

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

*No matter what accomplishments you achieve,
somebody helps you.*

- Althea Gibson

RELATED RESEARCHES

It is necessary to refer to past studies before the selection of the problem. It helps in planning and carrying out the study of any problem. It also helps in getting good information and familiarity with the related literature. A short review of related literature is given below.

2.1 Parenting – Some Related Researches:

1. "Parents' reactions to the death of an adult child from cancer" - **SB Shanfield, AH Benjamin and BJ Swain (1984)**

Twenty-four parents whose adult children had died of cancer completed a bereavement questionnaire and the Brief Symptom Inventory an average of 2 years after the death of their children. The parents had experienced growth in a number of areas, and although they had residual levels of grief, few had more psychiatric symptoms than would be found in a normative population. Factors that shaped the response to the loss included the prolonged and debilitating nature of the illness, the sex of the parents and children, and aspects of the parent-child relationship.

2. "Grieving and loss in parents with a schizophrenic child" - **SD Atkinson (1994)**, Menninger Clinic, Topeka, KS 66601-0829.

OBJECTIVE: The purpose of this study was to compare grief among parents who had an adult child with schizophrenia and parents who had "lost" an adult child through death or a head injury that resulted in an organic personality disorder. **METHOD:** Twenty-five parents from each group were studied. Self-report scales that assessed grief, depression, anxiety, and substance abuse were administered. **RESULTS:** There were significant differences with regard to grieving reactions and

substance abuse. The parents with schizophrenic children had more ongoing grieving, and the parents of children with head injuries had more substance abuse. **CONCLUSIONS:** Parental loss of a child through schizophrenia leads to a pattern of chronic grief.

2.2 Adjustment and Locus of Control – A Related Researches:

- 1 In studies of locus of control and personal adjustment, one of the most reliable finding is that indexes of inadequate functioning are more likely to characterize an externally originated person (**Lefcourt**, 1976). Among the indicators of diseases that have been related to locus of control are debilitating anxiety, neuroticism, mood disturbances and low self-esteem

2.3 Depression – Some Related Researches:

- 1 **Beck** discovered that the personality type with internal locus of control leads to depression, which is permeated with the theme of defect of failure of which is reactive depression. These persons are preoccupied with the theme of deprivation whereas externals show impediments in their goal seeking behaviour and they perceive interruption in actual social supplies
- 2 Female Sex, low social class, widowed state, unemployed condition, low education level, nuclear family, living alone and high incidence of severe physical illness in family, all these factors were found to be associated with depression in a study conducted by **V.Rama Chandran, M.Sarada Menon and S.Arunagiri** in 1982
- 3 Several studies have documented the importance of stressful life experiences in the onset of depression (**Lloyd**, 1980). Although many issues remain to be resolved in a study with a sample of depressed

women, it was found that at least under certain circumstances, life events may contribute to the onset of depressive episode (**Monroe, Bellack, Hersen, and Himmelhock, 1983**).

4. "Causal Relationship between Stressful Life Events and the Onset of Major Depression" - **Kenneth S. Kendler, M.D., Laura M. Karkowski, Ph.D., and Carol A. Prescott, Ph.D.** (1999).

OBJECTIVE: Stressful life events are associated with the onset of episodes of major depression. However, exposure to stressful life events is influenced by genetic factors, and these factors are correlated with those that predispose to major depression. The aim of this study was to clarify the degree to which stressful life events cause major depression. CONCLUSIONS: Stressful life events have a substantial causal relationship with the onset of episodes of major depression. However, about one-third of the association between stressful life events and onsets of depression is noncausal, since individuals predisposed to major depression select themselves into high-risk environments

5. Stressful Life Events and Previous Episodes in the Etiology of Major Depression in Women: An Evaluation of the "Kindling" Hypothesis - **Kenneth S. Kendler, M.D., Laura M. Thornton, Ph.D., and Charles O. Gardner, Ph.D.** (2000)

OBJECTIVE: Although previous evidence has suggested that the etiologic role of stressful life events in major depression is reduced in recurrent versus first-onset cases, this question deserves re-examination because of potential methodological limitations of the previous studies. CONCLUSIONS: The association between previous number of depressive episodes and the pathogenic impact of stressful life events on major depression is likely causal and biphasic. Through approximately nine episodes, the association between stressful life event exposure and risk of major depression progressively declines but

is largely unchanged with further episodes. These results are consistent with the kindling hypothesis but suggest a threshold at which the mind/brain is no longer additionally sensitized to the depressive state.

Rationale:

Behaviouristic theories of depression state that depression is largely a matter of social reinforcement. Lewinson (1974) and Seligman (1974) have published models of depressive disorders. Lewinson stated that when reinforcements are withdrawn, the person extinguishes his response and becomes passive and socially withdrawn, and as a result, is labeled depressed. In essence, the individual is caught in a vicious circle of learned helplessness and hopelessness. Seligman (1974) proposed a theory of depression that he called "learned helplessness". This theory assumes that the main causes of depression are a person's belief that control over the environment is impossible (Abramson, Sligman and Teasdale, 1978).

In the light of the above mentioned model proposed by Lewinson (1974) and Seligman (1974) the researcher wanted to study interrelationships between locus of control, adjustment, depression and parenting reflecting adoptive or defensive characteristics with special reference to adjustment and health problems with the parents of Thalassaemic children.

Secondly the aim of the study is to find out whether the process of acceptance or rejection of Thalassaemic children as a function of locus of control.

Earlier researches measured interactional effect of depression, adjustment and locus of control separately. They operationally define that the high occurrence of depression can be related to adjustment process but no one has contributed in the area of the disease Thalassaemia, either selecting

children or their family members, as well as considering parenting as a variable

Many researches have been done in medical profession to assess the causal factor of Thalassaemia and the types but no one has analyzed the thalassaemic individual's role in the family and how are the parents and family members psychological state, knowing that their child has such a life threatening disease. The present investigation is the first on this aspect in India. This investigation deals with families having thalassaemic children (including mother and father) and an attempt has been made to draw out the possible inferences regarding the characteristics of parents like locus of control, depression, adjustment, and functions of parenting.