

Relating Parental Acceptance and Rejection to Optimism and Social Maturity among Tribal Adolescents

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Adolescents are the pillars of any nation. Both tribal and non-tribal adolescents constitute one of the major portions of the society. Parenting style is one of the keen factor that affects the overall psychological development of an individual. This study was undertaken 1) to prepare the profile of parenting style among tribal adolescents of Jharkhand 2) to see the effect of parental acceptance and rejection (parenting style) on optimism and social maturity and 3) to see if parenting style (acceptance and rejection) predicts optimism and social maturity among tribal adolescents of Jharkhand. 120 tribal adolescents (60 Munda & 60 Oraon tribes) were selected using multi sampling (cluster sampling along with stratified sampling). The study uses comparative, correlational and cross-sectional research design. For collection of the data as a tools Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire, Optimistic-Pessimistic Attitude scale and Social Maturity Scale were used. The data was analysed using correlation, t-value, and Regression analysis. The result obtained by analysing the data showed that parental rejection is significantly negative correlated with optimism and social maturity. Also, parental rejection significantly predicted optimism and social maturity. It can be concluded that negative parental behaviour (parental rejection) leads to significantly low level of optimism and social maturity and negative parenting style (parental rejection) significantly predicts optimism and social maturity in a negative manner.

Keywords: Parenting Style (parental acceptance and rejection), social maturity, optimism

The family is a socio-cultural-economic arrangement that exerts significant influence on children's behaviour and the development of their characters (Baumrind, 1991). As defined by Bruno (1986), "Parenting style is the characteristic pattern of behaviour exhibited by a given parent towards a particular child" (Kaur & Kaur, 2021). Baumrind (1967) is the pioneer for developing the concept of parenting style in the field of Psychology. Parental behaviour is the care and nurture both physically and psychologically of a young organism (English and English, 1958). Parenting style is a behaviour that includes warmth, compassion etc. which helps parents to control the behaviour of their children. Parents may express parental warmth physically in the form of frowning, hugging, kissing etc. or in the form of complementing,

praising, or saying nice things to or about one's child verbally. While parental rejection includes hostility, aggression, anger etc. It can also be said that the type of relationship between parents and their children is the key feature that determines the ability of an individual to mature biologically, physically, emotionally, and socially. Khodijah and Suryana (2019) carried out a research activity in Muslim Family of Palembang district to study the parenting style in Malay Islamic Tradition. The results of this study indicated that parenting in the Muslim family tradition of the Palembang native tribe tends to be democratic but a bit authoritarian. Another study was conducted by Baldwin et. al, (2007) found that both perceived maternal and paternal authoritative styles significantly predict the level of optimism but authoritarian style do not contribute positively to the level of optimism.

Research was conducted to study the effect of perceived parenting styles and its relationship to hopefulness, happiness, and optimism in a college student sample by Griess (2010). He found that the children reared with authoritative parenting styles score high on hopefulness, happiness, and optimism. Cenk and Demir (2016) also found in their study that adolescent who perceived their parents as authoritative parents had higher level of optimism than those who perceived their parents as authoritarian and neglectful parents. Also, adolescents who perceived their parents as permissive had a relatively higher level of optimism than those who perceived their parents as neglectful and authoritarian. Arora and Bala (2016) conducted another study to see how perceived parental encouragement is related to social maturity of adolescents in Jammu, India. About 200 students (100 boys and 100 girls) in the age group 12-18 years were randomly selected from high school from high schools and higher secondary schools of urban areas of Jammu city. They found that a high population of adolescent boys and girls were moderately socially mature. There is a little negative correlation between Parental encouragement and social maturity of boys and a little positive correlation between Parental encouragement and social maturity of girls. There is a significant correlation among all the dimensions of Social Maturity in context of gender.

