

Role of family environment and academic achievement of school students of working and non-working mother

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Abstract

These days role of women is changing within and outside the family. Mother's working status strongly influence family environment that's why impact of maternal employment on children is a matter of discussion. Maternal employment has profound implications for our changing social system. Student's academic performance is related social and economical status of family. Effect of maternal employment on various dimensions of student's lives has been undertaken in present study.

Keywords: maternal employment, academic achievement

Introduction

Home environment in dual and single earner families is quite different. Some women work because of economic need and personal fulfillment. They feel satisfied by doing work and money they are earning. Such families face special challenges as they try to balance work and family responsibilities. Sometimes work conditions have negative impact on family life. Working mothers have no time to think over family issues. This has direct effect on children behavior. On the other hand non-working mothers stay at home for most of time and they have lots of time to think over family issues.

Due to competitive environment, students need the presence and help of parents. High demanding parent's job make them frustrated, they pass on their job hazards to their adolescent children. The tension of parents affects their family relationship. If mother is not working then child finds mother with him in all type of problematic situations.

On the other hand, in today's world, job of mother is essential to keep pace with present education system, to make high career, to afford fees of high profile courses and the world of work. Cases in which mothers with high educational level and high social class had a significant positive effect on their children's school performance have been found. In these cases working women were better adjusted at home than non-working. The daughters of employed mother have higher academic achievement, greater career success cases also found. Literature study shows that adolescent children of non-working mothers are more independent than adolescent children of non-working mothers. Children of non-working mother's families are more achievement oriented due to the fact that mothers who stay at home enforce more of discipline on their children

and are more commanding. They expect their children to do best. Generally, in these families, father impose restrictions while the families where mothers are working, women enjoy equal status they participate in decision making of children issues, mothers are well informed and aware. Both parents help children to choose right career. Because of financial soundness such parent are able to provide higher education. The non-working mother may very much want their children to perform good but when it comes to actual achievement the working mothers may be in a better position to help children to do good.

Objectives

Study and find out differences in family environment of school students of working and non-working mothers.

Study and compare academic achievement of school students of working and non-working mothers.

Methodology

200 students of class 6 to 8 were selected randomly for study. 100 were boys and 100 were girls. 100 student's mother was working mother and 100 was non-working. A questionnaire was used to find status of family environment of students. Family environment was divided into 2 classes as conflict and cohesive. To find academic performance, result of last 3 year was considered and divided into 5 grades. Grade A was provided to students who obtained above 80% marks, grade B was provided to students having marks 71-80%. Students who scored 61-70% marks were depicted by grade C, 51-60% by grade D and below 50% by grade E. Collected data was converted into percentage and compared for analysis.

Finding and Analysis

Table 1: Status of Family Environment of Students

Class	Family Environment of Working Mother		Family Environment of Non working Mother	
	Cohesive (%)	Conflict (%)	Cohesive (%)	Conflict (%)
Class-6	61	39	72	28
Class-7	60	40	70	30
Class-8	57	43	69	31

Table 2: Status of Academic Performance of Students

Class	Academic Performance of Working Mother's Child					Academic Performance of Non Working Mother's Child				
	No. of Student %									
	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Grade D	Grade E	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Grade D	Grade E
Class-6	17	25	28	19	11	19	26	31	14	10
Class-7	15	24	26	22	13	15	25	29	19	12
Class-8	12	23	29	21	15	13	23	32	20	12

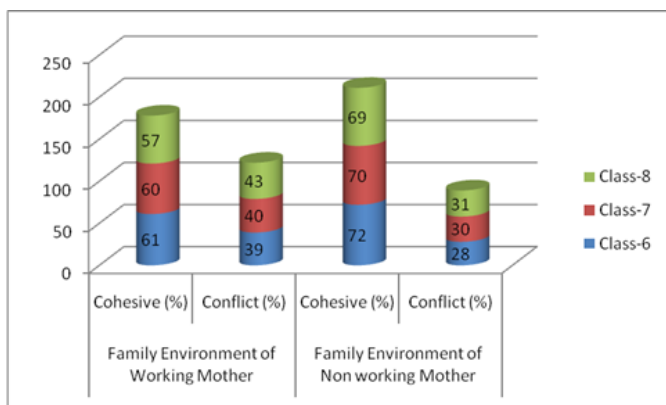


Fig 1: Status of Family Environment of Students

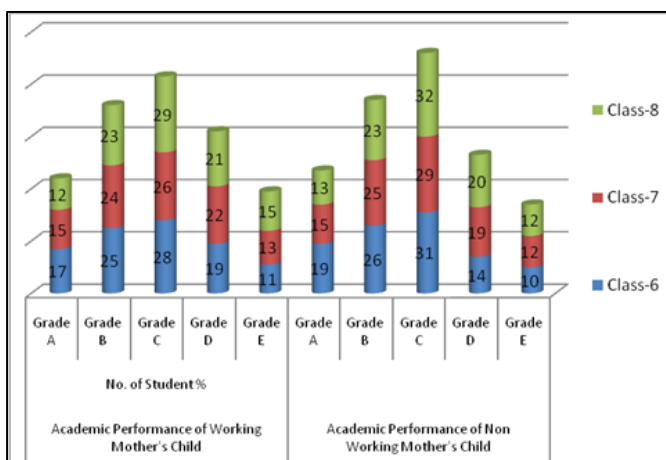


Fig 2: Status of Academic Performance of Students

Result regarding family environment shows that families with non-working mother has more cohesive environment as it found in 72%, 70% and 69% families of class-6, 7 and 8 students respectively. On the other hand, cohesive environment found 61%, 60%, and 57% for class-6, 7 and 8 in families with working mothers.

Academic performance results of class-6 show that in families having non-working mother 17% students got grade A, 25%

got grade B, 28% got grade C, 19% grade D and 11% grade E. On the other hand families with working mother 19% got A grade, 26% B, 31% C, 14% D and 10% got grade E. Similarly results found in class-7. 15% students of working mother families got A grade, 24% B grade and 26% got grade C while in non-working mother’s families result are 15%, 25% and 29% respectively. Students of class-8 follow same trend, 12% got grade A, 23% got B and 29% C in non-working families. While in working mother families, student strength of grade A, B, C, D, and E holder was as 13%, 23%, 32%, 20% and 12% respectively.

Conclusion

Family environment and academic performance of students are influenced by mother’s working status. Family environment is important stimulating agent for studies and career. Students especially school students need mother’s affection, guidance, emotional support at every step. Non-working mothers have sufficient time to understand children’s minute issues related to friends, teachers, schools and others. In this age they need a real friend which role can be best played by mother. Non-working mothers are able to give her more potential as child required to improve academic performance.

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