



FAMILY ADJUSTMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN ACCORDING TO GENDER AND FAMILY TYPE IN RURAL AREAS OF CHANDRAPUR DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA

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ABSTRACT:

The present study attempts to understand the family adjustment of school children according to gender and family type in rural areas. High School Adjustment Inventory (HSAI) was used for analysis of the collected data as a satisfactory tool for assessing family adjustment among the school children. The study is confined to the information collected from randomly selected 400 students between 10 to 12 years age group with 200 boys and 200 girls from schools in rural areas of Chandrapur district, Maharashtra. The outcome of the study indicated that while there is no significant gender-wise difference in family adjustment among the school children in rural area, some difference was observed in the family adjustment of the school children belonging to the joint and nuclear family in rural area.

Key words: - Family Adjustment, School Children, Gender, Family Type, Rural Area.

INTRODUCTION :

A person's life involves adjustment in one way or another. From the moment of birth till the moment of death, a person is changing. Following birth, the infant must initially learn to adapt to the world beyond the mother's womb before facing challenges with family, society, school, and emotional and psychological adjustment. Age affects a person's capacity to adapt. A youngster must make a variety of adaptations to both the household environment and the school environment after leaving for school. A person's life is primarily focused on their family. A youngster learns everything in his first society, which is his family. Development of every type begins with the family unit. Children in a family live with their parents, siblings and in some families grandparents, uncles, aunts etc. There are various members in Indian family. He has to make adjustments while living with them. Adjustment implies the ability of the part of a person to make changes his/her behavior to

satisfy his/her needs in accordance with changing circumstances of life. This is a continuous process. According to Sorenson and Man, "Adjustment is cordial process between individual and environment. When considering a child's family adjustment, it is also important to look at whether boys and girls as well as family type affect their adjustment."

TERMINOLOGY :

To measure the **family adjustment** for the purpose of the present paper A.K. Singh and A. Sen Gupta developed the inventory for High School Adjustment Inventory (HSAI) has been utilized. The school going children between the age group of 10 to 12 years from the rural area of the Chandrapur district in Maharashtra have been selected for the present study. A **rural area** is a village where the population is less than 10000 engaged primarily in agriculture.

Variables

- In the present paper male (boys) and female (girls) children along with joint and nuclear family types have been taken as the **independent variables**.

- Family adjustment score arrived at through HSAI is treated as **dependent variable**.

THE REVIEW OF LITERATURE :

(Chauhan, 2013) found that the female students of higher secondary school in Durg district have good and excellent adjustment level as compared with male students.

A similar study conducted by (Joymalya Paramanik, 2014) revealed that there is significant difference between the students on the basis of gender in all the areas of adjustment that is family, peer and social adjustment, but no difference was found local where they reside.

(Prajapati, 2019) examined that there is no significant difference between the mean score of adjustment among the boys and girls but the high school students of joint family group have more adjustability than students of nuclear family group.

Objective

- To study the total family adjustment of school children regardless of gender in rural area.
- To study the family adjustment of school children in rural area according to gender.
- To study the family adjustment of school children in rural area according to family type.

Hypothesis

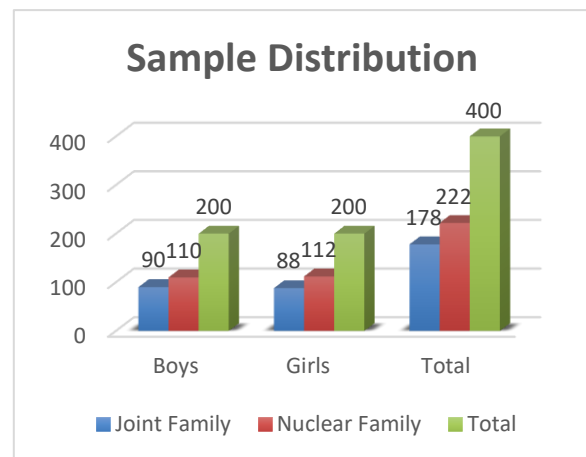
1. There is no significant difference in family adjustment among the boys and girls of school children in rural area.
2. There is no significant difference in family adjustment among the school children of the joint and nuclear family in rural area.

Sample Size

Four hundred schoolchildren from the age group of 10 to 12 years equally belonging to both genders were randomly selected from 8 schools in rural area of Chandrapur district, Maharashtra for the present study.

The sample distribution

Type of Family	Boys	Girls	Total
Joint Family	90	88	178
Nuclear Family	110	112	222
Total	200	200	400



Tools

High School Adjustment Inventory (HSAI) was used for collection of the data. The scale consists of 30 items of family adjustment. 'Yes' or 'No' responses are given in the answer sheet. The reliability of the HSAI was computed through the two methods, one is test-retest method and the other is split-half method. Validity correlation coefficient of family adjustment scale is -0.623. ($p < .01$.cf.) (Singh & Sen Gupta, 2007)

Analysis of data and results

Collected data was scored as per the HSAI manual. The maximum possible score on this test is 30. Each item of the test is scored as either one or zero. Each correct answer is given score of 1 and incorrect answer is given a score of 0. According to HSAI manual, higher score indicates better adjustment and low score indicates poor adjustment. (Singh & Sen Gupta, 2007)

The obtained data were analyzed through "t" test to know the mean difference between school

students in relation to their gender and family type.

Table 1 show that the mean score of 400 school children's Family adjustment is 25.02 out of 30. This indicates that Family adjustment of school children in rural area is good.

Table 2 shows that the obtained t- Value 1.04 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 significant level for degree of freedom 398. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. So the first hypothesis is accepted.

Table 3 shows that the obtained t- Value 3.5 is greater than the table value 2.58 at 0.01 significant level for degree of freedom 398 Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. So the second hypothesis is rejected.

Findings of the present study:

The findings of the present study are as follows:

1. The family adjustment of school children regardless of gender in rural area is good.
2. There is no significant difference in family adjustment among the boys and girls of school children in rural area.
3. There is significant difference in family adjustment among the school children of the joint and nuclear family in rural area.

CONCLUSION:

From the above findings it can safely be concluded that contrary to the general perception family adjustment in the school going children in the rural areas of the district is positive and no gender discrimination was found to be practiced in their families.

All the same, the predominance of the joint family systems found in rural area is favorable for the healthy adjustment of school going children.

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Table 1 Table showing Family adjustment of total school children regardless of gender

N	Mean	Family Adjustment
400	25.02	Good

Table 2 Table showing 't' value of Family adjustment of school children according to gender.

Gender	N	Mean	S.D.	SE _D	df	t-Value	Significant
Boys	200	25.21	3.03	3.61	398	1.04	No Significant
Girls	200	24.83	4.1				

Table value 0.05 Level = 1.96

Table 3 Showing 't' value of Family adjustment of school children according to family types.

Type of Family	No. of School children	Mean	S.D.	SE _D	df	t-Value	Significant
Joint Family	178	25	2.6	2.84	398	3.5	Significant
Nuclear Family	222	24	3.0				

Table value 0.01 Level = 2.58