
CHAPTER - V

DISCUSSION

C H A P T E R - V

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The present study sought to discover social, behavioural and family variables, differences between more competent and less competent schedule caste male adolescents studying in Junior College, ^{of} Kolhapur City area. Rather young men who represent fifty percent urban and fifty percent rural were taken into consideration. Rural subjects were selected from hostels of the Colleges and urban subjects were selected from Junior College classes. In some important ways, the more and the less competent adolescents resemble each other. Specially they are psychologically healthy and energetic. And in general family background, socio economic status, they are differentiated and also they are differentiated at less significant level in case of academic achievement scores. Yet, there are much ~~fact~~ factors those affecting them negatively. They come from generally non-affluent, but hard working families which are somewhat lacking in their abilities to provide intellectual stimulation and financial resources for their children. Further interpretation is regarding the high level of

familial closeness and living together. Of course, parental unity in the total sample, their less per cent of separation rate while not making Scheduled Caste families as different from the general Maharashtrian population. Yet, on the really important dimensions of warmth, acceptance, personal involvement and good intrafamilial communication between parent and child, intact Scheduled Caste families tended towards healthy family environment.

In many important ways, significant differences separate the more and the less competent adolescents and their families. First, the more competent adolescents have - demonstrated more internality and inner directness, are more highly motivated to succeed, have better familial and peer relations and in general are more 'Well adjusted' than the less competent adolescents.

In their response to questions asked about social background, and family, the adolescents and parents were in accord, compared to less competent, the more competent adolescent students have had a more stable social system within which to develop. Although rearing their children in the same communities, the parents of more competent adolescents had smaller number of children, a slightly greater income, had resided in Kolhapur city longer. Moreover, unlike the low competence adolescents, the high competence youths tended to be first and second born and tended to value family more.

Furthermore, the parents of the more competent adolescents indicated greater satisfaction with their parental roles and were more approving of the way of their sons were developing. They were described to be more reasoning and less punished in their socialization practices and able to provide somewhat more encouraging and healthy home environment for their children.

A striking finding of this study is the low degree of psychopathology found among the families generally. The adolescents' self measures, parent responses to interview questions and peers report, triangulate to one undeniable conclusion. For this sample at least, their families are source of strength for these Scheduled Caste Junior College adolescents.

Although this study was largely descriptive and exploratory in nature, findings are both theoretically and practically relevant to the understanding of Scheduled Caste youth and the influence of their social environment upon their developing competence. Obviously, research with more in-depth will focus on family dynamics, male-female differences and cross-cultural distinctions is needed to clarify the role of personality competence in the overall accomplishment of Scheduled Caste adolescents.

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