

RISE OF SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES AND ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETY



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ABSTRACT

The phenomenon known as "single parenthood" is one that has been around for as long as there have been people on Earth. According to Dowd Nancy in (1997), a single parent is a parent who takes on the most of the day-to-day responsibilities for parenting the kid or children while not cohabitating with their spouse or partner. This definition applies to a parent who is not married. The process of socialising children is essential to the continued existence of any society. Many people believe that the family unit is the single most important factor in the process of socialisation, particularly for children. Parents have a significant role in the process of instilling strong underlying moral, spiritual, social, physical, and cognitive standards in their children throughout the majority of cultural contexts. The upbringing of children is characterised by a strict adherence to routines and norms (Santrock, 2002). The extended family model of child raising that was common in Africa before to the advent of industrialization and globalisation has been significantly altered as a result of these two societal shifts. The rapid social change that comes along with globalisation has caused disruptions in the lives of families (Olaleye, Y.L et al, 2010). Many of the traditional customs and rites that were formerly passed down from generation to generation and carefully preserved are on the verge of extinction. Our nation's values and advantages, which were formerly seen to be the core pillars of our society, have changed and outgrown those ideals and advantages as contemporary culture has progressed. In this day and age, behaviour that was once considered unacceptable is rapidly becoming the norm.

KEYWORD: Single, Parent, Families, Society

INTRODUCTION

In Nigeria, having only one parent raise a child was unheard of, and when it did occur, it was seen as a very unusual occurrence. The so-called "nuclear family," which refers to a family unit that includes a mother or father and their children, is currently less common than it has ever been as a result of these rapidly increasing family configurations, both inside Nigeria and outside of the country (Tenibiaje M.O. et al 2011). Events such as divorce, separation, the passing away of a parent, an unplanned pregnancy or birth to a couple who is not married, and adoption by a single parent are the primary causes of single parenthood in our culture in the modern day (Amato, 2000).

The Yoruba people of Nigeria delegate different responsibilities for parenting based on their cultural traditions. The tasks of a parent include financial responsibility and the discipline of their children, whereas the roles of a mother include the nurturing of children, the instruction of household skills, and the fulfilment of complementary roles. When both parents contribute to the upbringing of the kid, that person develops morally, intellectually, and emotionally in a way that is balanced. (M. O. Tenibiaje, et al., 2011) The life of a single parent is more taxing and challenging because of the added responsibility of raising children all by themselves. If this time of the kid's life is mismanaged, it may result in difficulties later on when the youngster is attempting to transition to maturity.

Since women are traditionally seen to be the major carers for their children, it is almost inevitable that they will be included in conversations on single parenting. She not only takes on the responsibility of being the primary carer, but also of being the head of the family and the major provider for the household.

INCIDENCE OF SINGLE-PARENT FAMILY IN INDIA

Estimating the number of single-parent families in India and the many other Third World countries where the census does not include information on the heads of households by sex, marital status, age, or economic activity is a tough endeavour (Buvinic et al, 1978). As a consequence of this, it is difficult to get an accurate estimation of the percentage of families that are led by men and women, as well as their marital status, such as whether they have ever been married, are divorced, or have never been married. It's possible that this is because various cultures have varied standards for what constitutes the head of the family. In patriarchal societies, like the Indian culture, the oldest male is considered to be the head of the household, regardless of the function he plays in the household's economy or his age in comparison to the home's eldest female. Because of this, if a widow has a son, the son is considered to be the head of the household, even if it is possible that the widow is the one who is providing for the family and fulfilling the role that the husband would have. It is difficult to recognise one-parent families and assess the degree to which they are prevalent when one considers the fact that the majority of these households are run by their female members. This has a wide variety of

implications, notably with regard to the distribution of social services and their strategic planning.

1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To examine the degree to which children who grow up in homes with just one parent have the same kinds of problems as children who are raised in households with both parents.
2. To find out whether males, rather than girls, tend to face issues at a considerably greater rate in families with only one parent.

