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## AN OVERVIEW OF SOCIO ECONOMICAL FACTORS AND PERSONALITY

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### **Abstract:**

*Present study intended to study the socio-economical factors that affect on the adolescents personality. Parent's socio-economic condition is the, important determinants of adolescent's personality. Their education level, family size, peer group, school environment, is also important factors for the personality. The purpose of this study was to find out the effect of socioeconomic environment on the personality. A sample of 300 students was used in this study. By using the Eysenck's Personality Questionnaire (EPQ) data was collected and suitable statistical treatment was given to the data for analysis of the scores. Results show that the socioeconomic environment has some effect on personality.*

### **KEYWORDS:**

Socioeconomic factors, Personality.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Present study intended to study the socio-economical factors that affect on the adolescents personality. Parent's socio-economic condition is the, important determinants of adolescent's personality. Their education level, family size, peer group, school environment, is also important factors for the personality. The purpose of this study was to find out the effect of socioeconomic environment on the personality. A sample of 300 students was used in this study. By using the Eysenck's Personality Questionnaire (EPQ) data was collected and suitable statistical treatment was given to the data for analysis of the scores. Results show that the socioeconomic environment has some effect on personality.

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Industrial revolution, Second World War, urbanization and population explosion are the responsible factors for the social change. Family is the basic unit of society, has also undergone many changes. These changes affect on the Personality.

There are many determinants of Personality but some of them are more critical. Family is one such determinant, which tremendously influences personality development of an individual. Tremendous scientific and technological progress made our social lives more complex and stressful.

The old Indian pattern of the joint family is rapidly disintegrating, which until now profoundly influenced the development of children's Personality. In addition, T.V. and other mass media are strongly influencing our behavior patterns. They are creating difficulties in the process of socialization, which is very necessary for social adjustment as well as community development. The purpose of this study was to find out the effect of socio-economical factors on Personality

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**FAMILY ENVIRONMENT:**

The home is the person's primary environment from the time he is born until the day he dies. While it may change over the years, owing to relocation marriage, divorce, death & birth of new members remain relatively constant.

Most people think of the home influence as limited to the childhood years. They regard parents & siblings as the only family members who exercise a cardinal influence. These benefits have been totally disproved. There are ample evidences that family influences are ruling determinants of what the persons personality will be in adult life as well as in childhood & that spouse & offspring's exert as strong an influence as parents & siblings in the early years of life.

The kind of family a person grows up in or leaves in as an adult is influenced by its size & composition in terms of the people who live under the same roof & are interrelated in their patterns of living. The size of family influences the personality directly & indirectly.

Directly, it determines what role the person will play in the family constellation, what kind of relationship he will have with other family members & to a large extent, what opportunities will have to make the most of his native abilities. Indirectly, family size influences the personality through the kind of home climate fostered by families of different sizes & by the attitudes of the most significant members of the family towards the person. According to popular belief, the larger the family the more frictional it will be. This has been explained mathematically by Bossard & Boll (1966)

**PERSONALITY:**

The term 'personality' is derived from the Latin word Persona, which means, "Mask". Among the Greek actors used a mask to hide their identity on stage. The dramatic technique was later adapted by the Romans to whom persona denoted "as one appears to others", not as one actually is.

Most of the definitions accepted today are patterned on Allports' personality is the dynamic organization within the individual of those psychophysical systems that determine his characteristic behavior & thought".

**EXTRAVERSION-INTROVERSION:**

According to Skinner's behaviorist theory of operant conditioning, only children would undergo conditioning to affect their behavior in social situations. Operant conditioning involves the conditioning of behavior according to the consequences it produces (Mischel, 1993, p. 307). In this way, only children would be conditioned to behave in an outgoing manner, if they are to win friends, because they have no guaranteed familial playmates. Said the pediatrician M. Kappelman, "Only children don't easily assimilate into large groups, and when they do they tend to dominate" (Brophy, 1989, p. 55). This conditioning would take place regardless of a child's natural inclinations toward extraversion or introversion if the child wishes to make friends.

Jung was the first psychologist to describe the inner- and outer-directed types of personality. Inner-directed persons, or introverts, tend to be concerned with the internal world of their thoughts and feelings. Outer-directed persons, or extraverts, tend to be interested in the external world of things and people (Weiten, 1998, p. 483). Because only children have a greater variation of personality types, logic would dictate that introversion and extraversion are equally likely traits in only children.

The most highly developed theory of extraversion is that of Eysenck (1967). Although Eysenck's orientation is more biological and behavioral in contrast to Jung's intrapsychic approach, the influence of the two has been largely complementary. Eysenck contends that there are three personality dimensions, extraversion-introversion, neuroticism and psychoticism which are largely independent of each other and which altogether convey a wealth

of information about individuals life styles. Eysenck's extrovert is described as sociable, lively impulsive, seeking novelty and change, carefree and emotionally expressive. In contrast the introvert is quiet, introspective, intellectual, well ordered emotionally unexpressive and value oriented, prefers small groups of intimate friends, and plans well ahead.

