

Effect of parental and Non- parental Care on Moral Judgment of 6-12 year old children

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Abstract : -

The present study finds out that the moral judgment is affected from situation. In family environment child can learn indirectly and directly the concept of right and wrong. But in Non – parental care or orphanage they don't have any such parental figure and home environment where the understanding of wrong and right could be developed.

Key words: *Parental Care, Non –Parental Care, Moral Judgment.*

Introduction : -

In most cultures, children are the stage of the life cycle that is loved and revered, at least in words, if not always in actions. A child is supremely important asset. Children are civilization's base of the future and should therefore be nursed nourished. Trained and guided, helped and equipped to play their role as future builders.

Parents, being the primary care takers have much role to play in rearing and caring of children. Recent efforts to determine how parental qualities are important for attachment have shown that attachment doesn't result only from parental actions that satisfy the child need for food, water, warmth and relief from pain. The first step in attachment is a process of bonding immediately after birth. Parenthood is the task for caring for the child. The child's relationship to parents from a central part of early social and individual development. But what about children without parent – Orphanage children.

The age of the child is mentioned in “ The Orphanage and other charitable Homes [Supervision and Control] , Act , 1960 under section 2 of the act, ‘child’ means a boy or girls who has not completed the age of eighteen years”. The child is deemed to be an orphan if he loses either his father or both his parents and is adjudged to be without any relation who can take care of him.

The word “moral” comes from the Latin word “Mos,” which means custom practice, a way of accomplishing thing. Therefore, it has come to mean “belonging to manners and conduct of men”, pertaining to right and wrong good in conduct “. People in general consider the word to mean proper or good or right conduct. Morality is the conformity to the moral code of the social group. It is the internalization of a set of virtues, ideas and values sanctioned by society which became an integral part of the individual self through the process of development. It is considered as a sum total of an individual's way of behaving which is judge in term of ethical rightness or wrongness.

Hence the ability to make moral judgment plays an important part of the total development of the child. Moral judgment involves the cognitive capacity and insight to see the relationship between an abstract principle and concrete cases and judge the situation as right or wrong.

According to Piaget, the moral sense in children arises from the interactions between their developing thought structure and their gradement develops in two stages. The first is 'moral realism' and the second is 'moral relativism'.

In Kohlberg's approach moral judgment is assessed by responses to a number of hypothetical moral dilemmas based on : - life, low morality and conscience, punishment, contract and authority.

The home background was patently a powerfully influential factor. In many studies it was observed that children from higher status home level and interwoven complex of advantages over those from a poor background. Their greater security, both economically and emotionally, gives them freedom from temptation that beset less fortunate children.

Intelligence was found to be a key variable in its relationship with moral judgment, more markedly so in girls. It was observed in many studies that without the capacity for reasoning, these can be no moral judgment. Piaget oddly ambiguous in his attitude to intelligence, dismissed it as one of the interfering factors, in his pattern of development in moral judgment, Development of moral judgment is moral influenced by intelligence.

Major objectives of the study areas were:

- To study the moral judgment of 6 – 12 years old children living in home.
- To study the moral judgment of 6 – 12 years old children living in Orphanages.
- To compare the moral judgment of 6 – 12 years old children living in orphanages and home.

Methodology

In order to achieve these objectives the researcher used Survey method for the study. The sample under study consisted of 200 school children. Out of 200 children, 100 children living in homes and 100 children living in o Orphanages are taken. Both groups was selected by purposive random sampling. The sample was selected from Balika Sadan in Jaipur and Banasthali.

Moral judgment test developed by Dr. Verma and Prof. Sinha was used. For data analysis the statistical techniques used by the investigator are as means, Standard Deviation and t - test.

Result and Discussion

Parental and Non Parental child care on Moral judgment of children.

Group - I : Children living in home.

Group – II : Children living in Orphanages

Group	Number	Mean	S.D.	‘ t ‘	level of significance	
					0.05	0.01
I	100	44.2	2.135	9.336	1.734	2.552
II	100	25.9	5.821			

The number of sample in group – I is 100 and in group- II is 100 and mean of group – I is 44.2 and group – II is 25.9 and standard Deviation of group – I is 2.135 and group – II is 5.821. ‘ t ’ value of total group is 9.336 which is significant at 0.05 level.

Therefore it may be inferred that the moral judgment is affected from situation. In many researches it has been found that moral judgment is greatly influence by home environment and home. In family environment child can learn indirectly and directly the concept of right and wrong. But in orphanage they don't have any such parental figure and home environment where the understanding of wrong and right could be developed. This may be the reason that there is a significant difference in moral judgment among 6 – 12 years old children living in orphanage and home.

Conclusion and Suggestion

It was found that there is significant difference in moral judgment of 6 – 12 years old children living in orphanage and homes.

Environment plays a very important role in the personality development of the child. In family environment child can learn about right and wrong aspect of any action. But in orphanage they don't have any parental figure thus they cannot understand that what is wrong and right. This may be the reason that there is significant difference in the moral judgment of 6 – 12 years old children living in orphanage and home.

Suggestions to guardians and parents:

- Childhood learning is very important in development of moral judgment, so guardian should not neglect children in childhood stage.
- The guardian should give greater attention to social, emotional and personality development of children in the home and school.
- Guardian should provide variety of experience in the home such as art, music, Craft to cover a wide range of interest.
- They should guide the child in the experience and help him to gain skills and knowledge without failure.
- Guardian should establish friendly relation with their children, and offer sympathetic guidance.
- Parents should guide the moral and character development of child.

For better moral judgment child should be given

- Love and affection of parents or guardians
- Praising them on their achievement.
- The understanding of right and wrong aspect of any action.

Suggestion to managing agencies

Social reformers should advised to create proper environment in which moral judgment may develop properly.

Suggestions for further research

- Sample should be large, covering large area, so that result can be generalized .
- The present investigation was conducted no sample consisting of 6- 12 years old children, longitudinal studies covering children from infancy to adolescent may provide a sound base for understanding children's development about moral judgment.
- Moral judgment can be studied in relation to factors such as sex differences, community settings, socio- economic stats and culture.
- Effect judgment on self-concept, security feeling. Adjustment of the individuals can be studied.

Limitations :

Sample size was very small and results could not be properly generalized.

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