

LIFE SATISFACTION OF PARENTS OF DISABLE CHILDREN

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INTRODUCTION :

Satisfaction is a central concept to research on psychological well-being. Within this context, the study of the relationships between satisfaction with life as a whole and satisfaction with specific life domains (family, job, health, leisure, friendships, etc.) or life facets has been a widespread and common approach to psychological well-being since it was first described by Andrews & Whitney (1976). There is considerable agreement among authors that the study of these relationships is important for the better understanding of the structure of psychological well-being (Diener & Lucas, 1992).

There are two types of satisfaction, whole or global life satisfaction and life domain satisfaction (Argyle, 2001; and Salvatore & Munoz, 2001). Fulfillment in the field of life corresponds to fulfilment in particular aspects of an individual's existence, such as marriage, employment, job, wages, etc., whereas satisfaction in the universe of existence is a general term that includes one's assessment of life as a whole. People depend on domain satisfaction knowledge when evaluating their whole life events (Schwarz & Strack, 1991).

Research has indicated that the concept of life satisfaction is elusive, and can be highly susceptible to one's own social values or judgments about important aspects of life. However, this concept has psychological as well as social implications. Firstly, it implies the personal contentment with life and positive self-regard for an individual. Secondly, it includes a personal appraisal of fulfilling one's social roles.

Smith, Oliver, and Innocenti (2001) observed that although low child social skills were a predictor of parent tension, family functionality was a far stronger predictor. The causal direction between stress and family functioning can not be determined on the basis of these findings. Yet, these studies point to the need for Practitioners should pay attention to interpersonal dynamics and the general stability of the household, because both can be significant risk factors for parental tension.

Amy & Traci Golbach (2002) found that when children were 22 months old, more mothers of deaf children reported pessimism about their children's self-sufficiency and concern about their children's communication skills than mothers of hearing children. When their children were 3 and 4 years of age, deaf mothers and hearing children did not differ in their general parenting stress reports, as measured by the Parenting Stress Index (PSI). Similarly, maternal satisfaction ratings for social support have not been affected by child deafness, nor have they changed in terms of development. Mothers with deaf and hearing children varied in the form of social networks used. Moms 22 months of age recorded significantly larger medical support networks, while moms recognizing children identified significantly larger general support networks for all infant ages. Mothers' feelings of stress and satisfaction with social support have been very stable over the two years examined. Most mothers of deaf children do not feel a high level of general parental stress or dissatisfaction with their lives and support networks. However, mothers of deaf children are likely to experience stress in areas specific to deafness.

Sandra Pipp et al., (2002) noticed that the analysis of possible maternal stress predictors showed that mothers who viewed their everyday challenges as more severe often earned higher stress scores on Additional predictors of parental distress were the frequency of distress, social support, and annual family income. Increased stress on the sub-scale Dysfunctional Parent-Child Interaction was predicted by children with disabilities in addition to hearing loss, more delayed language relative to their chronological age, and less severe hearing loss.

Hastings (2002) revealed that problems with child behavior and fathers' mental health were linked to mothers' stress. However, neither children's behavioral problems nor mothers' mental health were associated with fathers' stress. Any stress in mothers of children with disabilities can be caused by the psychological wellbeing of other family members, whereas father stress is more influenced by other factors Kucuker (2006) noticed that there was no substantial difference in mother stress scores, whereas father stress scores decreased in the QRS-F sub-dimension called 'child's characteristics. The level of depression of both parents decreased following the implementation of the program.

Jin Shin & Kathleen (2003) found that the cause of stress to American mothers was specific to individual variables. In the case of Korean moms, cultural ideals that have a social influence have been more strongly related to their behavior towards the infant and their perception of stress.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To know the Life satisfaction parents of mentally challenged and orthopedics impaired children.
2. To know the Life satisfaction between father and mother of disable children.
3. To know the Life satisfaction below graduate and above graduate parents of children.
4. To know the interaction effect between parents of disable children and status of parents with regards to life satisfaction.
5. To know the interaction effect between parents of disable children and education level of parents with regards to life satisfaction.
6. To know the interaction effect between parental status and education level of parents of disable children with regards to life satisfaction.
7. To know the interaction effect among parents of disable children, status of parents and education level of parents of disable children with regards to life satisfaction.

HYPOTHESIS:

1. There is no significant difference between parents of mentally challenged and orthopedics impaired children with regards to life satisfaction.
2. There is no significant difference between father and mother of disable children with regards to life satisfaction.
3. There is no significant difference between below graduate and above graduate parents of children with regards to life satisfaction.
4. There is no significant interaction affect between parents of disable children and status of parents with regards to life satisfaction.
5. There is no significant interaction affect between parents of disable children and education level of parents with regards to life satisfaction.
6. There is no significant interaction affect between parental status and education level of parents of disable children with regards to life satisfaction.
7. There is no significant interaction affect among parents of disable children, parental status and education level of parents of disable children with regards to life satisfaction.

