

Challenges faced by parents in treating behavior problems of autistic children



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Certificate of Approval

Thesis accepted by the School of Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Management and Technology, Lahore in the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Masters of Arts in Special Needs Education (MA-SNE).

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Dedication

To my father for being my inspiration

Saifullah Sehole

To my mother for always believing in me

Farkhandah Kauser

To my caring fionce for always being there for me

Hassan Abbas

To my Aunt for supporting and guiding me

Rehana Sajjad

To my brothers and sister for making my life beautiful and colourful

Saad, Fahad And Faseeha

Acknowledgments

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious and the Most Merciful

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Abstract

This study investigates the challenges faced by parents in treating the behavior problems of Autistic children. Using a quantitative research method, the researcher collected the data through parents of ASD children. All the children were male and female between the ages of 3- 17 years. As for pilot study, the 20 participants were selected. As for the main study, 106 parents were selected who have autistic children and facing many difficulties in treating their problems. And the selection criteria of parents of autistic probands was their child should be clinically diagnosed with autism and having a lot of behavior problems. Data was analyzed by the 6 domains of behaviors problems. The questionnaire was designed by the researcher of 53 items which are based on the behavior problems of Autism. Results indicate that the parents are facing many problems of autistic children but the behavior issue is highest issues among all issues. The social interaction is the biggest challenge for parents and family. The parents all around the world consider social interaction as a biggest challenge because it must be present in every child so he or she may be able to survive in the society. Their behavior problems are affected the life style of family and personal relationship between the parents. Mothers of autistic children suffer more behavior problems than fathers because they deal the children at home and spend more time with them. Behavior problems are more prevalent in males because 1 in 64 boys have autism and they tease more to their families. There is a correlation between the age and behavior problems of autistic children. The marital status has effect on the child behavior problems. Results shows that the child's gender also has effect on behavioral problems. Parents are now aware of these behavior problems and trying to cope through it so their child can be a part of the society.

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that my M.A thesis entitled “Challenges faced by parents in treating behavior problems of autistic children” Composition is my own work which I accomplished under the supervision of Madam Amna Arif . Any of the material, in whole or in part of this thesis is never been submitted previously for the attainment of any other academic degree or diploma. Except where otherwise indicated, this thesis is my own work”.

Date

Student’s Signature

Table of Contents

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Certificate of approval..... | i |
| Dedication..... | ii |
| Acknowledgements..... | iii |
| Declaration..... | iv |
| List of Figures..... | v |
| Chapter 1: Introduction..... | 1 |
| Behavior problems as a challenge..... | 2 |
| Behavior problems..... | 5 |
| Statement of the Problem..... | 9 |
| Purpose of the study | 9 |
| Aims and Objectives of the study..... | 9 |
| Research Questions | 10 |
| Hypothesis of the Study..... | 10 |
| Research Design..... | 10 |
| Participants..... | 11 |
| Demographic Questionnaire | 11 |
| Procedure of the Study..... | 12 |
| Procedure for translation..... | 12 |
| Procedure for gathering data | 12 |
| Procedure for analyzing data..... | 13 |
| Significance of the study..... | 13 |

| | |
|--|----|
| Assumptions, Limitations and Delimitations of the Study..... | 13 |
| Assumption..... | 13 |
| Limitations..... | 14 |
| Delimitations..... | 14 |
| Organization of the Study..... | 14 |

Chapter 2: Literature Review

| | |
|---|----|
| History of Autism..... | 16 |
| Responding to Challenging Behavior..... | 24 |
| Challenges When Parenting a Child with ASD..... | 25 |
| Challenging Behaviors..... | 29 |
| Fixed Interest | 33 |
| Social Interaction..... | 35 |
| Aggression and temper tantrums | 36 |
| Educational Problems | 37 |
| Anxiety and Depression | 37 |
| Relationship Problems..... | 38 |