Vora (2015) conducted a study to see the effect of perceived parenting style and its effect on social maturity among adolescents. 450 adolescents (225 males and 225 females) from the north and social districts of Goa were selected using convenient sampling method. The findings of the study revealed the critical importance of perceived parenting as a correlate of mental health and social maturity among adolescents. Zahiri and Honarparvaran (2016) conducted a study to see the relationship between parenting styles and social maturity. The study population included 250 adolescent girl of 11-14 years old of Esfahan who were selected using multi stage cluster sampling. The result of the research stated there is a significant relationship between parenting style and adolescent girls coping styles and there is

a significant relationship between coping styles of adolescent girls and social maturity.

Review of literature in this field suggests that a very few studies has been conducted on these variables in context to tribal population overall and tribals of Jharkhand in specific way. So that with an aim to see the effect of parenting style on optimism and social maturity among tribal and non-tribal adolescences of Jharkhand this study has been carried out. Findings of this study are helpful to fill up the gap of knowledge regarding indigenious population of Jharkhand (Tribal).and is also help to develop and adopt the psychological mechanism to enhance human resource development as tribal population is one of the major proportions in Indian population.

Objectives of the study

The present study is being conducted with the objectives to

- To prepare the profile of parenting style practiced by parents of tribal adolescents of Jharkhand.
- To see the effect of parental acceptance and rejection (parenting style) on optimism among tribal adolescents of Jharkhand.
- To see the effect of parental acceptance and rejection (parenting style) on social maturity among tribal and non-tribal adolescents of Jharkhand.
- To see if parenting style predicts optimism and social maturity.

Hypotheses

Ho (1)- There would be no significant negative effect of parental rejection on optimism among tribal and non-tribal adolescents of Jharkhand.

Ho (2)- There would be no significant negative effect of parental rejection on social maturity among tribal and non-tribal adolescents of Jharkhand.

Ha (1)- Parenting style (parental rejection) would predict optimism and social maturity.

Method

This study is based on the correlational and comparative research design.

Tools and techniques

Parental acceptance - rejection questionnaire (PARQ Hindi version, Jai Prakash and Mahesh Bhargava, 1980): It is a self-report instrument that intends to measure individual's perceptions of parental acceptance and rejection. It is a Hindi adaptation of Rohner's Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (PARQ+) and is developed by Prakash and Bhargava (1980). The scale consists of total 60 items. Each item has four alternatives and the respondent is asked to choose one which is applicable on him. It is a 4-point Likert scale having response categories of "Almost always true"-4", "Sometimes true"-3", "Rarely true "-2" and "Almost never true "-1." The Adult PARQ assesses an adult's perception of his mother's treatment of him when he was about 7 through twelve years old.

Optimistic-pessimistic attitude scale (OPAS Hindi version, D.S. Parasar, 1998): This scale has been developed by D.S Parasar (1998). It consists of 40 items. This scale can be administered on 13 to 25 years. This scale intends to measure optimistic-pessimistic attitude of the individual which in turn will reflect his belief, personality, and behaviour.

Social Maturity Scale (SMS-RN Hindi version, Nalini Rao, 1998): This scale is developed by Dr Nalini Rao (1998). It contains 90 items and it is meant for higher primary, secondary and pre-university grades students. It measures (A) Personal adequacy- (1) work orientation (2) self-direction (3) ability to take stress, (B) Interpersonal adequacy- (1) communication (2) enlightened trust (3) cooperation, (C) Social adequacy- (1) social commitment (2) social tolerance (3) openness to change.

Procedure:

As the study population included school going students, different schools of Ranchi and Ramgarh districts of Jharkhand were selected. The school administrations were consulted in order to seek permission to take data from

their reputed schools. After seeking their permission, the students were made understood the process of data collection, relevance and future implications of the study, duration of time required etc. After that a day and time was fixed for collection of data. On different days data was collected from different selected schools. The students who were willing to participate in the study were given the questionnaire. Firstly, they were asked to fill the socio-demographic detail and then they were asked to sign consent form. After this they were asked to read the instructions and then items of the questionnaire and answer accordingly. The data was taken in two different sessions as per the convenience of subjects.