LITERATURE OF REVIEW

Ahamd Nasir 2019. The art of parenting has been passed down from generation to generation for as long as the universe has existed, and there is no shortage of information, books, or ideas that could make it simpler to describe what parenting is all about. The degree to which you require love and support that is not conditioned on receiving it, which is shared by all living things on earth, is the essence of parenting. India is one of the best countries in the world when it comes to nurturing their children and analysing their weaknesses to develop their strengths, having a proper plan to bring their children into a high level of achievement usually male children from high independence to high responsibility die-hard due to the cultural obligations and parental expectations to take care of them in older age. India is one of the best countries in the world when it comes to nurturing their children. In Indian culture, the biological bond of a father and a mother to their offspring is considered to be one of the most essential responsibilities that they have.

Ajita Gupta 2020. When a child is raised by only one parent, it can be challenging for them to live up to the standards that society has set for them because family is the foundation upon which all children are built. Children are supposed to be raised in a family environment in which both their mother and father play their respective roles in providing them with a sense of security and stability. The phenomenon of families consisting of only one parent has experienced a precipitous increase in recent years in India as a result of various reasons, one of which is the impact of western culture. This article is an attempt to summarise the existing research on single-parent households, including the variables that contribute to their existence, the benefits they offer, and the challenges they face. In addition, both the good and negative effects of being raised by a single parent on an adolescent's physical, mental, emotional, behavioural, educational, and social welfare are dissected in extensive depth. In addition, this article offers a few recommendations for single parents, with the goal of assisting them in better managing and overcoming the challenges they face as a result of the circumstances in which they find themselves, and thereby contributing to the overall health and happiness of their children who are adolescents.

AyferAydmnerBoylu2014. This research aims to investigate the economic activities of single-parent households in order to provide sound recommendations for how these activities might be improved. Employees from single-parent households who were working at the Hacettepe

University in Ankara, Turkey, made up the total number of 119 participants in this study. According to the findings, more than half of families are not getting assistance with child care, whether or not they pay for it (56.3%), and more than two-thirds of families are not getting assistance with home cleaning, even if they pay for it (65.5%). Bring to people's notice the fact that families who were unable to save money or make investments (57.1%) and who ended up going into debt (74.8%) The vast majority of families, or 90.8%, do not receive help from any organisation, agency, or foundation in their local surroundings. Less than half of the families that receive assistance do so in the form of financial assistance (45.5%), and they also receive assistance from their families (45.5%).

Husmiati Yusuf2020. The transition from a two-parent family system to a single-parent family system necessitates a number of adjustments, particularly in situations in which the parents have divorced. There are a few distinct variations on the model of the single-parent household, but the vast majority of them are led by women. Children who are raised by a single parent as a result of their parents' divorce may have short-term or long-term effects, as well as either positive or negative outcomes. Short-term impacts include issues in conduct at home and school that emerge in combination with the first reaction to parental separation. These challenges can be seen in children. When individuals become involved in personal relationships and face difficulty in establishing them during adolescence or adulthood, this may not be the first indication that there will be long-term impacts. The children who are raised by a single parent require a plan and some kind of assistance.

David Richter 2017. Although being a single parent is becoming more prevalent in Western society, very little is known about the long-term repercussions of this type of parenting. As a result, we conducted research on the level of life satisfaction among individuals who had spent their entire childhood with a single mother, individuals who had spent part of their childhood with both parents but then experienced parental separation, and individuals who had spent their entire childhood with both parents. Our participants ranged in age from 18 to 66 years old. People who had a mother who raised them alone throughout their entire childhood and, to a lesser extent, people who had experienced parental separation showed a small but persistent decrease in life satisfaction into old age. This was the case regardless of the individuals' socioeconomic status during childhood

Sarmad Muhammad Soomar 2019. Parenting is the cornerstone of the wonderful institution that is the family. However, throughout the course of time, numerous observations have revealed that the practise of single parenting is by far the most common, and that only one parent is responsible for the upbringing of children. Both partners in the marriage are unable to jointly fulfil the same tasks for a variety of different reasons. It may appear to be quite harsh, but in the end it will have an effect on youngsters. This research seeks to emphasise common contextual reasons and repercussions of single parenting, and it does so by connecting with certain ideas that relate parenting.

