Research Study About Socio-Economic Status Of Parents And Its Effects On Their Children’s Academic Performance At Secondary Level

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ABSTRACT
This study investigates socio-economic status of parents and its effect on their children academic achievement at secondary level in District Nowshera, Pakistan. The objectives of this study are 1: To identify about the socio-economic status of parents and its effect on academic performance of their children at secondary level. 2: To identify about the educational status of parents and its effect on their children academic performance at secondary level. 3: To investigate occupation of parents and its effect on their children academic performance at secondary level. For academic achievement, socio-economic status of parents is very important. If the socio-economic status of parents are high then the academic achievement of their children is also high. The population of this study is the students of secondary (9th and 10th classes) level of District Nowshera. By random sampling eight schools has been selected. Two hundred and eighty-six respondents were selected for collecting data. The data is collected with the help of research questionnaire, which is consisted on three portions. Each portion have ten questions having three possible options like yes, no and don't know. SPSS is used for interpretation of data and statistics were calculated. The result of present study shows that Socio economic factors of the parents lead to academic performance of the students. The existing study also concludes that parental education is motivating factor for the academic performance of the students. Finally, the study explores that profession of the parents is motivating factor for children to learn and improve academic performance of the students.

Keywords: Socio-economic status, Academic Achievement, Secondary School.
Background of the Study

Education is the key source that encourages all the individual to differentiate between correct and incorrect. In the absence of education, we can’t achieve our goal of life. Education brings a lasting change in an individual’s ability and reasoning, which help them to achieve the targeted goal which they want to achieve. Education facilitates us to examine our own thoughts and opinions and makes us ready to express these thoughts in various shapes. Shortly –education is the passage to progress. Education develop a medium through which individual solve everyday problem in their life, and can face any type of situation in their life.

Education is the procedure of learning or teaching, specifically in a school or other institution. Education is the development of the abilities of the mind. Culture is a mode of thought and feeling which is encouraged by education. The level of culture in a country depends upon the education of its people. Education is a procedure which brings positive variations in life and behaviour of humans. –Education is a process of acquiring knowledge through study or imparting the knowledge by way of instructions or some other practical procedure. (Reagan, Timothy.,2005)

Education help the people to learn how to do things and encouraging them to think about what they learn. Through education, the knowledge is pass from generation to generation about society, country, and of the world. With the help of education, children and adults learn how they become active and effective citizens of the country. Education supports and directs the individuals to alter from one to another class. –Education is the wise, hopeful and respectful cultivation of learning undertaken in the belief that all should have the chance to share in life. (Dewey, J.1916) These are the factors which have greatly influence on educational attainment, but one of the important is socio economic status (Morgan et al, 2009). Youngsters from low financial status create academic aptitudes all the more gradually when contrasted with their partners from higher financial status families. The low financial status denies offspring of what is important to help their development and welfare. Guardians from low financial base are more averse to have the money related assetor time accessibility to furnish youngsters with academic help. The relationship of family financial status and the academic performances have been entrenched in sociological research.

(Agus and Makhbul .,2002) indicated that students from higher income families of perform better in their academic performance as compared to those who come from lower income families. (Checchi.,2000) also concluded family income provides an incentive for better student performance; richer parents investing more resources in the education of their children; therefore, the student fulfills parents’ expectations by perform better in their studies.

Students from low economic background, due to parental lower economic status, mostly effected in their educational academic performance. They are not working for attainment of high grades. As their parents are from lower economic and occupational backgrounds, which decrease their proper attention towards career and leads to lower educational academic performance. While the students having high economic status, they are more prone towards academic achievements due to high parental status and occupation. As their parents are role models for them. (Sirin, 2005)

The socio-economic status effect in developed country like China, USA, UK, Turkey, Canada and Russia are less because there is less difference in class. In these countries most of the family are rich and they have all the facilities which areessential for life.

Academic Achievement

7796 http://www.webology.org
Academic achievement refers to the level of schooling you have successfully completed and the ability to attain success in your studies. Academic performance or "academic achievement" is the extent to which a student, teacher or institution has attained their short or long-term educational goals. Completion of educational benchmarks such as secondary school diplomas and bachelor's degrees represent academic achievement. (Woolfolk, Anita. 2007). Academic achievement or (academic) performance is the extent to which a student, teacher or institution has achieved their short or long-term educational goals. Cumulative GPA and completion of educational benchmarks such as secondary school diplomas and bachelor's degrees represent academic achievement. (Richardson, Michelle, Charles Abraham, et al. 2012.) The researcher main interest is to know the overall effects of social and economic status and how it leads to academic performances. The researcher will try to know how low social and economic status effects students’ academic performance at secondary level in district Nowshera.

