CHAPTER - III

WORK - DONE

Problem

"The developmental trend of play patterns in rural and urban children."

Hypothesis

(1) There should be difference in play patterns among rural and urban children at all levels of development.

(2) Sex differences in play-patterns should be more pronounced among rural than in urban children.

(3) Outdoor play should be more in rural children than in urban children and indoor play should be more in urban children than in rural children.

Subjects

Subjects for the study have been taken from 3 age-groups 5-7 years, 8-10 years and 11-13 years. Each age-group consisted of 40 subjects (20 girls and 20 boys) from urban setting and 40 subjects (20 girls and 20 boys) from rural setting. Thus the number of subjects were 120 (60 boys and 60 girls) from urban area and 120 (60 boys and 60 girls) from rural area. The total number of subjects therefore were 240.

The study has been divided into two parts. The method used for the study of younger children (5-7 years) is
different from the method used for older children (8-10 years and 11-13 years). This is because young children spend more time playing with toys, while, older children participate actively in both indoor and outdoor play activities. The method for studying younger children has been described in Experiment I and the method used for studying older children has been described in Experiment II.

**EXPERIMENT I**

Subjects

In total 40 girls and 40 boys were chosen at random, 20 girls and 20 boys from the urban area and 20 boys and 20 girls from the rural area.

Material Used

Four categories of toys were used as testing material in this experiment. These categories were as follows:

1. Creative toys.
2. Mechanical toys.
3. Dolls etc.
4. Make-believe toys.

Two or three toys from each category were used. Creative toys consisted of building blocks set etc. Mechanical toys consisted of moving toys like cars animals etc. In make-believe toys such as "Kitchen Set" and "Dr.Set" etc. were used.
Procedure and Design

All the toys were placed in front of a group of four children. Then each child was observed by the time-sampling method for 10 minutes. The type of toy and the time spent by a child in playing with each toy was noted. Likewise all the other children in the group were observed. All other relevant information about the children were obtained from the class teacher. When all the four children of a group were observed, another group of four children were taken and the same procedure was followed with the rest of the children.

In this way 80 children's play behaviour were observed in which 40 were from rural area and 40 were from urban area.

Scoring and Analysis

The time spent on playing with a particular toy by a child was scored and tabulated.

The scores thus obtained consisted scores of both rural and urban children. Mean time spent on playing with the different category of toys were calculated for both the groups.

To assess the difference between the rural and urban children along with sex differences if any, 2x2 analysis of variance was done.
EXPERIMENT II

Subjects

160 subjects (80 were from rural area and 80 were from urban area) were selected at random for this part of the study. In each age group 40 children (20 girls and 20 boys) were from urban area and 40 children (20 boys + 20 girls) were from rural area.

Material Used

A questionnaire consisting of different types of indoor and outdoor play activities to find out the play pattern of rural and urban children was used. In this questionnaire there are 12 items and all efforts have been made to get all the information about the play activities of children.

Procedure

First of all one copy of the questionnaire was given to each subject in a group of 20 boys of 8-10 years olds. They were asked to fill the questionnaire. When each subject filled up the questionnaire he was also asked as to how much time he got to play. This information was noted. Next a group of 20 girls were given the questionnaire. By the same procedure data from 11-13 year old children both boys and girls were also collected. These 80 subjects were from the urban area.

The same procedure was followed in collecting data from

See Appendix III
rural boys and girls. In this way the data of 160 subjects of 2 age-groups were collected.

Scoring and Analysis of Data

First of all list of plays and games was made which were mentioned by the subjects in the questionnaire. Then scoring for each individual game was done for all the subjects in the different age groups. The frequencies thus obtained were subjected to statistical analysis.

For the analysis of results chi-squares were used for each game to find out the differences in play activities of both urban and rural children.