METHODOLOGY

In the current study, the researcher first identified 700 families from the Social Welfare

Department's (Family Planning Department) Family Planning Department, and then 200 single-child households from the Aurangabad District's Urban and Rural regions were chosen. Purposive sampling was used to pick 100 mothers and 100 fathers from single-child households in urban areas and 100 mothers and 100 fathers from single-child families in rural areas. These representative searches were compiled from the relevant family planning and social welfare departments at the Collector Office, Government Hospital, and Z.P. in the Aurangabad District. Additionally, 200 kids were kidnapped from both locations. The youngsters are between the ages of 6 and 13 (late childhood), and they attend primary and pre-high school. Children from the city and district of Aurangabad were chosen by various schools. In the sample job mentioned above, occupational, educational, economic, and social status are all regulated. In the graphic below, a summary of the sample is provided.

DATAANALYSIS

The researcher covered the data gathering process and the chosen study approach in the third chapter. This chapter presents the findings from the researcher's study of the data acquired on the basis of data analysis methodologies.

TWO-WAY UNIVARIATE ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE FOR PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP

Size of sample

Value label		N
AREA OF RESIDENCE	Urban	100
	Children	
	Rural	100
	Children	
GENDER	Boys	100
	Girls	100

Shows descriptive statistics of the dependent variable Parents-Child relationship
Descriptive Statistics: Dependent Variable: Total PCR (Parents)

AREAOF RESIDENCE	GENDER	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
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Urban Children	Boys	126.7400	9.06622	50
	girls	126.0800	7.62338	50
	Total	126.4100	8.34011	100
Rural Children	Boys	128.6800	10.17287	50
	girls	127.1600	10.25065	50
	Total	127.9200	10.18880	100
Total	Boys	127.7100	9.63610	100
	girls	126.6200	9.00368	100
	Total	127.1650	9.31783	200

The descriptive statistics table above displays the mean and standard deviation (SD) of boys and girls from urban and rural single-child families who have a positive parent-child relationship. The average for boys is 127.71, and the standard deviation for girls is 126.62. Children in urban areas have a mean age of 126.41 and an SD of 8.34; children in rural areas have a mean age of 127.92 and an SD of 10.18. Boys in rural areas have a mean of 128.68 and an SD of 10.17, whereas urban boys have a mean of 126.74 and an SD of 9.06 for each. Girls in rural areas have a mean of 127.16 and an SD of 10.25, whereas urban girls have a mean of 126.08 and an SD of 7.62.

Shows two-way univariate analysis of variance for dependent variable Parents-Child relationship of children towards to parents

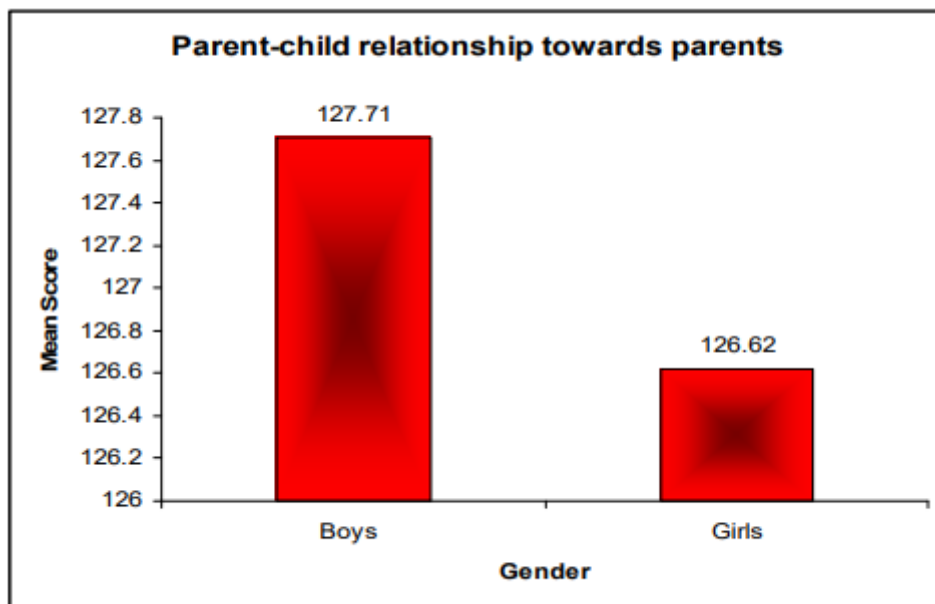
Source	Type III Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Corrected Model	182.655(a)	3	60.885	0.698	NS
Intercept	3234187.445	1	3234187.445	37081.278	0.01
AREAOFRESIDENCE (Urban + Rural)	114.005	1	114.005	1.307	NS
GENDER (Boys + Girls)	59.405	1	59.405	0.681	NS
AREAOFRESIDENCE*GENDER	9.245	1	9.245	0.106	NS