Objective of the Study

- To know the socio-economics status of parents and its effect on academic performance of their children at secondary level.
- To investigate the educational status of parents and its effect on their children academic performance at secondary level.
- To investigate occupation of the parents and its effect on their children academic performance at secondary level.

Research Questions

- Does the socio-economics status of parents effect the academic performance of their children at secondary level?
- Does the education of parent effect the academic performance of their children at secondary level?
- Does the occupation of parents effect the academic performance of their children at secondary level?

Performance

Education is one of the basic foundations among all which take changes and advancement in a society by eliminating classes and make them rational. Education plays a key role to make people of a nation or state civilized, skilled and developed. Development of a nation in science and technology is not possible without education, while advancement of science and technology is very essential for a country. Such kind of process is closely related and focused on the student’s academic performances. Due to numerous issues students’ academic performance are affected like socio economic status of the parents, parental background, class, parental occupation, parental educational background, property, caste, gender, age, family environment, mental or physical health and classroom and school environment.

There are several factors which effect academic achievement of students at secondary level. Some of the important factor which greatly contributes to student’s academic performance are the following.

Parent involvement and support

Other family factor that influence students’ academic achievement are parental involvement and support (Paulson, 1996). According to Eccles and Harold (1993) active involvement from the parents in their children education plays a critical role in the student’s academic achievement and success. Involving parents in the education of
their children directly affects student achievement in school, college and university. It has been shown that involving parents in the education of their children helps to increase the student's achievement and self-esteem. (Mau & Bikos, 2000). According to Beyer (1995) those parents who involve their student's education are get good grade in schools. If parents regularly visit school to ask from teacher and principle about their students and do their homework with them are good and in studies and always show good performance otherwise students not perform good in the un involvement of their parents.

**Teachers’ expectation and support**

Study by (Bamburg., 1994) clearly establishes that teacher expectations do play a significant role in determining how well and how much do students learn. If teachers have expectation from students that they are intelligent and always perform good, so those students always try to best and fulfil their teacher expectation. So, it is important for students that their teacher expect good from them because it brings their potential out. (Raffini., 1993) clearly stated that when teachers believe in students, the students believe in themselves. (Omatoni., 1996) make a point that if teachers provide help and support to their students when they have need so they always good in studies and if the teacher is strict and not able to provide any help to students in time of need so those students always low performance in every field including their studies. (Omatoni., 1996)

High occupational status individuals have more assets to address the issues of their homes, while the low occupational status individuals have restricted assets for the equivalent. An unstable or lacking asset limits families' capacity to purchase resources and goods (education, housing, food and psychologically enhanced learning condition) that are basic for educational advancement and academic performance.

As per (Parson et al., 2001), social and economic position is the concept using to separate amongst individuals' comparative situation in the general public as far as family pay, political power, educational basis and professional status (Khan, 2017).

Economic and social status is the position of an individual which he has in the society. It is often judged through educational level, compensation and professionalism. Valuations of the economic position repeatedly expose lopsided characteristics in entrance to properties, in addition to issues identified with respect, supremacy and authority.

**Socioeconomic status**

Socioeconomic status is the social class of an individual. It is often measured as a combination of education, income and occupation. Examinations of socioeconomic status often reveal inequities in access to resources and issues related to privilege, power and control. Staff (2012) Socio-Economic Status (SES) is a composite measure of an individual's economic and sociological standing. It is a complex assessment measured in a variety of ways that account for a person's work experience and economic and social position in relation to others, based on income, education, and occupation. Socio-Economic Status has been a powerful determinant of health; as a general rule, wealthy people tend to be in better health than people of poorer status (Erreygers, 2013).

Socio-Economic Status (SES) is an economic and sociological combined total measure of a person's work experience and of an individual's or family's economic and social position in relation to others. When analysing a family's Socio-Economic Status, the household income, earners' education, and occupation are examined, as well as combined income, whereas for an individual's Socio-Economic Status only their own attributes are assessed. However, Socio-Economic Status is more commonly used to
depict an economic difference in society.

**Socio-economic Status affects Our Society**

Socio-economic Status affects overall human functioning, including our physical and mental health. Low Socio-economic Status and its correlates, such as lower educational achievement, poverty and poor health, ultimately affect our society. Inequities in health distribution, resource distribution, and quality of life are increasing in the United States and globally. Society benefits from an increased focus on the foundations of socioeconomic inequities and efforts to reduce the deep gaps in socioeconomic status in the United States and abroad. (Morgan, Farkas, Hillemeier, & Maczuga, 2009).

