

# EFFECT OF WORKING STATUS AND FAMILY STRUCTURE ON PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND LIFE SATISFACTION LEVEL OF PARENTS

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## Abstract

Parent involvement typically involves parent's behaviors in home and school settings meant to support their children's educational progress as well as cognitive development. Data for the present study was collected through random sampling method (questionnaire) and was carried out with the aim to detect variability of parental involvement and their life satisfaction with family structure (i.e. Nuclear and Joint ) and working status (i.e. working and nonworking). Data showed that most parents of nuclear families were more involved than joint one. Likewise, parental involvement was significantly higher in working parents than non working parents. Similarly results revealed that life satisfaction among parents is observed to be more in the joint family than nuclear one. Life satisfaction observed to be more in working parents as compared to non working parents. Correlations between data observed were highly significant ( $P < 0.001$  -  $< 0.05$ ). Thus results suggested that the variations of working status and family structure influence both parental involvement and life satisfaction of parents.

**Keywords:** Parental involvement, Life satisfaction, working, family, parents, psychological development.

## Introduction

Parental involvement and life satisfaction level are greatly influenced by working status and family type which in turn strongly influence the cognitive development of a child. It is very important to study these variables to check the effects on child psychology and cognitive development. As this study is based on questionnaires different reactions were observed from different parents.

Several researchers have described parental involvement as important factors in child psychology, Epstein (2009) describes in his research study that cooperation and communication is very important for strong teacher–parent relationships, he also described parental involvement as malleable which depends on the practices of teachers, administrators, other parents, and students.

Parent involvement includes the encouragement of the child in the contribution of opinions, asking questions, and providing opinion on a problem or solution, as well as taking part in therapeutic activities such as games and role plays (Karver et al., 2005)

Life satisfaction is a solid, stable component of subjective well being, which follows a pattern independent of emotional reactions overcome during daily life (Cuadra et al., 2003).

Satisfaction with life is a very relevant psychological variable in adolescence, which lowers the suicide rate (Teismann et al., 2018), procuring a better quality of life related to health

(Hansen et al., 2015). Furthermore, life satisfaction is associated with improved physical (Veenhoven, 1991) and mental fitness (Beutell, 2009), long life, and other related consequences that are known to be positive in nature. Both the gender is alike in their on the whole levels of life satisfaction (Diener et al., 1999) even though women do statement extra optimistic and negative consequence. Life satisfaction becomes constant over a period of time (Cummins, 2003) signifying a dispositional, and maybe, even a genetic constituent (e.g., Judge et al. 2002).

Most of the study done on how parent's work affects children's psychology, focused mainly on mothers assignment of their time between work and child care, even though these studies also highlight that other family members, mainly fathers, play an significant role in providing financial support, ensuring quality substitute care, and buffering children from work-related stress. Studies suggested that along with fathers, mothers play a vital role; the level of their involvement (both the parents) and their affection and responsiveness decide the degree of their influence on children's behavior and academic achievement.

Similarly, family plays a very important role in the growth of the child. Family is the social group, which develops the ability of socialization in the child. In different family structures, psychology of child's does differ. There are several components which are observed to reduce the effects of family structure on children's psychology (Acock and Demo, 1994; Furstenberg, 1991). Among these parent-child relationships is a very important factor. Several research studies relied on mother's reports for children's psychological well-being and the value of parent-child relations (Acock and Demo, 1994; Furstenberg, 1991)

Hence, current research study was done to understand some psychological aspects in children related to parental involvement and life satisfaction. Study involves the relationship between parental involvement and overall psychological development of a child.

### **Objective:**

Effect of working status and family structure on parental involvement and life satisfaction level of parents.

**Hypothesis:**

1. There is no effect of independent variable working status and family structure on dependent variable parental involvement.
2. There is no effect of independent variable working status and family structure on dependent variable life satisfaction level of parents.

**Methodology :**

**Research design:** The population under study encompassed 60 respondents. Sample was selected by a purposive random sampling method from Rajasthan state. The geographical area of the study was the urban area of Udaipur division from Rajasthan State (India).

2\*2 factorial design was used. Research designed employed to perform the presented study was factorial Design where Family Type and working status were Independent Variables and parental involvement and life satisfaction were dependent variables of the study. The dependant and independent variables under study were:

**VARIABLES:****INDEPENDENT VARIABLES:**

1. Family type
2. Working status

**DEPENDENT VARIABLE**

1. Parental Involvement
2. Life Satisfaction

**Analysis of data:** The scores obtained on different tests of the study were analyzed statistically. Measures of central tendency and variability were calculated to see the effect of independent variables on dependent variables. Analysis of variance was computed to see interrelationship among the independent and dependent variables.

