

# A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF CHILDREN OF WORKING AND NOT EMPLOYED MOTHERS

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of the present study was to compare personality characteristics and academic achievement of children of working and not employed mothers. A sample of 200 children of 8th standard (100 of working mothers & 100 of not-employed mothers) was chosen by using Purposive sampling Techniques from English Medium schools of Meerut City. For data collection Children's Personality Questionnaire (CPQ) and marks obtained in class VIIIth (Academic Achievement) were used. For statistical analysis of data 't' test was used. The result highlighted that children of working mothers were more intelligent, emotionally more stable, competitive, enthusiastic, reflective, apprehensive and tense. As well as children of working mothers were found to be higher academic achiever than that of not-employed mothers.

**Key Words:** - Personality Characteristics, Academic Achievement, Working Mothers, Not-employed Mothers.

## INTRODUCTION

In the womb of familial relationships, an individual's personality takes shape. The child's view, values and behaviour patterns are formed as a result of these early encounters. The framework of a young child's interaction with his parents is the most important factor in determining his personality development. During the early years of a kid's life, the parents are the primary social influence that the youngster encounters.

Mother is at the heart of every family. She is the one who makes daily decisions, leading the children as they mature and assisting them in facing life's challenges with courage and understanding. It is primarily her responsibility to ensure that everyone is fed and cared for and she must train them in the proper manner. This is especially true before they start school, but even after that, her word may be assumed to be the unwritten law in the house. Every child deserves unconditional love and respect and she teaches them to love and respect one another. Research on issues affecting working has been done in more advanced countries around the world as well as in our own country (Goldberg, 1996).

The term "personality" refers to a set of stable ideas, moods and behaviours that distinguishes children and adults living in a given community. Today, the focus is on helping youngsters build personality patterns that will assist them in making a suitable transition to their surroundings. When parents recognize how their child reacts in diverse situations they can foresee difficulties that could be problematic for the child. Parents who know how to adapt their parenting method to their child's temperament can

provide guidance and ensure that their child's personality develops effectively. Great headers of the world like Mahatma Gandhi, Abraham Lincoln and Veer Shivaji have experienced the immense influence on the personality of their mothers.

Past decades have witnessed a significant rise in women's work front this rise in employment has discussed in terms of academic achievement of their children Jacob's & Garson, (2004). Since it translates into financial resources available for a child's personality development and education, parental income is essential in explaining differences in child's outcome (Dooley, Lipman & Stewart (2005) Employed mothers as Bianchi et al (2006) illustrated, are resourceful in finding ways to retain interactional time with their children.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To compare children of working (CWM) & not employed mothers (CNEM) on academic achievement.
- To compare children of working (CWM) & not-employed mothers (CNEM) on personality characteristics.

## HYPOTHESES

- There is no significant difference between the academic achievement of children of working & not-employed mothers.
- There is no significant difference between the personality characteristics of children of working and not employed mothers.

**TABLE -1 Composition Of Sample**

Group	Total
Children of working mothers (CWM)	100
Children of Not-Employed mothers (CNEM)	100
Total	200

**TABLE – 2 Showing mean comparison of children of working and not-employed mothers on personality characteristics**

Personality Factor	Group	Mean	St. Dev.	T-Value	Level of Significance
A	CNEM	2.32	1.34	0.91	Not Significant
	CWM	2.50	1.73		
B	CNEM	2.33	1.24	3.45	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	2.57	1.38		
C	CNEM	3.52	1.30	2.99	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	4.56	1.16		
D	CNEM	5.19	1.35	4.68	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	6.10	1.40		
E	CNEM	6.25	2.03	3.49	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	7.17	1.79		
F	CNEM	4.89	1.71	5.70	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	6.35	1.90		
G	CNEM	3.85	1.28	0.85	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	3.19	1.39		
H	CNEM	4.11	1.78	7.03	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	4.89	1.64		
I	CNEM	5.52	1.85	1.77	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	5.89	1.96		
J	CNEM	4.90	1.45	7.40	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	5.73	1.93		
K	CNEM	5.59	1.28	4.79	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	6.47	1.54		
O	CNEM	6.72	1.59	2.77	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	6.86	1.67		
O <sub>1</sub>	CNEM	3.08	1.67	1.74	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	3.39	1.60		
O <sub>2</sub>	CNEM	1.72	1.50	2.98	Significant at 0.01 level
	CWM	5.14	1.62		

**TABLE – 3 Showing mean comparison of children of working and not-employed mother's on "Academic achievement."**

Group	N	Mean	St. Dev.	T-Value	Level of Significance
(CWM) Children of working mothers	100	81.17	8.89	3.75	Significant at 0.01 level
Children of Not-working mothers (CNEM)	100	76.38	9.25		

**RESULTS**

The comparison of two groups revealed that children of working mothers in comparison to children of not-employed working mothers are more intelligent, emotionally more stable, excitable, competitive, Enthusiastic, Venturesome, reflective, shrewd, apprehensive & tense. The children of not employed mothers are found less intelligent, emotionally less stable, phlegmatic, inactive, sober, shy, zestful, forthright, confident & relaxed. The two groups of children are similar on the factors (A, G, I & Q3) ie: Reserved–Warmhearted, Expedient–Conscientious, Tough Minded–tender-minded & undisciplined–controlled.

The comparison of two groups has revealed that children of working mothers in comparison to children of not employed mothers shows a higher mean score & implies that they have better academic achievement than that of not employed mothers.

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