

## PARENTAL ENCOURAGEMENT OF NEO YOUTHS IN THANJAVUR DISTRICT

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### ABSTRACT

The present study aims to know the level of parental encouragement of neo youths in Thanjavur district of Tamilnadu. The investigators adopted normative survey as a research method and used simple random sampling technique to draw 300 samples from various schools in and around Thanjavur. The findings of the study reveal that neo youths are receiving better parental encouragement.

**KEYWORDS:** Parental Encouragement, Neo Youths, Thanjavur, Tamilnadu

### INTRODUCTION

Parents have an all-encompassing influence on the way their children come to form attitudes. Children get their first exposure to the social world through their parents and other family members. They acquire initial knowledge about the people and places from their parents and very often imbibe their values and observations. The young children learn by observing and imitating their elders in the family. Parents provide categories, which their children pickup to form attitudes. Children often learn to categories other children as good or bad based on the categories supplied by their parents. They form attitudes about other social and religious groups on the basis of such categories defined by their parents. Thus families constitute the primary source of information for children. Imagine how much young children learn about the world from the stories told by their grandparents.

The behaviour of parents towards the child must make it feel comfortable and confirm in its mind that is basically accepted and approved of as a person. Parents should express their affection and provide support to the child in its everyday stress but this shouldn't go to the extremes of becoming overprotective and refusing to see the faults of our children. Parents should respect the individuality of children and at the same time set limits or standards for their behaviour. Also a parent shall never try to fulfill all wishes of children lest they become insensitive and unconcerned about others. On the grounds of providing warmth and affection a parent should not be hesitant to give training in independent behaviour to children from childhood onwards. During adolescence parent-child relationship must change to accommodate teenagers' increasing need to make decisions and to take greater responsibilities for their lives.

Children need encouragement in the form of praise, expressed interest and rewarded effort verbal, non-verbal, material or other rewards given judiciously to children for their appreciable efforts, behaviours and achievements can do wonders even among adolescents because the need for approval is high among them. Neo youths are fall between the age group 15 to 17 years. It is the stage the need right direction and consistent encouragement from the parents. Better encouragement leads better development of the neo youths in the society that leads better nation.

## OBJECTIVES

The investigator of the present study framed the following objectives:

- To study the parental encouragement of the neo youths.
- To study the significance of the difference between the following pairs of sub-samples with respect to their parental encouragement.
  - Gender [Male / Female]
  - Locality [Rural / Urban]
  - Family type [Joint / Nuclear]
  - Type of management
- To study the significance of the difference among the sub-samples of following demographic variables with respect to their parental encouragement.
  - Parental education [uneducated/ school/ college]
  - Parental occupation [Government/Non-Government/Agriculture/ Others]
  - Parental income [Low/Average/High]

## HYPOTHESES

- The parental encouragement of the neo youths is high.
- There is no significant difference between male and female neo youths with respect to their parental encouragement.
- There is no significant difference between the neo youths residing in rural areas and in urban areas with respect to their parental encouragement.
- There is no significant difference between the neo youths from joint family and from nuclear family with respect to their parental encouragement.
- There is no significant difference between the neo youths studying in Government schools and in private schools with respect to their parental encouragement.
- There is no significant difference among the sub-samples of parental education of the neo youths with respect to their parental encouragement.
- There is no significant difference among the sub-samples of parental occupation of the neo youths with respect to their parental encouragement.
- There is no significant difference among the sub-samples of parental income of the neo youths with respect to their parental encouragement.

## METHOD OF STUDY

In this present study, the investigators adopted normative survey as a method. The normative survey method studies, describes and interprets what exists at present.

## STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES

In this present investigation the following statistical techniques were used.

### Descriptive Analysis

- Measures of central tendency (Mean)
- Measures of variability (standard deviation)

### Differential Analysis

- Independent sample 't' test
- One way ANOVA 'F' test

## DELIMITATIONS

The present study is delimited to:

- Selected demographic variables.
- Thanjavur District.
- 300 samples.
- Neo youths.

