



THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PERCEIVED PARENTING STYLES AND LEARNING STYLES AMONGST ADOLESCENTS

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Abstract

This research paper explores the relationship between Perceive Parenting Styles and Learning Styles amongst Adolescents. The study aims to identify the extent to which Parenting styles impact the preferred modality of Learning in adolescents. The research utilized a quantitative approach and involved a sample of students from private educational settings. Statistical analyses, including correlation and regression analyses, were conducted to examine the associations between the variables. The findings revealed significant positive correlations between Authoritative parenting style and Visual learning style.

Key Words: Parenting Styles. Perceived Parenting Styles, Learning Styles, Adolescent

The relationship between parenting styles and learning styles amongst children and adolescents has piqued the curiosity of numerous psychologists, educators, and child development researchers. Parenting styles are the tactics and attitudes that parents employ when raising their children, whereas learning styles are an individual's chosen manner of learning and obtaining knowledge.

Numerous studies have been conducted to study the association between perceived parenting styles and learning styles in children and adolescents, with various degrees of results. Some studies have reported a significant association between parenting styles and learning styles, while others have found little to no correlation. The purpose of this study is to present an overview of current research on the association between perceived parenting styles and learning styles in children and adolescents.

Numerous studies have explored the relationship between perceived parenting styles and learning styles amongst adolescents. For instance, a study conducted by Oladele (2013) found that authoritarian parenting style was associated with a preference for visual and kinesthetic learning styles amongst Nigerian adolescents. Another study conducted by Zarei et al. (2019) found that authoritative parenting style was associated with a preference for auditory and visual learning styles amongst Iranian adolescents. These findings suggest that parenting styles may influence an adolescent's preference for specific learning styles.

In the following study, attempts have been made to ascertain and observe the impact of perceived parenting styles on learning styles amongst adolescents. After a thorough review of a variety of past literature, it has been observed that there has been a major gap in them and a lack of focus on the association between perceived parenting styles and learning styles. Hereby, an attempt is made to understand the relationship between perceived parenting styles and learning styles.

The major components of the study are explained below:

1. **Perceived Parental Styles:** Perceived parenting style refers to an individual's subjective perception and interpretation of their parents' approach to parenting. It focuses on how children and adolescents perceive their parents' behaviors, attitudes, and interactions in the context of parenting. The perceived parenting style can influence various aspects of a child's development, including their emotional well-being, self-esteem, cognitive abilities, and social competence. Perceived parenting style is often studied using questionnaires or interviews that ask children and adolescents to report their perceptions of their parents' behaviors. These perceptions are subjective and may not always align with the actual parenting behaviors exhibited by the parents. However, they provide valuable insights into how children interpret and experience their parents' parenting practices. Based on Diana Baumrind's work, researchers established three major types of perceived parenting styles: authoritative, authoritarian, and permissive.
 - **Authoritative Parenting Style:** In this style, parents are nurturing, responsive, and supportive, while also maintaining clear rules and expectations. They provide warmth and affection, listen to their children's opinions, and encourage independence. Authoritative parents are assertive but not overly strict, and they use reasoning and explanations to guide their children's behavior. Children reared by forceful parents have stronger self-esteem, better social skills, and superior academic performance.
 - **Authoritarian Parenting Style:** Parents with an authoritarian style tend to be strict, demanding, and controlling. They have high expectations for their children and enforce rules without much room for negotiation. Authoritarian parents prioritize obedience and discipline over individuality and autonomy. They may use punishment and coercion to ensure compliance. Children raised by authoritarian parents may develop lower self-esteem, have difficulty making decisions, and exhibit more anxiety and depression.
 - **Permissive Parenting Style:** Permissive parents are easygoing and indulgent, and they avoid establishing firm boundaries and regulations. They are frequently nurturing and sensitive, yet have modest needs and expectations. Permissive parents may act more like friends than authoritative figures, allowing their children to make their own decisions with little direction or supervision. Children raised by permissive parents may struggle with self-control, have issues with authority people, and perform poorly in school.

