To Study The Learning Disability Among The Children Under The Age Group 3-11 and Effect on Their Psychosocial Aspects.

Masrat Majeed, Dr Neetee Mehta

Introduction

Learning Disorder is not single disorder but include disabilities in any of seven areas related to Reading, Language and Mathematics. These separate types of learning disabilities frequently co-occur with one-another and with Social Skill Deficits and Emotional or Behavioral Disorder. Approximately 7% of all school children under the age group of 3-6 years are identified as Learning Disability in the Composite Regional Centre (CRC) according the Survey done during the period of 2018. Using many tests and assessments, it was found that these children with LD are also attributed to other emotional or behavioral disorders. While learning disability, learning disorder and learning difficulty are often used interchangeably, they differ in many ways. Disorder refers to significant learning problems in an academic area. These problems, however, are not enough to warrant an official diagnosis. Learning disability, on the other hand, is an official clinical diagnosis, whereby the individual meets certain criteria, as determined by a professional (psychologist, pediatrician, etc.). The difference is in degree, frequency, and intensity of reported symptoms and problems, and thus the two should not be confused. When the term "learning disorder" is used, it describes a group of disorders characterized by inadequate development of specific academic, language, and speech skills. Types of learning disorders include reading (Dyslexia), mathematics (Dyscalculia) and writing (Dysgraphia).

Dyslexia: Dyslexia, also known as reading disorder, is characterized by trouble with reading despite normal intelligence. Different people are affected to varying degrees. Problems may include difficulties in spelling words, reading quickly, writing words, "sounding out" words in the head, pronouncing words when reading aloud and understanding what one reads. Often
these difficulties are first noticed at school. When someone who previously could read loses their ability, it is known as alexia. The difficulties are involuntary and people with this disorder have a normal desire to learn. Dyslexia is believed to be caused by both genetic and environmental factors. Some cases run in families. It may begin in adulthood as the result of a traumatic brain injury, stroke, or dementia. The underlying mechanisms of dyslexia are problems within the brain's language processing. Dyslexia is diagnosed through a series of tests of memory, spelling, vision, and reading skills. Dyslexia is separate from reading difficulties caused by hearing or vision problems or by insufficient teaching.

**Dyscalculia:** Dyscalculia is difficulty in learning or comprehending arithmetic, such as difficulty in understanding numbers, learning how to manipulate numbers, performing mathematical calculations and learning facts in mathematics. It is generally seen as the mathematical equivalent to dyslexia. It can occur in people from across the whole IQ range – often higher than average – along with difficulties with time, measurement, and spatial reasoning. Estimates of the prevalence of dyscalculia range between 3 and 6% of the population. In 2015, it was established that 11% of children with dyscalculia also have ADHD. Dyscalculia has also been associated with people who have Turner syndrome and people who have spinal bifida.
Mathematical disabilities can occur as the result of some types of brain injury, in which case the proper term, acalculia, is to distinguish it from dyscalculia which is of innate, genetic or developmental origin.

- **Dysgraphia:** Dysgraphia is a deficiency in the ability to write, primarily handwriting, but also coherence. Dysgraphia is a transcription disability, meaning that it is a writing disorder associated with impaired handwriting, orthographic coding (orthography, the storing process of written words and processing the letters in those words), and finger sequencing (the movement of muscles required to write). In the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV), dysgraphia is characterized as a learning disability in the category of written expression when one’s writing skills are below those expected given a person's age measured through intelligence and age-appropriate education. The DSM is not clear in whether or not writing refers only to the motor skills involved in writing, or if it also includes orthographic skills and spelling.

**Causes**

The causes for learning disabilities are not well understood, and sometimes there is no apparent cause for a learning disability. However, some causes of neurological impairments include: **Heredity and genetics**

Learning disabilities are often linked through genetics and run in the family. Children who have learning disabilities often have parents who have the same struggle. Kids whose mother who has had less than 12 years of school are more likely to have a reading disability. Some children have spontaneous mutations (i.e. not present in either parent) which can cause developmental disorders including learning disabilities. One study estimated that about one in 300 children had such spontaneous mutations, for example a fault in the CDK13 gene which is associated with learning and communication difficulties in the children affected.

