

A STUDY ON PARENTAL ENCOURAGEMENT AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF THE HIGHER SECONDARY 2ND YEAR STUDENTS OF LAKHIMPUR DISTRICT OF ASSAM

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ABSTRACT:

In the rapidly changing emerging society, the place of education has become very crucial. Quality of performance is considered as the indicator for personal development. Academic achievement plays a very significant and vital role in the fulfillment of the aims of life of an individual. At the time of admission, for entrance to any kind of job, for scholarships, for further studies and so on, the scholastic record is the main base. It portrays the individual. Parent today set high ambition to educate the children. They expect that their child climbs the ladder of success to the highest possible level. The support given by parents exerts significant influence on children's interest, aspirations, attitudes and achievement. People who encourage their child to do their academic activities in a better way definitely help to achieve better result and motivate them to progress more. Because mostly the greater motivator and role models of children are parents. When parents are highly educated and ambitious definitely their children also imitate their parents and try to make idol life through good education and high degree of achievement. In fact, academic achievement is related with parental encouragement. In this background, the present study was an attempt to see the relationship between parental encouragement and academic achievement of the Higher Secondary 2nd year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.

Index terms: Parental Encouragement, Academic Achievement

INTRODUCTION

In the age of knowledge explosion and instant global communications, education emerges as the key factor and essential passport for individual and social development. Education shapes the destiny of a nation. Along with human resource development, education forms the hub of every social and economic development doctrines. In this rapidly changing society, the place of education has become very crucial. Parent today set high ambition to educate the children. They expect that their child climbs the ladder of success to the highest possible level. Quality of performance is considered as the indicator for personal development.

Academic achievement plays a very significant and vital role in the fulfillment of the aims of life of an individual. At the time of admission, for entrance to any kind of job, for scholarships, for further studies and so on, the academic record is the main base. The educational institutions also today intend to stress scholastic achievement of the students. Sometimes, it appears as if the whole system of education revolves round the scholastic achievement of the students, though various other outcomes are also expected from the system.

Thus, the expectation for high level of performance puts a lot of pressure on parents, teachers, administrators, students and as a whole educational system itself. Everybody involved in the educational system, therefore, tries to maximize the quantity and quality of their output. So, the significance of academic achievement has increased manifold in the present socio-economic and educational scenario. But, in spite of uniform pedagogical, infrastructural and environmental facilities in the educational institutions students differ in their academic performance.

In fact, academic achievement is the product variable which gets toned up or down by the positive or negative impact of number of variables which are known as correlates or associated variables of academic achievement. Some of these factors or variables could be the intelligence, emotional intelligence, anxiety, attitude, achievement motivation, study habit, adjustment, self concept, interest, personal dimensions, educational aspiration, parental encouragement, home environment, socio economic status, medium of study at higher secondary and graduation level, settlement etc.

The support given by parents exerts significant influence on children's interest, aspirations, attitudes and achievement. People who encourage their child to do their academic activities in a better way definitely help to achieve better result and motivate them to progress more. Because mostly the greater motivator and role models of children are parents. When parents are highly educated and ambitious definitely their children also imitate their parents and try to make idol life through good education and high degree of achievement. In fact, academic achievement is related with parental encouragement. In this background, the present study was an attempt to see the relationship between parental encouragement and academic achievement of the Higher Secondary 2nd year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

1. To study the levels of Parental Encouragement of the Higher Secondary 2nd year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.
2. To study the levels of Academic Achievement of the Higher Secondary 2nd students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.
3. To study the relationship between Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement of the Higher Secondary 2nd year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY:

1. There is a significant relationship between Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement of the Higher Secondary 2nd year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.

METHODOLOGY:

METHOD:

On the basis of the nature of the study Descriptive Method was used in the present study.

POPULATION:

The population of the present study comprises of all the students studying in Class XII in the Provincialised Higher Secondary schools of Lakhimpur District of Assam.

SAMPLE OF THE STUDY:

By using combination of both purposive and incidental sampling techniques samples of the present study were selected for the present study.

There are 29 Provincialised Higher Secondary schools in the Lakhimpur District. Out of these 29 Higher Secondary schools the investigator had purposively selected 10 schools using non probability sampling technique (purposive sampling).

All the available students (517) at the time of data collection in this sampled school constituted the sample of the study. In this context, incidental sampling technique had been used.

TOOLS USED IN THE PRESENT STUDY:

According to the nature of the problem the investigator had decided to adapt the Parental Encouragement Scale (PES) developed by Dr. (Mrs.) Kusum Agarwal. The scale developed by Dr. Kusum Agarwal and adapted by the investigator is a questionnaire designed to collect information regarding encouragement given by the parents towards their children for better achievement. The scale consist of 80 statement where the respondents had to required ticked mark against each statement in appropriate box, where always, most often, frequently, sometimes, never had been given.

COLLECTION OF DATA:

The Investigator personally visited the sampled Higher Secondary Schools and sought permission for data collection from the principal. After receiving verbal permission from the principal, the investigator started to collect data from the available students in class XII using PES. At the time of collection of data the instructions of the test booklet were readout before the students. After establishment of proper rapport with the sampled students, the investigator asked them to give their responses against the items include in the test booklet. After completion of the task, filled in questionnaire were collected by the investigator.