**Ethical consideration:** The respondents were informed in detail regarding the study and their consent was obtained before the study. Confidentiality was strictly observed on the responses. **Result and Discussion:**

The purpose of this study was to analyze the correlation between parental involvement and life satisfaction with family type and working status of parents employing factorial design. 60 respondents were selected by a purposive random sampling method from Rajasthan state.

### **Results on variations of parental involvement with working status and family type**

Results of variations of parental involvement with working status and family type were depicted in table no.1 and 2 (Figure 1 and 2). Outcomes suggested that parents of nuclear families were more involved than joint one. Similarly parental involvement was significantly high in working parents than non working parents. However, involvement of non working and working parents of nuclear family was comparable i.e. almost the same in both cases.

In the case of joint family, non working parents were found to be more involved rather than working one. The statistical differences observed among all the factors were significant i.e.  $p < 0.001$ .

According to Kavanagh et al.,( 2014) “sturdy relations between pupils’ house and relatives life and their interpretation and mathematics attainment” and research work have revealed that parental involvement in their child’s learning has a superior affect on the child’s wisdom than factors like societal category, level of parental literacy or parental earnings (Jackson and Harbison, 2014).

Results suggested that parents are more involved in nuclear families as compared to joint families. In a nuclear family , mostly parents remain economically well maintained and can actively take part in children’s activity hence can be more involved than parents in a joint family. Ahmad Bilal (2013) also described in his research study that the nuclear family system exerts or positively involves the academic achievements of the students.

Similarly involvement of working and non working parents was observed to be the same in the nuclear family. Reason might be the sense of responsibility found to be more in parents belonging to this category , they used to spend quality time with their children after job time which further improve the involvement hence the children’s achievement Therefore working status has not much effect on involvement. Zick et al (2001) also described that the working status of parents does not have much more influence on involvement.

### **Results on variations of Life satisfaction with working status and family type**

Variability of Life satisfaction of parents with family structure and working status are listed in table no. 3 and 4 (Figure 3 and 4). Results showed that life satisfaction among parents is observed to be more in the joint family than nuclear one. Similarly life satisfaction is observed to be more in working parents as compared to non working parents. Life satisfaction of working parents in a nuclear family was observed to be comparable to non working parents in a joint family. But the overall pattern of feedback suggested that in all conditions working parents was observed to be more satisfied than unemployed. The statistical differences observed among all the factors were significant i.e.  $p < 0.05$ .

Fujita and Diener (2005) have checked the life satisfaction set point (a relatively steady level that a person will come back after facing a changing life situation) describing that there are longitudinal alterations in fulfilment levels for about one-quarter of their respondents.

Family, economical, wellbeing and work satisfaction measured to be the majority efficient four domains

which have essential significance to overall life satisfaction (Easterlin and Sawangfa, 2007). Family impacts on overall life satisfaction are amongst the strongest of the four chief domains (Easterlin and Sawangfa, 2007). Some of the research works revealed that the life satisfaction levels of family members who live together are optimistically concurrent (Hamarat et al., 2002).

Life satisfaction is observed to be more in working parents than non working one. It seems that the working parents have positive expectations towards lives and attempt to build up healthy patterns of amendment and dealing with their lives. Furthermore, the working parents are often observed to be psychologically sound, tolerant, and supportive and cope with stressors more suitably than that of unemployed parents.

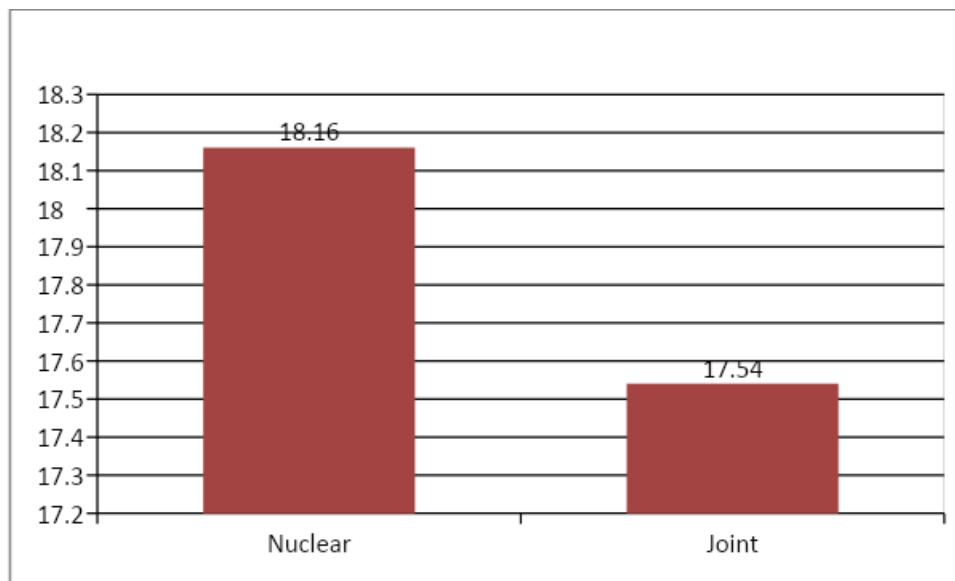
Thomas et al., (2017) examines how family life satisfaction is improved by the capability of family members to equally understand their family-related principles in behaviour. It is essential to observe family life satisfaction from all members of the "perceived" point of view and an "ideal" viewpoint. Superior life satisfaction within a family is enhanced due to contact and understanding each member's attitudes and observation.

