

ROLE PRESSURE AND CONFLICT AMONG ADOLESCENTS

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ABSTRACT

Adolescence is the period of psychological and social transition between childhood to adulthood. Adolescents struggle with their anxieties, conflicts and confusion. Family problems, financial problems, harassment, backwardness in a particular subject, role pressure may also frustrate an individual who is motivated to learn a particular course or choose a particular career, conflicting desires or aims, individual's moral values, code of ethics and high ideas which also lead to pressure and conflict. Therefore an attempt was made to know the role pressure and conflict among adolescents across different socio-economic status. For the aim a complete sample of three hundred adolescents from 6 schools of Lucknow district were arbitrarily chosen, whereby one hundred fifty boys and one hundred fifty girls were further selected for this study. Hundred fifty boys & equal number of girls were further divided into fifty respondents belonging to lower, middle and higher Socio-economic status. For the study Bisht Battery of stress scale by Abha rani Bisht and Socio-economic scale by Kuppu swami was used. It was found that the adolescent girls from lower socio-economic status followed by upper and middle socio-economic group were suffering from moderate level role pressure and conflict whereas adolescent boys from middle socio-economic group followed by upper socio-economic group and lower socio-economic group were having moderate role pressure and conflict.

Keywords: Adolescents, Role, Pressure, Conflict, Socio-economic status

INTRODUCTION:

Changes includes the efforts to grasp one's self, changes occur within the social contexts of adolescents lives and their relation with parents and peers. In the late adolescents period there occurs so many psychological changes in which there is pressure from parents as well as from peers to play the appropriate role in the society. Parental pressure is "behaviour perceived by youngsters as indicating expectation of unlikely, even impossible heights of accomplishment". The conflicts that arise between an adolescent and his parentages do not limit themselves to differences of opinion a large issues. There typically is constant argument regarding matters which will appear comparatively trivial to the parent, although they loom large in the mind of the developing adolescents. Conflicts could arise between the adolescent and his families that are totally different to resolve if neither is willing or ready to negotiation. The conflicts may be due to a number of factors already discussed concerning the maturation of the adolescents and the maturation of the parents: the biological changes of puberty, cognitive changes relating increased idealism and logical reasoning, social changes focused on

independence and identity, violated expectations and physical, cognitive and social changes in parents associated with middle adulthood. There is typically an absence of communication between mature adults and adolescents. Some individuals who have phenomenal will power overcome all such obstacles but sometimes the obstacles that obstruct an individual's objective are so caused as to be un-surmountable. In such a scenario, it's solely natural for one's to be annoyed.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Malhotra (2005) found that children living under conditions of perpetual stress and trauma; experiencing breakdown of societal and family structure is tremendously effected in their ability to live healthy, happy and productive life. Several adults' disorders are thought to be caused by problems during childhood.

Agnew (1992), Brezinia (1996), Kalpan (1986) Role stress is as an antecedent to aggression has been documented in both the stress and deviant literature.

Agnew (1992) and Kalpan (1986) In general scholars argue that the person under severe role stress may resort to conventional and /or unconventional coping responses in order to assuage the emotional pains induced by such stress.

Kalpan(1986),Use of aggression thus may constitute one of the unconventional and deviant coping responses to severe role stress.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

1. To find out the role pressure among male and female adolescents of upper, middle and lower socio-economic group.
2. To study the role conflict among male and female adolescents of upper, middle and lower socio-economic group.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The present study was conducted in Lucknow city, drawing sample from the six schools of the city. The sample for the study was collected adopting stratified random sampling technique. The sample for the study consisted of 300 adolescents of class 7 to12 between the age group of 12-18 years, studying in co-educational Senior Secondary schools belonging to lower, middle and upper socio-economic groups. A total sample of 300 adolescents was selected, wherein 150 boys and 150 girls were selected for the present study. Hundred

fifty boys & equal number of girls were further divided into 50 respondents each belonging to lower, middle and upper Socio-economic Status.

TOOLS USED:

Bisht Battery of stress scale (BBSS) by Dr. Abha Rani Bisht and Socio-economic status scale by Kuppu Swami were administered for data collection.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Table 1.1:- Distribution of adolescents in reference to their role pressure across socio-economic groups

S.N.	Stress level	Male (n=150)						Female (n=150)					
		Socio-economic groups						Socio-economic groups					
		Upper		Middle		Lower		Upper		Middle		Lower	
		F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
1.	High	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	02	00	00	02	04
2.	Moderate	37	74	42	84	31	62	41	82	40	80	46	92
3.	Low	13	26	08	16	19	38	08	16	10	20	02	04

