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## A STUDY ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LEARNING INTEREST AND PARENTAL ENCOURAGEMENT OF HIGHER SECONDARY STUDENTS



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### ABSTRACT

In this study, an attempt has been made to study the relationship between learning interest and parental encouragement of higher secondary students. The investigator used Agarwal parental encouragement scale devised by Kusum Agarwal to measure the parental encouragement of the higher secondary students. To analyze the learning interest of the students, the investigator used learning interest scale constructed by the investigator. The tool has been administered to a random sample of 652 higher secondary students studying in Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu. The survey method has been followed for the present study. The result of the study reveals that there is significant and positive relationship exists between learning interest and parental encouragement.



**KEYWORDS :** *Learning Interest , Parental Encouragement , positive relationship .*

### INTRODUCTION :

Learning is the act of acquiring new, or modifying and reinforcing, existing knowledge, behaviours, skills, values, or preferences and may involve synthesizing different types of information. Learning will be determined by cognitive, affective and psychomotor domains among these affective domain is key factors for an individual by their feelings namely affection, interest and so on. This Interest is the feeling of wanting to know or learn about something or someone. Hence, learning Interest has been found to play a key role in influencing student learning behaviour and intention to participate in the future. Even though interest has been recognized as an important variable for learning, teachers still do not have a clear understanding of their potential role in helping students develop interest. Apart from teachers, Parents can play a significant role in creating a healthy atmosphere for growing children to develop their learning interest. Parents are the first teacher for a student. The parent must understand the level and interest of their children. The parent must act as a

guide, friend and as a counsellor for their children. The students need a good encouragement from their parents to develop their learning interest. Hence, the investigator decided to analyze the relationship between learning interest and parental encouragement of higher secondary students.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Learning interest is the attitude characterized by a need to give selective attention to something that is significant to a person such as an activity, goal or research area. And more over learning interests can be influenced by many sociological factors among those Parental encouragement enhancing the possibilities of future occurrence of good behaviour by care, concern, approval and guidance. Sakshi Jindal & Gurdeep Kaur (2013) and Bindu.V & Aruna P.K (2014) found that the parental encouragement is positively related to process skills of adolescent students. The study also reveals that there is local and management difference exists for parental encouragement and process skills in social studies.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1.To find out whether there is any significant relationship between learning interest and parental encouragement of higher secondary students.
- 2.To find out whether there is any significant contribution of parental encouragement on the learning interest of higher secondary students.

## HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

- 1.There is no significant relationship between learning interest and parental encouragement of higher secondary students.
- 2.There is no significant contribution of parental encouragement on the learning interest of higher secondary students.

## METHODOLOGY

The normative survey method has been followed to find out the relationship between learning interest and parental encouragement of higher secondary students. learning interest scale constructed by the investigator (2015) to find out the learning interest of the higher secondary students. The scale consists of 67 statements. The items of the scale consist of factors related to language interest, knowing the reasons for maths puzzles and science inventions, leadership, self-esteem, inter personal relationship, music, natural places, body functions, knowing about natural resources, computer technology, games, machines and related functions, dance and entertainment, health and food. Each statement has a range of five responses. They are 'strongly agree', 'agree', 'undecided', 'disagree' and 'strongly disagree'. The score range is 67-335. High score indicates good learning interest. To measure the parental encouragement of higher secondary students the investigator used agarwal Parental Encouragement Scale constructed and standardized by Kusum Agarwal contains 80 items. All the 80 items will be scored 5,4,3,2 and 1. i.e., a score of 5 will be assigned to 'always', 4 will be assigned to 'most often', 3 will be assigned to 'frequently', 2 will be assigned to 'some times' and a score of 1 will be assigned to 'never'. The total parental encouragement score will range from 80 to 400. The total weighted score, if high, reveals greater amount of parental encouragement whereas lower scores indicate the lower degree of parental encouragement. The above mentioned tools have been administered to a random sample of 652 higher secondary students studying in Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu. The data collected from the sample has been subjected to correlational and regression analysis.

**ANALYSIS OF DATA AND INTERPRETATION**

To determine the relationship between learning interest and parental behaviour of higher secondary students, the coefficient of correlation has been found out and it is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1**  
Correlation between learning interest and parental behaviour of higher secondary students

| S.NO | Variables              | N   | r calculated value | Level of significance |
|------|------------------------|-----|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.   | Learning Interest      | 652 | 0.400**            | Significant at 0.01   |
|      | Parental encouragement |     |                    |                       |

Table 1 show that there is significant correlation and positive relationship exists between learning interest and parental behaviour of higher secondary students.

To find out the significant contribution of parental encouragement on learning interest, regression analysis has been carried out and it has been given in Table 2, 3 and 4.

**Table 2**  
Contribution of parental encouragement on learning interest of higher secondary students

| Model | R     | R square | Adjusted R square | Std.Error of the Estimate |
|-------|-------|----------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1     | 0.332 | 0.110    | 0.109             | 19.06                     |

a. Predictors: (constant), parental encouragement

**Table 3**  
Anova for contribution of parental encouragement on learning interest

| Model      | Sum of squares | Df  | Mean square | F      | Significance |
|------------|----------------|-----|-------------|--------|--------------|
| Regression | 29183.419      | 1   | 29183.419   | 80.302 | 0.00         |
| Residual   | 236223         | 651 | 363.421     |        |              |
| Total      |                | 652 |             |        |              |

a. Predictors: (constant), parental encouragement

b. Dependent variable: learning interest

**Table 4**  
't' value of contribution of parental encouragement on learning interest

| Model                  | Unstandardized coefficients |            | Standardized coefficients | t      | Significance |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------|--------------|
|                        | B                           | Std. Error | Beta                      |        |              |
| (constant)             | 90.586                      | 8.177      |                           | 11.078 | 0.00         |
| Parental encouragement | 0.258                       | 0.029      | 0.332                     | 8.961  | 0.00         |

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Table 2 shows that the R square value, which is found to be 0.110. It is evident that only 11 % of the total variance in learning interest attributed by the parental encouragement of higher secondary students. The remaining percentage of variance 89% (1-R square) is to be accounted by other factors.

It is evident from the Table 3 that the F value is found to be 80.302, which is significant at 0.01 level. It indicates that there is a significant contribution of parental encouragement on learning interest of higher secondary students.

Table 4 shows, the 't' value which reveals that the parental encouragement ( $t = 8.961$ ) is significantly contributed to the dependent variable learning interest of higher secondary students. The beta value shows that the parental encouragement is contributed positively to learning interest. It is evident that parents should equip themselves for pursuing of good learning interest of their children.

## FINDINGS

- There is significant correlation and positive relationship exists between learning interest and parental behaviour of higher secondary students.
- Only 11 % of the total variance in learning interest attributed by the parental encouragement of higher secondary students. The remaining percentage of variance 89% (1-R square) is to be accounted by other factors.
- There is a significant contribution of parental encouragement on the learning interest of higher secondary students

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