### Conclusion:

It can be concluded that for overall psychological development of children, parental involvement and full or moderate life satisfaction of parents are important. Magnitude of these factors can be varied according to circumstances like whether they belong to a joint or nuclear family as well as working status i.e. employed and unemployed parents (Both or single). **Table 1 Parental involvement with family type**

Family type	Mean	SD
Nuclear	18.16	2.3
Joint	17.54	3.3

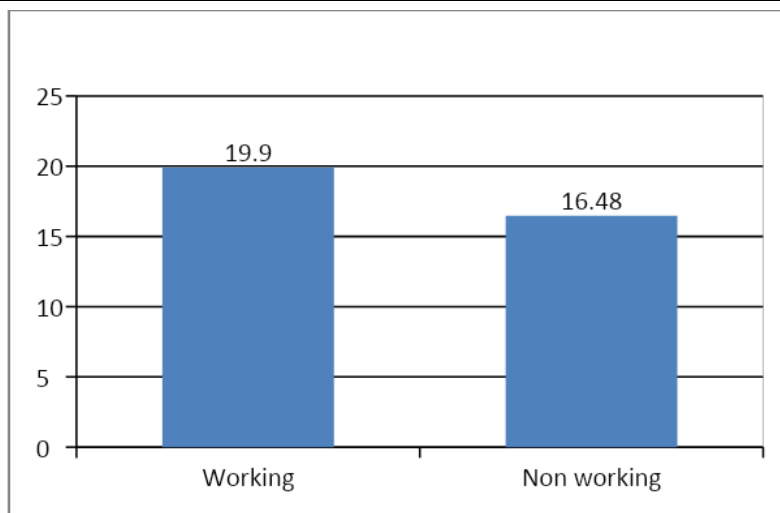
The differences in the median values among the treatment groups are great enough and data is statistically significant difference (p<0.001)



**Table 2 Parental involvement with working status**

Working status	Mean	SD
Working	19.90	6.05
Non- working	16.48	3.1

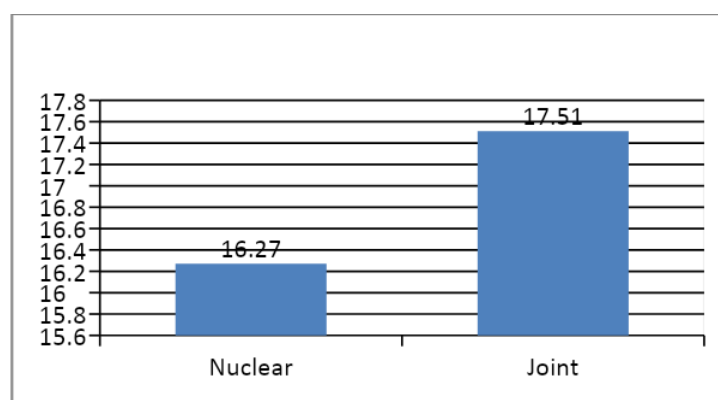
The differences in the median values among the treatment groups are great enough and data is statistically significant difference ( $p < 0.001$ )



**Table 3 Life satisfaction with family type**

Family type	Mean	SD
Nuclear	16.27	1.67
Joint	17.51	1.31

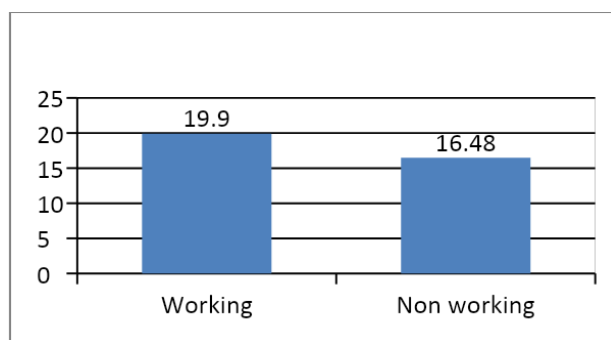
The differences in the median values among the treatment groups are great enough and data is statistically significant difference ( $p < 0.05$ )



**Table 4 Life satisfaction with working status**

Working status	Mean	SD
Working	17.17	1.32
Non working	16.85	2.19

The differences in the median values among the treatment groups are great enough and data is statistically significant difference ( $p < 0.05$ )



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