SAMPLE :

In present research total 180 parents of disabled children were randomly selected from different NGO from Ahmedabad city. Total sample was categorized as 30 below graduate father of mentally challenged children, 30 above graduate father of mentally challenged children, 30 below graduate mother of mentally challenged children, 30 above graduate mother of mentally challenged children, 30 below graduate father of orthopaedic impaired children, 30 above graduate father of orthopaedic impaired children, 30 below graduate mother of orthopaedic impaired children, 30 above graduate mother of orthopaedic impaired children.

VARIABLES:

In present research status of parents (Father and Mother) parents of disable children and education level of parents were considered as independent variables and scores of life satisfaction was considered as depend variable.

TOOLS:

In present research following tool will be used for data collection

1. Life satisfaction scale by Dr. Promila Singh and George Joseph (2015)

Life Satisfaction scale by Dr. Promila Singh and George Joseph (2015)

• **Scoring:**

The scale consists of 35 items, each items is to be on the five-point scale- Always, Often, Sometimes, Seldom and Never and which are respectively scored as 5,4,3,2, and 1. The items relate to the individuals all-round activates and thus give a global picture of one's life satisfaction level. The higher the score on the life satisfaction scale the higher will be the level of life satisfaction. The items were prepared in Hindi and English both.

• **Reliability**

The test-retest reliability computed after a lapse of 8 weeks turned out to be 0.91.

• **Validity**

To determine validity of the life Satisfaction Scale coefficients of correlation between the scores of the present scale and life Satisfaction Scale of Alam and Sing (1971) was computed. The coefficient of correlation was found to be 0.83. The scale also possesses face and content.

PROCEDURE:

The rapport was established with father and mother of mentally challenged children and orthopaedic impaired children. For data collection life satisfaction scale was administered in individual setting. After completion of the data collection, responses of each respondent on life satisfaction scale were scored as per the scoring key of life satisfaction scale.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS:

To find out main and interaction effect of three independent variables such as parental status, parents of disable children and education level of parents of children of different disabilities on scores of Life satisfaction scale, three way Analysis of Variance was used.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION :

Table-1

Source of Variation	Sum of Square	df	Mean sum of Square	F	Level of Significant
Parents of Disabled Children (A)	2147.02	1	2147.02	47.25	0.01
Parental Status (B)	976.83	1	976.83	21.50	0.01
Education Level (C)	3599.77	1	3599.77	79.22	0.01
Parents of Disabled Children x Parental Status(A x B)	0.017	1	0.017	.000	NS
Parents of Disabled Children x Education Level (A x C)	16.53	1	16.53	0.36	NS
Parental Status x Education Level (B x C)	50.16	1	50.16	1.10	NS
Parents of Disabled Children x Parental Status x Education Level) (A x B x C)	0.10	1	0.10	0.002	NS
Error	10541.97	232			
TSS	17270.80	239			

Table-2: Mean Scores of Life satisfaction of parents of disable children

	Parents of Mentally Challenged Children (A ₁)	Parents of Orthopedic impaired Children (A ₂)
Mean	28.18	34.16
N	120	120

F ratio of parents of disabled children on life satisfaction was 47.25 which significant 0.01 level it means parents of mentally challenged children significantly differ on life satisfactions score as compared to parents of orthopaedic impaired children. Table no. 2 shows that means scores of parents of mentally challenged children on life satisfaction was 28.18 and means score of parents of orthopaedic impaired children was 34.16. Here parents of orthopaedic impaired children have better life satisfaction than parents of mentally challenged children.

Table-3 :Mean Scores of Life satisfaction of Parental status

	Father (B ₁)	Mother (B ₂)
Mean	29.15	33.19
N	120	120

Table no. 1 shows results of ANOVA on Life satisfaction score of various groups of parents of disable children. F ratio of status of parents of disabled children on life satisfaction was 21.50 which significant 0.01 level it means father of disabled children significantly differ on life satisfactions score as compared to mothers of disabled children. Table no. 3 shows the means scores of father of disabled children on life satisfaction was 29.15 and means score of mothers of disabled children life satisfaction was 33.19. Here mothers of disabled children have better life satisfaction than father of disable children.

Table-4: Mean Scores of Life satisfaction scores of Parental Education

	Below Graduate (C ₁)	Above Graduate (C ₂)
Mean	27.29	35.04
N	120	120

F ratio of education level of parents of disabled children on life satisfaction was 79.22 which significant 0.01 level it means below graduate parents of disable children significantly differ on life satisfactions score as compared to above graduate parents of disabled children. Table no. 4 shows that means scores of below graduate parents of disabled children on life satisfaction was 27.29 and means score of parents of above graduate parents of disabled children on life satisfaction was 35.04. Here parents of above graduate parents of disabled children have better life satisfaction than below graduate parents of disable children.

