

**Step parents rejection, peer rejection sensitivity and bullying- victimization among children.**



**By**

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### **Declaration**

I, TanzilaNaseem, Students ID 15003238013, Student of M.Phil. Psychology 2015-17 hereby declared that this thesis is my own work and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief , it contains no material previously printed, published or submitted as research work, of any other university or institute of higher education.

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### **Completion certificate**

Certified that this thesis titled, 'step parent rejection, peer rejection sensitivity and bullying-victimization among children' has been carried out and completed by Ms. TanzilaNaseem, Student ID; 15003238013; Student of M.Phil. Psychology, session 2015-2017, under my supervision is a record of original and independent research work carried out under given Instructions and consideration.

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TanzilaNaseem

## **DEDICATION**

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## **Abstract**

The present study explored the relationship between step parental rejection, peer rejection sensitivity and bullying-victimization in children. It was hypothesized that there is likely to be a relationship between step parent rejection, peer rejection sensitivity and bullying-victimization in children. And peer rejection sensitivity is likely to mediate the relationship between step parental rejection and bullying-victimization in children. The sample was consisted of 120 children (60 with step mothers and 60 with step father) with the age range of 9-13 years ( $M = 11.55$ ,  $SD = 1.34$ ). The data collected from different cities of Punjab using non-probability purposive sampling. Urdu versions of Parent's Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire (Rohner, 2005), Bully Scale (IBS) (Shujja and Malik, 2011) and Child's Rejection Sensitivity Questionnaire (Shujja and Malik, 2016) were used. The results of Pearson product moment showed that Rejection sensitivity is positively correlated with maternal acceptance rejection and bully. Results for step mother revealed that rejection sensitivity had positive significant correlation with bullying, bully and fight. The correlation for step father revealed that total bully had positive significant correlation with bully, victim and fight. Results of direct effect revealed that maternal acceptance rejection was found to be significant and positive predictor of rejection sensitivity. Moreover rejection sensitivity was found to be significant positive predictor of bullying. Rejection sensitivity was found to be significant mediator between maternal rejection and bully. Research finding pave the ways to parents and counselor/clinicians towards the exploration of step children's bullying behavior

**Keywords:** Rejection sensitivity, bullying, step parent rejection, bully, victim, fight

## **Chapter 1**

### **Introduction**

Parenting is a process of rearing practices. Parents are considered as important socializing agents for the children's social, emotional, and psychological development across the globe. Parents-child relationship can help a child to develop strong and positive personality characteristics (Grienerberger, Kelly & Slade, 2005). There are two types of parents: biological parents and step parents. Biological parents are those whose genes are transmitted to the child. However, step parents are those who are spouse of one's biological parents (Chambers, 1990).

Step parenting is considered as an odd phenomenon because entry of stepparents in one's family is perceived as unacceptable and undesirable by the children. Step children do not accept their stepparents because they perceive them capturing the place of real parents within a family (Lyness, 2016).