2. Learning Styles: Learning styles, in general, refer to the various methods in which people like grasp and analyze information. Understanding an individual's learning style can help educators customize their teaching methods to best meet the needs of each student, but other aspects such as personality qualities, cognitive ability, and cultural background should also be considered. Despite significant debate over the validity and use of learning styles, many instructors continue to utilize them as a framework for organizing instruction and assessing student needs.

Hypothesis

Authoritative Learning style and Visual Learning style are positively correlated

Sample

The sample size for this study was 231 adolescents with the age range of 13 to 18, studying in private schools. There were a total of 119 boys and 112 girls. The sample was selected using Random Sampling Method. The inclusion criteria was that the individual should be falling in the age range of 13-18.

Tools

The Perceived Parenting Styles Scale is a tool which is used to assess the way a child perceives and interprets the approach to the parents' parenting. This scale has 30 statements which help assess which of the 3 dimensions, namely Authoritative, Authoritarian and Kinesthetic, is dominant and in turn indicative of the perceived parenting style. . The rating is done on a 5-point Likert scale, with Never being 1 and Always being 5.

The Learning Style Questionnaire is a tool used to assess the preferred way an individual uses to learn or study something. The scale has a total of 30 statements which are divided into 3 separate sections, each having 10 statements each. Each of the section measures the scores for the 3 learnings styles, namely Visual, Auditory and Kinesthetic respectively. The participant is asked to read the statement and rate it on a scale of 1 to 3, with 1 being "Never applies to me," 2 being "Sometimes applies to me," and 3 being "Often applies to me."

Procedure

The selected tools were imported to Google forms. The first section had the consent form along with a brief description of what the aim of the research and the data collection was. The second section collected the personal demographic of the respondent such as their age, gender, school name and type, state, etc. Section 3 and 4 had the Perceived Parenting Styles Scale and Learning Style Questionnaire respectively. The data collected was then imported to excel to be coded so that it could be imported to SPSS. Hereafter, Pearson's product moment correlation and Hierarchal Regression was calculated.

Result

Table 1*Hierarchical Regression results for Visual learning style*

Variable	B	95% CI		SE B	β	R^2	ΔR^2
		LL	UL				
Step 1						.70	.70***
Constant	8.58***	7.64	9.51	.47			
Authoritative	.35***	.31	.38	.01	.84***		
Step 2						.71	.01
Constant	11.05***	9.21	12.88	.93			
Authoritative	.32***	.28	.35	.02	.76***		
Authoritarian	.05	-.09	-.02	.02	-.13		
Step 3						.72	.01
Constant	16.5***	12.43	20.56	2.06			
Authoritative	.26***	.20	.31	.03	.62***		
Authoritarian	-.11***	-.16	-.06	.03	.27***		
Permissive	-.08	-.13	-.02	.03	-.17		

Note: CI= Confidence Interval; LL= Lower Limit; UL= Upper Limit

*** $p < .001$

The findings revealed that Authoritative positively predicted Visual learning style ($\beta = 0.62$, $p < .001$) while Authoritarian negatively predicted it ($\beta = -.27$, $p < .001$). Permissive, on the other hand, did not predict it significantly ($\beta = -.17$, $p = .004$). The ΔR^2 value of .01 revealed a 1% change in variance of Model 1 and Model 2 with $\Delta F(1, 228) = 9.33$, $p = .003$. The subsequent ΔR^2 value of .01 revealed a 1% change in the variance of Model 2 and Model 3 with $\Delta F(1, 227) = 8.70$, $p = .004$.

