

Perceived Parental Rearing Style and Drug Addiction among Mizo Adolescents

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The study examines the effects of Perceived Parental Rearing Style on drug addiction amongst Mizo male and female adolescents. The Perceived Parental Rearing Style Questionnaire (PPRSQ) developed by Gerlsma, Arrindel, Van Der Veen, and Emmelkamp was used in this study. The results indicated that rejection from father and mother leads to drug addiction among Mizo adolescents, while adolescents who perceived emotional warmth from the parents were less likely to engage in drug use. Over protection and favouring subject from parents have significant effect on drug use among adolescents. These findings have implications for parenting education programmes.

The problem of drug addiction has become a threat all over the world including India. The non-medical use of drug is a menace for all the societies and has attracted the attention of the people from the different sections of the society. It is the focus of almost every individual whether he belongs to academics, administration, social worker, and researcher. Adolescent drug use has been the focus of numerous studies in recent years and it has been reported that the use of drug during adolescence may "interfere with normal cognitive, emotional, and social development" (Guo, Hill, Hawkins, Catalono, & Abbott, 2002).

A large body of research shows that the type of parenting style used by the parent(s) has greatest effect on adolescent drug use. The authoritative parenting style is recognized as the most successful style for developing competent and confident children (Berk, 2002, Bems, 2004). One study found family conflict, family bonding, and peer's antisocial behaviour all as independent predictors of drug use in adolescence and suggested that family bonding may sway the child to associate with peers engaged in more positive

behaviour (Guo et al., 2002). A strong feeling of rejection, hostility, and helplessness are the factors associated with drug dependency. Dhillon and Parwah (1981) reported that drug abusers to be emotionally insecure when compared to normal subjects. Mc Cord and Howard (1963) found rejection, primitiveness and inconsistencies in the background of delinquent and aggressive boys. It has also been found repeatedly that high use of punishment with rejection is closely associated with aggression or delinquency in youth. Kramer (1990) and Cook et al. (1997) reported that parental rearing style has its significant effect on the personality traits and risk behaviour of developing child. Preeti and Priyanka (2006) reported that the drug addicts street children carry the mindset of rejection by their parents, relatives and the society at large.

The studies reported in the literature have indicated that parenting style has greatest influence on adolescent drug abuse. The present study is designed to examine the effect of perceived parental rearing style on drug use among Mizo adolescent a rare tribe of North East India.

Method

Sample

50 drug addicts (25 male and 25 female) and 50 non drug addicts (25 male and 25 female) from the different localities of Aizawl city, the capital town of Mizoram served as the sample for the present study. Age ranged between 14-20 years.

Tools:

The Perceived Parental Rearing Style Questionnaire (PPRSQ) developed by Gerlsma, Arrindel, Van Der Veen, and Emmelkamp (1991) was used for the study. The questionnaire consists of 4 primary factors – Rejection (19 items), Emotional Warmth (19 items), Over Protection (11 items) and Favouring Subjects (5 items). The 54 items of PPRSQ are rated on a 4 point scale by Mizo drug addicts and non-addicts male

and female for each parent (father and mother).

Procedure:

The Perceived Parental Rearing Style Questionnaire was administered on each subject separately. The subjects were explained carefully about instructions and also satisfied for their queries. The subjects were finally asked to check properly that no statement of the questionnaire is left unresponded.

Results

The subject wise scores for the response on the factors of PPRSQ for each parent were prepared. The mean and SD values for drug addicts and non-drug addicts Mizo adolescents on the four factors of PPRSQ for each parent are presented in Table-1

Table 1. Mean and SD of Drug Addicts and Non-Drug Addicts Mizo Male and Female Adolescent for each Parent on Factors of PPRSQ

| Group | Statistical Parameters | Father | | | Mother | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | R | EW | OP | FS | R | EW | OP | FS |
| Drug Addicts Male | Mean | 64 | 28.73 | 23 | 15.87 | 62.6 | 26.73 | 21.6 | 16.13 |
| | SD | 5.99 | 7.03 | 5.89 | 2.68 | 8.61 | 7.02 | 4.69 | 2.55 |
| Drug Addicts Female | Mean | 63.13 | 29.27 | 22.67 | 16.87 | 64.53 | 24.67 | 24.5 | 16.2 |
| | SD | 8.54 | 8.04 | 5.15 | 2.33 | 7.89 | 5.41 | 7.5 | 3.21 |
| Non-Drug Addicts Male | Mean | 51.08 | 32.3 | 21.6 | 12.1 | 52.8 | 29.07 | 20.6 | 11.87 |
| | SD | 8.84 | 6.02 | 4.33 | 2.94 | 10.18 | 19.1 | 4.34 | 2.2 |
| Non-Drug Addicts Female | Mean | 56.4 | 36.5 | 23.9 | 15.8 | 59.7 | 35.9 | 18.87 | 15.5 |
| | SD | 10.98 | 6.53 | 6.39 | 2.73 | 8.69 | 5.9 | 3.5 | 3.2 |

CR values were computed between drug addicts and non-drug addicts male and female to show differences on the factors of PPRSQ. The comparison of drug addicts and non-drug addicts Mizo male adolescents for their perceived parental rearing style is presented in Table 2.

