TITLE: PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS AND PARENTAL CHARACTERISTICS OF JUNIOR REALITY TELEVISION SHOW PERFORMERS: AN EXPLORATORY STUDY

ABSTRACT

In India reality shows of child performers, mainly singing talents are enjoying a wide spectatorship. Every participant and the concerned guardian share a single target – to be a winner. This entire phenomenon makes a room for psychological investigation.

Aim & Objective: The aim of the present study was to explore- I) temperament & character profile, self image profile, perceived parent-child relation, direction of aggression & frustration reaction of junior reality television show performers group (RSG) vis-a-vis their control group (CG) counterpart ; II) to understand their mothers’ (MOT-RSG & MOT- CG) temperament & character profile, self image profile.

Method: To reach the objectives, total 120 subjects have been selected. Among them 60 were children & other 60 were their corresponding mothers. Again from the children group, RSG performers (N= 30, Age range 7 to 13 years, Mean age: 10.63 years), have been chosen from different media houses with CG children (N = 30, Age range 7 to 13 years, Mean age: 9.83 years) being selected from different music schools where they learn Indian classical vocal music & Rabindra Sangeet (Tagore’s song) & are under no sort of media glare whatsoever. The tools used for this purpose are Junior Temperament & Character inventory, Rosenzweig Picture Frustration Study, Self Image Profile for Children and Adolescents, Parent Child Relationship Scale, Temperament & Character Inventory, Self Image Profile for Adults. Appropriate statistical analyses of data were done.

Result and Discussion: Results reveal that RSG performers have high Novelty Seeking, low Self Esteem, high Intropunitiveness, low Extrapunitiveness, and low Ego Defense than CG children. They have perceived their mothers more Symbolically Punishing, Demanding as well as Protecting & Loving; fathers as negative figure than CG children. MOT- RSG participants also have high Novelty Seeking, low Self Esteem & low Self Satisfaction than MOT-CG. Different sorts of interrelationship amongst the variables were also depicted from the results.

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