ABSTRACT

Name of the Candidate: Syed Ali Shah

Name of the Supervisor: Dr. Akbar Hussain

Name of the Department: Psychology

Title of the thesis: "Sense of Guilt, Rumination and Future Thinking Among Physically

Challenged Adolescents"

Keywords: Guilt, Rumination, Future Thinking, Physically Challenged

Impairments not only damage the physical ability of a person but also accelerate psychological

and emotional problems. Excess feeling of emotional distress and psychological problems may

increase harshly concerns for the future. Keeping in examination the important of future thinking

among physically challenged in particular, the present study was carried out to examine the

importance of problem like sense of guilt and rumination, which have profound effect on the

future thinking and behavior among the adolescents, particularly those who are suffering from

some sort of impairments in the physical organs.

On the basis of review of literature 10 hypotheses were formulated. In this study total 300

sample were taken purposively from different institution placed in Delhi. Out of 300 adolescents

100 were visually challenged, 100 were orthopedically challenged whereas the remaining 100

were normal adolescents. Among the visually challenged and orthopedically challenged only

those adolescents were included whose consisted of completely (blind and hands or legs were

damaged, suffering from polio or any other deformities in the hands or legs). In each sort of 100

adolescents 50 were males and 50 were females. For accessing the level of sense of guilt among

the adolescents 67 items Interpersonal guilt questionnaire by O'Conner, Berry, Weiss, Bush, &

Sampson, (1997) was used. In the same way for knowing the extent of rumination among the subjects 24 items the rumination-reflection questionnaire (RRQ) developed by Trapnell & Campbell, (1999) were administrated in the study. Similarly to examine the pattern of future thinking among the all three group of adolescents 27 items Future Time Perspective Scale (FTPS) developed by Husman & Shell (2008) was used. Since the scales used in the study was developed by foreign authors the above said scales has also re-validate with elated scales developed by Indian authors on Indian sample. The data were collected with the help of questionnaires. Achieved data were analyzed by using the statistical techniques like mean, S.D, Tukey post-hoc, t-test, 'F' test and correlations. Findings of the study revealed that physically challenged adolescents were significantly high on the level of sense of guilt as they experienced high level of guilt because of deformity in their body organ. They were also found high on the extent of rumination. Moreover the physically challenged group was also found higher on the pattern of future thinking as compare to the normal group. The result pointed out that female adolescents were on higher side in terms of their level of sense of guilt, extent of rumination and pattern of future thinking than the male of all the three groups.

Besides the correlation among variables indicated that sense of guilt and rumination were found to be positively correlated with pattern of future thinking. In addition, positive correlation was also found between sense of guilt and extent of rumination for the three groups of adolescents.