CHAPTER V
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Despite the fact that extensive research had been done on the self concept, there are several other factors which were found shaping the development of self concept. Sex differences were studied, and it was observed that, from the childhood itself the male and female children are given different treatment; obviously the male children develop different self concept and the female children develop different self concept. In present study, six different types of self concept were measured they are mainly physical self concept, (PSC) social self concept (SSC), intellectual self concept (ISC), Moral self concept (MSC), Emotional Self Concept (ESC), and asthetic self concept (ASC). Regarding physical self concept it was hypothesized that the females develop significantly better physical self concept than the males. It was observed that the effect of sex was highly significant. Results supported the hypothesis very strongly. When the other factors were kept constant, it was found that, the females develop significantly better PSC than the males. Considering the social and cultural environment of the country, one finds that in every family the female children are taught to look relatively more beautiful than the male children. This tendency goes on increasing with the age also. Obviously, the females always are more conscious about their physical apperiance and develop superior PSC.

Intelligence is closely associated to development of self concept. It was believed that the subjects having higher IQ develop significantly better PSC, than the subjects having relatively low IQ score. Present study showed that the subjects with HIQ had significantly better PSC than the subjects who were categorized as LIQ Ss. It is intelligence which is mostly responsible for appropriate adjustment in different situation. For successful adjustment, the Ss or any individual needs to have appropriate physical appearance. This understanding the Ss with HIQ develop easily. The Ss with LIQ find it difficult to understand reality, probably because of this, the HIQ Ss might have developed significantly better PSC than the LIQ Ss. In earlier studies also, similar such results were observed regarding PSC (Awasthi, 1990, Nayak, 1998).
By nature the sex of the individual is determined, but through the training and environment, the individuals either develop predominance of masculinity or feminity this is called as sex role. It was observed that sex role also influences the development of self concept. It was assumed that the subjects having predominance of femininity develop significantly better PSC than the subjects having predominance of masculinity. The reasons are already discussed elsewhere. In present study also the assumption got very strong support. The individual either male or female having predominance of femininity is more likely to develop superior PSC than those having predominance of masculinity.

In fact, ego and self are used in psychology as substitute to each other, obviously ego strength must help in enhancing the self concept. The related hypothesis was that the subjects with high ego strength develop significantly better PSC than those who have relatively less ego strength. Results of the study, were in line with the assumption, that is, high ego strength helped in enhancing the PSC of the Ss. In this connection it should be stated that the individual who develops their ego strength can perceive themselves, both their strength and weakness, in a better manner and thereby improve their self concept.

The other kind of self concept was social self concept (SSC). In every society they have their specific norms of social behaviour. Those who behave well in accordance with them, they are approved in the society and their behaviour is appreciated. Development of SSC is closely related to the successful social interaction of the individual. In Indian culture the females are encouraged to behave well in accordance with the social and cultural norms and rituals. Any female going astray is looked down upon by the society. However, such restrictions are not there in case of males in the society. Many a times the males are encouraged to go astray if it is beneficial to the family. In such circumstances it is natural to assume that, the females develop significantly better SSC than the males. In present study the data were collected
from one metropolitan city and from the other big city where traditions are still prevalent. Results showed that the females at both the places had develop significantly better SSC than the males, similar results were observed by the earlier researchers also (Nayak, 1998, Parit, 1999).

It was already mentioned that intelligence is the ability to adjust successfully in different situations. Considering this, it could be easily assumed that the individuals who are more intelligent are likely to develop better SSC than those who are relatively less intelligent. In the development of self concept, understanding is important the more intelligent Ss can understand the situations more appropriately and thereby develop better SSC. It was hypothesized that the HIQ Ss develop significantly better SSC than the LIQ Ss. Results of the study showed that the HIQ and the LIQ Ss differed significantly from each other on SSC, but the results had gone contrary to the expectation. In present study not the HIQ Ss but the LIQ Ss were having significantly better SSC. It is rather difficult to explain the findings, but one probable reason might be, respecting the traditional social and cultural values, instead the new technology which demands different social structure might be attracting them and hence there should be absence of conformity with the social norms in their behaviour. Whatsoever might be the case the related hypothesis remain unsatiated.

