

A Psychological Study of Adjustment in Child Laborers

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ABSTRACT

According to Director General of ILO (1983) Child labour would mean children prematurely leading adults lives, working for long hours, low wages under damaging conditions which affects and hampers their growth, physically and mentally. Main objective of this study is comparative study of adjustments in Child labour boys and Child labour girls, and for that the total sample size taken were 660 children (330 boys and 330 girls) 220, child labour (110 boys and 110 girls) 220 study with work children (110 boys and 110 girls) 220 normal children (110 boys and 110 girls). The age group 12 to 14 years of age. The mean age of the sample was 13.28 years. The sample was taken from the slum areas (Lower Socio-economic) of Gujarat Four city Ahmedabad, Surat, Baroda and Rajkot. The result of the study is significant difference between Child Labour boys and girls regarding adjustment. It means the level of adjustment is more in Child Labour girls then Child Labour boys.

Keywords: *Adjustment, Child Laborers*

Child labour would mean children prematurely leading adults lives, working for long hours, low wages under damaging conditions which affects and hampers their growth, physically and mentally. (Report of Director General of ILO. 1983). Job carried out by children are highly exploited and it is right to be concerned about those circumstances in which their vulnerability is manipulated to their lasting disadvantage.

Adjustment may be defined as the process of interaction between the individual and his environment for the sake of bringing harmony between them. According to Schnider (1955), "Adjustment is a process by which the internal demands of motivation are brought into harmonious relation with the external demands of locality." In brief "Adjustment" deals with that aspect of life which concerns itself to bring about harmony between the demands of the inner self on the one hand and social milieu to which the person is exposed on the outer hand promoting interpersonal, interpersonal relationships and emotional health, and there by which may in turn, promote effective adjustment. Lazarus (1976) defined adjustment as "consisting of the

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psychological processes by means of which the individual manages or copes with various demands and pressures.”

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study are as follows:

- To do comparative study of adjustments in Child labour boys and Child labour girls.
- To do comparative study of adjustments in study with work children boys and study with work children girls.
- To do comparative study of adjustments in Normal Children boys and Normal Children girls.

Hypothesis

As per the consideration of the objective for the person study, we have done following hypothesis for testing:

HO 1: There is no significant difference between Child Labour boys and Child Labour girls in relation to adjustment.

HO 2: There is no significant difference between study with work boys and study with work Child girls in relation to adjustment.

HO 3: There is no significant difference between Normal Children boys and Normal Children girls in relation to adjustment.

METHODOLOGY

Sample

“Sample means the random selection of groups from population to get information about population”. The total sample size taken were 660 children (330 boys and 330 girls) 220, child labour (110 boys and 110 girls) 220 study with work children (110 boys and 110 girls) 220 normal children (110 boys and 110 girls). The age group 12 to 14 years of age. The mean age of the sample was 13.28 years. The sample was taken from the slum areas (Lower Socio-economic) of Gujarat Four city Ahmedabad, Surat, Baroda and Rajkot.

Variables

Independent Variables:

- Gender (boys and girls)

Dependent Variables:

- Adjustment score

Tools

In the present study in order to measure adjustment. The revised version of adjustment inventory for children by Dr, D.A. Dadhaniyaand Dr. A.K. Aparnathi was used which is very reliable tool in this inventory. A total of 28 statement is given, the answer for which may be in ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ or ‘Uncertain’

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Statistical Technique

't' test was applied to know the significant differences between adjustment level of boys and girls the three groups of children.

RESULT & DISCUSSION

TABLE-1, Mean, S.D. and t- value of adjustment scores of boys and girls Child Labour

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t	Level of significant
Boys	110	16.08	2.37	10.78	0.01
Girls	110	12.20	2.94		

Table No.-1 shows adjustment of Child Labour boys and girls. For the Child Labour boys the mean is 16.08 and for the Child Labour girls it is 12.20. The S.D. is 2.37 for Child Labour boys and 2.94 for Child Labour girls. For both group 't' value is 10.78 and its level of significance is 0.01.

TABLE-2, Mean, S.D. and t- value of adjustment scores of boys and girls study with work

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t	Level of significant
Boys	110	10.84	2.73	0.05	NS
Girls	110	10.85	2.29		

Table No.-2 shows adjustment of study with work boys and girls. For the study with work boys the mean is 10.84 and for the study with work girls it is 10.85. The S.D. is 2.73 for study with work boys and 2.29 for study with work girls. For both group 't' value is 0.05 and its level is not significant.

TABLE-3, Mean, S.D. and t- value of adjustment scores of boys and girls normal children

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t	Level of significant
Boys	110	5.81	2.04	2.57	0.01
Girls	110	6.64	1.63		

Table No.-3 shows adjustment of Normal Children boys and girls. For the Normal Children boys the mean is 5.81 and for the Normal Children girls it is 6.64. The S.D. is 2.04 for Normal Children boys and 1.63 for Normal Children girls. For both group 't' value is 2.57 and its level of significance is 0.01.

DISCUSSION

With reference to the hypothesis No.1 The adjustment between Child Labour boys and girls. The result show 't' value is 10.78 its level in 0.01 significant. There is poorer adjustment in child labour boys then child labour girls. We have concluded that reason behind, child labour boys are Frustration – Aggression and work pressure etc. May be effect to child labour boys adjustment. So we rejected hypothesis No.1

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With reference to the hypothesis No.2 The adjustment between study with work boys and girls. The result show that there is a no significant difference in the adjustment level of both groups. That's why the fact of hypothesis is accepted.

With reference to the hypothesis No.3 The adjustment between Normal Children boys and girls. The result show 't' value is 2.57 its level in 0.01 significant. There is poorer adjustment in Normal Children girls then Normal Children boys. We have concluded that reason behind, Normal Children girls are frustration and house work pressure etc. May be effect to Normal Children girls adjustment. So we rejected hypothesis No.3

CONCLUSION

- There was a significant difference between Child Labour boys and girls regarding adjustment. It means the level of adjustment is more in Child Labour girls then Child Labour boys.
- There was no significant difference between Study with work Children boys and girls regarding adjustments.
- There was a significant difference between Normal Children boys and girls regarding adjustment. It means the level of adjustment is more in Normal Children boys then Normal Children girls.

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Conflict of Interests

The author declared no conflict of interests.

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