### Sample

The present study consists of 300 neo youths studying in various schools in Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu. The sample has been collected by using simple random sampling technique. The sample forms a representative sample of the entire population. Due Proportionate weightage was given to various sub-samples.

### Variables

Variables are the conditions or characteristics that the researcher manipulates, controls or observes. Different variables selected by the investigator given the following sub-headings.

#### Dependent Variable

The dependent variables are the conditions or characteristics that appear, disappear, or change as the researcher introduces, removes, or change independent variables. For the present study, **Parental Encouragement** was taken as a dependent variable.

#### Independent Variable

The independent variables are the conditions or characteristics that the researcher manipulates, or controls in his/her attempt to ascertain their relationship to observed phenomena. It is used for meaningful interpretation of the dependent variable. For the present investigation, there are seven demographic variables, they are;

- Gender
- Locality
- Type of family
- Type of management
- Parental Education
- Parental Occupation and
- Parental Income

### **Tool Used**

The investigator of the present study used the Parental Encouragement Scale, it was constructed and Standardized by Suresh Kumar, M. and Freida Vinnarasy, A., (2008)

### **Description**

This scale consist as many as 30 statements. Among the 30 statements, 20 of them are positive and remaining 10 of them are negative statements, each statement was set against four point scale, such as Always, Sometimes, Rarely and Never.

### **Validity**

The Parental Encouragement was given to the experts in order to find out its content validity. The experts agreed that the items in the scale provided adequate coverage of the concept.

### **Reliability**

Reliability refers to the consistency with which a test measures, whatever it measures. The concept of reliability suggests both stability and consistency of measurement.

The following are some of the techniques which is used to compute the co-efficient of reliability:

- Test–retest method (co-efficient of stability).
- Parallel form (or) alternate form method (co-efficient of equivalence).
- Split – half technique (co-efficient of homogeneity).
- Rational equivalence (or) use of kuder – Richardson formula.

The co-efficient of internal consistency indicates how the test measures the individual's performance of a particular moment the split-half method and the kuder-richardson method. The co-efficient of equivalence measures the fluctuation in the sampling of the content of the test. This can be determined by the alternate or parallel form method. The co-efficient stability indicates the degree to which the scores of a test are stable over a period of time. It can be determined by the test-retest method.

In the present study, the co-efficient of internal consistency has been found out by the split-half method. It is found to be 0.89. The co-efficient of stability is also determined by the test-retest method. It is found to be 0.92.

### Percentile Norm

**Table 1**

S. No.	Percentile	Score Range	Norm
1.	Below P <sub>25</sub>	Upto 30	Low level of parental encouragement
2.	P <sub>25</sub> – P <sub>75</sub>	Between 31 and 60	Average level of parental encouragement
3.	Above P <sub>75</sub>	Above 60	High level of parental encouragement

### Administration

The investigators administered the Parental Encouragement scale with prior permission from the heads of the school situated in Thanjavur District. The questionnaire has been distributed to the neo youths with proper instructions. Whenever they ask doubt regarding the questionnaire, the investigators clarified the doubts immediately. In this way, all the questionnaires have been collected from the sample.

### Parental Encouragement Scores of Neo Youths

One of the important objectives of the present investigation is to study the parental encouragement of neo youths. For this, the investigator used a Parental Encouragement Scale; it was constructed and standardized by Suresh Kumar and by the investigator. The maximum score for this tool is 90 and a minimum score is 0. Hence, one who secures a score above 60 indicates high parental encouragement, a score between 30 and 60 indicates average level of parental encouragement and a score below 30 indicates the low parental encouragement. The computed values of entire sample and its sub-samples are given in the Table 1.