The third factor that was believed to be associated with the development of SSC was the sex role played by the individual. It was natural to believe that the Ss having predominance of feminity developed significantly better SSC, than those having predominance of masculinity. This hypothesis got very strong support from the results. The probable reason for securing such results were already discussed earlier. In addition to them, it could be easily stated that, the individuals having predominance of feminity might be taking more interest in social activities and trying to be the good social individuals.

One of the several hypotheses was that the Ss having high ego strength develop significantly better SSC than the Ss having low ego strength, such expectations were
natural, however, the subjects of the present study failed to support the assumption. It is rather very difficult to interpret these results. Probably, the Ss with high ego strength might have been over confident about the way they are adjusting in the society, which might not have appreciated by the others in the society. Realizing this they might have perceived their social behaviour not in line with the expectation of the society. The Ss with low ego strength on the other hand might have preferred to be within the limits of the social norms. This behaviour might have appreciated by their society, which help them in improving the SSC.

An important type of self concept is intellectual self-concept (ISC). How one perceives onself or herself intellectually is being counted in the development of ISC. Since long human culture is dominated by the men, in every culture similar phenomenon is observed. The males are thought to be intellectually superior to women. In a country like India where people think traditionally, it is obvious to assume that, the males are significantly superior with regards to ISC, to the females. During the last twenty five years the picture is changing especially in cities, the girls are proving themselves equally intelligent to the boys. In some of the fields, they even excell the boys. Gradually, the society is changing its attitude towards the female, because of all these changes the females have started developing better ISC. In present study the group of males and females differed significantly from each other on the measure of ISC. However, not the boys, but the girls were found having significantly better ISC. These results even though went contrary to the hypothesis, they could be justified. At the first place the subjects of the study were selected from cities. Secondly, they were college going students. Specially, in colleges most of the girls had scored more marks than the boys. As a result they start perceiving themselves superior to the boys intellectually and thereby they might have developed superior ISC to that of boys.

The second independent variable, which was thought, influences the development of ISC was the factor of intelligence. Those who are having higher intelligence they must naturally develop better ISC than those who are having low intelligence. In the study it was hypothesized that, the Ss with HIQ developed
significantly better ISC than the Ss with LIQ. It is not necessary to comment that the results supported the assumption strongly. The Ss with HIQ developed significantly better ISC than the Ss with LIQ. It is a common phenomenon that the more intelligent individuals behave differently than the less intelligent persons. In different situations they interact more effectively and successfully, as a result their ISC is enhanced. On the other hand the Ss with low intelligence fail to excel in critical situations, consequently, they develop inferiority that hampers their ISC. Similar results were also observed in some of the earlier studies (Bohra, 2002, Bharsakhale, 2001).

Impact of sex role on the development of self concept is well known. It is already mentioned elsewhere. Related to this, it was hypothesized that the Ss either having predominance of masculinity or feminity develop more or less similar ISC. Results supported this assumption. Both the groups of Ss exhibited more or less similar ISC. It is natural, because the sex differences and the sex role differences are changing rapidly specially in the cities, and present study was carried out in the cities only. There is another factor that is to be taken into consideration. To a great extent intellectual ability depends upon hereditary factors. Jensen has given credit to hereditary factor, that is around 80% ; others did not agreed with Jensen and proposed that intellectual ability depends only 60% on hereditary factors, and 40% depends on the environment.

In reality, it is difficult to determine the exact percentage, however, the role of heredity in the development of intelligence has a great significance. Scientists working in the field of genetics brought out supporting evidences. But such is not the case of sex role behavioural characteristics. Sex role depends mostly upon the environmental factors.

