**Fathers’ Parental Authority And Emotional Maturity Among Young Adults**

Anshika Srivastava

(Amity University Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India)

**ABSTRACT**

This research aims to examine Fathers' Parental Authority and Emotional Maturity among young adults. Data were collected from 100 young adults through a structured questionnaire assessing perceptions of the Father's Parental Authority and Emotional Maturity. The findings revealed that there are slight differences in mean scores between males and females across these variables.

**Keywords-** Parental Authority, Emotional Maturity, Young Adults.

The four primary forms of parenting behavior identified by Diana Baumrind's theory of parenting styles are responsiveness (warmth and support) and demandingness (control and expectations). These fashions consist of:

1. Authoritative Parenting -These parents are very demanding and highly responsive. They establish firm boundaries and are kind and encouraging. Youngsters exhibit good academic performance, social competence, and self-discipline

2. Authoritarian Parenting -These parents are very demanding and not very receptive. They employ punishment, are severe, and demand obedience. Even if they may be obedient, children frequently struggle with social skills, anxiety, and low self-esteem.

3. Permissive Parenting- These parents are lowly demanding and highly responsive. They have little boundaries, are indulgent, and lenient. Children who struggle with authority and self-discipline may have high self-esteem, but they may also perform poorly in school.

Emotional maturity refers to the ability to understand, manage, and respond to emotions in a healthy and constructive manner.

The present study aims to measure the father’s parental authority and emotional maturity among male and female young adults.

***Objectives***

To measure Father’s Parental Authority among Young Adults.

To draw a comparison between the scores of male and female young adults.

***Sample***

The sample comprised 50 young adults with 25 male and 25 female participants.

***Instruments***

**The Parental Authority Questionnaire (PAQ)** -The Parental Authority Questionnaire (PAQ) includes 30 questions that provide scores for permissiveness, authoritarianism, and authoritativeness. These scores are based on how sons or daughters perceive their parents' authority. For this study, The Parental Authority Questionnaire pertaining to fathers was used.

**Emotional Maturity Scale by Singh & Bhargava (1990)-** The Emotional Maturity Scale is a self-reporting scale on a five-point Likert scale. There are 48 items in total.

**Results**

***Table 1: Showing Mean and Standard Deviation for Father’s Parental Authority***

| **S.no.** | **Variables** | **N** | **Mean** | **Std. Deviation** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Permissiveness | 50 | 32.80 | 4.48 |
| 2 | Authoritarianism | 50 | 26.20 | 6.30 |
| 3 | Authoritativeness | 50 | 36.16 | 7.88 |

***Table 2. Showing Meana and Standard Deviation for Males and Females for Fathers’ Parental Authority and Emotional Maturity***

| **S. No.** | **Variable** | **Gender** | **N** | **Mean** | **Std. Deviation** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Permissiveness | Male | 25 | 33.44 | 0.91 |
|  |  | Female | 25 | 32.16 | 0.87 |
| 2 | Authoritarianism | Male | 25 | 27.44 | 1.56 |
|  |  | Female | 25 | 24.96 | 1.58 |
| 3 | Authoritativeness | Male | 25 | 36.88 | 1.11 |
|  |  | Female | 25 | 3.44 | 1.40 |
| 4 | Emotional Maturity | Male | 25 | 8.88 | 2.06 |
|  |  | Female | 25 | 10.32 | 1.77 |

***Discussion***

From the results, it can be derived that, on an average, young adults report experiencing higher level of Father’s Authoritativeness, followed by Father’s Permissiveness while father’s authoritarianism is experienced the least.

The mean permissiveness score for females is slightly higher than that of males. Additionally, the standard deviations for both genders are relatively similar, indicating comparable variability in permissiveness scores within each group.

The mean authoritarianism score for males is higher than that of females. This suggests that, on average, males report experiencing higher levels of father’s authoritarianism compared to females. The difference in means is approximately 3.58 points. Furthermore, the standard deviation for males is slightly higher than that of females, indicating slightly greater variability in authoritarianism scores among males.

The mean authoritativeness score for females is slightly higher than that of males. This suggests that, on average, females report experiencing slightly higher levels of authoritativeness compared to males. The difference in means is approximately 0.82 points. The standard deviations for both genders indicate comparable variability in authoritativeness scores within each group.

The mean emotional maturity score for females is slightly higher than that of males. This suggests that, on average, females tend to exhibit slightly higher levels of emotional maturity compared to males. The difference in means is approximately 2.80 points. The standard deviations for both genders indicate comparable variability in emotional maturity scores within each group.

**Conclusion**

While there are slight differences in mean scores between males and females across these variables, the practical significance of these differences may be minimal. Further analysis, such as inferential statistical tests, would be necessary to determine if these differences are statistically significant.

**References**

American Psychological Association. (2018). Emotional maturity. *In APA dictionary of psychology*. Retrieved from<https://dictionary.apa.org/emotional-maturity>

Baumrind, D. (1971). Current patterns of parental authority. *Developmental Psychology Monographs*.

Buri, J. R. (1991). Parental Authority Questionnaire. *Journal of Personality Assessment, 57*(1), 110–119. [https://doi.org/10.1207/s15327752jpa5701\_13](https://psycnet.apa.org/doi/10.1207/s15327752jpa5701_13)

Singh,Y. & Bhargava, M. (1990). Manual for emotional maturity scale. National Psychological Corporation, Agra.