

CHAPTER V

RELATION BETWEEN SOCIALIZATION AND SUICIDE

Socialization is a process which occurs through human interactions. It is essential for the individual's survival and for human development. "Socialization is the life long process of social interaction through which individuals acquire a self identity and the physical, mental and social skills needed for the survival in society. It enables to develop human potential through the means of thinking, talking and acting; that are essential for social living. In other words socialization is essential for the individual's survival and human development. Besides it is essential for the survival and stability of society too. Members of the society must socialize to support and maintain the existing social structure. Through this process we learn a great deal from those who are important in our lives an immediate family members, best friends and teachers. We also learn from television, films, magazines and through internet.

Family is an institution closely associated with the process of Socialization. Most parents seek to help their children become competent and self sufficient; that is by socializing as per the norms and values of both family and the larger society. Through this process adult themselves experience socialization as they adjust to becoming spouse, parents and in-laws (Gecas, 1981),in terms of gender roles, expectations regarding proper behaviour, attitudes and activities of males and females.

Like family, schools have function to socialize people .Samuel Bowles and Herbert Girit (1976) have observed that schools in the country foster competition through build in systems of reward and punishment such as grades and evaluation by

teachers. This is because one requires one's children to realize their full potential of their intellectual, physical and social abilities.

The functionalists point out that as, agents of Socialization schools fulfills the function of teaching recruits of values and customs of the larger society. As a child grows older, the family becomes some what less important in his or her social development. Instead, peer groups increasingly assume the role of George Herbert Mead's significant other. Peer groups such as friendship cliques, youth gangs and special interest clubs, frequently assist adolescents in gaining some degree of independent from parents and other elders. Teenagers initiate their friends in part because the peer group maintains a meaningful system of rewards and punishments. On the other hand, the group may encourage some one to violate the cultural norms and values. In this chapter the researcher tries to make an attempt to bring out the relation between suicide and socialization process.

Table no. 5.1

To whom you wish to spend you your childhood days

Wish to spend with	Frequency	Percentage
Mother	16	16%
Grand parents	4	4%
Sister	12	12%
Playmates	1	1%
Friends	15	15%
Self	52	52%
Total	100	100%

While analyzing the respondents childhood day experiences, 52% of them were wished to spend their childhood days with themselves,16% of the respondents like to spend with their mother, 15% with their friends, 12% with their sisters, 4% with their grand parents and only one respondent likes to spend with his playmate. It may be mainly due to the experience, he/she probably faced in their childhood may be they had an unfavorable family environment .When the family that is father, mother and siblings fail to give love, protection and care then individual automatically seeks alternative mechanism to release the distress. Here family, friends, teachers and peers have to play a vital role and to channalise one's individuals needs, wants and motives.

Table no. 5.2

During school days participation in co-curricular activities

Type of activities	Participation					Achievements				
	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Total	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Total
Curricular activities	2 (2%)	5 (5%)	40 (40%)	53 (53%)	100 (100%)	2 (2%)	5 (5%)	40 (40%)	53 (53%)	100 (100%)
Co-curricular activities	2 (2%)	7 (7%)	40 (40%)	51 (51%)	100 (100%)	2 (2%)	7 (7%)	35 (35%)	56 (56%)	100 (100%)

The table shows most of the respondents were average, showing poor participation and poor achievements in extra curricular activities. From the table it was noted that only 2% have very good participation and show achievements in the curricular activities, 5% have comparatively good participation and achievements, 40% shows average participation and 53% shows poor participation and a similar pattern of achievements in their extra curricular activities.

From this it is revealed that academic achievements and participation play a vital role in moulding an individual's behaviour. Lower participation shows an introvert nature since childhood. That is they like to spend their life within themselves. The introvert behavior in their school days reflects in their life situation also. The reason for this introvert ness may be due to a miserable life situation.

While analyzing the achievements and participation in co-curricular activities the table shows that 2% have very poor participation, 7% have good participation and achievements, 40% average participation 35% have average achievements in the co-curricular activities in their school days. From the above two tables it is clear that the respondents were not only interested in curricular and co curricular activities. Here the role of teacher is very important to promote and ensure the students participation in both curricular and co-curricular activities by enquiring the reason for possible backwardness.