Table 2*Correlations for Visual learning style*

		Correlations			
		Visual	Authoritative	Authoritarian	Permissive
Visual	Pearson Correlation	1	.839**	-.558**	-.333**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		<.001	<.001	<.001
	N	231	231	231	231
Authoritative	Pearson Correlation	.839**	1	-.559**	-.412**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	<.001		<.001	<.001
	N	231	231	231	231
Authoritarian	Pearson Correlation	-.558**	-.559**	1	-.336**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	<.001	<.001		<.001
	N	231	231	231	231
Permissive	Pearson Correlation	-.333**	-.412**	-.336**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	<.001	<.001	<.001	
	N	231	231	231	231

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Table 2 shows the correlation Visual learning style has with the three Parenting Styles: Authoritative, Authoritarian and Permissive. It can be observed that Visual has a strong correlation with Authoritative (0.83).

Discussion

The purpose of the research was to look at the relationship that exists between Perceived Parenting Styles and Learning Styles in adolescents. The subjects considered for this study ranged in age from 13 to 18 years old. Participants were chosen through random sampling method and consisted of students from private schools. The two variables that were under scrutiny were Perceived Parenting Style and Learning Style. Parenting styles refers to the various approaches, techniques and strategies used by parents to interact with and raise their children. This is characterized by aspects such as communication, discipline, expectations, responsiveness and warmth to name a few. Perceived Parenting style simply indicates the way an individual perceives and interprets their parents' approach to parenting. It focuses on how one individual perceives their parents' attitudes, behaviors and interactions in context to parenting. Learning Style, on the other hand, refers to the various approaches and methods one prefers to process, acquire and retain information. It propagates that individuals have a preference to a certain specific way of learning that is more effective and tailored to them.

The study formulated a hypotheses and tested it using empirical data. The hypothesis predicted that Authoritative parenting style and Visual learning style would be positively related. The results showed that individuals who have parents that are Authoritative tend to indulge in Visual based modalities. Such individuals learn by seeing or watching demonstrations, have a vivid imagination and tend to think in pictures. They may also have immense tendency to visualize in detail. When in situations that are new to them, Visual learners may be seen looking around and examining the environment and structures around them. Visual learners prefer visual cues such as diagrams, charts, graphs, and images to assimilate information. When information is presented graphically, they find it easier to comprehend and retain it. They

benefit from visual aids and prefer to use highlighters, flashcards, and other visual tools to enhance their learning experience. They may tend to be more distracted by sudden movements rather than any auditory stimuli.

The Authoritative parenting style has parents that are nurturing, responsive, and supportive, while also maintaining clear rules and expectations. They provide warmth and affection, listen to their children's opinions, and encourage independence. Authoritative parents are assertive but not overly strict, and they use reasoning and explanations to guide their children's behavior. Children reared by authoritative parents have stronger self-esteem, better social skills, and superior academic performance.

There are certain limitations of the study. To start with, the demographic had been selected only from private schools. And even though the sample distribution based on gender were relatively equal, the study could have had a better insight if there was an equal distribution of students for each of the six variables involved in the study. That would have painted a more detailed and insightful picture of the correlations and associations between each and every variable and possibly even bring to awareness a perspective that had not been considered earlier. Due to the lack of time and funding, the study could not be explored to the entirety of its depth and dimensions.

For future studies in the same direction, it can be taken into consideration the influence of culture, religion and even gender differences and their impact on parenting styles and learning styles. An even broader study could involve the study of difference between Indian and Western perception regarding parenting styles and learning styles.

Conclusion

The objective of this research was to examine the connection between Perceived Parenting Styles and Learning Styles to see if perceived parenting styles influence learning styles in teenagers. Data was collected from 231 participants through online questionnaires via 2 scales: Perceived Parenting Style Scale (PPSS) and Learning Style Questionnaire. The study found that there was a positive correlation between Authoritative parenting style and Visual learning style. The findings are significant since they provide useful insights into the influence of parenting styles on an individual's learning style. This study contributes to the sparse literature on the interplay between Parenting style and Learning style and could possibly provide useful insights to parents, educators, scholars and psychologists who are trying to enhance their understanding of the same.

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