



# Perceived Maternal Parenting Styles and Emotional Intelligence among B.Ed Students in Tirupathur District, Tamilnadu

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## ABSTRACT

Emotional Intelligence (EI) is defined as a type of social intelligence that involves the ability to monitor one's own and others emotions, to discriminate among them and to use the information to guide one's thinking and actions. (Mayer & Salovey, 1993). The present study was conducted to evaluate the effect of perceived maternal parenting styles on emotional intelligence among high school students. The sample consists of 100 B.Ed., students 50 male and 50 female students from five B.Ed colleges in Tirupathur district of Tamilnadu. Trait Emotional Intelligence Questionnaire ASF by Petrides et al. (2006) was used to measure emotional intelligence. To measure perceived maternal parenting style, Parenting Scale (P Scale) by Bharadwaj et al. (1998) was used. The parenting styles Rejection vs. Acceptance, Carelessness vs. Protection and Freedom vs. Discipline were taken for the present study. The data was analyzed using one-way ANOVA. It was found that perceived maternal parenting styles such as Rejection vs. Acceptance and Freedom vs. Discipline had a significant influence on emotional intelligence among the sample but the parenting style Carelessness Vs. Protection had no significant influence on the emotional intelligence among the sample. It was also found that the parenting style Rejection vs. Acceptance had a significant influence on emotional intelligence only among the males.

**Key Words:** Emotional Intelligence, Perceived Maternal Parenting Styles.

## INTRODUCTION

According to Goleman, emotional intelligence (EI) refers to the ability to recognize and regulate emotions in ourselves and others (Goleman, 2001). Parenting styles can be defined as the differing styles of discipline, nurturance, reinforcement, and acceptance used by parents during child-rearing. Darling and Steinberg (1993) define parenting style as the emotional climate in which parents raise their children. Perceived parenting is the perceptions of the individual about one's own feelings as to how he or she was brought up by his/her parents on different modes of parenting. According to Schafer (1965), a child's perception of their parent's behaviour may be more related to their adjustment than the actual behaviour of the parents. Perceived maternal parenting style is the child's perception of the mother's behaviour towards them. It is evident that the influence of perceived maternal parenting style on boys and girls differs, and consequently, its effect on emotional intelligence may also vary.

## Significance of the Study

Emotional intelligence is found to be an important factor which influences many psychological factors especially among adolescents so it is necessary to find out the factors that influence the development of emotional intelligence. Parenting style had a great impact on the upbringing of children. It could also have an impact on the development of emotional intelligence among adolescents. The present study tries to analyze the impact of perceived maternal parenting styles on the emotional intelligence among the sample. The impact of the maternal parenting style on males and females may differ and so a gender wise analysis is also needed to study the impact of gender difference.

## Objectives of the Study

1. To evaluate the influence of the perceived maternal parenting style Rejection Vs. Acceptance on the emotional intelligence among the sample.
2. To evaluate the influence of the perceived maternal parenting style Carelessness Vs. Protection on the emotional intelligence among the sample.
3. To evaluate the influence of the perceived maternal parenting style Freedom Vs. Discipline on the emotional intelligence among the sample.

## Hypotheses

1. There will not be a significant difference in the mean emotional intelligence score among the sample whose score on the perceived maternal parenting style Rejection Vs. Acceptance differ.
2. There will not be a significant difference in the mean emotional intelligence score among the males whose score on the perceived maternal parenting style Rejection Vs. Acceptance differ.
3. There will not be a significant difference in the mean emotional intelligence score among the females whose score on the perceived maternal parenting style Rejection Vs. Acceptance differ.
4. There will not be a significant difference in the mean emotional intelligence score among the sample whose score on the perceived maternal parenting style Carelessness Vs. Protection differ.
5. There will not be a significant difference in the mean emotional intelligence score among the males whose score on the perceived maternal parenting style Carelessness Vs. Protection differ.
6. There will not be a significant difference in the mean emotional intelligence score among the females whose score on the perceived maternal parenting style Carelessness Vs. Protection differ.
7. There will not be a significant difference in the mean emotional intelligence score among the sample whose score on the perceived maternal parenting style Freedom Vs. Discipline differ.
8. There will not be a significant difference in the mean emotional intelligence score among the males whose score on the perceived maternal parenting style Freedom Vs. Discipline differ.
9. There will not be a significant difference in the mean emotional intelligence score among the females whose score on the perceived maternal parenting style Freedom Vs. Discipline differ.

## METHOD

### Sample

The sample for the present study was drawn from five B.Ed., colleges in Tirupathur district from Tamilnadu through convenience sampling. The sample consist of 100 B.Ed students (50 males and 50 females) whose mean age is 24.1 years.

## Tool

Trait Emotional Intelligence Questionnaire-ASF by Petrides et. al (2006) was used. To measure perceived maternal parenting style, Parenting Scale by Bharadwaj et al., (1998) was used. Only the relevant items related to the three selected parenting styles were used.

