



Effectiveness of Parenting Styles on Personality Traits of Children at Secondary Level

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Abstract: Parenting style is basically a psychological term that leads us to the approaches that were used by the parents to bring up their children's in their childhood. The main focus of the study was to explore the effectiveness of parenting styles on the personality of children at the secondary level. Objectives of the study were to explore the effectiveness of parenting styles on the personality of children at the secondary level and to recommend proposed parenting styles for the development of student's personality of children at the secondary level. This study followed a mixed method in nature and followed survey design. All the children of class 10 and their parents were the population of the study from the government and private schools of Faisalabad city. It is highly recommended that parents may be provided awareness session to now the importance of their parenting styles and their impact on the personality traits of their children. It is recommended that the government may provide funds and also provide technical facilities. More researches may be conducted on the subject cited above. Curriculum agencies may develop a curriculum on the subject so everybody may have an idea about parenting style also.

Key Words: Effectiveness, Parenting Style, Personality Traits & Secondary Level

Introduction

Family is a combination of parents and their children. In a house which a family lived known as home. Home is known as the base unit of any society. Relationship of the family is important to unite them in a family system and also to grow up their children. Family relations are vital in any individual's life. [Goodman, Gregg, & Washbrook \(2011\)](#), believed that personality styles of any individual initiate at his home. A child not only inherits potentialities of the family but, the attitude, belief, behavior and ideas always reflect family environment from the childhood till all the life.

According to [Sarwar, \(2016\)](#), parenting style is basically a psychological term that leads us to the approaches that were used by the parents to bring up their children's in their childhood. It is very necessary to choose an effective parenting style for the better development of the child than to spend a lot of time with the children. Parents have a deep impact and effect on the personality of children.

It is known that the early and current societies agreed on one point that the influence of the parents on their children is dominant and is a sort of reflection of the parents that remain in the personality throughout the life. Everybody is united on the fact that the influence of the parents parenting style has great importance in the life of their children. So, it is admitted the fact that a better parenting style can improve the personality of the children and have a deep impact on their personality on all the stages of life ([Rivera-Mercado, 2019](#)).

According to [Kelleci, Lambrechts, Voordeckers, & Huybrechts \(2019\)](#), personality is a difference that one may have from others in their characteristic, thinking, behaving and feeling. While studying the

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personality, the focus of the researchers is always on two areas 1) differences in personality as irritability and sociability 2) understand the body language of an individual or feeling on the specific situation.

Background of the Study

Importance of parenting style can be proved from the researches those were done in the last decade. [Pinquart, \(2017\)](#) explored that, at the moment this is a most appealing subject for researchers to find the influence of different parenting styles on student' personality as, in the past, some of the researchers worked on the effects of economic status, educational and social status of the family on the personality of children or children but studies on the effect or impact of parenting style on the development of children personality were not conducted. Some studies are there on parenting style and its importance on children functioning dimensions.

Parenting styles have a great effect on the functionality of their children in many ways as well as on their personality dimensions. In between 1940 to 1950, Diana Baumrind studied development, social and psychological aspects of the parenting styles. She conducts research as she thinks that it will be helpful to grow and care for her children. After that, in 1970, she studied the relationship between child and parent at home. After that, she gave the theory that pointed out the four types of parenting styles ([García, Serra Desfilis, Zacarés González, & García, 2018](#)).

According to [Clouser, Ding, Chen, Cho, Wang, & Hwang, \(2020\)](#), Diana Baumrind explored major parenting styles and gave four dimensions as i) PARENTING control (PC), ii) Communication (COM), iii) Maturity Demands (MD) and iv) Nurturance (NU). PC means the rules for influencing and to get behavior that is desired, MD means expectations of the parents from their parents, COM means the willingness to communicate or interact with children while NU warmth of parent's expression or response related to the wellbeing of emotions. She gave the idea of parenting styles as, authoritative, permissive, indulgent and uninvolved.

In authoritative parenting (AP), children show the attitude of self-esteem and self-reliance. Children will be confident, responsible, independent and responsible. In AP, parents want to maintain high expectations and standards and always have clear and concise limits. They implement discipline which is always based on reasons. Children's are always encouraged by them to make their decisions by their self and to learn from their mistakes. They control and shape the behavior and attitude of their kids. They always listen to their kids and provide affection and due respect. These parents take their decisions confidently related to their children ([Singh, 2017](#)).

