
RESEARCH ARTICLE

Identifying Parenting Styles of Parents in Kabul City

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ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted with the aim of identifying parenting styles among parents in Kabul. The study is descriptive research that includes all households in Kabul city as the statistical population. The sample size was determined based on Cochran's formula, resulting in 330 questionnaires being distributed, consisting of 155 women and 175 men who were randomly selected and participated in the research. The questionnaire consisted of two sections: demographic information about the family, including gender and socioeconomic status, and the Parenting Attitude Scale (PAS) questionnaire. After completion and data collection, the data were analyzed using SPSS statistical software. The findings of the research indicate that the mean and variance of parenting style scores, including authoritarianism, overprotectiveness, and permissiveness, are equal among fathers and mothers based on gender and family socioeconomic status, and no significant differences are observed in the scores. It can be concluded that parents in Kabul, regardless of gender or socioeconomic status, use all three parenting styles equally in raising their children.

KEYWORDS

Parenting styles, Family, Education

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1. Introduction

The family is the first and most important institution in human history and civilization where human beings get acquainted with social lifestyles, understanding, and compatibility with others. The family is the most suitable platform for the actualization of human capabilities, talents, and abilities, and a huge part of the personality dimensions of people, such as social behavior, responsibility, tolerance towards others, and emotional reactions, are formed in it (Novabakhsh and Fathi 2019).

The growth and formation of personality are influenced by many genetic and environmental factors. The way of behaving is rooted in personality, so the parent-child interaction is influenced by the personalities of the parties (Nazar, Mokhtari, Sayadi, and Mashayikhi 2015).

Parenting refers to the dominant way of raising children by parents, and it has a significant effect on the growth and development of children's personalities (Yekta Shkahi, Parand, and Faqih 2015). The parenting style of parents in different periods of childhood for the purpose of education and upbringing of children has an impact on how their personalities develop. In addition to providing comfort and strengthening feelings such as trust, confidence, security, and independence, the proper relationship between a parent

and a child is the basis for physical, mental, and especially social growth and maturity in adolescence and beyond (Mirzaei, Cheharzad, and Yaqoubi, 1388).

Child parenting styles are one of the concerns of human societies Because they have inextricable links with economic, social, and cultural policies, which, unfortunately, are the source of many failures in our family and education today. The phrase parenting styles refers to certain behaviors of parents that, individually and in relation to each other, affect the child's developmental outcomes and include the level of responsiveness and demandingness of parents. At least three methods have been identified for the disciplinary and restraining methods of parents: "authoritarian", "authoritative" and "permissive parents". Authoritative style parents usually expect mature behavior from their children, set clear behavior standards for them, encourage their children to be independent, and have an open and flexible system for interactive communication with their children.

Authoritarian parents usually place a high value on maintaining their authority and suppress any attempts by their children to challenge this authority. Children are not allowed to discuss matters with their parents or make decisions without consultation. Permissive parents allow their children to regulate their behavior and make decisions for themselves, but they rarely establish rules to monitor their children's behavior (Mohammadi and Mohammadi, 2015).

Today, the occurrence of high-risk behaviors in teenagers and young people has become one of the most important concerns of society, and demographic Factors and parenting methods have an effect on it (Shokri, Yousefi, Safai Rad, Akbari, Mousavi, and Nazari 2014). The context of the parenting styles of parents is one of the important factors influencing the upbringing of children and their personality traits (Azadbakht, 2019).

In this research, we have tried to use the parents' point of view to examine their parenting style in Kabul and to answer the question of which parenting style parents in Kabul use in raising their children according to their gender and welfare status.

1.1 The importance and necessity of research

The educational system of the family, or in other words, parenting methods, is one of the important factors in the formation of a child's personality (Jahanshahi and Qawam, 2016). Many studies, including Hibbati's (2013), show that sensitive and responsive parenting leads to the development of children's self-directed skills, and on the other hand, parents' inability to coordinate their behavior with children's needs causes uninhibited and uncontrolled behaviors. It happens to some children.

Therefore, there is no doubt that the family has a deep and lasting effect on the foundation of a child's individual behavior, arousing the spirit of life and his mental peace. The issue of the impact of educational methods and childhood events and their essential role in the future life of a person has an important place. Therefore, the influence of parents and the type of communication they have with their children, and to be more precise, the types of parenting styles and methods of their children, are effective in the future of their children (Hosseinian and Kalantari, 2017). Therefore, studying parents' child-rearing methods is not without grace (Rahmat Zahi, Khazaei, and Javadian, 2016).

Considering the importance of the discussed variables, the necessity of conducting this research is felt, and on the other hand, it should be stated that: 1. Determining the methods of raising children by parents plays a significant role in identifying the educational needs of this field. 2. Considering that this type of research is not significant in Afghanistan and has not been paid attention to, this research tries to address this issue. 3. The results of this research can be effective for practitioners and planners in the field of education, especially in the family sector.

