

“Personality Profile of Kashmiri Child Workers”

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ABSTRACT

The problem of child labour is a burning problem of the whole globe; which has constantly agitated the minds of jurists, legislators, social thinkers, politicians, economists and philanthropists from time immemorial. The problem has changed its avenue from public platforms & has reached the inner circles of legislative, executive & judicial chambers. Child Labour is the product of the socio-economic & socio-psychological conditions. It cannot be explained in terms of economic factors alone. One has to take into account institutional as well as individual factors too, while explaining child labour & formulating policy measures to eradicate it.

Key Words: *Child Work, Creativity, Intelligence, Need Achievement Motivation, Self- Concept.*

I. INTRODUCTION

The child labour deprives the child of childhood and normal growth. It is considered to be a social evil, which must be eradicated. There are two schools of thought – one school makes a distinction between child labour and child work. They are of the view that all forms of child work cannot be said to be disastrous. The former in their opinion is harmful and need to be eliminated. The later viz. child work is considered to be less harmful as such work is considered as a process of socialization and supplement to the income of poor families. Socially it has implications for transmission of skills, evolution of attitude for work, class-consciousness and individual discipline.

The other school of thought argues that every child labour is harmful and need to be eradicated. Any kind of work that does not constitute play and education is unjust imposition on children and this labour dispossesses them of their childhood. They condemn it as economically unsound psychologically disastrous and physically as well as normally harmful. It is understood that making distinction between child labour and child work is not justified as every type of work which deprives the child of his childhood recreation and education, hampers his physical and mental growth is labour.

II.STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The significance and the importance of the child lie in the fact that the child is the universe. If there was no child, there would be no humanity and there cannot be a universe without humanity. Therefore, mankind owes to the child the best that it has to be given. If there is no proper growth of child today, the future of the country will be bleak. It is thus an obligation of every generation to bring up child, the citizen of tomorrow in a proper

way In the light of the above discussion, the researcher planned to investigate the problem “Personality Profile of Kashmiri Child Workers”

III. TERMS USED-THEIR OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS

The variables included in the study are operationally defined as under:

3.1: **Child Worker:** Any child ranging in the age group of 6-14 years & is engaged either in some service or in domestics.

3.2: **Child Non-Worker:** Any child ranging in the age group of 6-14 years studying in school.

IV.OBJECTIVES

4.1. To study the self concept of child workers & child non workers.

4.2. To study the need achievement motivation of child workers & child non workers.

4.3. To study the interest of child workers & child non workers.

4.4. To study the intelligence of child workers & child non workers

4.5. To study the creativity of child workers & child non workers.

V.HYPOTHESES

5.1. Child workers & child non workers do not differ significantly in their self concept.

5.2. Child workers & child non workers do not differ significantly on need achievement.

5.3. Child workers & child non workers do not differ significantly on the interests.

5.4. Child workers & child non workers do not differ significantly on the intelligence.

5.5. Child workers & child non workers do not differ significantly on the creativity.

VI.METHOD AND PROCEDURE

The present study involves socio –psychological variables. The main focus of the study therefore was to assess the impact of these variables on incidence of child labour in Kashmir. This has been facilitated by making a comparison between groups’ viz.child workers & child non workers on self concept, need achievement motivation, intelligence, interests& creativity.

VII.SAMPLE

The sample of the present study comprised of 400 children-200 child workers & 200 child non workers both boys & girls ranging in the age group of 6-14 years. Since it was not possible to collect the data on the whole population of 6-14 years of children of all districts of Kashmir valley, therefore random stratified sampling method was used to select child workers & child non workers.

VIII. TOOLS USED

8.1. Self Concept Questionnaire developed by Dr.Raj kumar Saraswat.

8.2. Deo-Mohn Achievement Scale developed by Dr.Pratibha Deo & Asha Mohan.

8.3. Interest Scale Chatterji's non language preference record.

8.4. General Mental Ability test developed by Dr. Pal & Dr. Tiwari

8.5. Creativity test developed by B.K.Passi

IX. STATISTICAL TREATMENT

The data obtained were put to suitable statistical treatment. t-test was used to find out the differences, if any, between two groups.

X.ANALYSIS OF DATA

The data gathered have been tabulated in the following tables.

Self-Concept and Child Labour

Table-1.0

Significance of difference between mean scores of child workers and Child non-workers with respect to Self Concept

Group	N	Mean	SD	SED	t.value	Level of Significance
Child Workers	200	178.32	13.35	1.33	8.21	.01
Child Non Workers	200	189.24	13.41			

It is clear from the above table that the t-value is 8.21, which is significant at .01 level of significance. It means that there is a significant difference between the child workers and child non-workers in their self concept. The tabulated data shows that the mean score of child non-workers is higher than child workers which mean that child non-workers possess high self concept.

Need Achievement Motivation and Child Labour

Table-2.0

Significance of difference between mean scores of child workers and Child non-workers with respect to Need Achievement Motivation.

Group	N	Mean	SD	SED	t.value	Level of Significance
Child Workers	200	85.40	29.42	2.80	23.33	.01
Child Non Workers	200	150.24	26.55			

From the above table, it is evident that the t-value is 23.33, which is significant at .01 level of significance. It means that there is a significant difference between the mean scores of child workers & child non-workers in respect to need achievement motivation. The table shows that the mean score of child non-workers is higher than child workers which means that child non-workers possess high need achievement motivation.

Interest and Child Labour

Table-3.0

Significance of difference between mean scores of child workers and Child non-workers with respect to Interest.

Group	N	Mean	SD	SED	t.value	Level of Significance
Child Workers	200	196.4	9.88	14.13	11.89	.01
Child Non Workers	200	210.43	26.55			

It is clear from the Table 3.0 that the t-value is 11.89, which is significant at .01 level of significance. Moreover the table shows the higher mean score of child non-workers, which implies that the child non-workers are convincingly different from child workers in respect to their interest.

Intelligence and Child Labour

Table-4.0

Significance of difference between mean scores of child workers and Child non-workers with respect to Intelligence.

Group	N	Mean	SD	SED	t.value	Level of Significance
Child Workers	200	24.35	5.53	.09	23.91	.01
Child Non Workers	200	45.87	11.49			

It is clear from the above table that the t-value is 23.91, which is significant at .01 level of significance. It means that there is a significant difference between child workers & child non-workers in their intelligence, which means that the two groups under study definitely differ in intelligence. Moreover the table shows the higher mean score of child non-workers, which implies that the child non-workers are convincingly different from child workers in respect to their intelligence, which means that child non-workers possess high intelligence.

Creativity and Child Labour**Table-5.0**

Significance of difference between mean scores of child workers and Child non-workers with respect to Creativity.

Group	N	Mean	SD	SED	t.value	Level of Significance
Child Workers	200	26.75	9.06	1.21	6.88	.01
Child Non Workers	200	33,5	10.57			

From the table 5.0, it is evident that the t-value is 6.88, which is significant at .01 level of significance. It means that there is a significant difference between the child workers & child non-workers in their creativity, which means that the two groups under study definitely differ in creativity. Moreover the table shows the higher mean score of child non-workers, which implies that the child non-workers are convincingly different from child workers in respect to their creativity, which means that child non-workers possess high creativity.

XI. MAIN FINDINGS: Profile of Kashmiri Child Workers

1. Child workers have been found possessing low self concept.
2. Child Workers have been found possessing low need achievement motivation.
3. Child Workers possess low intelligence.
4. It has also been found that Child Workers possess less interest.
5. Child Workers possess low creative potential.

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