In the permissive style of parenting, parents show much emotion warm than the parents of other styles of parenting. They also show much loving and caring more than other parents to their children. These parents don't have set limits for children, but it is also a fact that permissive parents demand some expectations from their children. It is also a bitter fact that the children don't want to accept any responsibility or accept it with hesitation and unwillingly. Children of these parents are always hesitated to make decisions, and in their whole life, they remain dependent on others for their decisions. It is because of their parents, those always tolerant and willingly accepts all the desires and wishes of their children and always take decisions by themselves. They think that they (parents) are responsible for providing all the resources and for fulfilling and the desires of their children and also to shape the behavior of the children. They (parents) are always hesitant to use force or their authority to get their desired goals. In the result, their children always show the immature, impulsive and demanding attitude ([Baumrind, 1971](#)).

Parents with the uninvolved style of parents don't have any demand and limits regarding their children. They don't have emotional attachment and warmth with children. They also have no concern about the future of their children. They show non-serious and ignorant behavior about the needs and requirements of the children. In the result of the behavior of their parents, children show low performance not only studies but also in other matters of life and matters related to society. They remain depressed always and feel insecure in the whole of their life ([Baumrind, 1971](#)).

Many researchers explored personality traits, but the most common and famous are the five factors. This five-factor theory basically describes the fundamental traits that are the base of the personality traits

([Power, & Pluess, 2015](#)). The five-factor theory can be found in the studies done by different authors ([Fiske, 1949](#); [Norman, 1967](#); [Norman, 1967](#); [Goldberg, 1981](#); [McCrae & Costa, 1987](#)). They all are united on the five factors of personality given below:

Openness is the trait which has characteristics of opening themselves to others. They are quite imaginary and have great insight ([Power, & Pluess, 2015](#)). People with this personality trait always have a very wide variety of interests. They are anxious to know more about the people of their society and also about the universe. They always want to do new experiments and always want to search for new horizons. They want to enjoy their life and want others to do so.

According to [Power & Pluess \(2015\)](#), people with conscientiousness personality trait are higher thinkers. They have good control and grip on their behavior and attitude; that's why they can be able to mold themselves in every situation easily. They always remain job-specific and goal-oriented. They are supposed to be very organized and organized individuals in all the walks of life. They always look forward and plan their activities and very curious about the effect of their behavior on the people.

Power, & Pluess, (2015), believed that people with the trait of extraversion are very excited in social circles. They tend to be much talkative, want to win other peoples trust and happiness. They show a very high level of expressions of love and hatred. They always remain in search of adventure by going outside.

Agreeableness trait People are always ready to work for other people. They always remain kind to others and show responsible, that's why people trust them. They also have known as helping hand of society. They cooperate all the members of the society whether they have a close relation to them or not ([Power, & Pluess, 2015](#)).

Power & Pluess (2015) also wrote about neuroticism that people with this trait show sad and moody behavior. They also have instability in emotions. Their mood swings in a minute. Their anxiety is also out of control, and they remain sad always. But people with low neuroticism are more stable and more resilient in emotions.

The main focus of the study was to explore the effectiveness of parenting styles on the personality of children at the secondary level. This study will be beneficial for the parents, teacher curriculum planners, administrators, policymakers to organize the curriculum in an efficient way. This study would also be beneficial for the organizations that are working on community building and the rights of parents and children's. They can make a sound and useful mechanism for personality building and also enhance the academic achievement of children at all levels of education.

Objectives of the Study

This study was conducted to achieve the following objectives:

1. To explore the effectiveness of parenting styles on the personality of children at the secondary level.
2. To recommend a proposed parenting style for the development of children personality of children at the secondary level.

Methodology

This study followed a mixed method in nature and followed survey design. All the children of class 10 and their parents were the population of the study from the government and private schools of Faisalabad city. For quantitative data, 10 male and 10 female secondary schools from the public and private sector were selected randomly. From each school, 5 children and their parents were taken conveniently as a sample. For qualitative data, 40 children and their parents from the sample were taken for quantitative data (20 male and 20 female) and were selected conveniently. For quantitative data, questionnaire and observation for qualitative data were used. Tools were developed after a literature review and keeping in mind the parenting style and big five personality traits. Data collected from the observations were entered in an Excel sheet, and the percentage was calculated. Analysis is given below in tables and charts.

Results of the Study

This study is about the parenting style of the parents and its impact on student's personality traits in the perspective of big 5 personality traits presented by [Baumrind, \(1971\)](#). This study was a mixed-method in nature, and survey design was followed to complete the study. Data were collected by questionnaire and observation. Results of the study are given in table and pie charts below.

