



NORTHERN

Comparing Parenting Styles

An Investigation of NNMC Student's attitudes about Parenting Styles

Pretty Water Duran

Northern New Mexico College

Department of BAIS : Criminal Justice

Abstract

The purpose of my study of parenting styles is based upon the fact that psychology argues parenting is important to show that a child's mental health can be affected by the parenting skills that are learned. The research methodology used was a survey, which utilized scenarios and a Likert scale to test my hypotheses on how people react to different parenting styles. The Sample Selection was made up of 32 NNMC Students who were enrolled in a Psych or CJ class during the spring of 2019. 27 of the students that were surveyed were not parents, making that percentage 84%. This was a lot higher than the percentage of people that were parents, with a percentage of 16%. 18 or 56.25% of those sampled agreed "a great deal" to the scenario where it was portrayed that the parent is just being supportive enough. In comparison, when the scenario has been changed to be a parenting example that is unsupportive, 19 or nearly 68% of the students surveyed responded "not at all".

Introduction

The study of parenting styles is important to show that a child's mental health can be affected by the parenting skills that are learned. Cognitive Psychology is known as a mental process of an organism and how these influence behaviors, this study will investigate the hypothesis are based on how people react to different parenting styles. My research design project will include samples of survey, interviews, and non-participant observations.

Theory

Cognitive approaches are known for being highly influential in all areas of psychology (Biological, social, behaviorism, and development.)

My research questions is how cognitive psychology impacts parenting styles.

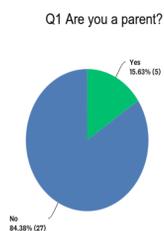
Hypothesis

My hypothesis are based on examining how NNMC students report they react to different parenting styles

The null hypothesis is assumed, that parenting styles do not affect NNMC student's attitudes.

Data Collection and Methods

The Sample Selection was made up of 32 NNMC Students who were enrolled in a Psych or CJ class during the spring of 2019. The pie chart below provides information about the sample size of the NNMC students that were surveyed



27 of the students that were surveyed were not parents, making that percentage 84%. This was a lot higher than the percentage of people that were parents, with a percentage of 16%. Students who were not parents were asked to respond about their own parenting in these scenarios.

The methodology that was used to collect the data utilized presenting parenting scenarios; such as:

SCENARIO 1. Consider this situation: A little girl comes flying home from school, waving her math paper in her hand because she has scored 100% for the first time. She comes into the house and greets her parents. The parents hugs her and says: "Good Job! I knew you knew you could do it if you tried. Lets go out for ice cream as a reward!"

- Answered: 32
- Skipped: 0

	NOT AT ALL (1)	LITTLE BIT (2)	SOMEWHAT (3)	VERY MUCH (4)	A GREAT DEAL (5)	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
The parent is neglectful	96.43% 27	0.00% 0	3.57% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	28	1.07
Parent is not strict enough	92.86% 26	3.57% 1	0.00% 0	3.57% 1	0.00% 0	28	1.14
The parent is being too lenient	82.14% 23	10.71% 3	7.14% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	28	1.25
The parent is being just supportive enough	3.13% 1	0.00% 0	6.25% 2	34.38% 11	56.25% 18	32	4.41

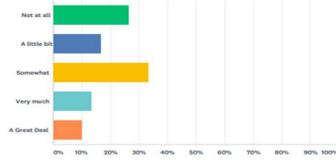
SCENARIO 2. Consider this situation: A little girl comes flying home from school, waving her math paper in her hand, because she scored 100% for the first time. She comes into the house and greets her parents. The Parent yells at her and says: " What! Finally! You've been getting bad grades all this time!! I knew you could do it if you tried. You're in time out with no technology until dinner, until you learn your lesson finally and for all!"

- Answered: 32
- Skipped: 0

	NOT AT ALL (1)	LITTLE BIT (2)	SOMEWHAT (3)	VERY MUCH (4)	A GREAT DEAL (5)	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Parent is not strict enough	53.57% 15	7.14% 2	21.43% 6	7.14% 2	10.71% 3	28	2.14
The parent is being just supportive enough	67.86% 19	17.86% 5	10.71% 3	0.00% 0	3.57% 1	28	1.54
The parent is being too lenient	85.71% 24	0.00% 0	10.71% 3	3.57% 1	0.00% 0	28	1.32
The parent is being just supportive enough	16.13% 5	19.35% 6	19.35% 6	19.35% 6	25.81% 8	31	3.19

Data Analysis and Findings

Q9 What do you think about spanking as a form of discipline? It works:



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Not at all	8
A little bit	5
Somewhat	10
Very much	4
A Great Deal	3
TOTAL	30

QUALITATIVE DATA:

Responses to the question: "If you are a parent, answer regarding your own parenting experiences. If you are not a parent, please respond in terms of your own parents." What were your parents like? There were 12 who answered, and missing responses were 20. Results were that the word "strict" was the second most common word used, (7 responses)

Responses regarding "Strict" as a characteristic of parenting from the comments were the following:

"**strict** but let us do our own thing so we can learn to be independent"

"I am a little **strict** or try to be"

"My parents were **strict** but also rewarded us when standards were met"

"**strict**, when needed too. Very supportive always there for me"

"My parents were **stict** when needed to be but were always supportive, loving and caring towards me and my brother"

"I was parented really **strict** and that how I would parent if I was a dad. It teaches respect in my opinion and that is really important to me"

"I was raised by only my mother and she was very **stricted** growing p she still is it was always school and if we did sports that was basically our freedom"

In comparison, responses without "Strict" in the wording as a characteristic of parenting from the comments involved mentions of challenge, responsibility, respect:

"being a parent is **challenging**. It comes with a lot of **responsibility**"

"My parent taught me to independent and to have **respect** for others"

One respondent noted that there were differences in parenting siblings:

"My parents spend a lot of time dealing with me and my siblings their **parenting styles differ** a lot from each child"

Discussion

Ethics: all surveys were anonymous, voluntary, and confidential.

Findings: students surveyed regarded scenario one as depicting a positive parenting style, scenario two as depicting a negative parenting style, supporting my hypothesis.

An interesting finding was the amount of support for spanking as a method of discipline; partially explained by the qualitative data in which 'strict' parenting was the dominant comment.

Conclusions

I found out that most students believe that encouraging kids and rewarding is helpful. I can accept the null base of my findings because it showed me different reactions on how people will react to different parenting styles. I believe that being very strict with your rules will help a child feel the comfort that is given and the boundaries that are set. If they succeed, they can receive rewards. It is important to remember that there are limitations to this research project. The main one being that there was only 32 NNMC Students surveyed: meaning the results and data of these surveys do not include all the students at Northern. The future of this research would be to get an equal number of parents involved as well. My hypothesis showed that parents are strict but don't encourage a lot of the youth that are going to school.

References

"4 Parenting Styles - Characteristics and Effects [Infographic]." Parenting for Brain, 28 Jan. 2018, www.parentingforbrain.com/4-baumrind-parenting-styles/.

Awasthi, Deeksha. "Uninvolved Parenting Style - Traits and Effects on Children."

Acknowledgements

•Thank you to NNMC Students and faculty for allowing me to survey in the Psy and CJ dept.