



A STUDY OF ADJUSTMENTS OF PARENTS AMONG ALCOHOLIC AND NON ALCOHOLIC CHILDRENS

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Abstract

Alcoholism is a condition in which the drinker has serious problems. It causes damage to the individual and society. Alcoholic students have serious problem in adjustments with parents. This study finds adjustment problems of parents among alcoholic and non-alcoholic children. For measuring adjustment of the respondents, Mohsin-Shamshad Hindi adaptation of Bell's Adjustment Inventory was used. Findings are that children belonging to non-alcoholic parents excel over children of alcoholic parents in terms of their adjustment. In other words, a non-alcoholic environment is conducive to sound adjustment.

Key words - Adjustments, Alcoholic, Parents, Social Problem, Children

Introduction

Alcoholism is a condition in which the drinker has serious problems. It causes damage to the individual and society. Alcoholism is defined as an excessive drinker whose dependence on alcohol is so strong that it interferes with the performance of socially appropriate behavior. Some alcoholics do not want to be designated as alcoholic; rather they prefer to be called as 'problem drinker or chemical abuser'. Alcohol is a depressant which affects the higher brain function, empowering judgment and other rational processes and lowering self control. Motor in coordination soon becomes apparent after heavy drink and his sense of discrimination of cold, pain and other discomfort are dulled. Typically he experiences a sense of warmth, expansiveness and well-being. In such a mood, unpleasant realities are screened out and the drinker's feeling of self esteem and adequacy arise. Drinker enters a state of pleasant world of unreality in which worries are temporarily left behind. When alcohol content of blood reaches 1 percent, the individual is considered to be intoxicated. Speech and vision are impaired and thought processes are confused. When the blood alcohol reaches .5 percent, the neural balances is upset and the individual is dead.

It is still unclear why certain people become alcoholic and develop a tolerance for alcohol, while others do not (River, 1986; Gallant, 1987). Some evidence suggests a genetic cause, the chances of becoming alcoholics are considerably higher if alcoholics are present in earlier generation, implying that some people are genetically susceptible to alcoholism. On the other hand not all alcoholics have close relatives who are alcoholics, in these cases, environmental stressors are suspected of playing a larger role (Holden, 1985; Kolata, 1987).

Hinckley et al. (1970) studied drug abusers who came for psychiatric help. He found that drug use was high in psychotic and personality disorder group while it was low in psycho-neurotic individuals. The drug user tends to be nonconformists, antisocial and harbouring anger. Mc Grath (1970) found that drug users to be introverted, quiet, passive and submissive and lack masculine identification. 24% of them were psycho-neurotic.



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Backett and Lodge (1971), in a study found that out of 34 sample studied 20 male heroin addicts had overt childhood neurosis, manifest anxiety reaction and depression appear to dominate in neurotic addicts. Grossaman, Goldstein and Eisenman (1971) wrote that many reported characteristic of marijuana users seem to be indicative of the creative personality (unconventional, socially poised, custhetic, adventuresome, non-conforming flexible) while the non users are similar to the authoritarian individual (conventional, inflexible, responsible, narrow interests.) Cappel (1972) in a survey in New York studied the personality traits of users and non users. The users were found to be more introverted. The survey indicated clear cut personality differences among users and non users. Das Gupta et. al(1972) on the basis of direct data, estimated that 13.3 percent of the population around Varanasi used cannabis. And users and non users differed in personality characteristics. Dayal (1972) in a jourmatic survey sample of 5000 Delhi university students found that 5 percent were drug-users and 95 percent were non-users, and they differed in many characteristics. Dube (1972) reported after a study of all the students of a particular university that 5 percent of the students of that university reported to be regular cannabis users, while 50 percent of males and 8 percent of female students were said to have used it at least once. The user an non users were different on measured personality factors. In another study, Grassman, Goldstein and Eisenman (1972) found that marijuana use was found to be partially correlated with creativity and adventuresome and negatively correlated with authoritarianism although the later symptoms did not reach significance.