Table no. 5.3

Father's approach towards you

Type of approach	Great extent	Some extent	Not at all	Not applicable	Total
Strict	77(77%)	8(8%)	2(2%)	13(13%)	100(100%)
Aggressive	77(77%)	8(8%)	2(2%)	13(13%)	100(100%)
Authoritarian	77(77%)	8(8%)	2(2%)	13(13%)	100(100%)
Irresponsible	65(65%)	20(20%)	2(2%)	13(13%)	100(100%)
Understanding	2(2%)	10(10%)	75(75%)	13(13%)	100(100%)
Promoting	2(2%)	10(10%)	75(75%)	13(13%)	100(100%)
Considerate	2(2%)	10(10%)	75(75%)	13(13%)	100(100%)
Friendly	2(2%)	10(10%)	75(75%)	13(13%)	100(100%)
Sharing	2(2%)	10(10%)	75(75%)	13(13%)	100(100%)

The table reveals that most of the respondents opined that their fathers were strict, aggressive authoritarian and irresponsible towards them. He is not understanding, promotive, considerate, friendly or sharing. All these influence their childhood. They automatically became introvert by nature and were filled with the feelings of unwanted ness and alienation in their life, sharing their worries with none except themselves.

In this study case, a women respondent aged 32, from lower income family got high school education. She hails from rural area. She had low participation and low achievements in her schooling. The case says her father was a strict, authoritarian, irresponsible towards her. He was heavily alcoholic and un approachable. Neither was he considerate to her. Father's behaviour however instilled fear in her heart so much that she never wished to share feelings with others. These were the unforgettable marks in her childhood days. On one hand it created impulsive behaviour with in her. But in the case of her mother she is always aggressive due to miserable life situation. Father's irresponsible behaviour forced her mother to go out for work to take care of the family and she was not comfortable with her siblings to share her feelings. These situations forced her to live within herself. She faced adjustment problems both in family and school. When she grew up, she failed to cope with difficult situations in life.

The poor socialization of the respondent makes her situation vulnerable. She faced bitter experiences from the whole family during her school days. Here both parents and teachers have to play a vital role in socializing children. These experiences may be one of the reasons for them to become suicidal later.

Table no. 5.4

Mother's approach

Type of approach	Great extent	Some extent	Not at all	Not applicable	Total
Strict	11(11%)	17(17%)	67(67%)	5(5%)	100(100%)
Aggressive	22(22%)	36(36%)	37(37%)	5(5%)	100(100%)
Authoritarian	17(17%)	27(27%)	51(51%)	5(5%)	100(100%)
Irresponsible	20(20%)	25(25%)	50(50%)	5(5%)	100(100%)
Understanding	6(6%)	69(69%)	20(20%)	5(5%)	100(100%)
Promoting	16(16%)	55(55%)	24(24%)	5(5%)	100(100%)
Considerate	6(6%)	60(60%)	29(29%)	5(5%)	100(100%)
Friendly	15(15%)	30(30%)	50(50%)	5(5%)	100(100%)
Sharing	6(6%)	69(69%)	20(20%)	5(5%)	100(100%)

There is a saying that “if the father is the head of the family then mother is the heart of family”. If the heart fails to perform its function properly, the whole system will collapse. The table reveals that 28% of respondent's mother were strict towards them and 67% say their mothers were not at all strict towards them. In this study 5% of the respondents were motherless during childhood.

While analyzing aggressive behaviour of mothers, 22% show highly aggressive behaviour, 36% some extent of aggression and 37% weren't aggressive. This behaviour is a possible reflection of the ill experiences in family. Ones' husband's alcoholism and constant quarrels in the family automatically make one aggressive towards children.

The table shows 17% of the respondent's mothers were have highly authoritative behaviour, 27% were some extent authoritative towards them and 51% of the respondents were not at all authoritative towards them. Denial of paternal love in childhood and the entrance of a step father in their life worsen the situation .