Later on, the Percentage of marks obtained by the Higher Secondary Second year students in their Higher Secondary First year Annual Examinations were collected from the Principal of the concerned Higher Secondary Schools.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA:

Percentage, mean, standard deviation, skewness, kurtosis were used to study the level of academic achievement and parental encouragement. Product moment co-efficient of correlation was used to find out the relationship between academic achievement and parental encouragement.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:

1. LEVELS OF PARENTAL ENCOURAGEMENT OF HIGHER SECONDARY 2ND YEAR STUDENTS OF LAKHIMPUR DISTRICT OF ASSAM:

The result of the study regarding levels of Parental Encouragement of Higher Secondary Second year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam has been presented below-

The Parental Encouragement scale prepared by Dr.(Mrs.) Kusum Agarwal was used in the present study. The scale contains 80 items. The responses of the subjects were assigned numerical values, ranging from 1 to 5, depending upon the degree of perceived Parental Encouragement. All the scores are added and the summated score on the all 80 items is the Parental Encouragement score of the respondent. Thus the minimum raw score that the respondents may obtain on the scale is 80. And the maximum raw score that the respondents may obtain on the scale is 400. A high score on the scale indicates high Parental Encouragement while a low score indicate poor Parental Encouragement of the respondents. In the present study, raw scores obtained by the respondents on the Parental Encouragement scale are considered to be the Parental Encouragement score of the respondent.

An arbitrary categorization of Parental Encouragement scores obtained by the respondents on the Parental Encouragement scale were divided equally into five main categories, i.e.- High (scores ranges from 320-400), Medium (scores ranges from 240-320), Low (scores ranges from 160-240), Very Low (scores ranges from 80-160).

The table 1 shows the distribution of the Parental Encouragement scores of the Higher Secondary Second year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.

Table-1.

Distribution of Parental Encouragement scores of the respondents
(Figures in bold face indicates percentage of respective totals.)

Category	Distribution of Parental Encouragement scores	No. of Higher Secondary Second year students
High	320-400	136(26.30)
Medium	240-320	375(72.53)
Low	160-240	6 (1.16)
Very Low	80-160	0 (0)
Total		517

The table 1 shows that, the numbers of respondents (136) are fall in the High category, whereas the highest numbers of respondents (375) fall in the Medium category while less number of respondents (6) falls in the Low category. On the other hand, No respondent falls in the Very Low category.

Table No.2

Levels of Parental Encouragement of the respondents

Variable	Mean	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Kurtosis
Parental Encouragement	301.65	305	30.14	-0.42	0.24

The table 2 shows that the computed value of Mean and Standard Deviation of the distribution of Parental Encouragement scores are 301.65 and 30.14 respectively. The computed value of skewness of Parental Encouragement is -0.42 which is negatively skewed or to the left. It indicates that the scores are massed at the higher end of the scale.

2. LEVELS OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF HIGHER SECONDARY 2ND YEAR STUDENTS OF LAKHIMPUR DISTRICT OF ASSAM:

The result of the study regarding levels of Academic Achievement of the Higher Secondary Second year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam has been presented below-

An Arbitrary categorization of Academic Achievement (percentage of marks) of the respondents i.e.- High (who scored 60% and above), Medium (who scored between 50%-60%) and Low (who scored below 50%) shows a clear distribution of the Higher Secondary Second year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam on the basis of their Academic Achievement.

The table 3 shows the distribution of the Scores of Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Second year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.

Table No.-3

Academic Achievement wise distribution of the respondents (Figures in bold face indicates percentage of respective totals.)

Category	No. of Higher Secondary second year students.
High(who scored 60% and above)	54 (10.44)
Medium(who scored between 50%-60%)	222 (42.94)
Low(who scored below 50%)	281 (54.35)
Total	517

The table 3 shows that very few respondents (54) fall in the High Academic Achievement category. In the medium category, there are 222 respondents. And highest numbers of respondents (281) fall in the Low category.

Table No.-4

Levels of Academic Achievement of the Respondents

variable	Mean	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Kurtosis
Academic Achievement	37.64	35.8	8	1.25	1.89

The table 4 shows that the computed value of Mean and Standard Deviation of the distribution of Academic Achievement scores are 37.64, and 08.00 respectively.

The computed value of skewness of Academic Achievement is 1.25 which is positively skewed or to the right. It indicates that the scores are massed at the lower end of the scale.

3. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARENTAL ENCOURAGEMENT AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF HIGHER SECONDARY SECOND YEAR STUDENTS OF LAKHIMPUR DISTRICT OF ASSAM:

To study the relationship between Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement of the Higher Secondary Second year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam the following research hypothesis and null hypothesis were formulated.

Research Hypothesis: There is a significant relationship between Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary 2nd year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.

Null Hypothesis: There is no significant relationship between Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary 2nd year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.

In order to test the hypothesis, Product Moment co-efficient of correlation (r) was calculated.

Table No. 5 shows the Product Moment co-efficient of correlation (r) between Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Second year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.

Table No.-5

Relationship between Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement of respondents

Variable	Product –moment coefficient of correlation (r)	Significant
Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement	0.17	0.01 level

The Product –moment coefficient of correlation (r) between Parental Encouragement of the Higher Secondary Second year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam and their Academic Achievement is 0.17 .The ‘r’ is significant at .01 level. It indicates a positive correlation between Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Second year students of Lakhimpur District, Assam. Therefore the null hypothesis is rejected and the research hypothesis that “There is a significant relationship between Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement of the Higher Secondary 2nd year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam.” may be accepted.

SUGGESTION AND CONCLUSION:

The study revealed a clear picture on Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Second year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam. There is a positive significant relationship between Parental Encouragement and Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Second year students of Lakhimpur District of Assam. In this context, proper coordination between the school and parents will make parents more aware about their responsibilities to uplift their child’s achievement. So that, parents may make arrangements for more educational facilities, intellectual stimulation, better learning environment, availability of minimum basic facilities, scope for more exposure, proper career guidance, tuitions, learning materials to boost-up their academic achievement.

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