F = Frequency

P = Percentage

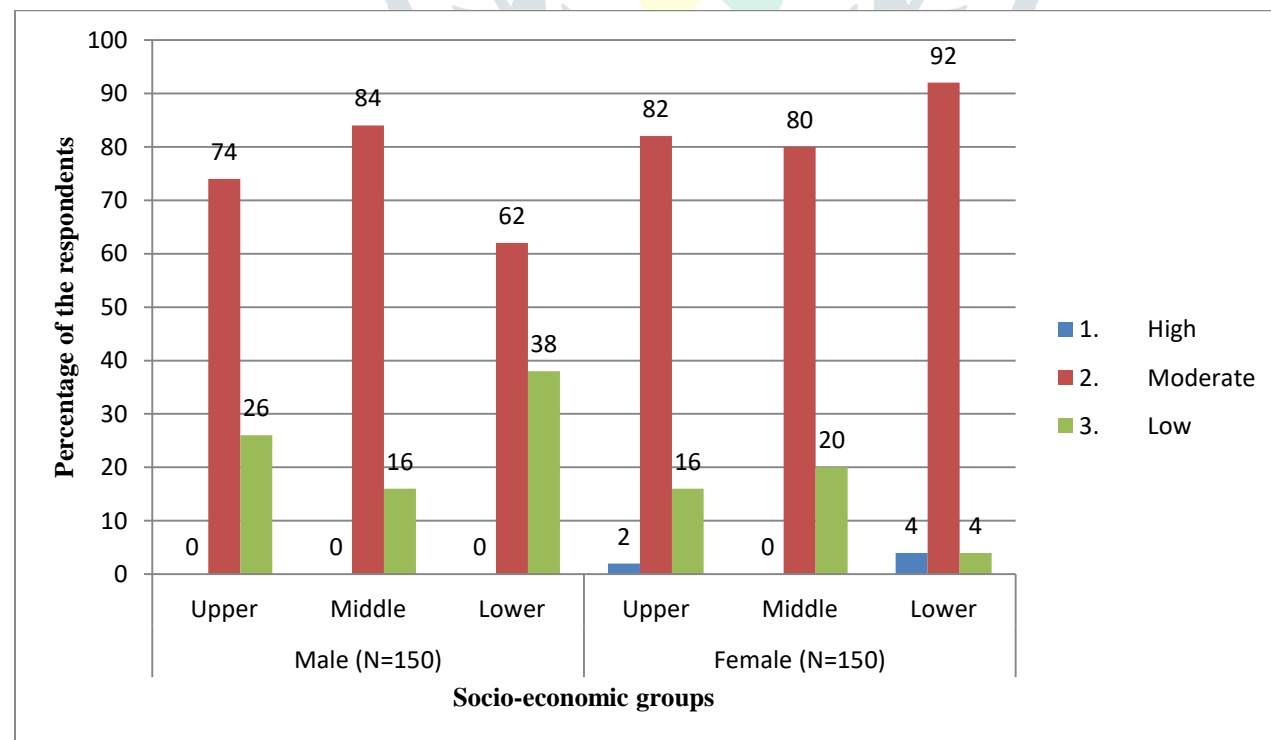


Table 1.1:- Distribution of adolescents in reference to their role pressure across socio-economic groups

Table 1.1 and Figure 1.1 shows the distribution of adolescents in reference to their role pressure across socio-economic groups. The results revealed that 74 per cent male and 82 per cent female respondents from the upper socio-economic group followed by the middle socio-economic group. I.e. majority of the male 84 per cent and 80 per cent female and majority of the female i.e. 92 per cent and 62 per cent male respondents from the lower socio-economic group were going through moderate role pressure. Table also reveals that 26 per cent male and 16 per cent female respondents from the lower socio-economic group, 16 per cent male and 20 per cent female from the middle and 38 per cent male and 4 per cent female from the lower socio-economic group were having a low level of role pressure. Only 2 per cent female from the upper socio-economic group and 4 per cent from the lower socio-economic group female respondents were having a high level of role pressure and no male adolescent across the socio-economic groups were suffering from high level of role pressure.

It is clear from the above results that the findings of role pressure are similar to the result of role conflict in which most of the adolescent girls from the lower socio-economic status followed by the upper and middle socio-economic group were having moderate role pressure whereas adolescent boys from the middle socio-economic group followed by the upper socio-economic group and the lower socio-economic group were having moderate role pressure. Adolescents are in pressure that which type of role they have to play according to their socio-economic status in the society. The expectations of the family and society about role play cause role pressure among the adolescents of each socio-economic group. No reference was found related to the study.

Malhotra (2005) also found that children living under conditions of perpetual stress and trauma; experiencing breakdown of societal and family structure is tremendously effected in their ability to live healthy, happy and productive life. Several adults' disorders are thought to be caused by problems during childhood.

