



BONDING BETWEEN PARENTS AND CHILDREN AMONG HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, CHENGALPET

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ABSTRACT

Parenting is about bonding with children, helping them to be responsible adults and above all creating a right ethos for a loving family relationship. Parenting should ideally be a father and mother commitment. Attachment is an instinctive system in the brain that evolved to ensure infant safety and survival. Primary caretakers are naturally mothers, but they need not to be. The objective of the present study was to assess the level of bonding between parents and children among the school students. Quantitative approach and descriptive survey design was adopted for the study. A total of 60 samples were selected using non-probability purposes sampling technique at seventh-day Adventist Higher Secondary School, Chengalpet. The tool used for the study comprises of two sections section A and Section B. Section A comprised of demographic data which includes age, sex, education, type of family, number of children in the family, parents educational status and occupational status and their scholarship. Section B comprises of 4 point rating scale which was developed by researcher to assess the knowledge on level of bonding between parents and children among school students which includes twenty questions. The data was collected for 60 samples and analysis was done using descriptive and inferential status. The results of study concludes that among 60 samples 45(75%) students had moderate bonding, 11 (18.3%) students had good bonding and none of them reported very good bonding.

KEY WORDS

Parental bonding , Parent –child relationship, School children ,Parent-child interaction, , parenting

INTRODUCTION

Attachment is not 'bonding'. 'bonding' was a concept developed by Klaus And Kennel who implied that parent-child 'bonding' depended on skin-to-skin contact during an early critical period. This concept of 'bonding' was proven to be erroneous and to have nothing to do with attachment. Unfortunately, many professionals and non-professionals continue to use the terms 'attachment' and 'bonding' interchangeably. Baumrind in (1991) described that parenting style captures two important elements of parenting. Parental responsiveness and parental demanding

Benzies KM Harrison MJ in (2004) Categorized parents according to whether they are high or low on parental demanding create a typology of 3 parenting style; indulgent, authoritarian and positive. Each of these parenting styles reflects different natural

occurring patterns of parental values, practices, behaviour and a distinct balance of responsiveness and demandingness. Permissive or indulgent parents are accepting are accepting warmth and responsiveness to the child. Permissive parenting is a style that parenting "experts" recommended to parents in the 1960s and 1970s. As a result of the humanistic psychology movements grounded in the belief that children are basically good. Parents were led to believe that the best approach to parenting was to simply allow their child's natural tendencies and abilities to emerge. The belief was that if parents provided love and acceptance, children or as an overreaction to growing up in a rigid and authoritarian home yourself. Long term studies of the children of indulgent parents clearly suggest that these kids do not fare well. They have very positive self esteem and feel good, but their behaviour tends to be quite immature, they tend to be more

impulsive, to show more signs of social irresponsibility than others, but not as much self reliance and interestingly they tends to show more aggression and hostility towards other kids

Bowlby J. in (1982) explained that Attachment is one specific and circumscribed aspect of the relationship between a child and caregiver that is involved with making the child safe, secure and protected.

Cassidy& shaver in (2008) reported the early parent–child relationship has been associated with numerous aspects of behaviour and development. An estimation of these early relationships in adults can be very useful. In clinical practice, this may inform diagnostics and therapeutic interventions, whereas in psychological research, it can contribute to a more precise understanding of the role of the early environment in the aetiology of psychopathology.

Belsky in (1984) suggested three general domains of determinants of parenting behaviour: (a) the parent’s personal psychological resources, (b) child characteristics, and (c) contextual sources of stress and support

At present scenario, appreciable parent and children bonding is not much evident in many of the families, which motivated the investigators to explore the relationship between parents and children, so that effective strategies can be framed to promote healthy ties among family members.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Quantitative approach and descriptive survey design was adopted for the present study . The variables studies are study variables and demographic variables . The study variable was level of bonding between parents and children among higher secondary school students where as the demographic variables include age, sex ,education ,type of family ,number of siblings ,parents educational status ,parents occupational status and about scholarship. The study was conducted in Seventh day Adventist higher secondary school, Chengalpet . It is a matriculation school with 1500 students. The setting was chosen on the basis of feasibility in the terms of availability of adequate

samples and co-operation extended by the management. The accessible population includes 11th and 12th students. The sample size for the present study is 60. Non-probability purposive sampling technique was adopted to select the sample for the study.

INSTRUMENTS:

SECTION A – Structured questionnaires to elicit demographic data of level of bonding parents and children among higher secondary school students.

