CHAPTER - V

SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

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SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

Summary:

Problem:

The problem of the present investigation was mainly concerned with the comparison of social maturity of children of working and non-working mothers in relation to their anxiety. The study also aimed at evaluating various common beliefs pertaining to the influence of working and non-working mothers in rural/urban areas and providing scientific knowledge and information about these beliefs.

For the purpose of comparison; non-working mothers were considered to form a control group. The impact of working status on mother’s anxiety and also on social maturity of their children was studied separately. The main as well as interaction effects of working status of mothers, their anxiety levels, rural-urban residence, sex and age of children on social maturity were also studied.

Hypotheses:

Twenty six different hypotheses were formulated. These hypotheses were concerning possible outcomes of several independent
variables taken singly or in combination in relation to social maturity. Hypotheses were formulated to study the main as well as interaction effects of independent variables on some of the selected dependent variables.

**Sample:**

For the present study following criteria were kept in mind while selecting samples.

- To maintain homogeneity samples were picked up from the middle socio-economic group.

- Equal representation has been given to working and non-working mothers belonging to urban and rural areas.

- Adequate representation of male and female children as well as children below 5 years and children above 5 years was given.

The total sample size was 220 mothers (N = 220).

**Tools used:**

For the purpose of data collection following tools were used:

1. Information schedule (Appendix I)
2. Socio-economic status scale (Appendix II)

3. Sinha's Anxiety Scale (Appendix III)

4. Social Maturity Scale (Appendix IV)

Statistical Analysis:

The data were analysed as under:

1. Analysis by using ‘t’ test was carried out to test the significant of difference between means of two groups.

2. F analysis was carried out to study the main as well as interaction effects of independent variables on dependant variables.

3. Chi-square was calculated to see the difference between given distribution of frequencies and theoretical distribution to test whether the given distribution is not based on chance (theoretical) distribution.

Conclusions:

Based on the analysis of results the following conclusions have been inferred. The major conclusions of the study are as given below:
1. Working and non-working conditions are equally effective in the attainment of social maturity by the children. Both the statuses have certain positive and negative features associated with them but they do not seem to have any differential impact on social maturity of children.

2. Variation in anxiety levels of working and non-working mothers do not seem to have any differential impact on the attainment of social maturity by children.

3. Rural and urban mothers do not have any differential impact on the development of social maturity of children.

4. No significant variation in the attainment of social maturity by children is found due to especially when they are working rural and urban mothers.

5. Non-working status of rural or urban mothers does not contribute in any differential way to the attainment of social maturity of children.

6. Sex of the child does not seem to be an important factor contributing to the attainment of social maturity.
7. Working mothers were observed to have the same level of anxiety as the non-working mothers have.

8. Residential area has its effect on the anxiety level of mothers. Rural mothers showing higher anxiety than urban mothers, when both working and non-working mothers are taken together.

9. No significant variation in the anxiety level of rural and urban mothers was observed when the status of working is held constant i.e. all the mothers are working.

10. Non-working condition seems to be one of the significant factors in accounting for the difference in anxiety between rural and urban mothers.

11. No significant variation in anxiety is observed between mothers of male children and mothers of female children.

12. Age of child either below 5 years or above 5 years does not influence in any significant way the anxiety level of mothers.
13. The joint effect of working and non-working status of mothers and their anxiety levels does not affect social maturity in any significant way.

14. The interaction effect of working status of mothers and the area of their residence does not produce any significant variation in social maturity of children.

15. The joint effect of working status of mothers and sex of the child does not have any significant impact on SQ. (Social Maturity).

16. Relatively young children are found to be more matured compared to older children irrespective of whether their mothers are working or not.

17. No differential impact of the combination of the levels of working status and residential area is observed on the anxiety level of mothers.

18. The joint effect of work status and sex of a child does not produce any significant variation in the anxiety level of mothers.
19. The interaction of working status and age of a child is not at all significant indicating no significant variation in anxiety level of mothers.

20. It is observed that greater number of children with relatively higher level of maturity comes from families of working mothers than from the families of non-working mothers.

21. The distribution of the frequencies of children in high, average and low social maturity levels, was in no way differentially affected by different levels of anxiety among working mothers.

22. In case of non-working mothers similar trend was observed i.e. distribution based on maturity levels of children was not differentially affected by anxiety levels of mothers.

23. Sex of child in association with working status of rural as well as urban mothers does not influence the frequency distribution of children according to their SQ levels.

24. As commonly expected maturity level is influenced by the age of a child irrespective of working and non-working status of mothers, with older children having higher level of maturity.
Limitations:

No research endeavor is perfect in all respects. Every research has its limitations. The limitation of the present study are us under:

1. Sample has been selected from only middle socio economic group. Therefore, study is limited to middle income group.

2. It is understood that variables related to husband’s position does influence the child’s attainment of social maturity. But in our society husband’s participation in family affair has not been properly traced and appreciated as well. This requires special study keeping husband’s position in focus may be undertaken later on. At present this study is mainly concerned about mother’s role (some related variables) in social maturity of children.

3. There are many other factors which influence the social maturity of a child. But the present study focuses upon the effects of mother’s occupation and her anxiety her residential area, sex and age of a child on attainment of social competence of the child.
Suggestions for follow up work:

1. The study can be extended by using different samples, tests of anxiety, variables, category of women, age since married, tenure of the job, cader or position held etc. Since, study is in the field of social maturity anxiety perceived by mothers may vary according to family background variables and this in then may affect social maturity of children.

2. This study can also be repeated with different groups based on caste, religion and socio-economic status.

3. The same kind of study can be carried out by adding ‘husband’s participation in child rearing activities’ as a variable.

Application:

1. It will help people to understand that working or non-working status of mother has no negative effects on social maturity of their children.

2. It will provide scientific knowledge to public regarding occupational status of mother and therefore help to abolish common beliefs in relation to working women that

   - her children are sufferers
   - they lack development in various aspects and
- they are deprived.

3. It will help the people in general and psychologist in particular to know that working and non-working mothers have same level of anxiety and the anxiety level of mothers does not influence the social maturity of a child.