

Maternal Employment and Psycho-Physiological State of Students: An Ecological Perspective

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ABSTRACT

Purpose of the study is to find out whether psycho-physiological state of students are affect by Maternal Employment, for this investigation Sample of 160 subjects were taken for this study from the population which was equally classified in which students whose mother is doing job 80 (40 Male & 40 Female) & students whose mother is doesn't doing job 80 (40 Male & 40 Female) from Marathwada region irrespective of area of living. The sampling was simple random (a type of probability sampling). Dysfunctional psycho-physiological state of students was determined on the score obtained from the norms given in the Psycho-Physiological State Inventory (PPSI-VS) by Sanjay Vohra. Mean, S.D. & 'F' test was applied to find out the difference between groups. The result obtained through the study showed that Students whose mother is doing job exhibit higher level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state than students whose mother doesn't doing job.

Keywords: *Psycho-Physiological State of Students, Maternal Employment, Gender*

Psychophysiology is closely related to the field of neuroscience and social neuroscience, which primarily concerns itself with relationships between psychological events and brain responses. Psychophysiology is also related to the medical discipline known as psychosomatics. While psychophysiology was a discipline off the mainstream of psychological and medical science prior to roughly the 1960 and 1970s, more recently, psychophysiology has found itself positioned at the intersection of psychological and medical science, and its popularity and importance have expanded commensurately with the realization of the inter-relatedness of mind and body.

Psychophysiology measures exist in three domains; reports, readings, and behavior. Evaluative reports involve participant introspection and self-ratings of internal psychological states or physiological sensations, such as self-report of arousal levels on the self-assessment manikin, or measures of interceptive visceral awareness such as heartbeat detection

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(Cacioppo, John; Tassinari, Louis; Berntson, Gary 2007). Merits to self-report are an emphasis on accurately understand the participants' subjective experience and understanding their perception; however, its pitfalls include the possibility of participants misunderstanding a scale or incorrectly recalling events (Robinson, Michael; Clore, Gerald 2002).

Dunifon, R., Hansen, A. T., Nicholson, S., & Nielsen, L. P. (2013) conducted study using a Danish data set that follows 135,000 Danish children from birth through 9th grade, we examine the effect of maternal employment during a child's first three and first 15 years on that child's grade point average in 9th grade. They address the endogeneity of employment by including a rich set of household control variables, incrementing for employment with the gender- and education-specific local unemployment rate, and by including maternal fixed effects. We find that maternal employment has a positive effect on children's academic performance in all specifications, particularly when women work part-time. This is in contrast with the larger literature on maternal employment, much of which takes place in other contexts, and which finds no or a small negative effect of maternal employment on children's cognitive development and academic performance.

Greve, J. (2011) observed that existing empirical research on child overweight derives mainly from North America and points at rising maternal employment as an explanation for the increasing trend in child weight. These results cannot be replicated in Denmark, where an increase in maternal work hours does not increase the likelihood of weight problems for their children. This paper tests four possible explanations for this difference: (1) the effect of maternal employment on child obesity is heterogeneous and varies according to the country's weight distribution; (2) the quality of child care is on average higher in Denmark; (3) the counterfactual care provided by Danish mothers is of lower quality; and (4) Danish fathers contribute significantly to their children's health. This paper finds evidence consistent with the hypotheses that Danish child care and fathers play a significant role in explaining the absence of a significant relationship between maternal work hours and children's overweight status.

Maternal Employment defines by Lerner, J. (2001). "Maternal Employment Refers to the labor force affiliation of mothers with children 0-18 years. Includes full, part-time work, contracting, and working out of the home."

Statement of the Problem:

"To study the ecological perspective i.e. affects of maternal employment on psycho-physiological state of students."

Purpose and Objectives:

1. To find out whether the psycho-physiological state of students are affect by maternal employment.
2. To find out whether level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state of students affected by maternal employment.

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3. To detect the extent of psycho-physiological dysfunction of students.

