



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF SELF CONCEPT AMONG THE CHILDREN LIVING WITH FAMILY AND CHILDREN LIVING IN ORPHANAGE

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The purpose of the presented study was investigate the level of Self Concept among children (boys & girls), living with family or living in orphanage. The total sample consisted of 240 children (120 children who are living with family and 120 who are living in orphanage), selected in Ahmadabad city. The scale of Self Concept development by DR.R.K.SARASWAL(NEW DELHI) was administered to measure Self Concept. Scoring has been done as per manual. The data was analysed by using descriptive, statistics mean, SD and t-test. Result was found that, there is significant difference in level of Self Concept of children who are live with family and who live in orphanage. Self Concept was high in children living with family in compare to children living in orphanage.

Introduction:

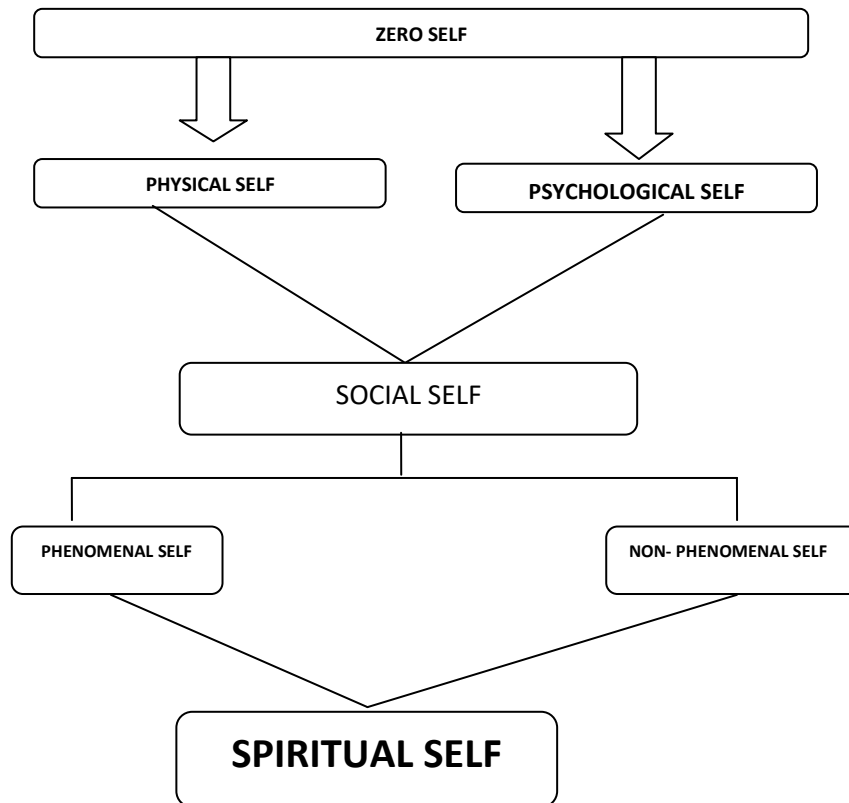
Self concept is an important component of personality. McCandless writes, “As children grow and develop they learn about the world, their place in it and about themselves. Self –concept is the term usually used to refer to this area of private experience and self-evolution.

Many philosophers and scientist have put fourth their theories about self-concept. Discussion of self-concept and scientist have put forth their theories about self concept.discussion of self usually begins with the question. “ WHO AM I ? ” some philosophers make a distinction between “ I ” and “ ME ”. According to William james, a pioneer psychologist , in the discussion of self , “ ME ” means individual’s empirical self and “ I ” means his pure self. when james describes and discusses “ I ” , he himeself is not very clear a bout what he wants to say. He becomes more philosophical and abstract, but his discussion about empirical self or “ ME ” was thought-provoking and it brought the idea of self back into the field of psychology. James divides self into three classes.

