

The Investigation of Relationship Between Mothers' Perceptions of Parenting and Their Children' Problem Behaviors

DOI= [10.17556/jef.23074](https://doi.org/10.17556/jef.23074)

Muhammed ÖZTÜRK*, Songül GİREN*

Extended Summary

Purpose: As we know mothers are more likely to spend time with their children. In the literature there are many research that investigate the relationship between behaviors and parenting perceptions. The aim of this study is to investigate the relationship between mothers perceptions of parenting, whose children receive early childhood education, and their children' problem behaviors in terms of some variables such as age, education, income and child number.

Method: In the study general screening model has been used. The universe of the study is children who continuing kindergarten or preschool education (n=165) and their mothers in Aksaray. Working group of the study is determined by using random sampling method. The perception of mothers related parenting was gathered by using the scale of mothers form "Parents Perceptions About Child Education" which created by Gibaud and Wandersman (1978). The survey comprise three subdimension which are: efficacy for motherhood, interest in motherhood and satisfaction provided by motherhood. The validity and reliability study of the survey was conducted by Seçer, Çeliköz and Yaşa (2007). To investigate children' problem behaviors "Preschool and Kindergarten Behavior Scales" (PKBS-2) which created by Merrel (1994) 'problem behaviors' subscale was used. Also, the validity and reliability study of the survey was conducted by Özbey ve Alisinanoğlu (2009). There are four subdimensions in this survey which are: external, internal, antisocial and egocentric problem behaviors. In order to analyze the data, the SPSS 17.0 program was used. Descriptive statistics were used to analyze the data that related to demographic information. Descriptive statistics describe the basic features of the data in the study. These statistics provide simple summaries about the sample and the measures. It is appropriate to use a One-way ANOVA test and T test to analyze the data in order to investigate significant differences within groups

Results: According to results of the study there is no significant differences between mothers age and general attitudes towards parenting. On the other hand,

* Öğr. Gör., Aksaray Üniversitesi, mozturk@aksaray.edu.tr

** Yard. Doç. Dr., Aksaray Üniversitesi, sygiren@hotmail.com

Not: Bu çalışma 9. Uluslararası Balkan Eğitim ve Bilim Kongresi'nde sözlü bildiri olarak sunulmuştur.

there is significant differences between mother's age and children' problem behaviors. However, significant differences is found between mothers educational level and parenthood perception especially between mothers who get elementary education and high school. Besides, there is not significant relationship between educational level and children'problem behaviors. Also, there is no significant differences between mothers income, and general attitudes towards parenting, but there is significant relationship between income and children problem behaviors. Additionally, mothers number of child and general attitudes towards parenting are not significantly different and there is not significant differences between mother's child number and children' problem behaviors.

Discussion: Perceptions of mothers regarding their role of mothers effect their behaviors also children as well as their mutual relations. In order to provide a healthy development for the child mothers and fathers should exhibit a positive attitude toward children. When demographic characteristics of mothers participating in the study examined, the majority of them primary school graduates, with low income, with 1 or 2 children and they were young mothers in the 20-30 age range. When mothers' perceptions of parenting examined according to their education, elementary and high school graduate mothers of interest in parenting and general attitudes differs, but this difference was not to high. According to the research which conducted from Seçer and others (2008) mother's working situations effect their interest to motherhood.

Conclusion: Mothers' educational level significantly effect general attitudes toward motherhood (mothers who get elementary education have higher parental perceptions than mothers who get high school education). On the other hand, some others variables such us age, income does not effect mothers' parenthood. Consequently, some demographic features while effect mothers' parenthood perceptions but does not effect children' problem behaviors.

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