

HOME ENVIRONMENT OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

A. KRISHNAMOORTHY

Senior Lecturer, District Institute of Education and Training, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, India

ABSTRACT

The home is the first social unit of the child. The child starts here to understand himself and discovers the magnificence of the world around him. Home environment plays a significant role in overall development of the child. In the present investigation an attempt has been made to measure the level of home environment of high school students. 720 students of IX and X standard in Dindigul district was selected as sample. The major findings of the study were: 1. Parents education, 2. Family type and 3. community influence the home environment among high school students.

KEYWORDS: Environment, School Students

INTRODUCTION

The home environment plays a vital role in the development of a child's personality. The child constantly interacts with the family and is invariably influenced by the entire environment characterized by human care, particularly by the mother and at the same time providing various experiences and stimulations (Caldwell, 1967)

Home environment is the most important institution for the existence and continuance of human life and the development of various personality traits. An ideal home environment is one where there is proper reward to strengthen the desired behavior, a keen interest in and love for the child, provision of opportunities to express its views freely, where parents put less restrictions to discipline the child, not preventing the child from acting independently and not continuing infantile care, optimum use of physical and affective punishment, where the children are not compelled to act according to parental desires and expectations.

Adequate facilities and educational environment given by the parents in the home may cause for better performance of child. Parents should approve, appreciate and encourage in child's all activities. It leads to make home environment is in good condition. Hence the good home environment has an important factor for child's overall development.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

Home occupies the first and the most significant place for over all development of children. It not only provides the hereditary transmission of basic potentials for the development, but also provides environmental condition, personal relationships, cultural pattern and emotional state among its members. Academic achievement of the child depends on their home environment. In modern era life style changed due parent's educational level, socio-economic status, type of family, etc. The good home environment facilitates better educational performance among students. Hence the investigator proposed the study on Home Environment and Academic Achievement of High School Students.

METHODOLOGY

Sample

The investigator adopted survey technique for the present study. A sample of 720 students of standard IX and X was selected on the basis of stratified random sampling technique in Dindigul district.

Tools Used

Home Environment Scale was constructed and standardized by the investigator. It contains 25 items with two responses Yes or No. Out of 25 items 13 are positive and 12 are negative items. The reliability of the scale was 0.868

Objectives of the Study

- To find out the level of home environment of the high school students.
- To test whether there is significant difference in the mean scores of home environment between
 - Students of illiterate and literate father.
 - Students of illiterate and literate mother.
 - Joint and Nuclear family
 - Family income of above 1 lakh and below 1 lakh
 - Non SC/ST and SC/ST.

Hypotheses of the Study

The hypotheses of the study are:

- Level of home environment of the high school students is moderate.
- There is significant difference in the mean scores of home environment between
 - Father's Educational Qualification -Illiterate and Literate.
 - Mother's Educational Qualification -Illiterate and Literate.
 - Joint family and Nuclear family.
 - Income above 1 lakh and below 1 lakh.
 - Non SC/ST and SC/ST

Data Analysis and Interpretation of the Study

Table 1

Group	Mean	Maximum Score	%	Level of Home Environment
Illiterate Father	19.23	25	76.92	Good
Literate Father	20.99	25	83.96	Excellent
Illiterate Mother	18.75	25	75.00	Good
Literate Mother	20.69	25	82.76	Excellent
Joint Family	18.76	25	75.04	Good
Nuclear Family	21.16	25	84.64	Excellent
Above 1 lakh	20.47	25	81.88	Excellent
Below 1 lakh	20.06	25	80.24	Excellent
Non SC/ST	20.77	25	83.08	Excellent
SC/ST	19.05	25	76.20	Good

From the table 1 it is found that the students of literate father, literate mother, nuclear family, family annual income above 1 lakh, below 1 lakh, non SC/ST and whole students have excellent (mean value greater than 20.00 (above 80%)) home environment.

The students of illiterate father, illiterate mother, joint family, and SC/ST have good (mean value between 15.00 and 19.99 (60% to 80%)) home environment.

Table 2

Variables	Group	N	Mean	SD	"T" Value	Level Of Significance
Fathers' Educational Level	Illiterate	182	19.23	4.93	4.14	0.001
	Literate	538	20.99	5.05		
Mothers' Educational Level	Illiterate	267	18.75	5.21	10.77	0.001
	Literate	453	20.69	5.79		
Type of Family	Joint Family	225	18.76	5.51	5.60	0.001
	Nuclear Family	495	21.16	4.92		
Family Income	Above 1 lakh	142	20.47	4.53	0.95	N S
	Below 1 lakh	578	20.06	4.80		
Community	Non SC/ST	581	20.77	5.58	3.61	.001
	SC/ST	139	19.05	5.53		

The table 2 reveals that

- There is significant difference between the students' of illiterate father and literate father in their home environment score at 0.001 level of significant. Students of literate father have greater home environment score than the students of illiterate father. Father's educational qualification influences the home environment among the school students.
- There is significant difference between the students' of illiterate mother and literate mother in their home environment score at 0.001 level of significant. Students of literate mother have greater home environment score than the students of illiterate mother. Mother's educational qualification influences the home environment among the school students.

- There is significant difference between the Joint Family and Nuclear Family students in their mean home environment score at 0.001 level of significant. Nuclear family students have greater home environment score than the joint family students. Type of Family influences the home environment among school students.
- There is no significant difference between the students of Family income above 1 lakh and below 1 lakh in their mean home environment score. It indicates that the family income doesn't influence home environment. Tamilnadu State Government provides free education to all school going students in government and aided schools.
- There is significant difference between the Non SC/ST and SC/ST students in their mean home environment score at 0.001 level of significant. Non SC/ST students have greater home environment score than the SC/ST students.

Educational Implications of the Study

- Findings of the study will be useful to the teachers for understanding the level of home environment of the high school students.
- Findings of the study will be useful for parents and they will try to making their home environment in excellent condition.
- The present status of home environment of high school students is given in this study.
- From the findings of the study the teacher can categorize their students and adapt suitable instructional strategies for class room activities based on the level of student's home environment.

CONCLUSIONS

The investigator concludes that, this study trace the home environment of high school students. The student of illiterate father and mother, SC/ST community students have less home environment than the other groups of the students. The government and school education department may enhance their home environment through proper training and financial support.

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