1. The material self, 2. The social self, 3. The spiritual self.

* Awareness of self: Another important question about self-concept is: when does a child become aware of himself as a person? Many studies such as those of E. Horowitz, “Spatial Localization of the self” in 1935 or that of T. N. Natsonlas and R.

A. Duboneski's "Inferring the locus and orientation of the perceiver from responses to the stimulation of the skin" in 1964.



Teenagers have the tendency to become non-conformist in response to a variety of growing up anxieties, frustration and pressures faced by them in day to day life. However, stress induced anxieties, frustration, pressures and fears adversely affect children's performances at various levels. Adolescent period is one of the continual change and transition between individuals and their contexts. When biological, psychological, cognitive, and social changes of adolescence (Simmons & Blyth, 1987). At the same time, the increase in academic demands and the complexity of the school structure make the task of academic success for adolescents even more difficult. Because parent involvement has been shown to be a very important positive force in a child's life (Patrikakou, weissberg, redding & walbeng, 2005), one would expect that during such a critical and demanding phase the two most important environments in child development, home and school, would increase their collaboration. The opposite though is true: As children progress through school, parent involvement declines dramatically (Zill & Nord, 1994). When there is imbalance between the environment demand and the response of the individual, academic stress occurs (Dhingra 2005).

Most researchers agree that an acceptable definition of stress is likely to be satisfactory only to its author (Abbott, 2001; Cox, 1980; Hinkle, 1987; Kahn & Byosiore, 1992). Researchers have expressed that stress is a part of

human life from which no human being can escape (Cooper & Dewe, 2004; Jones & Bright, 2001; Steptoe, 2000; Wong, 2006). Experience of stress varies among individuals and is inevitable at sometime or other in one's life (Lazarus & Cohen, 1977; Taylor, 2006). Cox (1987) defined stress as perceived phenomenon arising from a comparison between demands on an individual and one's ability to cope. An imbalance in this mechanism gives rise to experience of stress and to stress response. Stress may be defined as a real or interpreted threat to physiological or psychological integrity of an individual that results in physiological or behavioral responses (McEwen, 2000).

Stress is a complex pattern of cognitive appraisal physiological response and behavioral tendencies that occur in response to a perceived imbalance between a situational demand and our resources needed to cope with them. Three types of stressors as micro stressors catastrophic events and major negative event all three classes of stressors required major adaptation and can have significant negative impact on psychological and physical well being. Prolonged exposure to stress without effective coping mechanism could lead to a host of physical and mental problems.

Method

Participants:

A sample of 240 children (120 who live with family and 120 who live in orphanage) was randomly selected from Ahmedabad city, Gujarat.

Instruments:

The stress scale was made by **Dr. M. Singh (2002)**. There are 40 statements in the scale. Every statement has three alternative responses. Allot 2 score on 'always', 1 score on 'sometime' and 0 score on 'never'. Reliability coefficient of the scale was estimated by split-half method and test-retest method and correlation was found 0.82 and 0.79 respectively. Validity coefficient was computed with BBSS and correlation was found 0.61.

Procedure:

After finalizing the instruments and receiving the consent of the children who live with family and who live in orphanage were requested to fill the Stress Scale without omitting any item. All the data analysis using statistical measures such as mean, standard deviation and 't' test.

Research Design:

The aim of present research was to study stress of 240 children's (120 who live with family and 120 who live in orphanage) were randomly selected from Ahmedabad city.

of Gujarat. Selection for sample random method was used .To check the differences between groups 't' test was used.

Result and Discussion:

From table 1, it was evident that there is substantial difference between the two groups of subject's namely children who living with family and living in orphanage home as far as their level of Stress were concerned. The means score of Stress level scores were found to be **180.48** and **190.38** respectively for the children who living with family and living in orphanage home. The results indicate that children's who living in orphanage were found to be suffering from significantly higher level of Stress than the children's who living with family, as the difference between the two groups was also found statistically significant ($t= 4.75$). On the basis of results it could be said that residence of children's had profound effect on their thought process, feelings and emotions. It is clearly revealed from Table-1 that there is a significant difference of Stress level on children's who living with family and orphanage. In simple terms it can be concluded that Stress level of children's who living with family is lesser than children's who living with orphanage.