Chapter 3: Research Methodology.....39

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Introduction..... | 39 |
| Research design | 39 |
| Dependent Variables | 39 |
| Independent Variables..... | 39 |
| Participants | 40 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Instrumentation..... | 40 |
| Demographic questionnaire..... | 40 |
| Item questionnaire | 41 |
| Validity and Reliability | 41 |
| Sample of the Study..... | 42 |
| Procedure of the Study..... | 42 |
| Procedure for translation..... | 42 |
| Procedure for gathering data | 43 |
| Procedure for analyzing data..... | 43 |
| Resources..... | 44 |
| Assumptions, Limitations and Delimitations of the Study..... | 44 |
| Assumption..... | 44 |
| Limitations..... | 44 |
| Delimitations..... | 45 |
| Confidentially | 45 |
| Hypothetical Framework..... | 46 |
| Chapter 4: Data Analysis and Interpretation..... | 47 |
| Frequency and Descriptive stats of Demographic..... | 47 |
| Perception of T-TEST, ONE-WAY ANOVA and Correlation | 61 |
| Chapter 5: Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations..... | 73 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Summary..... | 73 |
| Finding | 74 |
| Discussion & Conclusion..... | 81 |
| Recommendations..... | 82 |
| | |
| References..... | 85 |
| Letter of Consent..... | iv |
| Questionnaire..... | iv |

Lists of Tables

| | | |
|-----------|---|----|
| Table 3.1 | Reliability statistics of Questionnaire (Pilot Study)..... | 41 |
| Table 3.2 | Reliability statistics of Questionnaire (Main Study)..... | 41 |
| Table 4.1 | Frequencies of the Items..... | 61 |
| Table 4.2 | Effect of marital status on the behavior problems..... | 67 |
| Table 4.3 | Comparison of LSD behavioral problems with marital status of parents..... | 68 |
| Table 4.4 | Effect of child's gender on the behavior problems..... | 69 |
| Table 4.5 | T-Test Variances between father's profession and behavior problems..... | 70 |
| Table 4.6 | T-Test Variances between mother's profession and behavior problems | 71 |
| Table 4.7 | Correlation comparison between child's age and behavior problem..... | 72 |

List of Figures

| | |
|---|----|
| Figure 4.1. Age Ratio of ASD Children | 48 |
| Figure 4.2. Gender Ratio of children with ASD..... | 48 |
| Figure 4.3. Suffering of mother and father..... | 49 |
| Figure 4.4. Birth order of Children with ASD..... | 50 |
| Figure 4.5. Relationship Ratio with Siblings..... | 51 |
| Figure 4.6. No. of Sibling Ratio | 52 |
| Figure 4.7. Ratio of Educational Placement of ASD Children..... | 53 |
| Figure 4.8. Ratio of Father's Education..... | 54 |
| Figure 4.9. Ratio of Mother's Education..... | 55 |
| Figure 4.10. Ratio of Father's Profession..... | 56 |
| Figure 4.11. Ratio of Mother's Profession..... | 57 |
| Figure 4.12. Ratio of Marital Status..... | 58 |
| Figure 4.13. Ratio of Disabled Child..... | 59 |
| Figure 4.14. Ratio of Monthly Income..... | 60 |
| Figure 4.15. Mean score of Most Challenging Behavior..... | 65 |
| Figure 4.16. Mean score of Most Challenging Behavior..... | 66 |

Chapter I

Introduction

1.1 Introduction to Autism:

Autism is a lifelong neuro-developmental disability which is increasing day by day in worldwide (Leo Kanner 1943). It has caused impairment in multi areas of brain development which has included social and communication skills, repetitive behaviors and fixation in interests (Wing, Gould and Gillberg, 2011). It is diagnosed at the age of 3 years. A child with autism becomes hyperactive to sensory stimulus like clothing and food. In 2012, The Center For Disease Control tells that there must be 1 ASD diagnosed in every 88 children having autism: They also reports that autism have more number of boys 1 out of 54 boys than girls 1 out 252 girls. It effects the everyday individual's life and has enormous effects on their abilities to journey towards peaceful and functional life (Stephen M. Edelson, Ph.D.)