Anjum and Rani (2001) found that non-tribal subjects were better adjusted than their tribal counterparts. Supriya (2003) examined the effect of working and non-working dimension and SES on adjustment patterns of women respondent and reported that working dimension and high SES are conducive to adjustment. Kumar et. al. (2005) attempted to compare the advantaged and disadvantaged groups of respondents in terms of level of anxiety and patterns of adjustment and reported that deprived respondents were found having high level of anxiety and poor adjustment patterns than their counterparts. Kumar (2005) examined the effect of aggression on level of anxiety of female students and reported that anxiety is attributed by aggression.

Kumar et. al. (2007) examined the effect of deprivation on anxiety and adjustment of 200 advantaged and disadvantaged respondents equal in number and found that advantaged group excelled over disadvantaged group in respect of anxiety and adjustment. Sonam (2007) examined the et al. of parental style on achievement motivation and adjustment of children and reported that democratic parental style is conducive to achievement motivation and adjustment. Bharti (2008) Conducted an experimental study on 120 respondents to examine the effect of ego-strength and adjustment on reminiscence of the respondents. He reported that the respondents belonging to low ego-strength group and low adjustment group showed superiority in respect of reminiscence score.

Manoj (2008) examined the effect of deprivation on anxiety and adjustment of 240 advantaged and disadvantaged respondents and reported that advantaged group excelled over their counterparts in respect of anxiety and adjustment. Sonam (2008) examined 100 Hiv infected person with 100 normal in terms of anxiety depression and adjustment and reported that infected persons were more prone to anxiety and depression with poor adjustment than their counterparts belonging to normal group. Sanjita (2008) compared 100 mentally retarded and 100 normal in respect of cognitive style adjustment and dependence proneness and reported that mentally retarded children are more field dependence more adjusted and more dependently prone than their counterparts of normal respondents. Dinesh (2008) examined the effect of anxiety, aggression and adjustment on domestic violence of the respondents and reported that domestic violence is significantly influenced by aggression, anxiety and adjustment.



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OBJECTIVES AND HYPOTHESES

There is objectives followed by related hypotheses to be tested and verified empirically

Objective- The objective of the present study is to compare the children of alcoholic and nonalcoholic parents in terms of adjustment. In other sense the objective is to examine whether or not alcoholism on the part of parents interfere with the adjustment of their children

Hypothesis- It is likely that children of nonalcoholic parents would excel over the children counterpart of alcoholic parents in terms of patterns of adjustment

METHODOLOGY

(a) Sample

The incidental- cum- purposive sample consisting of 300 children were drawn out of which 150 children were belonging to alcoholic parents and remaining 150 children were belonging to nonalcoholic parents. Alcoholic parents were identified from various alcoholic de-addiction centres of Patna as well as on the basis of personal contact and nonalcoholic parents were selected from the same socio economic background so far as practicable. The children of alcoholic and nonalcoholic parents were selected for data collection. The children were belonging to 16-22 yrs. of age. They were both attending/non-attending of the educational institutions.

(b) Design of the Study

The problem under investigation is a comparative as well as correlational study examining the differences in adjustment among the children of alcoholic and nonalcoholic parents. Thus, the dependent variables in the present study are alcoholic/nonalcoholic behaviour of parents adjustment of their children are independent variables. Since, in each pair of comparable group there are separate and independent subjects, so a between group design would be preferred.

(c) Research Tools used

1. A Personal Data Sheet

It was used to seek the necessary information about the respondents. It was used to seek the socio familial background of the children respondent including their parental status.

2. Bell's Adjustment Inventory (Hindi Adaptation)

For measuring adjustment of the respondents Mohsin- Shamshad Hindi adaptation of Bell's Adjustment Inventory was used. After assessing the social desirability of the items of Bell's Adjustment Inventory, various steps involved in the test construction, were followed by Jahan, K. which were applied by Hussain (1987). 126 items of the modified Hindi version of Bell's Adjustment Inventory were analysed by adapting different techniques of item analysis, number of items in Bell's Adjustment Inventory (English Version), Hindi adaptation (Hussain, 1969) and in modified Hindi adaptation (Jehan, K. 1987)

1. Data Analysis Plan

Keeping in view the nature of the obtained data it was decided to analyse the data according to the scheme :Comparison between children of alcoholic and nonalcoholic parents in terms of adjustment. (Results Table-1, 2 & 3).



RESULTS AND INTERPRETATIONS

A comparison between children of alcoholic and nonalcoholic parents in terms of adjustment by following statistical analysis.