Table-5: Mean Scores of Life satisfaction of parents of disable children x Parental status

		Parents of Mentally Challenged Children (A₁)	Parents of Orthopedic impaired Children (A₂)
Father (B₁)	Mean	26.17	32.13
	N	60	60
Mother (B₂)	Mean	30.19	36.19
	N	60	60

F ratio of parents of disabled children and status of parents on life satisfaction score was 0.00 which is not significant it means status of parents and parents of disabled children do not significantly interact on Life satisfaction score. Table No. 5 shows the means scores of father of mentally challenged children on life satisfaction score was 26.17, means scores of mother of mentally challenged children on life satisfaction score was 30.19, means scores of father of orthopaedic impaired children on life satisfaction score was 32.13 and means scores of mothers of orthopaedic impaired children on life satisfaction score was 36.19.

Table-6 : Mean Scores of Life satisfaction of parents of disable children x Parental Education

		Parents of Mentally Challenged Children (A₁)	Parents of Orthopedic impaired Children (A₂)
Below Graduate (C₁)	Mean	24.04	30.55
	N	60	60
Above Graduate (C₂)	Mean	32.31	37.77
	N	60	60

F ratio of parents of disabled children and education level of parents on life satisfaction score was 0.36 which is not significant it means parents of disabled children and education level of parents do not significantly interact on Life satisfaction score. Table No. 6 shows the means scores of below graduate parents of mentally challenged children on life satisfaction score was 24.04, means scores of above graduate parents of mentally challenged children on life satisfaction score was 32.31, means scores of below graduate parents of orthopaedic impaired children on life satisfaction score was 30.55 and means scores of above graduate parents of orthopaedic impaired children on life satisfaction score was 37.77.

Table-7 : Mean Scores of Life satisfaction of Parental status x Parental Education

		Father (B₁)	Mother (B₂)
Below Graduate (C₁)	Mean	25.73	28.86
	N	60	60
Above Graduate (C₂)	Mean	32.57	37.52
	N	60	60

F ratio of parental status and education level of parents on life satisfaction score was 1.10 which is not significant it means parental status and education level of parents do not significantly interact on Life satisfaction score. Table No. 7 shows the means scores of below graduate parents of parental status on life satisfaction score was 25.73, means scores of above graduate parents of parental status on life satisfaction score was 32.57, means scores of below graduate parents of parental status on life satisfaction score was 28.86 and means scores of above graduate parents of parental status on life satisfaction score was 37.52.

Table-8 : Mean Scores of Life satisfaction of parents of disable children x Parental status x Parental Education

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		Parents of Mentally Challenged Children (A ₁)		Parents of Orthopedic impaired Children (A ₂)	
		Father (B ₁)	Mother (B ₂)	Father (B ₁)	Mother (B ₂)
Below Graduate (C₁)	Mean	22.47	25.61	29.00	32.10
	N	30	30	30	30
Above Graduate (C₂)	Mean	29.87	34.76	35.27	40.28
	N	30	30	30	30

F ratio of parents of disable children, Parental status and Parental Education on life satisfaction score was 0.002 which is not significant it means parents of disable children, Parental status and Parental Education do not significantly interact on Life satisfaction score. Table No. 8 shows the means scores of below graduate father of Mentally Challenged Children on life satisfaction score was 22.47, above graduate father of Mentally Challenged Children on life satisfaction score was 29.87, below graduate mother of Mentally Challenged Children on life satisfaction score was 25.61, above graduate mother of Mentally Challenged Children on life satisfaction score was 34.76, below graduate father of Orthopaedic impaired Children on life satisfaction score was 29.00, above graduate father of Orthopaedic impaired Children on life satisfaction score was 35.27, below graduate mother of Orthopaedic impaired Children on life satisfaction score was 32.10, above graduate mother of Orthopaedic impaired Children on life satisfaction score was 40.28.

CONCLUSION :

1. Parents of mentally challenged children significantly differ on life satisfactions score as compared to parents of orthopaedic impaired children. Here parents of orthopaedic impaired children have better life satisfaction than parents of mentally challenged children.
2. Father of disabled children significantly differ on life satisfactions score as compared to mothers of disabled children. Here mothers of disabled children have better life satisfaction than father of disabled children.
3. Below graduate parents of disabled children significantly differ on life satisfactions score as compared to above graduate parents of disabled children. Here parents of above graduate parents of disabled children have better life satisfaction than below graduate parents of disabled children.
4. Status of parents and parents of disabled children do not significantly interact on Life satisfaction score.
5. Parents of disabled children and education level of parents do not significantly interact on Life satisfaction score.
6. Parental status and education level of parents do not significantly interact on Life satisfaction score
7. Parents of disable children, Parental status and Parental Education do not significantly interact on Life satisfaction score.

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