**METHODOLOGY:**

Statement of the problem:

**IMPACT OF SOCIO-ECONOMICAL ENVIRONMENT ON PERSONALITY****Objectives:**

- 1) To study the personality of different family living children.
- 2) To study the relationship between economical standard and personality
- 3) To study the relationship between educational environment and personality

**HYPOTHESIS:**

- 1) The children from nuclear family has better personality compared to joint family
- 2) The children from high economical standard family has better personality than poor economical standard
- 3) The children from educated family has better personality than low educated family

A sample of 300 families was used in this study. Families were divided into three categories as under: -

- 1) Upper Class family: 100
- 2) Middle Class family: 100
- 3) Lower Class family: 100

Sr.No.	Economical standard	Background						Total
		Rural			Urban			
		F	M	T	F	M	T	
1.	Upper Class	25	25	50	25	25	50	100
2.	Middle Class	25	25	50	25	25	50	100
3.	Lower Class	25	25	50	25	25	50	100

**Tools:**

Eysenk's Personality Questionnaire (EPQ): -

Eysenk's Personality Questionnaire was used; to measure Extroversion, Psychoticism, and Neuroticism. EPQ attempts to measure a tendency on the part of some subjects to 'Fake good' this tendency is particularly marked when the questionnaire is administered under conditions where such a tendency would seem appropriate.

**Scoring: -**

The scale consists of 90 questions distributed into four areas as follows.

- E – Extraversion
- P – Psychoticism
- N – Neuroticism
- L – Lie scale

There are two alternative choices as yes and no for each question. The subject has to choose only one alternative. In this questionnaire there are some positive and negative questions. The ratings were allotted as follows.

Nature of question	Alternative	Score
Positive	Yes	1
Negative	No	1
Positive	No	0
<b>Negative</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>0</b>

Validity	Reliability (test-retest reliability)	
The validity of all the scales are found to be quite high as noted in the manual.	E= .89 N= .86	P= .78 L= .84

**Data analysis and Results: -  
Means and Standard deviations**

Variables	Nuclear family		Joint family		Entire sample	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Extraversion	14.320	3.088	13.100	3.346	13.800	3.167
Psychoticism	10.260	5.642	7.940	3.622	9.323	4.865
Neuroticism	10.390	3.513	10.560	4.021	11.063	3.906
Lie scale	13.500	3.894	11.340	3.646	12.710	3.886

**The hypothesis testing**

Parent's education level and personality showed highly significant relationship

The hypothesis the children from nuclear family has better personality compared to joint family showed highly significant relationship

The child from high economical standard family has better personality than poor economical standard.

**DISCUSSION:**

**1) Extraversion:**

It was expected that the joint family greater will be the amount of the interactions between the members; on the other hand smaller the family lesser is the amount of contact among the family members.

Hence joint families are likely to be inclined towards extraversion and the smaller family towards introversion. However, our results are quite opposite. In this regard it may be stated that, whether the family is big or small does not matter, what is important is how much and in what manner interactions takes place between the members. The modern day middle class parents are more conscious of their children's personality development and are more careful to see the versatile development of the children. Therefore, they provide more opportunities to interact under different pretexts like, participation in competitions, in acting, in child dramas, games and so on. Joint families are mainly found in rural areas and traditionally there is distance and awe about the elder members of the family, resulting into less freedom of expression in the household. This may account for this discrepancy in results. Offner (1960) found that effects of family size on personality patterns of children. At that time situation might be different but nowadays interactions among family members may be important than the family size.



### 2) Neuroticism: -

The term neuroticism as used by Eysenck is not a pathological in nature but expresses an emotional dimension of personality. The results show that members of the smaller families show greater emotionally as compared to the members of joint families. This is again surprising; one may expect a tough-minded person to be less emotional and a soft-minded person to be more emotional. Our results show something different. Children from smaller families are not only tough-minded but also more emotional. How this contradiction is resolved? It is not necessary that the tough-minded person be unemotional or less emotional. Tough mindedness is a way of behaving in different situations, while emotionality is a way of expressing the feelings. In smaller families due to the smaller no. of members the children are less restrained in the expression of their emotions, because they feel that their emotional behavior will be properly reciprocated. In larger families due to the pressure of elders, children are likely to restrain their expression of emotions and therefore may appear to be less emotional. This contradiction seems to be very interesting in the sense that, it discounts the misconception of the relationship between the tough-mindedness and emotionality.

### 3) Psychoticism: -

The post-hoc comparisons shows higher mean differences in a nuclear family as compare to joint family. This means children from the smaller families are comparatively more tough-minded than the larger families. In small families the no. of members under the single roof is small and hence less interactions among the members, one or both parents are outside home most of the time as earning members. Left to their resources without little support these children gradually become more independent, become harder in their attitudes resulting in to tough-mindedness. In case of larger families there is greater social support, because the no. of members is greater. This results into more social support to each other's, a soft attitude towards other members. Thus they are less tough-minded as compare to smaller family.

### CONCLUSION: -

- 1) The children from educated family has better personality than low educated family
- 2) The children from nuclear family has better personality compared to joint family
- 3) The children from high economical standard family has better personality than poor economical standard.

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