

SIBLINGS DETERMINE THE PERSONALITY OF TWINS IN FIVE CULTURAL ZONES OF HARYANA

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ABSTRACT

Sibling is one of two or more individuals having one or both parents in common. Personality traits are defined as the relatively enduring patterns of thoughts, feelings, and behaviors that differentiate individuals from one another. A pair of 200 twins in the age group of 3-6 years from five cultural zones of state Haryana was taken. Two variables were taken for the study. Siblings were taken as independent variable and personality was taken as dependent variable. A Five-Factor Personality Questionnaire (Cathy, 2011) was used for assessing the personality traits of preschool twins. Results revealed that personality was significantly related to the number of siblings of twins in Bagar ($\chi^2=6.44^$) and Nardak ($\chi^2=4.17^*$) zones. But also personality was not significantly related to the number of siblings of twins in Khadar ($\chi^2=1.06$), Mewat ($\chi^2=1.08$) and Ahirwal ($\chi^2=0.04$) zones.*

KEYWORDS: *Personality, Sibling, Culture, Traits, Attitudes, Information, Behavior and Environment Interaction*

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INTRODUCTION

A sibling is one of two or more individuals having one or both parents in common. A full sibling is a first-degree relative. A male sibling is a brother, and a female sibling is a sister. In most societies throughout the world, siblings often grow up together, thereby facilitating the development of strong emotional bonds. The emotional bond between siblings is often complicated and is influenced by factors such as parental treatment, birth order, personality, and personal experiences outside the family.

There are two types of twins: identical and fraternal. Identical twins have exactly the same genes; fraternal twins are no more similar than regular siblings. Often, twins with a close relationship will develop a twin language from infancy, a language only shared and understood between the two. Studies suggest that identical twins appear to display more twin talk than fraternal twins.

Identical twins share 100% of their DNA. Full siblings are first-degree relatives and, on average, share 50% of their genes out of those that vary among humans, assuming that the parents share none of those genes. Half-siblings are second-degree relatives and have, on average, a 25% overlap in their human genetic variation.

Personality traits are defined as the relatively enduring patterns of thoughts, feelings, and behaviors that differentiate individuals from one another and are elicited in trait affording situations (Roberts, 2009). Personality traits, which can be described as differences between individuals regarding their behavior, thoughts, and feelings, can be seen as relatively stable in different situations and over time (Specht *et al.*, 2014).

Personality has been approached in quite different ways by many theorists. Freud proposed that personality development is dependent upon early childhood experiences and largely determined by age five (Carver & Scheier 2008). There is no doubt that early experience influences later development but this influence could account for individual differences in many aspects such as cognition, socio-emotional skills and personality (Malekpour, 2007).

The first of the five factors is extraversion. Extraversion is an energetic approach toward the social and material world and includes traits such as sociability, activity, assertiveness, and positive emotionality. Extraversion is often thought of as implying sociability (Ashton *et al.*, 2002).

The second factor, neuroticism, concerns the ease and frequency with which a person becomes upset and distressed. Neuroticism, "contrasts emotional stability and even temperedness with negative emotionalities, such as feeling anxious, nervous, sad, and tense; has been linked to the avoidance temperament (Evans & Rothbart 2007).

The most commonly used label for the next factor is conscientiousness, refers to "socially prescribed impulse control that facilitates task- and goal-directed behavior, such as thinking before acting, delaying gratification, following norms and rules, and planning, organizing, and prioritizing tasks. Agreeableness and conscientiousness appear both suggest the breadth of perspective. Many manifestations of conscientiousness imply broad time perspective that is taking future contingencies into account. Agreeableness implies a broad social perspective counting taking the needs of others into account. It has been suggested that both of these traits have origins in the effortful control temperament (Jensen-Campbell *et al.*, 2002).

The fifth factor, most often called openness to experience involves curiosity, flexibility, imaginativeness, and willingness to immerse oneself in atypical experiences such as involvement in social experience. Openness is the breadth, depth, originality, and complexity of an individual's mental abilities (John and Soto, 2008).

OBJECTIVES

The present study aim is to find out the effects of siblings on personality traits of twins in five cultural zones.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in five cultural zones of Haryana state namely Khadar, Bagar, Nardak, Mewat and Ahirwal. A pair of 200 twins (400 twins) in the age group of 3-6 years from different villages was assessed depending upon the availability of the twins were taken as the sample. Two variables were taken for the study. A sibling was taken as an independent variable and personality was taken as dependent variable. A Five-Factor Personality Questionnaire (Cathy, 2011) was used for assessing the personality traits of preschool twins.

RESULTS

Associations of Personality of Twins with Number of Siblings in Five Cultural Zones

Table 1 presented the associations of personality was significantly related to the number of siblings of twins in Bagar ($\chi^2=6.44^*$) and Nardak ($\chi^2=4.17^*$) zones. But also personality was not significantly related to the number of siblings of twins in Khadar ($\chi^2=1.06$), Mewat ($\chi^2=1.08$) and Ahirwal ($\chi^2=0.04$) zones.

Table 1: Associations of Personality of Twins with Number of Siblings in Five Cultural Zones

Variables	Personality scores			
	Bagar			
Number of Siblings	Low	High	Total	χ^2
1 st	32(40.0)	14(17.5)	46(57.5)	6.44*
2 nd & above	14(17.5)	20(25.0)	34(42.5)	
Total	46(57.5)	34(42.5)	80(100.0)	
	Nardak			
Number of Siblings	Low	High	Total	χ^2
1 st	19(23.7)	21(26.2)	40(50.0)	4.17*
2 nd & above	28(35.0)	12(15.0)	40(50.0)	
Total	47(58.7)	33(41.2)	80(100.0)	
	Khadar			
Number of Siblings	Low	High	Total	χ^2
1 st	18(22.5)	15(18.7)	33(41.2)	1.06
2 nd & above	31(38.7)	16(20.0)	47(58.7)	
Total	49(61.2)	31(38.7)	80(100.0)	
	Mewat			
Number of Siblings	Low	High	Total	χ^2
1 st	12(15.0)	18(22.5)	30(37.5)	1.08
2 nd & above	26(32.5)	24(30.0)	50(62.5)	
Total	38(47.5)	42(52.5)	80(100.0)	
	Ahirwal			
Number of Siblings	Low	High	Total	χ^2
1 st	23(28.7)	21(26.2)	44(55.0)	0.04
2 nd & above	18(22.5)	18(22.5)	36(45.0)	
Total	41(51.2)	39(48.7)	80(100.0)	

*Significant at 5 % level of significance

Figures in parentheses indicate the percentage

DISCUSSIONS

Personality traits are defined as the relatively enduring patterns of thoughts, feelings, and behaviors that differentiate individuals from one another and are elicited in trait affording situations (Roberts, 2009). Result revealed that Personality of twins was significantly related to the number of siblings of twins. Research on siblings has shown that siblings are central in the lives of individuals and families around the world and throughout the lifespan (Whiteman & Soli, 2011). Kesici (2007) similarly revealed that the children problems with siblings showed lower scores on personality traits.

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