While analyzing the respondent's mother's behaviour during their childhood days. About half of the respondents' mother were irresponsible in one way or other way. Most of the respondent's mothers were neither promotive, considerate, friendly nor sharing nature. All these ill experiences made black spots in their life. This could also make one suicidal.

In a certain case, a male respondent of 34 years old was from a lower income family. Having completed his high school education, he was a coolie. While analyzing his childhood experiences, it was found that his father had died during his childhood. After three years his mother re-married another man. The entrance of step father made the life more miserable. The stepfather never bothered education or care of the respondent or his siblings. His mother always kept silence of this attitude of the step father. These experiences forced him to dropout from his school. He felt unwanted and became introvert by nature. He still lives with his difficulties. These experiences became an important factor for him to attempt suicide.

Table no. 5.5

Siblings treat towards you

Type of approach	Great extent	Some extent	Not at all	Not applicable	Total
Strict	11(11%)	16(16%)	70(70%)	3(3%)	100(100%)
Aggressive	22(22%)	35(35%)	40(40%)	3(3%)	100(100%)

Authoritarian	17(17%)	27(27%)	53(53%)	3(3%)	100(100%)
Irresponsible	51(51%)	29(29%)	17(17%)	3(3%)	100(100%)
Understanding	6(6%)	69(69%)	22(22%)	3(3%)	100(100%)
Promoting	8(8%)	70(70%)	19(19%)	3(3%)	100(100%)
Considerate	6(6%)	70(70%)	21(21%)	3(3%)	100(100%)
Friendly	30(30%)	40(40%)	27(27%)	3(3%)	100(100%)
Sharing	8(8%)	40(40%)	27(27%)	3(3%)	100(100%)

While analyzing siblings behaviour towards the respondents, they were neither strict, aggressive nor authoritarian towards the respondents. But most of the respondents agree that their siblings were irresponsible towards them. The table also reveals that most of the respondents say that their siblings were not much understanding, promotive and considerate to the respondents. The respondents were not satisfied with their siblings. Reason for poor sibling interaction may be due to their unfavorable family conditions. They were not bothered about the respondents feelings and did not spend time with the respondents to listen to their sorrows when they confronted it in their daily life situation. These experiences are one of the factors leading to suicide.

Table no. 5.6

Father's drinking habits

Nature of habits	Frequency	Percentage
Daily	52	52%
Occasionally	25	25%

Not at all	10	10%
Not applicable	13	13%
Total	100	100%

While analyzing the respondents father's drinking habits 52% were having it daily, 25% occasionally and only 10% were teetotalers. Father's drinking habits increased chances of violence within the family and made bitter experiences in their life.

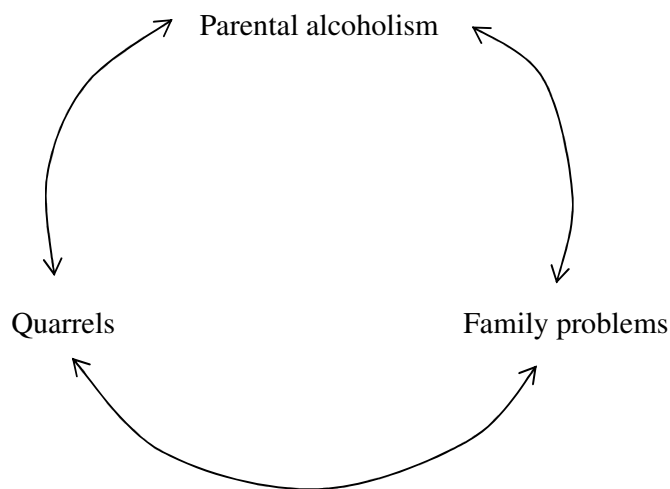
One of my cases said her childhood days were filled with bad experiences like drinking habits of her father. May be due to this behaviour he was strict aggressive, irresponsible towards her. He didn't feel he was promotive, considerate and friendly. She felt alienated and isolated from family .She created her own world and spend her days with in it. After her marriage she faced the same behaviour from husband. All these things made her suicidal.