**Socio-economic status and Educational Issues**

Research indicates that children from low Socio-economic Status households and communities develop academic skills slower than children from higher Socio-economic Status groups. For instance, low Socio-economic Status in childhood is related to poor cognitive development, language, memory, socio-emotional processing, and consequently poor income and health in adulthood. The school systems in low Socio-economic Status communities are often under resourced, negatively affecting students’ academic progress and outcomes. Inadequate education and increased dropout rates affect children’s academic achievement, perpetuating the low Socio-economic status of the community. Improving school systems and early intervention programs may help to reduce some of these risk factors; therefore, increased research on the correlation between Socio-economic Status and education is essential. (Aikens & Barbarin, 2008).

**Socio-economic status and Academic Achievement**

Research continues to link lower Socio-economic status to lower academic achievement and slower rates of academic progress as compared with higher Socio-economic status communities. Children from low Socio-economic status families enter high school with average literacy skills five years behind those of high-income students (Reardon, Valentino, Kalogrides, Shores, & Greenberg, 2013).

**Population of the Study**

The data which is under investigation is called population. (Gupta, 2019). According to BISE Mardan the total numbers of high schools in district Nowshera are 239, from which 146 are government and 93 are private sector schools.

**Research Instrument**

Research instrument is an important tool for data collection. There are different tools for data collection while doing a research activity. Current study is quantitative in nature and for quantitative research mostly questionnaire is used as an instrument for data collection. The questionnaire is a structured questionnaire having three options for selection (Yes, No, don’t know). The questionnaire is developed according to the need and objectives of the study. The questionnaire is further divided into three sections according to variables and objective of the study.
## Data Analysis

Association between parental profession and academic performance

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<th>Statistics</th>
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<td>Is your parents has any occupation?</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don’t Know</td>
<td>A 0 A 0 B 0 C 0 D 0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>A 42 A 119 B 89 C 29 D 7</td>
<td>286</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does your parent’s occupation effect your education positively?</td>
<td>A+ 42 A+ 119 B 40 C 0 D 0</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>(P = 0.000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>A 0 A 0 B 49 C 13 D 0</td>
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<td>(X² = 316.804)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Know</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>A 42 A 119 B 89 C 29 D 7</td>
<td>286</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do your parents manage time for your study in their professional life?</td>
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<td>89</td>
<td>(P = 0.000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do your parents visit your school frequently?</td>
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<td>123</td>
<td>(P = 0.000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>A 42 A 119 B 89 C 29 D 7</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do your parents are aware of your educational issues?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>286</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do your parents help you to solve your educational problems?</td>
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<td>(X² =</td>
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<td>-------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does your parental profession motivate you for higher study?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>42</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are your parents sharing their professional knowledge and expertise?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>143</td>
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<tr>
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<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do your parents discuss any problem regarding your study with school administration?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do your parents duty timing effect on your academic performance?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>42</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
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</table>

The above table shows the association between academic performance and parental profession in the targeted areas. In this regard a significant association (P = 0.000) was found that parental occupation has strong relation with student academic performance, as good profession of parents attract and motivate children’s for higher studies. A high significance association (P = 0.000) was found that parents manage time for their children, as without the support, guidance and cooperation of the parents children’s can’t achieve academic performance. A high significance association (P = 0.000) was found that parents regularly visit to their schools and discuss their issues with teachers and school administrations. Further they shared that parent’s discus test results with their class teachers, such indicators leads to academic performance and improvement. Similarly, a high significance association (P = 0.000) was found that parents are aware from their educational issues, also they are trying to minimize their educational issues through discussion with teachers and their children’s, such discussion for solution of the issues leads to academic performance. A high significance association (P = 0.000)
was found that parents try to solve their children educational problems, which motivate them for higher studies and leads to high grades and academic performance.

Similarly, parental profession motivates children’s for higher studies, which shows a high significance association and leads to academic performance and achievements. A significance association \((P = 0.000)\) was found that parents discuss professional knowledge and experience with their children’s to make them enable in future for good profession, such kind of fruitful discussion leads to academic performance and improve students grades. A high significance association \((P = 0.000)\) was found that parents discuss issues with school administration, related to their children study and such kind of discussion encourage their children for future higher studies. a significant association \((P = 0.000)\) was found that parental professional timing effect students’ academic performance, as most of the parents spent their day out from home which effect academic performance of their children’s.

**Discussion**

Result of the study reveals that most of the respondents opined that both of their parents are educated and due to parental education they perform well in schooling. Respondents were of the view that their parents support them in their academic activities as educated parents know the value of education which leads to academic achievements and performance. Respondents shared that parents help and support them to do to their home work on time which increase their interest in educational activities and leads to academic performance, as educated parents are aware from the importance of education. Further, they shared that parents fulfil their educational needs which leads to academic performance of the students and high grades. In this regard Stage (1992) opined that education of parents leads to academic performance. Children perform positively due to educated parents. Further, he opined that parental education is important as the educated mother know all the needs of the children which increase their interest in educational activities.

