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Self Concept, Self Efficacy and Emotional Stability of Children of Dual Working Couples

Background: In today's competitive world, many families find it necessary for both parents to go out to work. This family type is increasing because of economic necessity. However, it has important consequential effect on personality of a developing child. Some people believe that their children will have more benefits as both parents work, while others claim that this has negative effects on children. It is imperative in such a paradoxical condition to conduct empirical studies so as to clear the positions on important variables. Therefore, this study was carried out to explore whether working of both parents, income of the family and gender of children affects the self-concept, self-efficacy and emotional stability of the children. **Method:** The sample comprised of 240 children with equal number of 120 of single working and 120 dual working parents, in each group 60 children from higher class families and 60 from middle class families were taken. Further in each group 30 were males and 30 females. **Results:** Children of dual working couples scored higher on self concept, self-efficacy and emotional stability than children of single working couples. Children of middle class families and children of higher class families did not differ on their self concept, self efficacy and emotional stability. Males and female children did not differ on self concept, self efficacy and emotional stability. None of the interactional

effect came to be significant, except two-way interaction of type of couples and economic class on emotional stability came to be significant. Male children of middle class dual working couples scored higher on self efficacy and emotional stability in comparison to their counterparts of male children of middle class single working couples. Also, female children of middle class dual working couples scored higher on self efficacy and emotional stability in comparison to their counterparts of female children of middle class single working couples. Whereas, male children of higher class single working and dual working couples and female children of higher class single working and dual working couples did not differ. **Conclusion:** Children of dual working couple perceive themselves in a better way, feel more confident and believe in themselves more than children of single working parents. The working parents perhaps occupy an important exemplary role within the family and often command considerable respect from their children, because they demonstrate in a way the worthy characteristics of industriousness, social compatibility, self reliance, maturity, intelligence and responsibility. This leads to better self concept, self-efficacy and emotional stability of children of dual working couples.

Keywords : Self Concept, Self Efficacy, Emotional Stability, Single Working Couples and Dual Working Couples.