Table no. 5.7

When did drinking habit started

Period	Frequency	Percentage
Below 10 years	10	10%
10-20	20	20%
20-30	40	40%
30 and above	7	7%
Not applicable	23	23%
Total	100	100%

During the analysis of father's drinking habits the table revealed 40% had begun these habits between 20-30 years, 20% shown it 10-20 years, 10% shows below 10 years and 7% began it above 30 years. Most of respondent's father began these habits after their marriage. Bad company, physically painful work and family burden were noted behind these habits. Parental alcoholism and quarreling, the researcher could see inter relation between these three factors.



Parental alcoholism led to family problems, which in turn created quarrels with in the family; or family problems caused parental alcoholism which created quarrels with in the family. The quarrels between family members could have caused problems which may have led to parental alcoholic behaviour. What ever may be it always affects children at the home.

T.T. Ranganathan (2002) opined that alcoholism was a family disease, which affected each and every member of the family. It affected the children with the same intensity with which it affected the wife even more. Children neither have the option nor the mobility to enter into or exit from the parent-child relationship. While the wife feels trapped, the children are really trapped. The child is emotionally and situationally helpless. In other words he looks like any other child, dresses like any other child, and walks about like any other child until they get close enough to notice the edge of sadness in his eyes, or the worried look on his brow. He behaves like a child but he is not at all enjoying. He just carries on. He does not have the same spontaneity which the other kids have. But nobody really notices, not even his own parents. Even if they do, they probably don't understand.

Any normal child is an innocent, beautiful, delicate being- bubbling with energy, mischief and play. In contrast, the child of an alcoholic is not a carefree. He is often a withdrawn child, who hides himself in a corner. As a result of living in an alcoholic environment, some of these children experience physical problems like stunted growth. Even though food may be available in their homes, the environment is such that they never feel like eating. When they fall sick no one ever notices them or promptly attends to their needs. These children harbour a lingering fear, anxiety and stress. They also experience lots of problems in school like difficulty in concentration or defiance of authority and truancy. They have problems relating to their classmates, to people around, including their own family members.

Table no. 5.8

Smoking habit started

Nature of the habit	Frequency	Percentage
Daily	42	42%
Occasionally	18	18%
Not at all	27	27%
Not applicable	13	13%
Total	100	100%

While analyzing the father's smoking habits eg: the respondents 42% were daily smokers, 18% occasionally smoke and 27% were not at all smokers. Another noted thing is that these smokers use intoxicants like "Kanjavu and pan parag". The increase in use of these things shows tendency to use drugs and alcohol.

Table no. 5.9

When did smoking started

Period	Frequency	Percentage
Below 10 years	3	3%
10-20	12	12%
20-30	30	30%
30 and above	15	15%
Not applicable	40	40%
Total	100	100%

While analyzing the origin of these habits, 30% seem to have begun these habits between the period of 20-30 years, 15% had it above 30 years, 10-20 began smoking between 10-20 years and only 3% started it below 10 years. From smoking one easily slipped in to drinks.

Table no. 5.10

Quarreling

Quarreling	Frequency	Percentage
With reason	11	11%
Without reason	25	25%
With and without reason	51	51%
Not at all	-	-
Not applicable	13	13%
Total	100	100%

While analyzing the quarreling nature of respondents 51% of respondents fathers were quarrelsome. It also reveals 11% quarreled with reason and 25% without reason. The quarreling nature of the parent disturbed the relations at home. It may be mainly due to his alcoholic behaviour. The quarrelsome nature is one of the ill effects of alcoholism.

Table no. 5.11

Father's bad habits disturbance of personal relation

Disturbance of personal relations	Frequency	Percentage
Great extent	60	60%
Some extent	17	17%
Not at all	-	-
Not applicable	23	23%
Total	100	100%

The table shows 60% of the respondents felt that their father's bad habits such as alcoholism, smoking and gambling highly affected the personal relations in their life, 17% said they were affected only to some extent and 23% of them cited other reasons as includes those they were fatherless or their father were teetotalers.

