



SHIFTING PARENTING STYLES-SHAPING PERSONALITIES

Dr.Akthar Parveen

Assistant Professor

Department of Education & Training

MANUU-Hyderabad

7842238909

aktharparveen6@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Parenting is the process of child-rearing wherein parents support the child for his physical, mental, social, emotional, moral and intellectual development from infancy to adulthood. Mostly parenting is done by biological parents.

Parenting styles differ based on race, ethnicity, religion, culture, social norms and social class. Parenting styles can be categorized into four types- Authoritative, Authoritarian, permissive and uninvolved. Each parenting style has its impact on the children's growth and development.

Present paper entitled "Shifting Parenting Styles –Shaping personalities "emphasizes the various parenting styles and its impact on the children's growth and development in the present scenario

Keywords: Parenting styles, Impact, children.

Parents are the most influential persons in the life of their children. The relationship that parents establish with their children impacts a child throughout his or her lifetime. They are the primary source for developing a sense of self-worth and learning effective ways of exercising personal control. Children learn the abilities to become responsible, caring adults and citizens of their society from the people who are most intensely involved with them.

Parenting is the most important and challenging job. Parents take care of their children's basic needs, such as food, medical care, shelter, clothing, and provide love, attention, understanding, acceptance, time, and support. They provide encouragement, support, and access to activities that enable the child to master key developmental tasks. A parent is their child's first teacher and remains' their best teacher throughout life. American Psychological Association lists out the goals of parenting styles are

- Ensuring children's health and safety,
- Preparing children for life as productive adults,
- Transmitting cultural values

Research Reviews related to Parenting styles

1. Maccoby & Martin, (1983) revealed that parenting behaviors can be divided into four distinct parenting styles: authoritarian, permissive, uninvolved, and authoritative
2. Aunola & Nurmi, (2005) research study revealed that there is a consistent relationship between parenting and child behavioral adjustment. Mother's parenting behaviors, including the extent to which she displays affection toward and exerts behavioral and psychological control over her child, are linked to later child internalizing and externalizing behaviors.

3. Akhter et al (2011) Research study revealed that emotional, behavior problems often refer to anxiety and depression. Disruptive, behavior problems commonly include attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and conduct problems
4. Liem, Cavell, & Lustig, 2010; Pezzella, 2010; Schaffer, Clark, & Jeglic, 2009; Steward & Bond, 2002; Timpano, Keough, Mahaffey, Schmidt, & Abramowitz, 2010 studied and have investigated the effects of parenting style on children's emotional development and behavior.

Types of Parenting Styles:- Rearing practices of the parents differ from one another. There are four types of parenting styles. Each style has a different approach to parenting with different characteristics

1. Authoritarian parenting style
2. Authoritative parenting style
3. Permissive parenting style
4. Uninvolved parenting style

Authoritarian Parenting style:-

In this type of parenting style, parents believe that kids should follow rules without any exception. Their focus is on obedience hence they do not negotiate. They do not allow kids to solve problems and take up challenges. They make rules and expect the children to obey without questioning them. They do not take the opinion of the children in this regard. They make use of punishments instead of disciplining and they make the child feel sorry for their mistakes rather than teaching them how to make better choices in life.

Characteristics of children

1. The children who were brought up in authoritarian parenting styles have lower self-confidence and low self-esteem.
2. They follow rules all the time but their obedience comes at a price.
3. They become hostile and aggressive rather than thinking about how to do things in a better way.
4. These children become good liars to avoid punishments

Authoritative parenting style:-

Authoritative parents also emphasize rules but they take children's opinions into considerations. They validate children's feelings and spend time with their children to avoid behavioural problems. They use positive reinforcement, rewards, praises to motivate the children.

Characteristics of children

1. They become responsible adults when growing
2. They feel comfortable and express their opinions
3. They grow as happy children and they are successful in their future life
4. They are good at making decisions
5. They evaluate their deeds frequently

Permissive parenting styles

In this parenting style, parents are lenient and do not interfere frequently in children's work. They behave like a friend rather than a parent. They encourage children to talk about their problems but they do not discourage bad behavior or bad choices made. Parents don't insist on good health habits.

Characteristics of children:

1. They struggle academically
2. They have more behavioural problems as they do not appreciate rules and authority
3. They have low self-esteem and are always sad
4. They have health problems and dental problems

Uninvolved parenting style

In this type of parenting style, parents don't devote the time and energy for the children. They have little knowledge of what their children are doing. Children do not receive any guidance attention and nurturing. They don't care about the physical and emotional needs of their children. They don't have knowledge of child development and they are engaged in other works.

Characteristics' of children:

1. These children perform poorly in school
2. They are sad and have behavioral problems
3. Have low self-esteem

The changing family set up and changing parenting styles:

In ancient India in joint families were traditional, closely knit and elders in the family are respected. In such families, parents love their children but do not hesitate to punish their child for disobedience. But in present-day nuclear families have emerged due to the migration of people for better job opportunities in various cities and countries. Apart from that couples wanted only two children irrespective of gender. There is a change in the upbringing of the children now. Modern parents are Pilot parents. They are always behind the children and don't allow them to make self-decisions.

Characteristics of parents in the 21st century in India

1. Present generation parents give a lot of freedom to the children without supervising them.
2. They do not punish their children for disobedience of misbehavior.
3. They fulfill the demands of the students immediately
4. They do not hesitate to spend huge amounts to satisfy their children's needs
5. They boast about the behavior of their child
6. They do not teach sharing habits
7. They do not give freedom to the children to play in the playground
8. They except the child to stand always first in the class
9. They pressurize their children to perform well in the class
10. They lack the knowledge of child growth and development
11. Due to small family norms, they can afford to send their children to foreign countries for higher education spending huge amounts
12. They have great expectations from their children. Hence they cannot tolerate when they fail to achieve.

Due to overprotection, over interference and overindulgence of the parents, the children misuse their freedom; they take everything for granted and demand the parents to fulfil their needs. They do not have empathy and the value of things and do not share things with others. Over expectations of the parents trouble them. When they fail to reach the expectations of the parents they harm themselves, develop the feeling of guilt.

According to Judith L. Evans & Robert G. Myer children are the biological and social necessity. It is through children human species continues, and families continue to maintain their lineage, and human beings pass on their social heritage through genetics. A child means continuity of humanity.

Hence it is essential to bring up the children in a proper way so that they grow as respectable citizens of the country. There is a need to conduct research in parenting styles of different communities. Hence the ultimate value of children is continuity of humanity

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