Also table 1, it was evident that there is substantial difference between the two groups of subject's namely boys and girls as far as their level of Stress were concerned. The means score of Stress level scores were found to be **25.98** and **25.23** respectively for the boys and girls. The results indicate that boys and girls are similar level of Stress, as the difference between the two groups was not found statistically significant ($t= 0.55$). It is clearly revealed from Table-2 that there is a no significant difference of level of Stress among boys and girls. In simple terms it can be concluded that the similar level of Stress among boys and girls.

From **table 2**, it was evident that there is substantial difference between the two groups of subject's namely boys and girls who living with family as far as their level of Stress were concerned. The means score of Stress level scores were found to be **26.68** and **21.40** respectively for the boys and girls who living with family. The results indicate that boys who living with family were found to be suffering from significantly higher level of Stress than the girls who living with family, as the difference between the two groups was also found statistically significant ($t= 2.64$). On the basis of results it could be said that gender of children's had profound effect on their thought process, feelings and emotions. It is clearly revealed from Table-3 that there is a significant difference of Stress level on boys and girls who living with family. In simple terms it can be concluded that Stress level of children's who living with family girls are lesser than boys.

Also table 2, it was evident that there is substantial difference between the two groups of subject's namely boys and girls who living in orphanage as far as their level of Stress were concerned. The means score of Stress level scores were found to be **25.37** and **26.07** respectively for the boys and girls who living in orphanage. The

results indicate that girls who living in orphanage were found to be suffering from significantly higher level of Stress than the boys who living in orphanage, as the difference between the two groups was also found statistically significant ($t= 2.29$). On the basis of results it could be said that gender of children's had profound effect on their thought process, feelings and emotions. It is clearly revealed from Table-4 that there is a significant difference of Stress level on boys and girls who living in orphanage. In simple terms it can be concluded that Stress level of children's who living in orphanage boys are lesser than girls.

Ho.1, There is no significant difference between level of stress among children's (Boy and Girls) who living with family and living in orphanage.

Table no. 1: Showing 't' value and mean differences between the level of Stress of children (Boys and Girls) who living with family and living in orphanage.

| Group | N | Mean | S.D | 't' Value | Level of significant |
|------------------------------------|-----|--------|-------|-----------|----------------------|
| Children with family | 120 | 180.48 | 16.04 | 4.75* | 0.01 |
| Children living in orphanage home. | 120 | 190.38 | 16.18 | | |
| Boys | 120 | 25.98 | 9.50 | 0.55 | N.S |
| Girls | 120 | 25.23 | 11.24 | | |

*Significant at: 0.01 Levels.

Ho. 2, There is no significant difference the level of stress among boys and girls who living with family and living in orphanage.

Table no. 2: Showing 't' value and mean differences between boys and girls who living with family and living in orphanage.

| Group | N | Mean | S.D | 't' Value | Level of significant |
|-------------------------------|----|-------|-------|-----------|----------------------|
| Boys who living with family | 60 | 26.68 | 11.10 | 2.64 | 0.01 |
| Girls who living with family | 60 | 21.40 | 10.83 | | |
| Boys who living in orphanage | 60 | 25.37 | 7.60 | 2.29 | 0.05 |
| Girls who living in orphanage | 60 | 26.07 | 10.37 | | |

Significant at: 0.01 Levels.