Table 2 shows that the drug addicts male with no reliable significant difference on over protection factor of PPRSQ from both parents exhibited significantly high rejection from father and mother both as compared to non-drug addicts male. The non-drug addicts male with no reliable difference on emotional

Table 2. CR Values showing differences between drug addicts and non-drug addicts among Mizo Male on the factors of PPRSQ

| Group | Statistical Parameters | Father | | | | Mother | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|--------|-------|-------|---------|
| | | R | EW | OP | FS | R | EW | OP | FS |
| Drug Addicts | Mean | 64.00 | 28.73 | 23.00 | 15.87 | 62.60 | 26.73 | 21.60 | 16.13 |
| Male | SD | 5.99 | 7.03 | 5.86 | 2.68 | 8.61 | 7.02 | 4.69 | 2.55 |
| Non-Drug Addicts | Mean | 51.08 | 32.30 | 21.60 | 12.10 | 52.80 | 29.07 | 20.60 | 11.87 |
| Male | SD | 8.84 | 6.02 | 4.33 | 2.94 | 10.18 | 19.10 | 4.34 | 2.20 |
| CR Values | | 5.67** | 2.09* | 1.02 | 11.78** | 2.75** | 0.35 | 1.22 | 18.52** |

** p< 0.01 * p<0.05

warmth factor of PPRSQ from mother manifested significantly better emotional warmth from father and drug addicts male indicated significant difference on favouring subject factor of PPRSQ in connection with both the parents as compared to their counterparts. This concludes that rejection

and favouring subject from parent leads to drug addiction among adolescents whereas emotional warmth of the parent prevents drug use. The CR values between drug addicts and non-drug addicts female on the factors of PPRSQ are depicted in Table 3.

Table 3. CR Values showing difference between drug addicts and non-drug addicts among Mizo Female on the factors of PPRSQ

| Group | Statistical Parameters | Father | | | | Mother | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| | | R | EW | OP | FS | R | EW | OP | FS |
| Drug Addicts | Mean | 63.13 | 29.27 | 22.67 | 16.87 | 64.53 | 24.67 | 24.87 | 16.20 |
| Female | SD | 8.54 | 8.04 | 5.15 | 2.33 | 7.89 | 5.41 | 7.50 | 3.21 |
| Non-Drug Addicts | Mean | 59.40 | 36.50 | 23.90 | 15.80 | 59.70 | 35.90 | 18.50 | 15.50 |
| Female | SD | 10.98 | 6.53 | 6.93 | 2.73 | 8.69 | 5.90 | 3.50 | 3.20 |
| CR Values | | 0.96 | 3.36** | 0.91 | 8.23** | 1.68 | 8.77** | 4.08** | 1.70 |

** p< 0.01

The results depicted in Table 3 indicate that drug addicts female differed significantly on emotional warmth factors of PPRSQ from both parents as compared to the non-drug addicts female. The drug addicts female manifested low emotional warmth from both the parents. The drug addicts female exhibited significant difference on the factors of favouring subject for father and over protection for mother of PPRSQ. The drug addicts female showed more favouring subject from

father and more over protection from mother.

Discussion

This study examined the effects of Perceived Parental Rearing Style on drug addiction among Mizo adolescents. The results indicate that rejection and favouring subject from father and mother leads to drug addiction among Mizo male adolescents whereas emotional warmth from father prevents drug addiction. Over protection from mother and favouring subject from father have

been found the factors of drug addiction, while the emotional warmth from both the parents is most effective factor in preventing adolescents drug addiction. Some earlier studies have also reported similar results (Bhargava & Bhargava, 1991; Parimu, 1992). Gunthey and Jain (1977) have also reported that rejection, isolation and possessing a feeling of inferiority promote drug addiction. Najam and Parveen (1992) have suggested that social and emotional support prevent drug addiction and should be provided to the drug addicts so as to reduce the chances of relapse. The present study has been conducted on a small sample, therefore additional research is needed to better understand how parenting styles are related to drug addiction. The findings of this study have implications for parent education programme. In the line of research findings, however to promote Mizo adolescents well-being which is the rare tribe of North East India, where drug addiction is more prevalent, parents may be taught for the effective parenting styles.

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