Table 1. Children views about their Personality traits and Attitude of their Parents.

Sr.	Statement	DA%	UD%	A%	M	SD
1	My parents show authoritative attitude to me	67.0%	12.0%	21.0%	2.29	1.225
2	My parents show permissive attitude to me	25.0%	5.0%	70.0%	3.78	1.160
3	My parents show uninvolved attitude to me	33.0%	9.0%	58.0%	3.50	1.193
4	I am open to every one	41.0%	12.0%	47.0%	3.14	1.239
5	I am high thinker	31.0%	8.0%	61.0%	3.54	1.359
6	I feel excitement in social circles	51.0%	15.0%	34.0%	2.75	1.077
7	I want to work for other people	30.0%	10.0%	60.0%	3.53	1.344
8	I want to stay alone and like sadness	71.0%	12.0%	17.0%	2.16	1.070
Average		43.62%	10.38%	46.00%	3.37	1.138

DA= Disagreed, UD= Un-Decided & A= Agreed

Table 1 is about the personality traits and attitude of their parents. It is proved from the table that in the statement, "My parents show authoritative attitude to me" most of the respondents (67.0%) were against the statement that their parents show authoritative attitude to them. Twenty-one percent (21.0%) children were agreed to the statement, and 12.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents were against the statement (M=2.29, SD=1.225) that their parents don't show an authoritative attitude to them. In the statement, "My parents show permissive attitude to me" most of the respondents (70.0%) were in favor of the statement that their parents show permissive attitude to them. Twenty-five percent (25.0%) children disagreed to the statement, and 5.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents approved the statement (M=3.78, SD=1.160) that their parents show permissive attitude to them. In the statement, "My parents show uninvolved attitude to me" most of the respondents (58.0%) were in favor of the statement that their parents show uninvolved attitude to them. Thirty-three percent (33.0%) children disagreed to the statement, and 9.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents approved the statement (M=3.50, SD=1.193) that their parents show uninvolved attitude to them. In the statement, "I am open to everyone" most of the respondents (47.0%) were in favour of the statement that they are open to everyone. Forty-one percent (41.0%) children disagreed to the statement, and 12.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents approved the statement (M=3.14, SD=1.239) that they are open to everyone. In the statement, "I am high thinker" most of the respondents (61.0%) were in favor of the statement that they are a high thinker. Thirty-one percent (31.0%) children were disagreed to the statement and 8.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents approved the statement (M=3.54, SD=1.359) that they are a high thinker. In the statement, "I feel the excitement in social circles" most of the respondents (51.0%) were against the statement that they feel the excitement in social circles. Thirty-four percent (34.0%) children were agreed to the statement, and 15.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents were against the statement (M=2.75, SD=1.077) that they feel the excitement in social circles. In the statement, "I want to work for other people" most of the respondents (60.0%) were in favor of the statement that they want to work for other people. Thirty percent (30.0%) children disagreed to the statement, and 10.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents approved the statement (M=3.53, SD=1.344) that they want to work for other people. In the statement, "I want to stay alone and like sadness" most of the respondents (71.0%) were against the statement that they want to stay alone and like sadness. Seventeen percent (17.0%) children were agreed to the statement, and 12.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents were against the statement (M=2.16, SD=1.070) that they want to stay alone and like sadness. On average, the

majority of the respondents (46.00%) gave a negative opinion, 43.62% were in favor of the statements, and 10.38% remained neutral while average $M=3.37$ and $SD=1.138$.

From the results above it was proved that majority of the children (70.0%) were agreed that their parents used permissive parenting style, 58.0% were agreed that the style of their parent's parenting was uninvolved and only 12.0% were agreed that their parents use authoritative parenting style. Hence it was proved that permissive parenting is the most dominating style of parenting by parents.

When they were asked about the personality traits, majority of the respondents (61.0%) agreed on a conscientiousness personality trait, 60.0% were agreed on an agreeableness personality trait, 47.0% were on openness, 34.0% on extraversion and 17.0% responded that they have neuroticism personality trait. Hence it was proved that conscientiousness personality trait is the most dominant trait.

