

# A STUDY OF PARENTAL SUPPORT IN ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF ADOLESCENTS

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## ABSTRACT

*The present study has been undertaken to study parental support in relation to academic achievement of adolescents. The sample consisted of 200 adolescents (100 boys and 100 girls) studying in Sangrur district of Punjab State. For determining the analysis and interpretation, descriptive statistics like Mean, Median, Mode, S.D., Skewness, Kurtosis were used; to find correlation between variables- Pearson's coefficient of correlation was used and for finding significant difference between means- t- ratio was employed. The study revealed positive and significant relationship between parental support and academic achievement of adolescents.*

## INTRODUCTION

Every successful person after reaching his destination finds that his success is due to the help of his parents. When he looks back at his path of life, he finds that his parents had performed a great role in his success. Parents constitute the first school for the child. In fact, it is the family that shapes and lays down the foundation for a child's growth and development.

**ADOLESCENCE-** Adolescence is a very important phase in the developmental process as it is during this phase that the adolescent is virtually launched into the outside world. **According to Roger (2002),** "Adolescence is a process rather than a period, a process of achieving the attitudes and beliefs needed for active participation in the society."

**PARENTAL SUPPORT-** Parental support is one of the most important contribution parents can make to the adolescent's development. **Way and Rossman (1997)** emphasized that "interaction between parent and adolescent include positive behavior such as interests, support,

communication openly and parent child connectedness, help adolescent learn to be autonomous and successful in shaping their own lives."

**ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT-** Achievement means one's learning attainment, accomplishment and proficiency of performance. **According to Trow (1960)** "Academic Achievement is the attained ability or degree of competence in school tests and expressed in grades or units based on norms from a wide sampling of pupil's performance."

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

1. To study and compare parental support of adolescent boys and girls.
2. To study and compare academic achievement of adolescent boys and girls.
3. To Study the relationship between parental support and academic achievement of adolescent boys and girls.

### **HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY**

1. There exists no significant difference in parental support of adolescent boys and girls.
2. There exists no significant difference in various dimensions of parental support of adolescent boys and girls.
3. There exists no significant difference in academic achievement of adolescent boys and girls.
4. A significant relationship exists between various dimensions of parental support and academic achievement of adolescents.

**SAMPLE:** In the present study, a sample of parents of 200 adolescents of 9<sup>th</sup> class was conveniently selected from five schools of Sangrur district.

### **TOOLS EMPLOYED**

1. To collect the scores of Academic Achievement the marks obtained by the adolescents in the previous annual examination were taken.
2. Parental Support Scale by Dr. Shobha Nandwana and Nimmi Asawa.

**STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES USED-**Descriptive statistics like mean, median, mode, standard deviation, skewness, and kurtosis were used to check the normality of the data. To find the correlation between variables Pearson's Coefficient of Co-relation was used and for finding significant difference between means, t-ratio was employed.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Table 1**

Difference between mean scores of adolescent boys and girls on the variable of parental support (N=200)

S. No.	Groups	Variable	N	M	S.D	SE <sub>M</sub>	t-ratio
1.	Boys	Overall	100	74.52	16.81	1.68	5.82**
	Girls	Parental	100	86.40	11.61	1.16	

\*\*significant at 0.01 level

**Table 1-** The t value was 5.82 which was significant at 0.01 level and revealed that a significant difference exists between mean scores of adolescent boys and girls on the variable of parental support. Therefore, the hypothesis 1 stating that there exists no significant difference between adolescent boys and girls on the variable of parental support stands rejected.

**Table 2**

Difference between mean scores of adolescent boys and girls on the dimensions of the variable of parental support (N=200)

S.No.	Groups	Dimensions	N	M	S.D	SE <sub>M</sub>	t-ratio
1.	Boys	<b>Parental Interest</b>	100	19.68	5.47	.55	4.15**
	Girls		100	22.51	4.06	.41	
2.	Boys	<b>Parental Behaviour</b>	100	34.42	6.89	.69	6.39**
	Girls		100	39.78	4.79	.48	
3.	Boys	<b>Resource Provision</b>	100	20.42	5.94	.59	5.04**
	Girls		100	24.11	4.27	.43	

\*\*significant at 0.01 level

**Table 2-** the calculated t value of various dimensions of parental support were 4.15, 6.39, 5.04 respectively which revealed that a significant difference exists between mean scores of adolescent boys and girls on various dimension of

parental support. Therefore, the hypothesis 2 stating that there exists no significant difference between adolescent boys and girls on the dimensions of parental interest, parental behavior and resource provision of the variable of parental support stands rejected.

**Table 3**

Difference between mean scores of adolescent boys and girls on the variable of academic achievement (N=200)

Sl. No.	Group	Variable	N	M	S.D	SE <sub>M</sub>	t-ratio
1.	Boys	<b>Academic achievement</b>	100	59.56	14.48	1.45	4.22**
	Girls		100	67.20	10.86	1.09	

\*\*significant at 0.01 level

**Table 3** revealed that the mean scores of adolescent boys and girls on the variable of academic achievement as 59.56 and 67.20 respectively and t-ratio is 4.22 which is significant at 0.01 level of confidence. This revealed that a significant difference exists between mean scores of adolescent boys and girls on the variable of academic achievement. Therefore the hypothesis 3 stating that there exists no significant difference between adolescent boys and girls on the variable of academic achievement stands rejected.

**Table 4**

**Coefficient of correlation between various dimensions of parental support and academic achievement of adolescents**

Dimensions	N	R
<b>Parental Interest</b>	200	0.64**
<b>Parental Behaviour</b>	200	0.73**
<b>Resource Provisions</b>	200	0.68**
<b>Overall Parental Support</b>	200	0.75**

\*\* Significant at 0.01 level

**Table 4** The 'r' value is 0.64 ,0.73 and 0.68 respectively that is significant at 0.01 level. It showed that there exists a significant relationship between academic achievement and various dimensions of parental support. The table also showed the overall parental support of adolescents with their academic achievement is 0.75, which is found to be significant at 0.01 level of confidence. This revealed that there exists a significant relationship between parental support and academic achievement of adolescents. Therefore, the hypothesis 4 stating that there exists significant relationship between parental support and academic achievement of adolescents stands accepted.

## CONCLUSIONS

- The study revealed that a significant difference exists between mean scores of adolescent boys and girls on the variable of parental support. It is concluded that the girls got more parental support than boys.
- The study also concluded that the girls got more parental support in terms of parental interest, parental behaviour and resource provision of parental support than boys.
- This study concluded that a significant difference exists between mean scores of adolescent boys and girls on the variable of academic achievement. It may be concluded that academic achievement of girls is higher than boys.
- Study also revealed that there exist a significant relationship between parental support and academic achievement of adolescents.

## EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

The conclusions of the present study can be very useful in improving the conditions of girl child in Punjab. As Punjab government is taking steps to improve the literacy rate of girls by providing facilities to them, in the same way the results of present study also revealed more parental support in terms of parental interest, parental behaviour and resource provision of parental support than boys. The study also revealed a significant relationship between parental support and academic achievement of adolescents leading parents to play their roles effectively.

## REFERENCES

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