusion

Orphans deviate significantly from the normal ones, such children are exceptionally inferior or superior to the normal children in terms of physical development, mental ability, social behaviour and emotional reactions that they experience a sort of maladjustment in life and face difficulties in making a successful adjustment to people and situation.

Healthy interests, sound attitudes and balanced hierarchy of values will enable the orphans for proper self-understanding and this together will pave the way for health, happiness, efficiency and success.

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Peer-Reviewed / Refereed Research Journal

ISSN: 2583-438X

Volume-1, Issue-4, January 2023

www.theresearchdialogue.com

Certificate Number-January-2023/31



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**A Study of Adjustment of Orphanage-Reared Students and
Family-Reared Students**

Published in 'The Research Dialogue' Peer-Reviewed / Refereed Research Journal and
E-ISSN: 2583-438X, Volume-01, Issue-04, Month January, Year-2023.


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