**Problems during Pregnancy And Birth** A Learning disability can result from anomalies in the developing brain, illness or injury. The fetal exposure to alcohol or drugs. The low birth weight. That weight being 3 pounds or less. These children are more likely to develop a disability in math or reading. Children who are born prematurely, late, have a longer labor than usual and have trouble receiving oxygen are more likely to develop a learning disability.
Accidents After Birth

Learning disabilities can also be caused by head injuries, malnutrition, or by toxic exposure (such as heavy metals or pesticides). It was also observed in the current research that the Learning Disability is not the attribution primarily to Mental Retardation, emotional disturbances. The concept of Learning disability focuses on the idea of a discrepancy between a child’s academic achievement and his capacity to learn.

It was also observed in the current research that the Learning Disability mostly was found in Male children as compared to the Female Children. The data collected and analyzed showed an increase in the Learning Disability Graph. This could also be concluded primarily that Male children are mostly affected with Learning Disability. Current research indicates, however, that disability in basic reading skills primarily caused by deficits in Phonological awareness, Late Kindergarten and Poor and sub-standard quality of academic arrangements. The prevention of learning disability has dramatically increased in past 20 years. There is not clear demarcation between students with normal reading abilities and those with mild reading disabilities. The relatively mild reading disabilities have relatively mild reading disabilities. Thus the overall findings of the research depicts that the attributions of learning Disability are other identifications of the learning disability. There severity are the measure of approach to treat the children in their best academic form and provide them with best possible quality, training and schooling with special needs and education. As discussed before there is a higher value of Male Children with Learning Disability than those of Female Children. In this research total of 60 Children were reported to the Composite Regional Centre (CRC) for the treatment of Learning Disability during the year 2018 under the age group of 3-6. Among which 26 Female Children were diagnosed with Learning Disability.
and rest 34 were Male Children diagnosed with Learning disability. There can be seen a marked higher percentage in the learning disability among male population according to this data analysis and cases reported in the Composite Regional Centre (CRC). **Learning Disability Statistics of Children Reported in CRC 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sno</th>
<th>Subj’s Age</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Sno</th>
<th>Subj’s Age</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>M</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
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<td>M</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>5+</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4+</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>4+</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>F</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>M</td>
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</table>

**Challenges of Children with Learning Disability:** Children with a learning disability are also more likely to suffer from mental health problems than children without a learning disability. There are many reasons why people with a learning disability are more likely to experience poor mental health. Four types of risk factor are discussed below:
Biology and genetics may increase vulnerability to mental health problems

A higher incidence of negative life events

Access to fewer resources and coping skills

The impact of other people’s attitudes

Every person is different, but people with a learning disability may be particular a vulnerability to negative life events and might not have the mechanisms for coping with these. This leads to people with a learning disability having an increased risk of developing mental health problems. This can cause long-term pain which may lead to distress, irritability and anger, especially if not properly treated