Error	17094.900	196	87.219		
Total	3251465.000	200			
Corrected Total	17277.555	199			

The first major effect of the children's gender, or whether they are boys or girls, is seen in the aforementioned table's two-way univariate analysis of variance. $F(df=1,198)$ is 0.68, which is not statistically significant. Therefore, it suggests that there are no obvious differences between boys and girls regarding their relationships with their parents.

Area of residence, the second major effect, i.e., urban vs. rural children, has a F value of 1.30 ($df=1,198$), which is not significant. Therefore, there are no discernible differences between urban and rural children in terms of their parent-child relationships.

Parent-child relationships are not different as a result of the interaction effect; the F value is 0.10, which is not significant.



Parent child relationship towards parents

The mean value of the parent-child connection between boys and girls is depicted in the graph above. It has been demonstrated that there is no difference in how children behave toward their parents between boys and girls.

Shows descriptive statistics of the dependent variable Parents-Child relationship towards to mother

AREAOF RESIDENCE	GENDER	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Urban Children	Boys	56.9400	4.22534	50
	girls	55.4200	4.03601	50
	Total	56.1800	4.18120	100
Rural Children	Boys	55.9000	5.37663	50
	girls	54.9400	5.55275	50
	Total	55.4200	5.45909	100
Total	Boys	56.4200	4.83919	100
	girls	55.1800	4.83543	100
	Total	55.8000	4.86501	200

The descriptive statistics table above displays the mean and standard deviation (SD) of boys and girls from urban and rural single-child families who have a positive parent-child relationship. The average boy is 56.42, the average girl is 55.18, and the standard deviation is 4.83. Children in rural areas have a mean of 55.42 and an SD of 5.45, whereas children in urban areas have a mean of 56.18 and an SD of 4.18. Boys in rural areas have a mean of 55.90 and an SD of 5.37, whereas urban boys have a mean of 56.94 and an SD of 4.22. Females in rural areas have a mean of 54.94 and an SD of 5.55, whereas urban girls have a mean of 55.42 and an SD of 4.03.

shows descriptive statistics of urban child and rural child for dependent variable Parent-child relationship towards their mother. Descriptive Statistics: Dependent Variable: Parents-Child relationship towards to Mother

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Urban Children	Boys	56.9400	4.22534	50
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	Total	56.1800	4.18120	100
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Total	Boys	56.4200	4.83919	100
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CONCLUSION

Following testing and verification of the hypotheses, some of which were preserved and some of which were rejected in light of the facts and discussion of the findings. There are no distinctions between boys and girls in terms of how they feel about their parents as parents. Boys have stronger parent-child relationships with their mothers than females do. There are no appreciable differences between the father-child relationships of males and girls. The parent-child connection toward their parents in single-child families does not significantly differ between urban and rural youngsters. In single-child families, there are no appreciable differences between urban and rural children in terms of their relationships with their mothers. Children in rural areas have closer relationships with their fathers than children in metropolitan areas. There are no appreciable disparities between the rural and urban boys in terms of their mother-child connection. Compared to urban boys, rural boys have stronger father-son relationships. In single child families with urban and rural females, the parent-child connection toward the father does not significantly change. In single child families with urban and rural females, the parent-child connection toward the mother does not significantly change. In both urban and rural regions, mothers have a more positive attitude toward their children than fathers do. In both urban and rural regions, mothers have a more positive attitude about their sons than fathers do. In both urban and rural settings, mothers have a more positive attitude about their daughters than fathers do. In single kid families living in both urban and rural settings, parents in rural areas have a more positive attitude toward their children. There is no discernible difference between rural and urban parents' attitudes about the males in their single-child families. Urban parents have a more positive view of their daughters in single-child families than rural parents do.

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