## Procedure

Both tests were administered on the sample after making a rapport with the sample. To test the hypothesis framed in the study one way ANOVA was worked out. Descriptive statistics such as mean and standard deviation were also worked out.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Table-1: The impact of perceived maternal parenting style Rejecting Vs. Accepting on the emotional intelligence among the sample. (N=100)**

	N			Emotional Intelligence (Mean)			S.D			Significance (p)		
	M*	F**	T#	M*	F**	T#	M*	F**	T#	M*	F**	T#
Highly Rejecting	–	3	3	–	134.3	134.3	–	12.3	12.3	0.001	0.67	0.008
Moderately Rejecting	22	9	31	133.1	131.3	132.2	25.2	24.1	24.5			
Neutral	24	38	62	158.4	138.5	148.4	17.9	22.5	20.3			
Moderately Accepting	4	–	4	137.4	–	137.4	14.6	–	14.6			
Highly Accepting	0	0	0	–	–	–	–	–	–			

\*Male \*\*Female #Total

Table 1 shows the difference in mean emotional intelligence score of the sample whose score in the perceived maternal parenting style Rejecting Vs. Accepting differ. The parenting style Rejecting Vs. Accepting is a significant factor in determining the emotional intelligence among the sample, since the value of p ( $p=0.008$ ) is significant. It is found that the subjects who perceive their maternal parenting style as neither rejecting nor accepting (neutral) had the highest score (148.4) in the mean emotional intelligence and the subjects with moderately rejecting mothers had the least score (132.2). Hence hypothesis 01 is rejected.

It is found that the significance is positive only for males and not for females. The value of p for males is 0.001 and that for females it is 0.67 which is insignificant. It is found that the males who perceive their maternal parenting style as neither rejecting nor accepting (neutral) had the highest score (158.4) in the mean emotional intelligence and the males with moderately rejecting mothers had the least score (133.1). The same is true for females also. But the difference is insignificant. Hence the hypothesis 02 is rejected and hypothesis 03 is accepted.

**Table-2: The Impact of perceived maternal parenting style Carelessness Vs. Protecting on the emotional Intelligence among the sample.**

	N			Emotional Intelligence (Mean)			S.D			Significance (p)		
	M*	F**	T#	M*	F**	T#	M*	F**	T#	M*	F**	T#
Highly Careless	0	0	0	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.98	0.36	0.47
Moderately Careless	7	5	12	141.7	150	145.8	38.1	14	26.1			
Neutral	31	28	59	140.7	134.4	137.5	21.3	22.7	21.9			
Moderately Protecting	12	17	29	139.8	137.4	138.6	10.8	23	16.9			
Highly Protecting	0	0	0	–	–	–	–	–	–			

\*Male \*\*Female #Total

Table 2 shows the difference in mean emotional intelligence score of the sample whose score in the perceived maternal parenting style Carelessness Vs. Protection differ. The parenting style Carelessness Vs. Protection is an insignificant factor in determining the emotional intelligence among the sample, since the value of p ( $p=0.47$ ) is insignificant. It is found that the subjects who perceive their maternal parenting style as moderately careless had the highest score (145.8) in the mean emotional intelligence and the subjects whose mothers are neither careless nor protecting had the least score (137.5). But the difference is insignificant. Hence hypothesis 04 is accepted.

It is found that the value is insignificant for both males and females. The value of p for males is 0.98 and that for females it is 0.36 which are insignificant. Hence hypothesis 05 and 06 are accepted.

**Table-3: The Impact of perceived maternal parenting style Freedom Vs. Discipline on the emotional Intelligence among the sample.**

	N			Emotional Intelligence (Mean)			S.D			Significance (p)		
	M*	F**	T#	M*	F**	T#	M*	F**	T#	M*	F**	T#
High Freedom	0	0	0	–	–	–	–	–	–	-	0.03	0.001
Moderate Freedom	5	4	9	138.8	130.5	134.6	37.3	15.7	26.9			
Neutral	25	18	43	158.4	154.4	156.4	21.6	20.2	20.9			
Moderate Discipline	20	25	45	139.3	131.1	135.2	18.9	28.4	23.6			
High Discipline	0	3	3	–	130.7	130.7	–	33.3	33.3			

\*Male \*\*Female #Total

Table 3 shows the difference in mean emotional intelligence score of the sample whose score in the perceived maternal parenting style Freedom Vs. Discipline differ. The parenting style Freedom Vs. Discipline is a significant factor in determining the emotional intelligence among the sample, since the value of p ( $p=0.001$ ) is significant. It is found that the subjects who perceive their maternal parenting style as neither of giving freedom nor disciplined (neutral) had the highest score (156.4) in the mean emotional intelligence and the subjects with moderate freedom mothers had the least score (134.6). Hence hypothesis 07 is rejected.

It is found that the significance is positive for both males and females. The value of p for males is 0.02 and that for females it is 0.03 which are significant. It is found that for both males and females

who perceive their maternal parenting style as neither of giving freedom nor disciplined (neutral) had the highest score (158.4) and (154.4) respectively in the mean emotional intelligence. Males with moderate freedom giving mothers had the least score (138.8). The same is true for females with a score of (130.5). Hence the hypothesis 08 and 09 are rejected.

## CONCLUSION

The analyzed and interpreted findings of the study have led to the following conclusion. The perceived maternal parenting style Rejecting Vs. Accepting had significant influence on the emotional intelligence score among the sample. The significance is positive among males but it is an insignificant factor among females. The impact of perceived maternal parenting style Carelessness Vs. Protecting on the emotional intelligence among the sample is insignificant. The same is true among both males and females. The impact of perceived maternal parenting style Freedom Vs. Discipline on the emotional intelligence among the sample is significant. The same is true among both males and females.

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