Hypotheses:

- 1) Students whose mother is doing job exhibit higher level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state than students whose mother is doesn't doing job.
- 2) Male students exhibit higher level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state than female students.
- 3) There is significant interaction effect between Maternal Employment and Gender on dysfunctional psycho-physiological state of students.

Participants:

Sample of 160 subjects were taken for this study from the population which was equally classified in which students whose mother is doing job 80 (40 Male & 40 Female) & students whose mother is doesn't doing job 80 (40 Male & 40 Female) from Marathwada region irrespective of area of living. The sampling was simple random (a type of probability sampling). The efforts were made to have the sample as representative as possible in terms of education. All the subjects were similar kind of socio-economic status.

The distribution of effective sample

| Variables | Students whose mother is doing job | Students whose mother is doesn't doing job | Total |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--|---------|
| Male | 40 | 40 | 80 |
| Female | 40 | 40 | 80 |
| Total | 80 | 80 | N = 160 |

Variables:

- 1) Maternal Employment & Gender are independent variable in this study.
- 2) Dysfunctional psycho-physiological state of students is dependent variables in this study.

Design:

To attain objectives of the present study, 2 X 2 factorial design was employed to find out the significance differences between variables.

Research Design

| | | A | |
|---|----|------|------|
| | | A1 | A2 |
| B | B1 | A1B1 | A2B1 |
| | B2 | A1B2 | A2B2 |

- A = Maternal Employment
 - A1 = Students whose mother is doing job
 - A2 = Students whose mother is doesn't doing job
- B = Gender

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- **B1** = Male
- **B1** = Female

Measurement Tools:

1. **Psycho-Physiological State Inventory (PPSI-VS):** - Dysfunctional psycho-physiological state of students was determined on the score obtained from the norms given in the Psycho-Physiological State Inventory (PPSI-VS) by Sanjay Vohra. (It tells the psychological and physiological experience of late adolescents or adult group of either sex. It helps to differentiate the psycho-neurotic from the normal. The test having 0.87 reliability score with higher descriptive validity.

Procedure:

After having the sample selected, the researcher administered the tests on 160 subjects and recorded the scores of the tests. Thus, the collected data were analyzed by statistical techniques.

Statistical Treatment:-

The sample was available for statistical analysis consisted of 160 subjects after data collection. For the each subject, initially data of each group was separately scrutinized by employing descriptive statistics. The statistical analysis was mainly consisted of Mean, S.D. Analysis of Variance i.e. F Test on Variables.

RESULT ANALYSIS:

Hypothesis 1: Students whose mother is doing job exhibit higher level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state than students whose mother is doesn't doing job.

| Variables | N | Mean | S.D. |
|--|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Students whose mother is doing job | 80 | 111.44 | 30.97 |
| Students whose mother is doesn't doing job | 80 | 99.85 | 31.78 |

| Source | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------|-------------|
| Maternal Employment | 5370.806 | 1 | 5370.806 | 5.731 | 0.05 |
| Error | 146199.025 | 156 | 937.173 | | |
| Total | 1946667.000 | 160 | | | |

Results shows that the mean score of the (111.44) students whose mother is doing job is found higher than the mean score of the (99.85) students whose mother doesn't doing job on

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dysfunctional psycho-physiological state. Further inferential statistics i.e. Analysis of Variance ($F(1, 156) = 5.73, P < 0.05$) indicate that there is significant difference between students whose mother is doing job and students whose mother doesn't doing job on dysfunctional psycho-physiological state. Thus it can be concluded that the students whose mother is doing job exhibit higher level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state than students whose mother doesn't doing job.