One of the hypotheses of the study was, the Ss with high ego-strength develop significantly better ISC than the Ss with low ego strength. Contrary to the hypothesis results of present study showed that the high ego strength and low ego strength Ss failed
to differ from each other with regards to ISC. In fact, if Freud's views are considered correct, then it is the ego which plays a crucial role in the development of self or personality. So those, who have high ego strength must develop superior self concept to those who have low ego-strength. With regards to ISC the results could not be favourable to the assumption of the study. The probable reason might be the ego works on the reality principle, as a result of it, the high ego-strength Ss and low ego-strength Ss might have perceived their intellectual ability correctly and accordingly developed their ISC.

With regards to Moral Self Concept (MSC) four major hypotheses were framed, of these four hypothesis the first one was related to the sex differences. Moral bindings were laid down on both, the males and the females. However, in the male dominated culture moral bindings were mandatory for the females, and were flexible for the males. In a tradition laden country like India, morality was mostly the domain of females. Knowing this well, it was hypothesized that, the females develop significantly better MSC than the males. Results of present study supported the hypothesis strongly. Despite the fact, that technological advancement, better educational facilities, and globalization, the changes among the Indians, both in their personal as well as social life, are mostly superficial, as a result the females still have deep faith in the traditional lifestyle and prefer to be more moralistic than the males. Such women or girls are appreciated and encouraged by the society. On the other hand, those who deviate from the moral norms of the society, they do not get approval even among their close relatives. These are probably the reasons due to which the females might be practicing morality, perceiving themselves through that perspectives, and ultimately form superior MSC. It was believed that MSC and intelligence are strongly associated. Considering this the following hypothesis was framed; the subjects having HIQ develop significantly better MSC than the subjects having LIQ. When the results were examined, it was found that, the LIQ and HIQ subjects differed from each other significantly. However, not the HIQ subjects but the subjects with LIQ had significantly superior MSC. Naturally, these results are contrary to the assumption. However, if the problem is thought seriously studying the varied environmental factors then one finds that, why the HIQ subjects
failed to develop superior MSC. It must be remembered that the subjects incorporated in the study were studying in colleges, they had already experienced the agonies associated with the morality in the society, through media they might have learned about the luxuries earned or grabbed by the persons whose characteristics are far from morality. These events are interpreted more realistically by the individuals who are more intelligent. Those who are less intelligent they experience insecurity more often. Obviously, these people fall prey of supernatural powers and value morality more without understanding the reality. Probably due to these reasons the LIQ subjects of present study exhibited significantly better MSC than the HIQ subjects.

Development of MSC and the sex role exhibit generally strong relationship, in view of this fact, in present study, it was hypothesized that, the subjects having predominance of MSC develop significantly better MSC than the subjects having predominance of masculinity. It was natural also. Once behavioural characteristics clearly provide an inkling about the other behavioural characteristics. It was already discussed earlier that the females in the society value significantly more morality than the males. Sex differences is a biological phenomenon. However, sex role differences is more a social and cultural phenomenon. Obviously, the role that is being played by the individual is coloured by the expectations of the society and cultural norms. Results of present study supported the assumption, thereby suggesting that the subjects with predominance of feminity developed significantly better MSC than the subjects having predominance of masculinity. Often there is disparity in the behaviour and the deeds of most Indians. Females outside the home are relatively more modern and advanced, while at home they are relatively more traditional. This disparity does influence the development of MSC. It is because every male or female individual has to exhibit conformity with the socially accepted behaviour.

The last hypothesis related the MSC depicted the relationship between MSC and ego strength. It was hypothesized that the subjects with high ego strength develop significantly better MSC than the subjects having low ego strength. Results indicate that
the two groups of subjects classified on the basis of ego strength differ significantly from each other. However, it was observed, the subjects with low ego strength had significantly better MSC than the subjects with high ego strength. Apparently it appears that it is difficult to provide explanation to the results, however, if one thinks seriously then in society, one observes that the subjects with high ego strength are less concerned with the moral principles of the society, whereas, those who are having poor ego strength, in order to defend their activities talk more about the morality principles. Obviously, these people are more likely to perceive themselves morally superior to those having high ego strength.