**Psychosocial Effects of Learning Disability:** Various research studies have found that learning disability created out of psycho-social and economic reasons greatly impacted scholastic achievement so also behavior of the students. These children with behavior and emotional problems are likely to be at high risk of the development of specific learning difficulties, converting to learning disability. Learning difficulty at school level in long run throws challenges for academic achievement of students in future. Thus learning difficulty due to low socio-economic status with parental negligence is a powerful correlate of academic achievement. The problem of learning disability emanating from family environment is a vicious circle with growing family discontent and impoverished family condition. Learning difficulty of students greatly affect students performance and parental expectations. This in turn throws challenges like special needs, over protection, parent child enmeshment and rigidity, which create the vicious circle of learning disability. Several research studies enquiring the psycho-social dynamics of the problem have unfolded the myth surrounding the most pertinent and baffling issue, affecting the quality of education and student learning ability at elementary level. Comprehending the problem from socio-economic perspective, it has been widely observed by experts that preponderance and material facilities are power of agents effecting learning ability of students. This directly perpetuates poor concentration along with reading and writing difficulties, (Janaki, 1986). The main cause for scholastic
backwardness was found to be faulty parental attitude, poor at motivation for studies. Besides psychological stress due to fear of school activities and teacher, isolation among friends, rejection by teachers and difficulties in school subjects etc greatly contribute towards the problem of learning difficulty. Scholars who totally disagreed genetic factors as major determinant of learning disability strongly argue that social dynamics such as large family size, low financial status and low educational status of parents, low parental involvement and encouragement as major contributing factors associated with scholastic backwardness of students. Several studies have also revealed that socio-economic status of parents was regarded as significant predictor of lower and higher learning performance students.

**Literature review**

**Shapiro BK**¹, **Gallico RP** Although the major manifestations of learning disabilities are expressed in the classroom, the pediatrician has several important roles to play. Identification may be achieved in the early school years by systematic observation of the child's neurodevelopment and school progress. Confirmation of the diagnosis is the most commonly assumed role. Interpretation and explanation of learning disabilities to the parents and child follow. The goals of treatment of learning disabilities are achievement of academic competence, treatment of associated deficits, and prevention of adverse mental health outcomes. The long-term relationship between the family and pediatrician facilitates the performance of longitudinal monitoring to ensure that the program is accomplishing its goals and that outcome is optimal.

**Brett Miller**, **Sharon Vaughn**, and **Lisa Freund**

Learning Disabilities Research Studies: Findings from NICHD funded Projects
Advancements in prevention and treatment of learning disabilities hold the promise of improving the educational, health, social and civic lives of affected children, adolescents, adults, and their families. To meet this promise, a continued, concerted effort is needed to develop and refine intervention approaches targeting struggling or at-risk learners and those identified with a specific learning disability. These interventions will be delivered in diverse settings by practitioners representing a range of disciplines. We need intervention options that address the developmental range of learners from our youngest to older secondary learners and include a sufficient breadth of intervention approaches to be relevant along the prevention to remediation (e.g., general education classroom and special education services in schools) spectrum. This special issue aims to move us closer to that promise by focusing on projects designed to inform intervention development and test specific intervention models for young, struggling learners at risk for or identified with a reading disability.

Joan E. Durrant  

A Decade of Research on Learning Disabilities: A Report Card on the State of the Literature

A review of 208 studies of children with learning disabilities (LD) published in 10 major journals between 1988 and 1990 was conducted to determine the extent to which recommendations made in 1980 and 1984 regarding reporting and design of LD research have been followed. A number of problems continue to threaten the interpretability and utility of results, including imprecise subject descriptions, heterogeneous samples, and methodological weaknesses. Implications for the field are discussed and recommendations for improvement are provided.

Marcia S. Scott*  

Based on a theoretical analysis of the type of cognitive processing that should be sensitive to population differences, this study evaluated the diagnostic validity of a task measuring abstract categorization ability in six-, seven-, and eight-year-old learning disabled (LD) and non-LD peers. This research is part of a project, the major goal of which is the development of a cognitive-based preschool screening test for the early detection of children who may subsequently fail in school. Diagnostic validity is being evaluated within the context of the research strategy we have adopted. Data are presented that demonstrate that the component of abstract category knowledge that best discriminates LD children from non-
LD peers, is knowledge of how members of abstract categories differ from each other. This is consistent with a priori predictions from theory.