Chart 1:

Mean

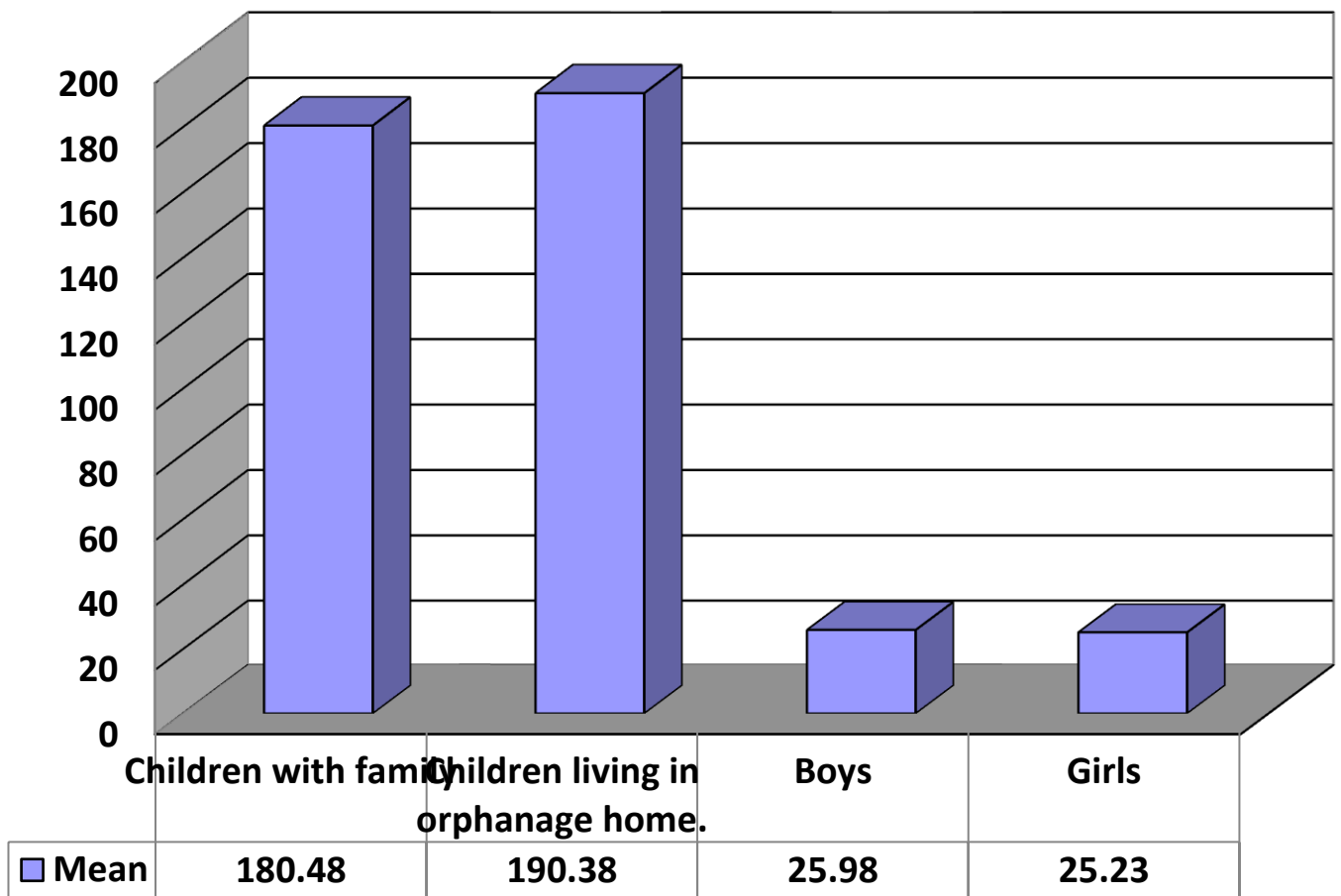
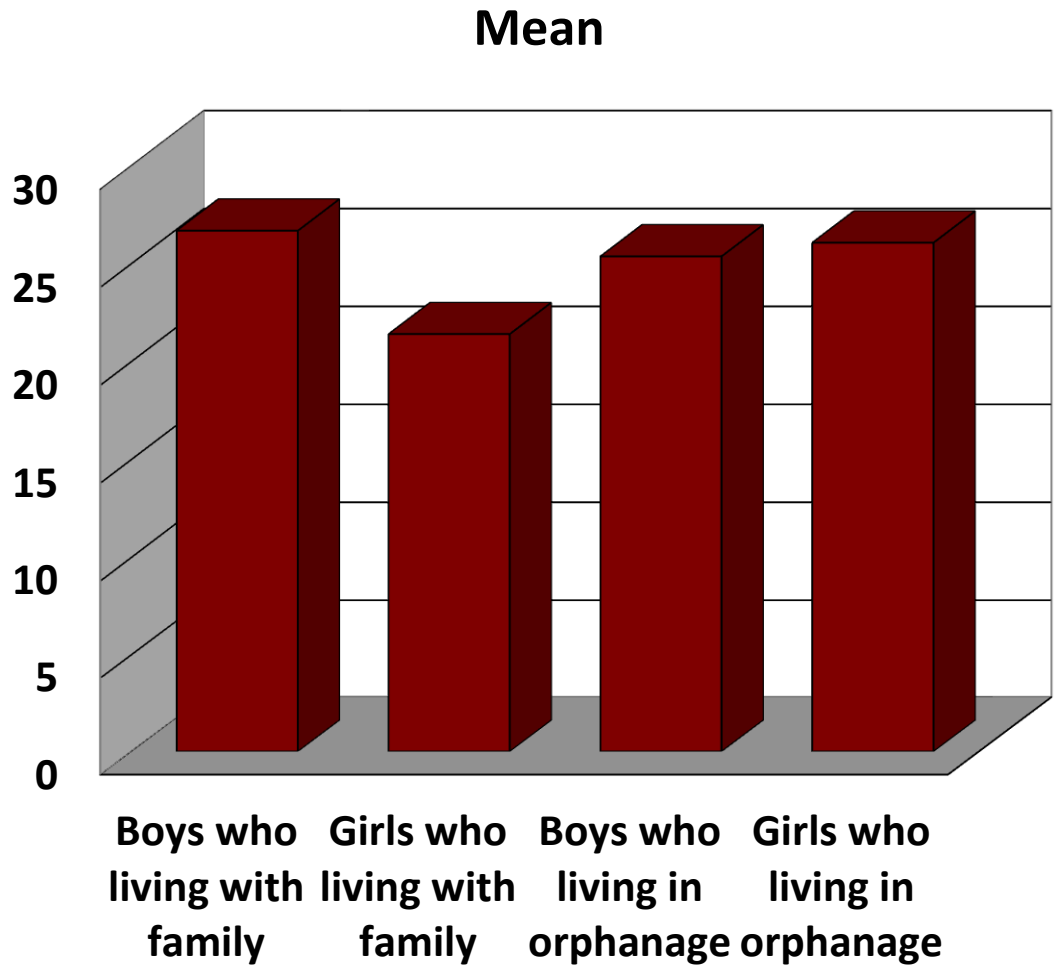


Chart.2:



Summary of the Finding:

1. The result show there is significant difference in the stress by cause types of residence. For the children who living in orphanage home mean score is lower and 't' value is significant at 0.01 level. It mean level of stress is more in those children who living in orphanage home.
2. The result show there is no significant difference in the level of stress by cause of gender. It means level of stress is similar in boys and girls.
3. The level of stress is more in boys who living with family than girls.
4. The level of stress is more in girls who living in orphanage than boys.

Limitation of the study.

The study was conducted in only Ahmedabad city (Gujarat) one of the most limitation of this study is small sample size of 240 children who living with family and living in orphanage home. The finding made in the study may be biased participants in sample selection for this research random method was used. The present research is only a part of the study, thus generalization should not be

consummated, and the scientific is not approached in the selection of sample. The conclusion of present research is partially significant.

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