1.2 Research questions

1. To what extent is the authoritarian parenting style of parents according to gender in Kabul city?
2. To what extent is the parenting style of parents' overprotective according to gender in Kabul city?
3. To what extent is the permissive parenting style of parents according to gender in Kabul city?
4. To what extent is the authoritarian parenting style of parents related to the welfare situation in Kabul city?
5. To what extent is the parenting style of parents' overprotective according to the welfare situation in Kabul city?
6. To what extent is the permissive parenting style of parents related to the welfare situation in Kabul city?

2. Research Methodology

In general, we can divide research methods according to their purpose and nature. In this research, the parenting attitude of Kabul city families has been studied. This research is applied research according to the purpose, and on the other hand, it is descriptive because it describes the existing conditions.

2.1 Statistical Society

According to the statistics for 2022 of the National Bureau of Statistics and Information, the statistical population includes more than 776 thousand households in Kabul city.

2.2 Sample and sampling method

In this research, Cochran's formula was used for sampling, according to which the required sample for this research is 322 families, and to ensure that all the questionnaires were received, 350 questionnaires were distributed, out of which 330 questionnaires were obtained. In this research, due to the lack of facilities for the distribution of questionnaires, the available method has been used.

2.3 Research tool

In this research, three types of questionnaires were used:

1. Public information questionnaire

In relation to demographic data, this questionnaire includes gender, income, and education.

2. Questionnaire for measuring the parenting attitudes of parents

This questionnaire is derived from the Parental Attitude Assessment Questionnaire (PAS) created by Shabin (1949). Its initial form included 85 questions, which were modified later. The form we used was organized by Droz and Tihan (1957), which includes 30 single-concept questions with five options (from complete agreement to complete disagreement), whose materials are divided into three equal subscales.

In the used form, every 10 questions of the questionnaire measure a subscale, i.e., authoritative, overprotective, and permissive. In this questionnaire, questions 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 14, 17, 18, and 21 are factors of authoritative; questions 1, 2, 7, 8, 16, 20, 25, 26, 29, and 30 are factors of overprotective; and Questions 11, 12, 13, 15, 19, 22, 23, 24, 27, and 28 measure permissive factors. This questionnaire is presented to parents in order to measure the type of attitude that affects the practical style of raising their children, and they are asked to rate their level of agreement and disagreement with the principles that affect their children's educational issues and creative development.

2.4 Validity and reliability

The reliability of the questionnaire in this research was calculated using Cronbach's alpha, and the number was 0.746, which is acceptable.

2.5 Method of collecting information

The method of collecting information from the statistical sample was done using the parenting attitudes questionnaire. Due to the fact that there were no material facilities, questionnaires were distributed and collected from students who lived in different areas of Kabul city. After completion, each questionnaire was provided to the researcher and entered into SPSS software for data analysis.

2.6 Data analysis method

In descriptive statistical analysis, the researcher summarizes and classifies the collected data using descriptive statistical indicators. In other words, in the analysis of descriptive data, the researcher first summarizes the collected data by preparing and adjusting the frequency distribution table, then displays them with the help of a graph, and finally uses other descriptive statistics indicators.

In this research, descriptive statistics, independent T-tests, and ANOVA analysis of variance have been used to determine the level of confidence. SPSS software was used to analyze the data obtained from the questionnaire.

2.7 The findings

Table 1. Information about the gender of the parent

	frequency	percent	Commulative percent
variable	Female	155	47.0
	Male	175	53.0
	Total	330	100.0

Table number (1) shows that 330 parents participated in this research; 155 of them (47 percent) were women, and 175 of them (53 percent) were men.

Table number (2) of information related to the welfare of families

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
welfare	Very low	64	19.4	19.4
	low	99	30.0	49.4
	medium	99	30.0	79.4
	high	54	16.4	95.8
	Very high	14	4.2	100.0
	Total	330	100.0	

Table number (2) shows that most of the participating parents in the research were at a medium or medium-to-low level of well-being (30 percent), and the least of them were at a high level of well-being (4.2 percent).

Question 1: What is the parenting style of authoritative parents according to gender in Kabul city?

Table number 3 shows the average scores of domineering parenting styles based on gender.

Variable	sex		Statistic	Std. Error
authoritative	female	Mean	37.39	.39673
		Variance	24.39	
	Male	Mean	37.78	.38270
		Variance	25.63	

Table number (3) shows that the average score of authoritative parenting style in women is 37.39, with a variance of 24.39. Also, the average score of authoritative parenting style in men is 37.78, with a variance of 25.63.

The second question is: To what extent is the parenting style of parents' strong dependence according to gender in Kabul city?

Table No. 4: Average scores of parenting styles of overprotection based on gender

Variable			Statistic	Std. Error
overprotective	Female	Mean	38.14	.36054
		Variance	20.14	
	Male	Mean	38.43	.36886
		Variance	23.81	

Table number 4 shows that the average scores of the parenting style of extreme dependency in women are 38.14, with a variance of 20.14. Also, the mean score of the parenting style of overprotectiveness in men is 38.43, with a variance of 23.81.

Third question: To what extent is the negligent parenting style of parents according to gender in Kabul city?