(a) Application of chi-square

Chi-square test was employed for the analysis and treatment of the data obtained by the high and low adjustment group of respondents on Hindi Adaptation of Bell's Adjustment Inventory by Mohsin and Shamshad. The respondents falling at and above the median value were placed in low adjustment group and the respondents falling below the median value were placed in to high adjustment group. The percentages of the respondent children of two groups were compared using chi-square test. The results thus obtained have been recorded in table-1 given below :

Table - 1

Chi-square showing the significance of difference in percentages of alcoholic and nonalcoholic groups of parents in terms of high and low adjustment scores.

Groups	N	Adjustment		χ^2	df	p
		Sound	Poor			
I	150	25% (38)	75% (112)	39.11	1	<.01
II	150	69% (104)	31% (46)			

From the results displayed by table 4.01 it is clear that there is a significant influence of alcoholic behaviour of parents on their children' adjustment. It is found that 69% (N = 104) children of nonalcoholic parents and only 25% (N = 38) children of alcoholic parents showed sound adjustment. On the other hand 31% (N = 46) of children of nonalcoholic parents and more than 75% (N = 112) children of alcoholic parents manifested poor adjustment. The chi-square showing the significance of differences among the percentages was found significant beyond .01 level of confidence (chi-square = 39.11 df = 1, p <.01). Thus, hypothesis n is retained. it was hypothesized that It is likely that children of nonalcoholic parents would excel over the children counterpart of alcoholic parents in terms of patterns of adjustment, was fully retained. The finding relating to adjustment might be interpreted on the ground that family environment of the children belonging to alcoholic father is pathological. This is because such parents are unable to behave properly even with the members of their own family including their children. So, their primary socialization get disturbed leading to maladjustment on the part of their ward.

(b) Application of t-test

To examine the significance of difference between the means on adjustment scores by the two groups of children respondents, it was thought proper to employ t-test keeping in view the size of the sample. The respondents of the two groups were administered Hindi Adaptation of Bell's Adjustment Inventory and their respective scores on adjustment variable was determined using manual then t-test was employed to analyse the results which is recorded in table -2 given below :



Table - 2

Mean, SD, SE and t-ratio showing the significance of difference between the means of children of alcoholic and nonalcoholic parents in terms of their adjustment.

Groups	N	Mean	SD	SE	t	df	P
I	150	88.49	8.21	0.67	9.61	298	< .01
II	150	79.26	8.47	0.69			

It is evident from table 4.02 that the children of group-II (= 79.26) has scored significantly higher on adjustment than the children of group-I (= 88.49). The comparison between two means has yielded a t-value of 9.61 which is significant beyond .01 level of confidence. The obtained t-value ($t = 9.61$; $df = 298$; $p < .01$) confirmed the hypothesis. The interpretation remained the same.

(c) Application of Pearsonian 'r'

To ascertain the relationship between alcoholic behaviour of parents with adjustment of children, product moment coefficient of correlation was computed. The results thus obtained has been recorded in table -3 given below :

Table - 3

r - showing the relationship between adjustment and the children of alcoholic and nonalcoholic parents.

Variables	N	r	df	P
Alcoholic Parents Vs children' adjustment	150	- 0.401	148	<.01
Nonalcoholic Parents Vs children' adjustment	150	0.486	148	<.01

It is clear from results table - 4.03 that their is a significant negative correlation between children of alcoholic parents and their adjustment ($r = - 0.401$; $df=148$; $P<.01$) whereas there is a significant positive correlation between children of alcoholic parents and their adjustment ($r = 0.486$; $df=148$; $P<.01$). These results are in agreement of the results of tables 4.01 and 4.02 respectively, interpretation remaining the same.

Conclusion

Children **those are alcoholic having serious problem in adjustment in finding here get** their is a significant negative correlation between children of alcoholic parents and their adjustment Children belonging to nonalcoholic parents excel over children of alcoholic parents in terms of their adjustment. In other words nonalcoholic environment is conducive to sound adjustment.children of alcoholic parents manifested poor adjustment.

Implications of the Present Study:- The findings of the present study in general will be quite useful and helpful in creating public awareness about alcoholic behavior and will serve as an useful source for future research.The present findings will help administrators, policy-makers, government, politicians and workers of voluntary organizations in careful planning for prevention and control of alcoholism.



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