

ABSTRACT

Emotional intelligent parenting is to know and understand our feeling well, and to understand our child perspective with empathy. Children imitate their parents' modes of emotional regulation through modeling and learn the behavior such as social competence and optimism. In addition; developmental theories suggested that emotion regulation and use of effective social interaction strategies by parents are required for development of effective social behavior and optimistic attribution style. Taking it forward, the present study makes an attempt to understand the impact of emotional intelligence of primary care givers on social competence and optimism of their children.

The main objective of the study was to investigate the relationship between primary care giver's emotional intelligence and the optimistic explanatory style and social competence of their children. The sample consisted of 301 parent child dyads, consisting of 602 subjects. Primary care givers were divided into high and low emotionally intelligent groups based on the lower and upper quartile scores on emotional intelligence. Then the two groups were compared to explore the possible differences with reference to their children's optimism and social competence.

The present study used self report emotional intelligence scale, children attribution style questionnaire, and school social behavior scale as its tools.

Major findings of the present study is that the emotional intelligence of primary care givers does not influence social competence and optimist attribution style of their children. It implies that there are other parameters which influence the social competence and optimism of children. Emotional intelligence is no more a significant predictor of social competence and optimism of children.

The second major finding of the study is emotional intelligence of primary care givers; social competence and optimism of their children differ significantly between care givers who are locally based and care givers who are residentially mobile. Locally based primary care givers have high emotional intelligence as compared to residential mobile care givers. Children who were residential mobile are found to be more hostile and irritable. Locally based children are high on dimensions of optimism.

In addition the present study found that dimension of emotional intelligence, understand emotion of primary care giver differ significantly from Hyderabad and Vadodara. Children social competence differ significantly from Hyderabad and Vadodara.

The present study achieved several conceptual understanding of the development of optimism and social competence. Considerable support was evident for the links between parent child relationship with children's social competence and optimism. It has also been learned that optimism and social skills develop with parent-child interaction and their daily experience. Family time provides the foundation for the development of optimism and social competence.