SECTION B – Self Structured questionnaires which consists of 20 statements

The content of the tools were established on the basis of opinion of nursing faculties. Suggestions were incorporated in the tool. Assessment of the level of bonding between parents and higher secondary school children .Participants were briefed on the study and oral consent was obtained. Participants were given approximately 20 minutes to complete the questionnaire. The questionnaire consists of two sections. Section A, has ten demographic questions designed to elicit information about the subject’s age, gender ,education , type of family, no. of siblings, parents educational status ,parents occupational status and about scholarship and section B is parent – child relationship . After obtaining formal approval from administration, of Seventh day advents school. The investigator explained the objectives and methods of data collection. Data collection was done within the given period .The data collection was done during the day time. Self introduction about the researcher and details about the study was explained to the samples and their consent was obtained. The level of bonding was assessed among the students using the tool. The confidentiality about the data and finding were assured to the participants. The participants took 30 minutes to complete the tool and their co-operation was imperative. Descriptive statistics such as frequency and percentage distribution was used to analyze the data collected. Inferential statistics- chi square was used to find out the association.

RESULTS

Table 1: Demographic variables of level of bonding Between Parents and Children among Higher Secondary School Students. (N=60)

Demographic variables		No. of students	Percentage
Age	16 years	33	55.0%
	17 years	27	45.0%
Sex	Male	30	50.0%
	Female	30	50.0%
Education	XI standard	2	3.3%
	XII standard	58	96.7%
Type of family	Nuclear family	50	83.3%
	Joint family	10	16.7%
	One	6	10.0%
No. of children	Two	48	80.0%
	> Two	6	10.0%
	Illiterate	8	13.3%
Father education status	Primary	21	35.0%
	UG	16	26.7%
	PG	15	25.0%
	Illiterate	8	13.3%
Mother education status	Primary	47	78.3%
	UG	4	6.7%
	PG	1	1.7%
Father occupation status	Sedentary worker	8	13.3%
	Moderate worker	23	38.3%
	Heavy worker	29	48.3%
Mother occupation status	Sedentary worker	35	58.3%
	Moderate worker	25	41.7%
Are you receiving any scholarship	Yes	6	10.0%
	No	54	90.0%

Table 1 shows the demographic data for the bonding of children with the parents. Majority 55.0 % of the students were in the age group of 16 years. Considering the gender both male and female was equal percentage of 50.0%, majority 96.7% of them were 12th standard students. Regarding the type of family majority 83.3 % of them were in nuclear family. Considering the siblings majority 80.0% of them had

two siblings. Regarding the parent's educational status majority 35.0% of them were educated at primary level. Considering the occupational status majority 48.3% of the fathers had heavy work and majority 58.3% of the mothers had sedentary status. Considering about the scholarship of the students majority of them were not received any scholarship.

TABLE 2: Assessment of Level of Bonding between Parents and Children among Higher Secondary School Students. (N=60)

Level of score	No. of students	Percentage
Poor bonding	4	6.7%
Moderate bonding	45	75.0%
Good bonding	11	18.3%
Very good bonding	0	0.0%
Total	60	100.0%

Table 2 shows that majority 75.0% of the students had moderate levels of bonding and 18.3% had good levels of bonding and 6.7% of the students had poor bonding.

Table3: Mean & Standard deviation of bonding score

Total bounding score	Mean Bounding score	SD	Minimum	Maximum	Range
80	54.08	6.35	40	70	30

Table4: Association of Level of bonding between parents and children among higher secondary school students with their demographic variables. (N=60)