Table number 5: Average scores of permissive parenting styles based on gender

variable	sex		Statistic	Std. Error
permissive	Female	Mean	37.41	.38573
		Variance	23.062	
	Male	Mean	36.85	.41531
		Variance	30.185	

Table number (5) shows that the average score of the permissive parenting style in women is 37.41, with a variance of 23.06. Also, the mean score of Permissive parenting style in men is 36.85, with a variance of 30.18.

Question 4: To what extent is the authoritative parenting style of parents according to the welfare situation in Kabul city?

Table number 6 shows the average scores of authoritative parenting styles based on welfare status.

variable	Welfare		Statistic	Std. Error
	Very low	Mean	38.4063	.58956

authoritative	low	Variance	22.245		
		Mean	37.7071	.48205	
	medium	Variance	23.005		
		Mean	36.8485	.48803	
	high	Variance	23.579		
		Mean	37.7963	.78658	
	Very high	Variance	33.411		
		Mean	37.7143	1.46546	
			Variance	30.066	

Table No. 6 shows that the highest mean scores of authoritative parenting style based on welfare status are low (38.40), with a variance of 22.24. Also, the lowest average score of authoritative parenting style based on welfare status is the average welfare level (36.84), with a variance of 23.57.

Question 5: What is the parenting style of parents' strong dependence according to the welfare situation in Kabul city?

Table number 7 shows the average scores of parenting styles of overprotection based on welfare status.

variable			Statistic	Std. Error
overprotective	Very low	Mean	39.3594	.55428
		Variance	19.662	
	low	Mean	38.1212	.44143
		Variance	19.291	
	Medium	Mean	37.5354	.48505
		Variance	23.292	
	high	Mean	38.5370	.66913
		Variance	24.178	
	Very high	Mean	39.1429	1.50770
		Variance	31.824	

Overprotective Table number (7) shows that the highest mean scores of the overprotective parenting style based on welfare status are low welfare level (39.35) with a variance of 22.24 and high welfare level (39.14) with a variance of 31. It is 82.

Also, the lowest average score of the parenting style of overprotectiveness based on welfare status is the average welfare level (37.53), with a variance of 23.29.

Question 6: To what extent is the permissive parenting style of parents related to the welfare situation in Kabul city?

Table No. 8: Average scores of permissive parenting styles based on welfare status

variable			Statistic	Std. Error
permissive	Very low	Mean	37.6563	.62131
		Variance	24.705	
	low	Mean	37.2121	.46949
		Variance	21.822	
	Medium	Mean	37.0606	.54518
		Variance	29.425	
	high	Mean	36.5556	.80818
		Variance	35.270	
	Very high	Mean	36.5000	1.36579
		Variance	26.115	

Table No. 8 shows that the highest mean scores of the permissive parenting style based on welfare status are low (37.65), with a variance of 24.70. Also, the lowest mean scores of the negligent parenting style according to welfare status are for medium to high welfare levels (36.55) with a variance of 23.29 and also for high welfare levels (36.40) with a variance of 26.11.

3. Discussion and conclusion

The present research is not aligned with the research of Mirzaei, Cheharzad, and Yagoubi (2009) or the results of the research of Rahmani, Seyyed Fatemi, Baradaran Rezaei, Sadaqat, and Fathi Azar (2006). The present research is consistent with the research of Navabakhsh and Fathi (2013) and the results of the research of Mohammad Azadbakht (2014). The present research was conducted with the aim of identifying the parenting styles of parents in Kabul. This research, which was carried out considering the three styles of authoritative, overprotective, and permissive, according to the mean value and Levin's test for the equality of variance, as well as the independent T-test for the equality of the mean, can be concluded that the parents of Kabul city, In the two spectrums, women and men not only act the same in choosing the type of parenting styles but also the extent of their use of the mentioned styles is equal.

Also, from the results of the average scores of parenting styles based on the well-being of families and the analysis of variance (ANOVA) test, it can be concluded that there is no significant difference between the average scores of different levels of families from an economic point of view in choosing a parenting style. In the explanation of this result, it can be concluded that considering the fact that the city of Kabul as the capital of Afghanistan, witnesses the presence of people with different cultures from all parts of Afghanistan in terms of parenting styles, this diversity has been preserved even in spite of gender differences and welfare status.

On the other hand, since Afghan society is a traditional society, fathers and mothers inherit the way of thinking of their ancestors, who have lived together for centuries, and this common aspect has also affected their parenting style. Another point that should be mentioned in relation to this result is that due to the high level of illiteracy and lack of attention to the issue of education in the field of parenting styles, parents base their parenting styles on desire and personal experience from their past, unconsciously and with knowledge of it. He chooses a special style and uses it to raise his children.

4. Research limitations

Among the limitations of the current research, the following can be mentioned:

1. Lack of facilities and financial resources to cover all the geography of the statistical community in the research
2. Since the available method was used in the statistical sample, the generalization of this research to other regions should be done with caution.

4.1 Suggestions

1. Holding educational workshops for parents in educational centers to familiarize them with parenting styles and improve the relationship between parents and their children
2. Examining parenting styles through their children
3. This research was done descriptively. It is suggested to carry out studies in the form of investigating the relationships between the variables and influential factors of parenting styles.

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