Table 1.2:- Distribution of adolescents in reference to their role conflict across Socio-economic groups

S.N.	Stress level	Male (n=150)						Female (n=150)					
		Socio-economic groups						Socio-economic groups					
		Upper		Middle		Lower		Upper		Middle		Lower	
		F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
1.	High	00	00	01	02	04	08	01	02	00	00	03	06
2.	Moderate	39	78	41	82	25	50	43	86	42	84	45	90
3.	Low	11	22	08	16	21	42	06	12	08	16	02	04

F = Frequency

P = Percentage

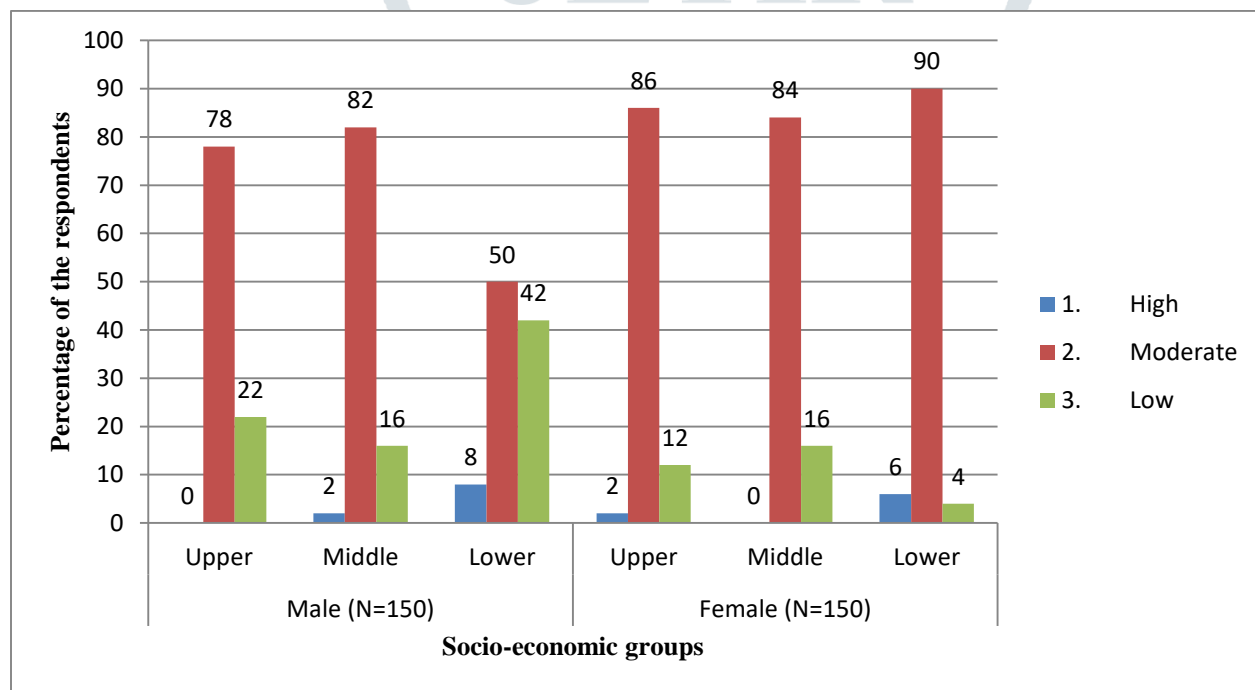


Table 1.2:- Distribution of adolescents in reference to their role conflict across Socio-economic groups

Table 1.2 and Figure.1.2 reveals the distribution of adolescents in reference to their role conflict across socio-economic groups table indicated that 78 per cent male and 86 per cent female respondents from upper socio-economic group, 82 per cent male and 84 per cent female adolescents from middle socio-economic group and 50 per cent male and majority of the female from lower socio-economic group i.e. 90 per cent were feeling moderate level of role conflict. More male (22 %) than female(12 %) from upper socio-economic group where as equal number of male and female respondents(16 %) from middle socio-economic group, more adolescent

boys (42 %) than girls (04 %) from lower socio-economic group were found having low level of role conflict whereas only 2 to 8 per cent respondents across socio-economic group were having high role conflict.

It is clear from the table that most of the girls and boys from middle socio-economic group were having moderate role conflict it may be because the adolescents are confused about their appropriate roles in the society. They think that what they are doing and what society expects from them. If they play egalitarian role they are criticized by the society so adolescents of middle socio-economic group feel role conflict.

The study was also supported by study conducted by **Musgrove (2011)**, in which the role-conflicts of a group of adolescents (and pre-adolescents) were assessed by asking the subjects to indicate how they would behave ideally, how they thought they in fact behaved, and how they thought various adult authorities and their friends expected them to behave. The result indicated that there were no social-class differences within particular types of school. Teachers, mothers, fathers (and bosses) were seen by all groups to have substantially the same expectations; but there was greater conflict between self-conception and perceived expectations of friends. The grammar school pupils' conception of their role stood midway between the perceived expectations of friends and of adults; the modern school children did not so generally see themselves between such extreme and conflicting demands.

CONCLUSION:

The study concluded that the role pressure is similar to the result of role conflict in which most of the adolescent girls from lower socio-economic status followed by upper and middle socio-economic group were having moderate role pressure whereas adolescent boys from middle socio-economic group followed by upper socio-economic group and lower socio-economic group were having moderate role pressure.

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