Table 2. Parents views about their Parenting Style and Personality of their Children

Sr.	Statement	DA%	UD%	A%	M	SD
1	I show authoritative attitude to my children	20.0%	9.0%	71.0%	3.83	1.146
2	I show permissive attitude to my children	31.0%	7.0%	62.0%	3.62	1.339
3	I show uninvolved attitude to my children	79.0%	7.0%	14.0%	2.05	1.114
4	My children are open to every one	23.0%	2.0%	75.0%	3.90	1.275
5	My children are high thinker	33.0%	22.0%	45.0%	3.10	1.010
6	My children feel excitement in social circles	21.0%	6.0%	73.0%	3.78	1.360
7	My children want to work for other people	30.0%	10.0%	60.0%	3.56	1.132
8	My children stay alone and like sadness	26.0%	5.0%	69.0%	3.60	1.035
Average		32.64%	8.24%	59.12%	3.43	1.176

DA= Disagreed, UD= Un-Decided & A= Agreed

Table 2 is about parents views about their parenting style and personality of their children. It is proved from the table that in the statement, "I show authoritative attitude to their children" most of the respondents (71.0%) agreed to the statement that they show authoritative attitude to their children. Twenty percent (20.0%) parents were agreed to the statement, and 9.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that the majority of the parents approved the statement ($M=3.83$, $SD=1.146$) that they show an authoritative attitude to their children. In the statement, "I show permissive attitude to my children" most of the respondents (62.0%) were against the statement that they show permissive attitude to their children. Thirty-one percent (31.0%) parents were agreed to the statement, and 7.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents disapproved the statement ($M=3.62$, $SD=1.339$) that they show permissive attitude to their children. In the statement, "I show uninvolved attitude to my children" most of the respondents (79.0%) rejected the statement that they show uninvolved attitude to their children. Fourteen percent (14.0%) parents were agreed to the statement, and 7.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents rejected the statement ($M=2.05$, $SD=1.114$) that they show uninvolved attitude to their children. In the statement, "My children are open to everyone" most of the respondents (75.0%) were in favor of the statement that their children are open to everyone. Twenty-three percent (23.0%) parents disagreed to the statement, and 2.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents approved the statement ($M=3.90$, $SD=1.275$) that their children are open to everyone. In the statement, "My children are high thinker" most of the respondents (45.0%) were in favor of the statement that their children are a high thinker. Thirty-three percent (33.0%) parents were disagreed to the statement and 22.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents approved the statement ($M=3.10$, $SD=1.010$) that their children are a high thinker. In the statement, "My children feel the excitement in social circles" most of the respondents (73.0%) were in favor of the statement that their children feel the excitement in social circles. Twenty-one percent (21.0%) parents disagreed to the statement, and 6.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents approved the statement ($M=3.78$, $SD=1.360$) that their children feel the excitement in social circles. In the statement, "My children want to work for other people" most of the respondents (60.0%) were in favor of the statement that their children want to work for other people. Thirty percent

(30.0%) parents disagreed to the statement, and 10.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents approved the statement ($M=3.56$, $SD=1.132$) that their children want to work for other people. In the statement, “My children stay alone and like sadness” most of the respondents (69.0%) agreed to the statement that they want to stay alone and like sadness. Twenty-six percent (26.0%) children were disagreed to the statement and 5.0% were undecided. So, It was proved that majority of the respondents were agreed to the statement ($M=3.60$, $SD=1.035$) that they want to stay alone and like sadness.

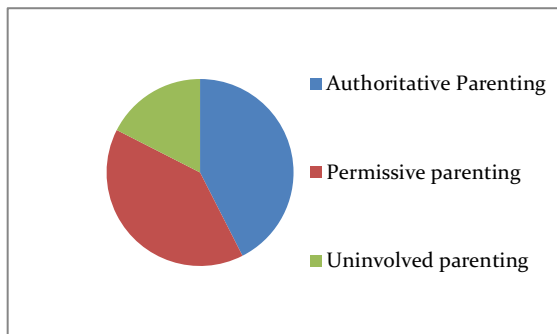
On average, the majority of the respondents (59.12%) gave a positive opinion, 32.64% were against the statements, and 8.24% remained neutral while average $M= 3.43$ and SD was 1.176.

From the results above it was proved that majority of the parents (71.0%) agreed that they use authoritative parenting style, 31.0% were agreed that the style of their parent’s parenting was permissive and only 14.0% were agreed that their parents use uninvolved parenting style. Hence it was proved that permissive parenting is the most dominating style of parenting by parents.

When parents were inquired about the personality traits of their children, majority of them (75.0%) agreed on openness, 73.0% were agreed on an extraversion personality trait, 60.0% were on agreeableness, 45.0% on conscientiousness and 26.0% responded that their children have neuroticism personality trait. Hence it was proved that openness personality trait is the most dominant trait according to the parents.