**Methodology**

**Universe:** - The Universe of the study shall be from District Srinagar Jammu & Kashmir

**Objectives**

- to study the relationship between learning disability and psychosocial aspects among the children under age group 3-11
- to study the learning disability and psychosocial aspect among male and female children under age group 3-11
- to study the learning disability among the children of low economic background
- to study the comparison between the learning disability and psycho social aspect among children under age group 3-11

**Hypothesis**

- there will be no positive relation relationship between learning disability and psychosocial issues
- there will be no significant difference between male and female children with respect to learning disability and psychosocial issues
- there will be no significant difference between the children from rural and urban areas with respect to learning disability and psychosocial aspect.
Sample

the investigator will use random sampling technique for this study, given the taboo associated with learning disability and psychosocial aspect. The sample size is 100 children 50 male 50 female. Sample is manipulated by using geographical variables viz, gender, locality, parental occupation etc.

Tools

Diagnostic test of learning disability by smriti swarup and D. H Metha. This test is for children under age group of 3-11 years. This test consists of many sub tests involving different areas such as visual, auditory, perception and cognitive functioning

Experience

Cross sectional observational method was used where investigator observed the main factor which was parental negligence. Some parents do not pay attention to their children’s learning problems or any other developmental delays in early stages of development and later on it becomes difficult to treat them once they are out of their developing age group. Another factor which investigator observed that parents believe in myth system. They believe that if the same problem occurs in children which was years ago found in any of their parents, it seems normal to them and they do not consult anyone for this problem. And last factor observed by investigator is unawareness among people about the rehabilitation centers and facilities which such people can avail.
Chapter 4

Data analysis and interpretation

Data analysis provides a general depiction of the type of statistics used in study and a brief description of data organization method.

Table: 4.1: shows the gender wise distribution of the respondents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows the gender wise distribution of the respondents. The table shows that 50% were males and 50% were females.

Table 4.2: shows the area wise distribution of the respondents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows the area wise distribution of the respondents. The table shows that 50% of respondents were from rural area and 50% of respondents were from urban area.
Statistical analysis of data

Mean comparison table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>St. Deviation</th>
<th>t-value</th>
<th>Significant level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>15.70</td>
<td>2.868</td>
<td>0.401</td>
<td>NS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>female</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>15.52</td>
<td>5.122</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows that mean comparison between male and female learning disabled children and their psychosocial aspect. The result revealed that there is no significant difference between male and female children with respect to learning disability and psychosocial issues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. deviation</th>
<th>T value</th>
<th>Level significant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
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<td>15.36</td>
<td>2.869</td>
<td>1.910</td>
<td>NS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>urban</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>15.63</td>
<td>3.746</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table shows the mean comparison between rural and urban children with learning disability and psychosocial aspect. The result revealed that there is no significant difference between rural and urban children with respect to learning disability and psychosocial issues.
Chapter 5

**Result and conclusion**

**RESULT**

Present study focuses on learning disability and psychosocial aspect. The investigator used simple random sampling technique to this study. Given taboo associated with learning disability, the investigator for her own feasibility collected data from nearby hospital GP Panth. Srinagar Kashmir. Given the nature of study 100 sample of 50 male and 50 female. In order to access the tool the investigator used Diagnostic test of learning disability by smriti swarup and D. H Metha

**CONCLUSION**

- It was found that 70% of the total respondent were low income and belonged to rural areas and were mostly illiterate. Whereas 20% of the total respondent belonged to moderate income background and were literate. 10% of the total respondent belonged to well-educated and well settled families.
- There is no significant difference between children among urban and rural areas with respect to learning disability and psychosocial issues.
- Main factor which is responsible for learning disability is prenatal stage of mother.
- There is positive relationship between learning disability and psychosocial issues in children.
- There is no significant difference between male and female with respect to learning disability and psychosocial issues.
References


Type: Review, Journal Article

Brett Miller, Sharon Vaughn, and Lisa Freund. Learning Disabilities Research Studies: Findings from NICHD funded Projects


First Published January 1, 1994 Research Article

Marcia S. Scott. Abstract categorization ability as a predictor of learning disability classification

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