One of cases of 35 years old, had completed S.S.L.C. She belonged to lower income family. During her childhood my father was a strict, authoritarian and who was irresponsible towards the family and never was promotive, considerate, sharing or friendly Her father was also drunkard. His drinking habits and associated physical violence created imbalances in the family. Her siblings and mother were distressed due to these vulnerable situation. She was also isolated in the home situation. The case had suicidal inclination several times. When she grown up and got married she faced same difficulties from the part of her spouse. These experiences made her vulnerable.

Table no. 5.12

Could you satisfy the needs in the family

Need in the family	Satisfaction			
	Great extent	Some extent	Not at all	Total
Love	5(5%)	40(40%)	55(55%)	100(100%)
Care	8(8%)	40(40%)	52(52%)	100(100%)
Affection	9(9%)	41(41%)	50(50%)	100(100%)
Security	2(2%)	38(38%)	60(60%)	100(100%)
Freedom	10(10%)	40(40%)	50(50%)	100(100%)
Acceptance	5(5%)	45(45%)	50(50%)	100(100%)

While analyzing familial needs, the respondents never received love, care, affection, security, freedom or acceptance. It was observed that one of the most important function of the family was to take care of the children, to provide proper love and care to the youngsters, and give them opportunities for proper socialization to mould a healthy generation. When the family fails to perform these function it fails. Suicidal among the young was due to isolation and dissatisfaction in childhood days which led to an unhealthy society. In this chapter on the basis of all the tables and all the case studies the researcher proved the hypothesis right that “Socialization process has direct and indirect influence on suicide”. Durkheim’s theory of anomie traces the socialization pattern at home. Improper socialization in the family constitutes a form of anomie this anomic situation was a contributing factor to suicide.

Conclusion

Man is a social animal. The development of each human being is through socialization. Socialization is not simply the number of people somebody meets or talks to. It is not simply the complex and sophisticated way a man teaches himself to talk to somebody, as many people might think. Socialization is in fact the making of the man himself, as he integrates the world into himself. It is the world he takes in, like the culture the belief system, the fears, expectations, love hate, likes, dislikes, and its climate and geography. Based on the level of socialization a world view is developed. That is the world as perceived by different people of different socialization. So to say in order have a “vasudaivakudumbakam”, or the world citizenship, one has to have a strong and broad socialization ability.

The conclusion shows that most of the respondents were have poor participation and subsequently poor achievements in the both curricular and co-curricular activities which contribute to the educational backwardness of the respondents. Most of their fathers lacked paternal feelings and were chronic drunkards. This created domestic violence and increased the hardships of the respondents. Correlating family problem, parental alcoholism and conflict, the researcher could see inter relation between these three factors. There are three ways in which parental alcoholism leads to family problems leading to conflict in the family or family problems causes parental alcoholism which creates quarrels with in the family. The quarrels between family members could lead to an acute situation which may lead to parental alcoholic behaviour. What ever may be it is it affects children at the home. While looking forward their attitudes towards the respondents most of them were strict, authoritarian, aggressive and irresponsible towards children. Father failed to understand the feelings and did not encourage her in studies or achievements, not share any matters with him/her and not considerate or friendly in nature. While analyzing the mother's attitudes towards them some cases, mothers ware helpless in influencing the situation in favour of children. They were not dominated and powerless in the patriarchal setup. But in some cases, power in the family was controlled by step fathers and the mother silently obeyed the step father's commands. Siblings were not only prey to these evil effects, some were not bothered about fellow feelings. This behaviour totally affected the personal relations and disintegrates the family. Most of the respondents failed to get enough love, care, affection, security, freedom or acceptance which received not only from home but also from the whole

life. In this chapter the researcher proved the hypothesis that *Socialization process has direct and indirect influence on suicide*. Durkheim's theory of anomie can be related to the socialization pattern at home. Improper socialization in the family constitutes a form of anomie and this anomic situation is a major contributing factor to suicide.