

**A STUDY OF THE EFFECTS OF MATERNAL
EMPLOYMENT ON SOCIO-EMOTIONAL
AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
OF CHILDREN**

BY

**CHITRA RAMACHANDRAN
DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**SUBMITTED IN FULFILMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
TO THE**

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, DELHI

SEPTEMBER 1981

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr.(Mrs) Purnima Mathur and Dr.(Mrs) R. Muralidharan for their inspiring guidance and encouragement, at all stages of this work.

I am extremely thankful to the Headmasters and Headmistresses of Delhi Municipal Corporation Schools and Principals of Delhi Public School, Guru Harkishan Public School and Mother's International School for their cooperation in facilitating the collection of the data for this work.

I am deeply indebted to the National Council of Educational Research and Training for the facilities and contingency grant made available to me for this project.

I am grateful to Dr. A.B.L. Srivastava, Mr. O.P. Arora and Dr. Satvir Singh for their guidance and help at the analysis stage. My thanks are due to the staff of the Computer Centre, I.I.T. for their help in enabling to get the data processed and computerized and to Mr. T.S. Verma and Mr. P.S. Verma for the special care they took in typing this thesis.

September, 1981

(CHITRA RAMACHANDRAN)
nee SACHDEVA

ABSTRACT

The present study was undertaken (i) to identify the effects of maternal employment on the socio-emotional and educational development of the children and (ii) to identify the differences, if any, between the working and non-working mothers with regard to certain aspects of their behaviour in relation to their children. The theoretical framework of the study was broadly based on the social learning theory of development.

A stratified sample of 360 students in the age group of 7 to 8 years and studying in class III was selected from schools situated in South Delhi District in the Union Territory of Delhi. The sample consisted of two main groups formed on the basis of the employment status of the mothers. The total sample was also divided into male and female cases and further subdivided into cases under high, middle and low socio-economic class. The independent variables associated with the socio-emotional and educational development of the children were employment status of the mother, socio-economic class and sex. The dependent variables associated with the socio-emotional development of the children were social maturity, self concept and manifest anxiety where as the dependent variables associated with the educational development of the children's achievement in language and arithmetic. Intelligence was included as an intervening variable. The dependent variables associated with the aspects of the behaviour of the mothers in relation to their children were

mother's anxiety for children, parent child interaction, facilities for language development at home and mother's attitude towards play. The data obtained were subjected to 3x2x2, 2x2 and one-way analysis of variance in order to compare the different groups of children as well as mothers. The following major findings emerged from the results.

In general, maternal employment was found to have a positive impact on the socio-emotional and educational development of the children, especially with regard to the self concept, level of manifest anxiety and achievement in language of the girls within the middle socio-economic class.

C O N T E N T S

<u>CHAPTER</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	
	CONTENTS	
	LIST OF TABLES	
I	<u>INTRODUCTION</u>	1
II	<u>THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY</u>	7
	2.1 Psychoanalytic Theory	7
	2.2 Cognitive Theory	9
	2.3 Maturational Theory	10
	2.4 Learning Theories	10
	2.4.1 Classical Conditioning	11
	2.4.2 Operant Conditioning	12
	2.4.3 Social Learning Theory	14
	2.5 Role of the Family in Socialisation Process	21
	2.6 Role of the Family in the Emotional Development of Children	22
	2.7 Role of the Family in the Social Development of Children	24
	2.8 Role of the Family in the Educational Development of Children	25
III	<u>REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE</u>	28
	3.1. Maternal Employment and the Sex- Role Perception of the Children	29
	3.2 Maternal Employment and Child Rearing Practices	34
	3.3 Maternal Employment - A Deprivation	37
	3.4 Working Mothers - A Role Conflict	39
	3.5 Maternal Employment and Academic Achievement of Children	44

Contd.....

<u>CHAPTER</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
IV	<u>THE PROBLEM, METHOD AND MATERIALS</u>	47
	4.1 General Objectives	49
	4.2 Terms Used in the Study	50
	4.3 Variables Included in the Study	51
	4.4 Sample	52
	4.5 Hypotheses	55
	4.6 Tools Used in the Study	59
	4.7 Procedure	66
	4.8 Statistical Analysis ...	67
V	<u>DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCALE FOR ASSESSING MOTHER'S ANXIETY FOR CHILDREN</u>	68
	5.1 Definition of Anxiety	69
	5.2 Measures of Anxiety	73
	5.3 Scale for Assessing Mother's Anxiety for Children	74
	5.3.1 Construction of the Test	75
	5.3.2 Try-out of the Test	75
	5.3.3 Item Analysis	75
	5.3.4 Reliability of the Scale	77
VI	<u>RESULTS AND DISCUSSION-I</u>	81
	6.1 Maternal Employment and Socio-emotional Development of Children	81
	6.1.1 Maternal Employment and Social Maturity of Children	84
	6.1.2 Maternal Employment and Self Concept of Children	96
	6.1.3 Maternal Employment and Manifest Anxiety of Children	105
	6.2 Maternal Employment and Educational Development of Children	118

<u>CHAPTER</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
	6.2.1 Maternal Employment and Children's Achievement in Language	119
	6.2.2 Maternal Employment and Children's Achievement in Arithmetic	156
VII	<u>RESULTS AND DISCUSSION -II</u>	167
	7.1 Maternal Employment and Mother's Anxiety for Children	169
	7.2 Maternal Employment and Parent Child Interaction	174
	7.3 Maternal Employment and Facilities for Language Development at Home	178
	7.4 Maternal Employment and Mother Attitude Towards Play	182
VIII	<u>RESULTS AND DISCUSSION - III</u>	188
	8.1 Mother's Anxiety for Children and Socio-Emotional Development of Children	189
	8.2 Mothers Anxiety for Children and Educational Development of Children	192
	8.3 Parent Child Interaction and Socio-Emotional Development of Children	194
	8.4 Parent Child Interaction and Educational Development of Children	196
	8.5 Facilities for Language Development at Home and Educational Development at Home	199

Contd.....

<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
8.6 Mother's Attitude Towards Play and Educational Development of Children	201
8.7 Discussion	204
IX <u>SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS</u>	206
REFERENCES	213
APPENDICES	222
(i) Personal Data Sheet of the Child (English Version)	222
(ii) Personal Data Sheet (Scoring Key) (English Version)	224
(iii) Social Maturity Scale (English Version)	225
(iv) Self Concept Inventory (English Version)	231
(v) Children's Manifest Anxiety Scale (English Version)	233
(vi) Picture Sentence Matching Test (English Version)	236
(vii) Read and Do Test (English Version)	248
(viii) Sentence Completion Test (English Version)	258
(ix) Arithmetic Test (English Version)	262
(x) Scale for assessing Mothers Anxiety for Children	270
(xi) Parent Child Interaction Scale (English Version)	274
(xii) Scale for assessing Facilities for Language Development (English Version)	277
(xiii) Scale for assessing Mother's/Parent's Attitude Towards Play	279
(xiv) Hindi Versions of the Scales/Inventory/ Tests used in the study	281