

Life Satisfaction and Adjustment in Orphan and Non-Orphan Children

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Abstract: - The aim of the study was to understand the “Life satisfaction and Adjustment of orphan and non-orphan children”. A sample of 50 orphan and 50 non orphan children was taken. This study has found a significant negative correlation between the life satisfaction and adjustment level of orphan children ($r=-0.43$) and that of non-orphan children ($r=-0.51$). It can be concluded that life satisfaction is negatively correlated with adjustment for both orphan and non-orphan children groups.

Key Words— *Life satisfaction, adjustment, orphan.*

I. INTRODUCTION

A child whose parents are abandoned them permanently or dead or have abandoned is an orphan. Commonly, only an orphan is a child who has lost both parents is. While referring animals, only the condition of mother is relevant usually. If the mother is gone, the offspring is an orphan, irrespective of the father's condition.

Adults are also referred to as orphan or adult orphans. However, adults who are survivors, reached adulthood before their parents died are usually not called orphans. It is a term generally used for children whose parents die while they are too young to support themselves.

If one parents-child relationship is important, removing the other parent prevents complicating the necessary relationship. All these characteristics make orphan attractive characters for researcher. Orphans are very common in fairy tales, such as in Cinderella's variants.

Bowlby's early work (1952) drew attention to the effects which are long term of separation from mother in early childhood, it suggested that such separation could lead to delinquency, emotional maladjustment, educational problems and even psychopathic behavior. Even without separation, a child can greatly have affected by the mother's failure to accept him, or if she shows hostility over indulgence repressive control. Rejection by the mother, which can be shown in variety of ways, is the form of severe deprivation for the child, who is likely to react by showing emotional or behavioral disturbance.

Negligence by the parents is the factor for making a child maladjusted. Due to the indifference of parents, the child feels disinterested in the family and resorts to bad company which gives him some consolation and they satisfied their feeling of getting love and affection, through them. Parental rejection may be shown in various ways such as physical neglect, denial of love and affection, lack of interest in child's activities unjustified punishment, lack of respect for child and

discouragement of achievement. This parental rejection may be partial, complete, passive or active.

A. Non Institutionalised Children

They are children who do not live in institution but are still in certain ways disadvantaged. They can further be classified into

Normal Children living with parents at home or orphans living with other guardians or relatives in normal family conditions.

Street Children who are completely on their own and reside on the open streets as such.

B. Institutionalised Children

Besides children who are disadvantaged but not institutionalized. There are other children who suffer disadvantages and have been institutionalized due to some reason or the other.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Somen, K. S. (1985). “Mental health problems of children in orphanages”

The author investigated the need for mental health care among 300 orphans between the age group of 12–21 years from 16 orphanages in Bangalore, India. Findings indicate that nearly one-third of the respondents had manifested behavior problems, and among these, one-tenth of the respondents required immediate psychiatric help. Behavior problems were more prevalent among the respondents who had no living parents and among those institutionalized before the age of 4 years.

Hasnain, N., Suri, E., & Khan, S.H. (2004). “Psychological well- being of the orphans”

The aim of the present study was to access the Psychological well- being of the orphans and non- orphan males and females. The total sample sizes of 120 subjects (60 orphans

and 60 non-orphans) were selected. Regarding the sex of the respondents 30 males and 30 females from each group and studying in 10th standard to 12th standard were taken on availability basis from different orphanages and schools in Delhi. They were administered Verma and Verma PGI General Well-being measure (1989). The results revealed that significantly poor well-being in orphan than their counter part, however non-significant F- ratio for sex and for interaction of parental deprivation and sex were obtained. Both orphan males and females had significantly poorer psychological well- being than non-orphans.

Singh Chandra Hans (1986) reported the problems and adjustment patterns of Children living in destitute homes in Uttar Pradesh. 209 boys and 201 girls studying in classes 6th to 8th living in 25 destitute homes were randomly selected on cluster basis. Guidance Need Questionnaire and Vyaktiwa Parakh Prashnavali for destitute children and headmaster and superintendents were interviewed using interview schedule. Statistical analysis was confined to the application of chi-square test of independent and t-test only. The findings made it clear that general condition of the destitute home children is not very satisfactory. They are to great extent deprived of essential requirements of life. Maladjustments prevails among children living in the destitute homes. Superintendents as well as teachers have also referred to problem behaviors of destitute home children.

III. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the study are as follows:

- To study the relationship between adjustment level and life satisfaction among orphan children
- To study the relationship between adjustment level and life satisfaction among non-orphan children

Hypotheses:

The hypotheses of the study are as follows:

H1: there will be no relationship between adjustment and life satisfaction of orphan children

H2: there will be no relationship between adjustment and life satisfaction of non- orphan children

IV. METHODOLOGY

Sample of 50 orphan children was selected from 2 orphanages located in Delhi through convenience sampling. 25 boys and 25 girls were selected in the orphan group and 25 girls and 25 boys were selected in the non-orphan group. Bell's Adjustment Inventory (1962) and The Satisfaction with Life

Scale (1985) were used. Pearson's correlation was computed to study the relationship between life satisfaction and adjustment in orphan and non-orphan children.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1. Pearson Coefficient Correlation between Satisfaction with life and adjustment of the orphan children

Correlations			
		Satisfaction with Life	Adjustment
Satisfaction with Life	Pearson Correlation	1	-0.43**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.	0.000
	N	50	50
Adjustment score	Pearson Correlation	-0.43**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	
	N	50	50
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).			

The correlation between the life satisfaction and adjustment score (on Bell's adjustment inventory) are significant correlated, but negatively. Since higher scores on Bell's adjustment inventory means more adjustment problems, it means that more satisfaction to life is positively correlated to better adjustment, and low score on the test. In the same manner, lower satisfaction with life means that the adjustments scores will be high, meaning poorer adjustment to life and more adjustment problems.

Table 2. Pearson Coefficient Correlation between Satisfaction with life and adjustment of the non-orphan children

Correlations			
		Satisfaction with Life	Adjustment
Satisfaction with Life	Pearson Correlation	1	-0.51**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		0.000
	N	50	50
Adjustment score	Pearson Correlation	-0.51**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	
	N	50	50

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

It means that for a higher score of life satisfaction, there will be a lower score on Adjustment inventory (which means better adjustment and fewer adjustment problems). And for a lower life satisfaction score, the adjustment inventory score will be higher, and thus more adjustment problems and better adjustment to life. Same is the other way round, lower adjustment score will lead to higher life satisfaction score and vice versa.

VI. CONCLUSION

The aim of the study was to understand the “Life satisfaction and Adjustment of orphan and non-orphan children”. A sample of 50 orphan and 50 non orphan children was taken. This study has found a significant correlation between the life satisfaction and adjustment level of orphan children and that of non-orphan children. It can be concluded that life satisfaction is negatively correlated with adjustment for both orphan and non-orphan children groups.

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