Feelings and emotions have special significance in our life. Our parents and society also teach us to keep control on our emotions and feelings, if the emotions and feelings are appropriately controlled, then the behaviour of the individual is approved in the home and society also. Obviously, the emotional self concept of such individuals are superior to those who do not keep adequate control on their emotions and feelings. In Indian Society the female children are taught to keep control on their emotions and feelings to a much greater extent than the male children, the result is Indian female are relatively more stable emotionally than the males. In present study it was hypothesized that the females have significantly better ESC than the males. Results showed that the group of males and the group of females differ significantly from each other. Result supported the hypothesis strongly.

It was already mentioned that the Ss with high intelligence adjust more successfully in different situations, they could do so, because the more intelligent Ss can understand the consequences of extreme emotional state and hence they keep proper control on their emotions. The LIQ Ss might be unable to understand these facts and hence failed to control emotions when necessary. In view of this, it was hypothesized that the Ss having HIQ develop significantly better ESC than the Ss having LIQ. However, the results failed to support the assumption. Both the LIQ and HIQ Ss developed more or less similar ESC. Thus, the hypothesis remained unsatiated.
Probably this fact can be explained in the context of the Indian culture. In all the homes and in societies also extreme emotionality is not appreciated, also in cities people look down upon the individual exhibiting extreme emotionality. Since the Ss were college students the effect of education also might have played important role in bringing out favourable changes in the behaviour and developing better emotional self concept.

There is no need to repeat the reasons for the development of superior ESC by the Ss having predominance of femininity. Related hypothesis reads as, “the Ss having predominance of femininity develop significantly better ESC than the Ss having predominance of masculinity.” The hypothesis was strongly supported. The Ss having predominance of femininity were having significantly better ESC than those having predominance of masculinity. The Ss with feminine tendency are generally docile, submissive and have conformity with the society. It is natural for them to keep control on their emotions and perceive themselves as emotionally controlled individuals which ultimately result in development of better ESC.

Results of the study went contrary to the assumption, the Ss with high ego strength developed significantly better ESC than the Ss with low ego strength. This phenomenon might have occurred because of the factor of education and the environment in which the Ss were born and brought up. It appears that there are many other factors which influence the development of ESC.

The first assumption related to aesthetic self concept got strong support from the results. Well in accordance with the assumption the females had significantly better ASC than the males. It is a well known fact that the females have aesthetic sense since birth. In every society the aesthetic activities are conquered by the females. Subjects of present study are not exception to this natural phenomenon.
Factor of IQ was observed non-associated with the development of ASC. Both the HIQ and LIQ Ss were found having developed more or less similar ASC. In present case development of ASC among the LIQ could be attributed to the city atmosphere of the Ss. Though having LIQ, through imitation these Ss might have developed better ASC, which is more or less similar to that of HIQ Ss. The related hypothesis remained unsatiated.

Well in line with the hypothesis the Ss having predominance of feminity were having significantly better ASC than the Ss having predominance of masculinity. Probable reasons of feminity dominated Ss developing superior ASC were already discussed earlier. Results of study are having confirmity with the common practices in the society.

The Ss having low ego strength had exhibited that, they have significantly better ASC than the Ss having high ego strength. Though these results are not in congruence with the assumption of study, they reveal some realities. The Ss with low ego strength probably develop more feminine characteristics, and probably this might be the reason of these people developing significantly better ASC than the Ss having predominance of masculinity.

The brief discussion of results clearly indicates that considering the social and cultural structure and functioning of Indian societies development of different self concepts needs to be studied extensively.