Table 3. Observation Result of Parents about Parenting Style

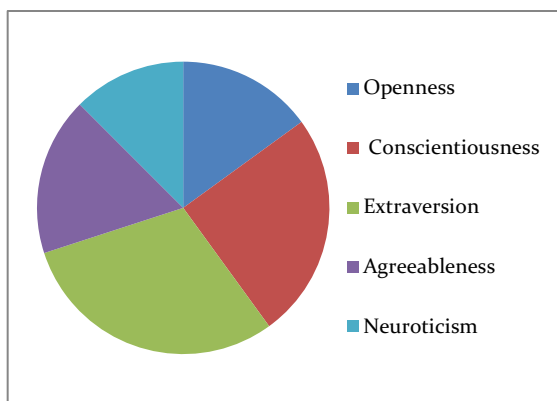
Parenting Style	Frequency	Percentage
Authoritative Parenting	17	42.5%
Permissive parenting	16	40.0%
Uninvolved parenting	7	17.5%



It is evident from table 3 and the pie chart that majority of the parents (42.5%) believed followed authoritative parenting, 40.0% were following permissive parenting, and 17.5% were following Uninvolved parenting style. So it was proved that the authoritative parenting style is the better parenting style. But the permissive parenting style is almost equally famous among parents.

Table 4. Observation Result of Children about Personality Traits

Parenting Style	Frequency	Percentage
Openness	6	15.0%
Conscientiousness	10	25.0%
Extraversion	12	30.0%
Agreeableness	7	17.5%
Neuroticism	5	12.5%



It is evident from the table 4 and pie chart that personality trait of the majority of the children (30.0%) was extraversion, 25.0% have conscientiousness personality trait, 17.5% children have agreeableness personality trait, 15.0% fall in openness and 12.5% neuroticism personality trait. So it was proved that extraversion personality trait is there in most of the children.

Conclusion Discussion

On the basis of findings, it was concluded that that most of the parents used permissive parenting style, uninvolved parenting style was at the second number, and authoritative parenting style was at third number according to the quantitative data collected from children, but according to parents, authoritative parenting is at the first number, permissive parenting was at second and uninvolved parenting style was at the last number. When the researcher made the observation to the parents to assess their style of parenting, then it was observed that the authoritative parenting style was 1st, permissive parenting was 2nd, and uninvolved parenting style was at 3rd. So, it is evident from the findings of parent's survey and their observation gave equal results that authoritative parenting is at the first number, permissive parenting was at second and uninvolved parenting style was at the last number. Result of the children survey was contradicting from the above result, but it may be due to a lack of understanding and knowledge of the parenting styles.

By the opinion of children about their personality traits, conscientiousness personality trait was 1st, agreeableness personality trait was 2nd, openness was 3rd, extraversion was 4th and neuroticism personality trait was at 5th. When parents were inquired about the personality traits of their children, they claimed that openness is 1st, extraversion personality trait is 2nd, agreeableness is at 3rd, conscientiousness is 4th, and neuroticism personality trait was at last (5th). While in observation, extraversion personality trait was at 1st, conscientiousness personality trait was 2nd, agreeableness personality trait was 3rd, openness was 4th and neuroticism personality trait was at 5th position. So it was proved that parents, children and observation of personality traits of children have a different result. All results are the same on neuroticism personality trait only. It was also proved that the parents with the authoritative parenting styles have a positive impact on the personality traits of their children whereas parents with other parenting styles as [Akhtar, Ahmad, & Saifi, \(2019\)](#) have explored in their study.

This study was conducted to explore the effectiveness of parenting style on personality traits of children studying at the secondary level. Results about parenting styles showed that authoritative parenting is at the first number, permissive parenting was at second and uninvolved parenting style was at the last number, as [Kuppens, & Ceulemans, \(2019\)](#) wrote that permissive parenting style shows high support and loving attitude of the parents. By the opinion of children about their personality traits, personality traits are not properly categorized, but they influenced greatly from the parenting styles of their parenting as [Ayoub, \(2019\)](#) observed in his study.

Recommendations of the Study

From the results of the study, it was found that parents have no idea about their parenting styles as they have no knowledge about so, it is highly recommended that parents may be provided awareness session to know the importance of their parenting styles and their impact on the personality traits of their children. Government may provide funds and also provide technical facilities for the purpose. More researches may be conducted on the subject cited above. Curriculum agencies may develop a curriculum on the subject so everybody may have an idea about parenting style also.

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