

## Relationship of micro and meso human ecological environment on adolescent's problems in single parent families

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### ABSTRACT

The present study was undertaken with the aim to delineate the human ecological factors affecting various problems of adolescents in rural and urban single parent families. The study was carried out in randomly selected Hisar district of Haryana state. City area of the selected district was taken purposively to have urban respondents. From the selected city area, two senior secondary schools were selected randomly. From the selected district, two villages were selected randomly. Three senior secondary schools were selected purposively from the selected villages. A sample of 120 adolescents (15-19 years) was drawn purposively from rural and urban city areas. The micro system variables such as sex, landholding, family income, adolescent's relation with grandparents and activities at school were found significantly associated with social, economic and emotional problems of adolescents. The mesosystem variables such as occupation of parents also reported significant association with economic and emotional problems of adolescents.

**Key words :** Micro system, Mesosystem, Social problems, Emotional problems, Economic problems, Family relationship problems

Children need to receive affection, affirmation, discipline and identification from both the parents. Children need father's security and identity and mother's love and affection at every developmental phase of childhood. They live happily and adjust well in the family and in the society when both the parents are there. The mother father are likely to be working on and making the teen more reliant and more responsible. The child learns many roles from both the parents, which he/she will have to play in the adult life. The concept of family has changed from the large extended family to smaller units, the nuclear family and now a days to even single-parent families. A family in the conventional sense consists of a father, a mother and their children. But due to death, separation, desertion or divorce of the father/mother may leave the family. Irrespective of the reason, under the circumstances, it becomes imperative for the husband/wife not only to take care of himself/herself but also his/her children.

The ecological environment is conceived topologically as a nested arrangement of concentric structure and referred to as the micro system, mesosystem, exosystem and macro system. The inner most and the most basic structure of the system is the micro system, which includes the entire array of person's activities, roles and interpersonal relationship experienced by children in a face to face setting such as home or school. The combination of all the microsystems in which the children participate and the linkage among them form the child's mesosystem. Exosystem represents one or more settings that don't involve a person as an active participant but in which events occur that effect, or are affected by,

what happens in the micro system. Adolescent is the growing stage, where adolescent are needed special guidance, care and attention. This need is fulfilled by both the parents. Due to the absence of one parent the adolescents not only face the most important emotional, psychological backing but also they feel insecure, unsure and face low self-esteem at each and every phase of life. It brings great emotional, social, economical and even more serious problems. So, keeping in view the importance of all these facts, the present study was undertaken with the objective to study the micro and meso human ecological factors affecting problems of adolescents.

### METHODOLOGY

Hisar district of Haryana state was selected randomly. City area of the selected district was taken purposively to have urban respondents. From the selected city area, two senior secondary schools were selected purposively. To have rural sample, Hisar-I block was selected randomly. Three senior secondary schools were selected purposively from the selected two villages of this block. Lists of adolescents (15-19 years) from single parent families was prepared from each selected school and from this list a sample of 60 adolescents were taken each from rural and urban area, thus making a total sample of 120 respondents.

### *Tools for data collection:*

Two questionnaires were formulated. One was on various problems and other was on variables of human ecological environment influencing the adolescent's