Finding are in line with study conducted by Duncan, G. J., & Magnuson, K. A. (2003) argues for a differentiated conceptualization of SES, one where the focus falls on the constituent components, including education, occupation, and income. Accordingly, the authors contend that it makes sense to study the separate effects of these components of SES. They define the main components of SES and then indicate their effects on parenting and child development. In doing so, the authors discuss the significance of natural experiments (beyond correlational designs) in pinning down how SES influences parenting and child development. Further to this point, the authors emphasize the difficulties of finding experimental studies of SES in relation to parenting and child development and the need and importance to implement such basic research in the area.

Hypothesis 2: Male students exhibit higher level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state than female students.

| Table 1.3. Showing Mean & S.D. Value for Gender on dysfunctional psycho-physiological state of students. | | | |
|---|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Variables | N | Mean | S.D. |
| Male | 80 | 100.85 | 30.28 |
| Female | 80 | 110.44 | 32.76 |

| Table 1.4. Showing F Value for Gender on dysfunctional psycho-physiological state of students. | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------|-------------|
| Source | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
| Gender | 3676.806 | 1 | 3676.806 | 3.923 | 0.05 |
| Error | 146199.025 | 156 | 937.173 | | |
| Total | 1946667.000 | 160 | | | |

Outcome of result shows that the mean score of the (100.85) male students is found higher than the mean score of the (110.44) female students on dysfunctional psycho-physiological state. Further inferential statistics i.e. Analysis of Variance ($F(1, 156) = 3.92, P < 0.05$) indicate that there is significant difference between male and female students on dysfunctional psycho-physiological state. Thus it can be concluded that the female students exhibit higher level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state than male students.

Finding is concordance with study conducted by Alvarez, W. F. (1985) examine the relationships between features of the maternal employment situation and mothers' positive

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descriptions of their 3-year-old children were investigated in a sample of 152 white, 2-parent families. Employed mothers' positive motivation for working, low role conflict, and gains in self-worth were all associated with mothers' favorable descriptions of their children. Although sociodemographic characteristics of mothers and their families were found to significantly predict maternal employment status, these demographic differences did not account for variation in mothers' positive perceptions of their children. Personal motivation for working was associated with the degree of role conflict, job satisfaction, and enjoyment of personal contact experienced by employed mothers. Meanwhile, maternal higher education was found to be a powerful mitigator of possible negative consequences for children whose mothers were working from financial necessity or were experiencing role conflict. This was especially true for positive perceptions of daughters.

Hypothesis 3: There is significant interaction effect between Maternal Employment and Gender on dysfunctional psycho-physiological state of students.

| Source | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----|-------------|-------|------|
| Maternal Employment * Gender | 5724.056 | 1 | 5724.056 | 6.108 | 0.05 |
| Error | 146199.025 | 156 | 937.173 | | |
| Total | 1946667.000 | 160 | | | |

Statistical investigation indicate that the significant interaction effect were found ($F(1, 156) = 6.11, P < 0.05$) between Maternal Employment and Gender on dysfunctional psycho-physiological state of students. It means interaction between Maternal Employment and Gender of students affect the level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state of students.

Findings are in line with study conducted by Cheung, C. K., Rudowicz, E., Yue, X., & Kwan, A. S. (2003) found that there is a long-lasting dispute about development of students' creativity in the course of their university education. Both the duration and major field of study may represent the educational effects. To address the issue, the present study collected data ($N = 859$) from a series of surveys of students in Hong Kong to clarify educational effects by controlling a number of background characteristics and prior scores on creativity. Apart from measuring self-reported creative traits and creative products, it measured divergent thinking with five tasks to elicit students' creative ideas, which led to scores of fluency, flexibility, novelty, innovativeness, and originality. Results indicate the trend of monotonic decline in creativity with years of study at university and the general superiority of verbal creativity among students of humanities and social sciences, whereas business students had the highest scores on self-assessed creative traits and products.

CONCLUSIONS

- 1) Students whose mother is doing job exhibit higher level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state than students whose mother doesn't doing job.
- 2) Female students exhibit higher level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state than male students.
- 3) Interaction between Maternal Employment and Gender of students affect the level of dysfunctional psycho-physiological state of students.

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