Results

Table 1 Profile of parenting style among the tribal population of Jharkhand

Parenting Styles	N	%
Acceptance	40	66.67
Rejection	20	33.33

This table shows that about 66.67% parents of tribal adolescents practice parental acceptance type of parenting style. Whereas, about 33.33% of parents practice parental rejection type of parenting style.

Table 2 Correlation between parenting style and optimism

Variables	Optimism
Parenting Style (parental rejection)	-.508**

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level.

Above table-2 shows the negative and significant relationship between parental rejection and optimism ($r = -.508, p < .01$). As the parental acceptance-rejection questionnaire shows higher the score, higher is the rejection. Whereas optimistic-pessimistic scale shows higher the score, higher is the optimism. And so, there exists negative correlation between the two variables., which means that parental rejection id negatively correlated with the optimism level of the child.

Table 3 Correlation between parenting style and social maturity

Variables	Social Maturity
Parenting Style (parental rejection)	-.698**

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level.

Above table shows the negative and significant relationship between parenting style and social maturity ($r = -.698, p < .01$). The negative sign shows that there exists negative correlation between parental rejection and social maturity.

This table-4 indicates that the 48.8 percent variance in the scores of parenting style is accounted for by social maturity and 25.8 per cent variance in the parenting style is accounted for by optimism.

Discussion

The present study tried to fill the gap in the literature related to parenting style and its effect on optimism and social maturity in context to tribal adolescents of Jharkhand. Literature reviewed shows that extensive research in the field of parenting style in context to tribal population is needed. The study found that more than average (66.6%) sample showed parental acceptance behaviour while the rest 33.33% showed parental rejection behaviour. Parental rejection behaviour involves hatred, ignorance, dislikes, and other negative behaviour from parents towards their children. This negative behaviour may develop a sense of inferiority in the children. Sometimes, parent shows negative behaviour towards their children. In most part of the country tribal population are the backward sections of the society. They are both socially and economically inferior. Both mother and father have to perform minimal jobs to earn their livelihood. The type of physical environment, low income, standard of living may develop

frustration in the parents. As sometimes, parents are not even able to meet the basic requirements of their children. Also, the tribal society has to face the social stigma and social adversities. The result from the study revealed that parental rejection is significantly negatively related with optimism and social maturity. The research previously carried out by Laura Castro Schilo (2013) & Hatice Seher Ozpehriz (2019) supports the result of the study that parental rejection is negatively correlated with optimism. Also, the research showed that negative and significant relation is found between parental rejection and social maturity. Sometimes parents are not able to fulfil the psychological needs of their children. When the social needs of an individual is not fulfilled he/she is not able to deal with the social situations effectively. The individual lacks the basic ability to adapt or adjust himself in his social environment which can make the person socially immature or socially less adaptable. It was also found that parenting style predicted optimism and social maturity in a significant manner.

Implications

The study basically focuses on that part of the society that is still away from the various modernities of the world. This study will help parents, teachers, academicians, and researchers to be aware of the best type of parenting style and how parenting style affects the overall development of a child. Both tribal and non-tribal adolescents constitute a major part of the society. And it is also said that youths are the future of the nation. This study will help government to develop policies to ensure that parents, teachers, academicians, and researchers are very much aware of the right parenting style and are not the hindrance in the path of proper development of personality of the adolescents. This study will also help to manage human resource and to make the best out of it.

Table 4 Regression Analysis

Predictor (Parenting Style)	R	R Square	R Change Square	Beta Change	F Change	Significance of F Change
Criterion Variable						
Social maturity	.698	.488	.484	-.698	112.402	.000
Optimism	.508	.258	.252	-.508	41.021	.000

Conclusion

It was found that parental rejecting style is negatively and significantly correlated with optimism and social maturity. And, parental rejection significantly predicted optimism and social maturity negatively.

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