Demographic Variables		Level of bonding score						Total	Chi square test
		Poor		Moderate		Good			
		n	%	n	%	n	%		
Age	16 years	2	6.1%	23	69.7%	8	24.2%	33	$\chi^2=1.71$ p=0.42
	17 years	2	7.4%	22	81.5%	3	11.1%	27	
Sex	Male	1	3.3%	22	73.3%	7	23.3%	30	$\chi^2=1.84$ p=0.40
	Female	3	10.0%	23	76.7%	4	13.3%	30	
Education	XI standard			2	100.0%			2	$\chi^2=0.69$ p=0.70
	XII standard	4	6.9%	43	74.1%	11	19.0%	58	
Type of family	Nuclear family	2	4.0%	41	82.0%	7	14.0%	50	$\chi^2=8.23$ p=0.02*
	Joint family	2	20.0%	4	40.0%	4	40.0%	10	
No. of children	One			2	33.3%	4	66.7%	6	$\chi^2=11.98$ p=0.02*
	Two	3	6.3%	38	79.2%	7	14.6%	48	
	> Two	1	16.7%	5	83.3%			6	
Father education status	illiterate			7	87.5%	1	12.5%	8	$\chi^2=3.27$ p=0.77
	Primary	1	4.8%	17	81.0%	3	14.3%	21	
	UG	1	6.3%	12	75.0%	3	18.8%	16	
	PG	2	13.3%	9	60.0%	4	26.7%	15	
Father education status	illiterate			7	87.5%	1	12.5%	8	$\chi^2=1.83$ p=0.93
	Primary	4	8.5%	34	72.3%	9	19.1%	47	
	UG			3	75.0%	1	25.0%	4	
	PG			1	100.0%			1	
Father occupation status	Sedentary worker	1	12.5%	6	75.0%	1	12.5%	8	$\chi^2=2.75$ p=0.60
	Moderate worker	2	8.7%	15	65.2%	6	26.1%	23	
	Heavy worker	1	3.4%	24	82.8%	4	13.8%	29	
Mother status	occupation Sedentary worker	3	8.6%	30	85.7%	2	5.7%	35	$\chi^2=9.06$ p=0.01**
	Moderate worker	1	4.0%	15	60.0%	9	36.0%	25	
Are you receiving any scholarship	Yes	1	16.7%	5	83.3%			6	$\chi^2=2.28$ p=0.31
	No	3	5.6%	40	74.1%	11	20.4%	54	

Table 4 shows that there was a association found between the level of the bonding between parents and students with the type of family, sibling and mother's occupational status.

DISCUSSION

Findings of the present study reveal that, majority 55.0 % of the students were in the age group of 16 years. Considering the gender both male and female

was equal percentage of 50.0%, majority 96.7% of them were 12th standard students. Regarding the type of family majority 83.3 % of them were in nuclear family. Considering the siblings majority 80.0% of

them had two siblings. Regarding the parent's educational status majority 35.0% of them were educated at primary level. Considering the occupational status majority 48.3% of the fathers had heavy work and majority 58.3% of the mothers had sedentary status. Considering about the scholarship of the students majority of them were not received any scholarship the first objective show that majority 75.0% of the students had moderate levels of bonding and 18.3% had good levels of bonding and 6.7% of the students had poor bonding and there was a association found between the level of the bonding between parents and students with the type of family, sibling and mother's occupational status .

The similar Study Was Conducted by **Diane Benoit (2004)** on the infant-parent attachment, the Strange Situation procedure .In addition, a description is provided for the four major types of infant-parent attachment, ie, secure, insecure-avoidant, insecure-resistant and insecure-disorganized. The antecedents and consequences of each of the four types of infant-parent attachment are discussed. A special emphasis is placed on the description of disorganized attachment because of its association with significant emotional and behavioral problems, and poor social and emotional outcomes in high-risk groups and in the majority of children who have disorganized attachment with their primary caregiver

Paul de Cock.T, Mark Shevlin in 2014 conducted a similar study on estimating the early parent-child bonding relationship can be valuable in research and practice. This study was designed to assess the presence of homogeneous groups in the population with similar profiles on parental bonding dimensions. Using a short version of the Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI), three parental bonding dimensions (care, authoritarianism, and overprotection) were used to assess the presence of unobserved groups in the population using latent profile analysis. The class solutions were regressed on 23 covariates (demographics, parental psychopathology, loss events, and childhood contextual factors) to assess the validity of the class solution. The results indicated four distinct profiles of parental bonding for fathers as well as mothers. Parental bonding profiles were significantly associated with a broad range of covariates. This person-centered approach to parental bonding has broad utility in future research which takes into account the effect of parent-child bonding, especially with regard to "affectionless control" style parenting

CONCLUSION

Parents play many different roles in the lives of their children, including teacher, playmate, disciplinarian, and caregiver and attachment figure. Parental bonding is an important predictor that gives a lot of insight into parent-child relationship. Studies have demonstrated the importance of parent child relationship for adjustment, ranging from attachment during infancy, indisciplin style during childhood and adolescence to parenting style during adulthood. The present study was conducted to assess the level of bonding between parents and children among higher secondary school students. The results of study concludes that among 60 samples 45(75%) students had moderate bonding, 11 (18.3%) students had good bonding and none of them reported very good bonding which indicates that nurses should play a vital role in counseling the parents of school children about the importance of parent child bonding to promote the overall development of the children and prevent behavioral problems among children.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors have no conflict of interest to declare.

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