

Does parent educational status matters the student's achievement in pre-medical Entrance Exam?

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Abstract: The purpose of this study is to determine if parent educational status influence the achievement of higher secondary school students in pre medical entrance exam. The study described the students doing medical graduation by their pre medical exam achievement and their parent educational status. The population consist of all medical students studying MBBS in MIMER Medical College, Talegaon D. Pune (MH) India. The sample involved in this study was 240 medical students randomly selected. A questionnaire was used for data collection. The comparison revealed that there is statistically significant difference in pre medical exam score and parent educational status.

Keywords: achievement, parent educational status, pre medical exam

I. INTRODUCTION

The need of higher education is growing gradually which is a requirement of the dynamically growing market. Education is a "knowledge" and that is the "power of thinking" which can change the life standard of nation. Significant studies have suggested that socioeconomic status (SES) is one of the best predictors of student achievement. ⁽¹⁾ Parent educational status is one of the most stable aspects of socioeconomic status. It has been well documented that family plays a meaningful role in child's academic performance and development. ⁽²⁾ Reay's study ⁽³⁾ found that most middle class mothers have a good educational background and it is invested in their children's educational success in the form of self confidence and participation. A high level of education among the parents also allows the children to have more opportunity to develop motivation and educational aspirations to involve in various educational activities. ⁽⁴⁾ Majority of the literature on parents education pertains to the direct, positive influence on achievement, the literature also suggests that it influences the beliefs and behaviors of the parent, leading to positive outcomes for children and youth. ⁽⁵⁾ It was found that parents of moderate to high income and educational background held beliefs and expectations that were closer than those of low-income families to the actual performance of the children. Low income families instead have high expectations and performance beliefs that do not correlate well with their children's actual performance. ⁽⁶⁾ Alexander et al. further suggested that the parent's abilities to form accurate beliefs and expectations regarding their children performance are essential in structuring the home of educational environment so that they can excel in academic endeavors. The literature on achievement consistently has shown that parent education is important in predicting children achievement. ^(7,8)

II. Methodology

Selection of Students :-

The population of this study comprised 240 medical students selected randomly studying MBBS in MIMER Medical College, Talegaon D. Pune (MH). The data for the study was collected through the use of questionnaire ⁽⁹⁾ interview and direct observation of the students. Depending on level of parental education, students were divided into two groups :- Group I [N=103] (parental education level is low) and Group II [N=137] (parental education level is high) We were also interested to see whether the mother or father (Highly educated) contributes to students academic achievement. So we have grouped the students into two of higher educated parents depending on contribution of mother or father in performance of students.

Analysis of Data :-

Z-test was used to test the role of parental education on pre- medical entrance exam score. Depending on working status of mother's and highly educated (mother or father) parents contribution on academic performance of students was also analysed by Z test.

III. Results

Table No.1 : Comparison of mean score obtained by the students in pre-medical entrance exam

Parameter	GR. 1 (h=103)	GR. 2 (h=137)	'Z' value	P value	Significance
Mean	84.92	80.76	2.98	<0.05	Significant
S D	10.21	11.35			

In table No.1 we compared the student achievement as measured by pre-medical entrance test scores and parent educational status and it was found that performance of students affects significantly depending on parental education.

Table No.2 : Comparison of mean score obtained by the students in pre medical entrance exam according to working status of mother's:

Parameter	House wives N= 128	Working mother's H = 112	'Z' value	'P' value	Significance
Mean	82.77	82.91	0.09	>0.05	Not significant
S D	11.03	10.93			

Table No.2 illustrates that after comparing performance of students depending on working status of mother's between working mother and housewives, result did not show significant difference in premedical entrance scores by the students.

Table No.3 :-Comparison of mean score of pre medical entrance exam by the students according to highly educated mother or father's contribution:

Parameter	Father higher education N = 76	Mother higher education N= 55	'Z' value	'P' value	Significance
Mean	85.01	84.67	0.19	>0.05	Not significant
S D	10.80	9.57			

Table No.3 shows non-significant change in performance of students depending on highly educated mother or father's contribution.

IV. Discussion

The study investigated the influence of parent's educational level on students' performance. The result of the findings confirmed that parental education background influence academic performance of the student significantly. The influence of the level of parental education on the academic performance of their children is evident in all countries. Though according to PISA results for 2006, the scale of the effect does vary across all EU member states.⁽¹⁰⁾ Thus, this is due to provision of good facilities, a conducive environment, as well as guiding and favourable attitude to learning motivation and incentives by the parents. parents who are relatively higher in levels of education tend to transmit to their children more culture of the academics they acquired than parents who are not highly educated.⁽¹¹⁾ Our result is consistent with Campbell et al (1999)⁽¹²⁾ and Khata MJ et al(2011)⁽¹³⁾ study which indicated that students who reported higher parental education levels tended to have higher average score. Dave and Dave (1971) found that higher percentages of rank holder belong to homes with higher parental education and higher percentages of failed students belong those who have lower parental education⁽¹⁴⁾ More educated parents are assumed to create environment that facilitate learning(Williams et al,1980;teachman et al,1987)^(15,16)

We observed non significant change in performance of students after comparing their score depending on working status of mothers. It might be due to low involvement of parents can de-motivate students and negatively affect their performance.⁽¹⁷⁾ There is also threat of high level of parental involvement leading to high stress levels on the parents themselves and their children, leading to failure in education or suicides.⁽¹⁸⁾ The finding of insignificant change in academic score of student of highly educated mother or father indicates that either of parent's contribution is important, but it still need further research.

V. Conclusion

We have observed significant increase in achievement of students in pre medical exam score depending on parental education. This suggest that educated parents are assumed to create environment that facilitate learning.

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