Results of the analysed data show that parental support and their guidance leads to academic performance of the students. Respondents shared that their parents support them in completion of homework and completion of summer vacation work. Further, they shared that parents support them to fulfil their educational needs as well as encourage them for higher studies, such kind of support and encouragement lead to academic performance. In this regard, (Paulson, 1996) shared their view that parental support and guidance leads to academic achievements and performance. Similarly, (Mau & Bikos, 2000) opined that parental involvement and their guidance and support directly affect the academic performance of the students positively.

Results of the study reveal that most of the educated parents make a study time table for their children’s. Respondents shared that their parents regularly check their homework and note book to improve their academic performance. In this regard, Beyer (1995) is of the view that those children perform positively, whose parents check properly their homework and other educational activities. They further shared that without parental support the academic performance is not possible.

Results of the study show that most of the educated parents encourage their children’s for higher education. Such parents motivate and encourage their children’s through multiple ways and enable them to perform positively for higher studies. Similarly, James et al (2006) support the analysed data that parental motivation for studies and school work encourage students for high marks, which leads to higher studies and academic performance.

Results of the analysed data show that educational facilities increase children interest which leads to academic performance. Respondents shared that their parents provide them general knowledge books and videos related to their course as well as
general study. Such kind of educational facilities improves academic performance and leads to quality education. In this regard the view of Maganga (2016) support the analysed data, that facilities related to educational support improves children academic performance. He further opined that institutional facilities regarding education like computer, books etc. improve children positively.

Results of the study show that socio economic status of the parent’s effects students’ academic performance. High parental socio economic positively affect the academic performance and leads to quality education. In this regard literature support the analysed data, Catherine (2015) opined that high socio economic status of the parents improves academic performance of the students. Similarly, Eamon, 2005 shared their view that low economic status adversely affects student’s academic performance and leads to stress and tension.

Results of the study show that parental occupation has important role on the academic performance of the individual. Those students having high status parental occupation perform positively as compared to those having low occupational status. In this regard, Parson et al. (2001) support the analysed data that high parental occupation leads to quality education and academic performance.

**Results of the study**

- 68.2% respondents were of the view that their father are doing job which improves their academic performance.
- 89.2% respondents opined that their parents give them pocket money, while they are going to school which positively affect their academic performance.
- 59% of the respondents argue that their parents fulfill their educational needs and requirements, which improve academic performance.
- 71.3% respondents were of the opinion that their parents pay school fee on time which motivate them for higher studies.
- 43.7% respondents shared that they have their own land, which shows their economic status and such status positively affect their academic performance.
- 88.1% of the respondents shared that they have their own house.
- 53.8% of the respondents were of the opinion that they are using school transport.
- 89.9% of the respondents were of the view that they don’t have their personal transport for pick and drop.
- 52.1% respondents shared that their parents are educated, which motivate them for higher studies.
- 62.5% of the respondents opined that their family members are educated, and they guide them for academic activities which improve their academic performance.
- 2.1% of the respondents shared that their family has PhD qualified member, which motivate them for higher studies.
- 67.5% of the respondents were of the view that their family members support them in educational activities.
- 41.6% of the respondents argue that their parents make a time table for their study, which is strictly followed and improve their academic performance.
- 34.6% respondents shared that their parents check their homework and note book, which is an indicator of academic improvement.
- 87.1% of the respondents were of the opinion that their parents encourage them for higher studies.
• 73.1% of the respondents argue that their parental education help them in solution of their academic and education issues, which positively improve their academic performance.
• 70.3% of the respondents were of the opinion that their parents have an occupation, which positively affect their academic performance.
• 31.1% of the respondents were of the view that their parents manage time for their academic activities.
• 43% of the respondents shared that their parents visit to their school and discuss their educational issues and goals with their teacher, which encourage them for further studies.
• 65% of the respondents opined that their parents solve their educational issues, which positively affect their academic performance.
• 52.1% respondents were of the opinion that their parental profession motivates them for higher studies.
• 31.1% respondents opined that their parents shared them professional knowledge and expertise. Which encourage them for higher studies.

Recommendations
• Provision of more parental employment opportunities
• The government should take steps to raise the socio-economic status of the individual for best outcomes.
• Offering scholarship, free text books, general knowledge books and other provision of other educational requirements for vulnerable students.
• Housing scheme on easy installment from government side should improves the academic performance of the students
• Policy for private schools that they should admit needy and low socio economic students on scholarship and ensure all facilities which are available to others students of the school.
• Counseling centers should focus on the educated parents having low socio economic status regarding family size
• Parent teacher’s council and their meeting on monthly basis is mandatory for the purpose to take interest in their children academic activities.

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