**Table 2: The Mean, Standard Deviation and Critical Ratio Values of Neo Youths in Their Parental Encouragement**

S. No	Variable	Sample	N	Mean	S.D	Critical Ratio Value	Ls
1	Gender	Male	174	65.82	13.97	6.66	Significant
		Female	126	74.61	8.82		
2	Locality	Rural	156	70.98	11.52	2.06	Significant
		Urban	144	67.92	13.96		
3	Family type	Joint	74	69.89	12.91	0.29	Not Significant
		nuclear	226	69.39	12.81		
4	Type of Management	Government	100	74.23	9.01	5.33	Significant
		Private	200	67.16	13.78		
5	Parental Education	Uneducated	28	65.61	15.53	1.49	Not Significant
		School	204	70.05	12.47		
		College	68	69.50	12.57		
6	Parental Occupation	Government	71	68.11	12.31	0.63	Not Significant
		Private	19	67.53	17.25		
		Agriculture	153	70.04	12.46		
		Others	57	70.50	12.86		
7	Parental Income	Low	188	71.16	12.10	4.77	Significant
		Average	87	67.33	13.54		
		High	25	64.68	13.67		
8	Entire Sample		300	69.31	12.82	-	-

It is evident from the Table 1., the calculated mean score of entire sample is found to be 69.31 and the standard deviation value is 12.82. The mean score of the neo youths is higher than the Percentile 75 of the scale (60). It indicates that the neo youths are having high level of parental encouragement. The mean values of selected sub samples of the study

also fall above the percentile value 75. Hence, it is inferred that neo youths are having high level of parental encouragement.

The calculated critical ratio values are found to be 6.66, 2.06, 0.29, 5.33, 1.49, 0.63 and 4.77 respectively for gender, locality, and family type, type of management, parental education, parental occupation and parental income. The critical ratio value of gender, locality, type of management and parental income shows significant at 0.05 level. Therefore, it is inferred that the sub samples of these variable differ significantly in their level of parental encouragement. But the remaining sub samples of the study do not differ significantly in their parental encouragement level.

### **Important Findings**

The hypotheses formulated at the beginning of the study have been examined in the light of the data gathered. The following are the main findings of the present investigation.

- The parental encouragement of the neo youths is high.
- The male and female neo youths differ significantly in their parental encouragement.
- The rural and urban area neo youths differ significantly in their parental encouragement.
- The nuclear and joint family neo youths do not differ significantly in their parental encouragement.
- The Government and private school neo youths differ significantly in their parental encouragement.
- The sub-samples of parental education of the neo youths do not differ significantly in their parental encouragement.
- The sub-samples of parental occupation of the neo youths do not differ significantly in their parental encouragement.
- The sub-samples of parental income of the neo youths differ significantly in their parental encouragement.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The present study gives a clear-cut view about the present position of neo youths' parental encouragement. Based on the important findings stated earlier the following recommendations made

- The parental encouragement of the neo youths is high. So, the present condition should be maintained for the harmonious development of the neo youths.
- Parental encouragement of female neo youths is better than male neo youths. It may be due to the attachment of female neo youths is better than their counterpart. The male neo youths should understand that without the support and encouragement from their parents they could not succeed in their life.
- Rural area neo youths receiving better motivation than the urban area neo youths. It may be due to the more number of working parents in urban area. So, the parents of urban area should understand the development of their wards by providing care and continuous encouragement for the betterment of their wards.
- This study also reveals that the less earning parents providing better encouragement to their wards than the high earning parents. So, the parents should understand that money could not buy all things and they should spent valuable time with their wards with positive rewards.
- Government school neo youths getting better parental encouragement than the private school neo youths. The parents those who sent their child to private school thought that the school will take care of their wards but in

reality it is not enough for the neo youths. So, the parents should realize the importance of their personal motivation and its impact on their children's development.

- The sub samples of family type and parental education are not showing any influence on the parental encouragement level so the policy makers and curriculum developers should not give much importance to these demographic variables for attitude formation. In addition with the above recommendation the Government and concerned authority should provide a harmonious environment to neo youths for a better nation.
- The parents should provide consistent encouragement to the wards for harmonious development of neo youths.

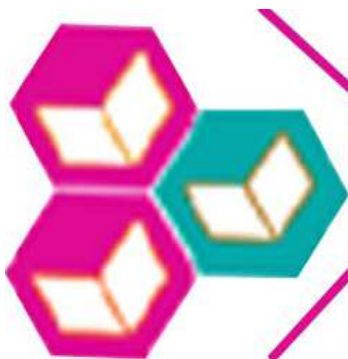
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