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Construction and Standardization of a Home Environment Inventory

Yanlungbeni T. Kithan* and Dr. B. Venkata Rao**

ABSTRACT

The present study was undertaken to construct and standardize a home environment inventory to assess the home environment of the higher secondary students in Nagaland. An attempt was made to identify, develop and validate the statements of Home Environment inventory by establishing psychometric properties. Initially items related to the variable were drafted by reviewing related literature, which was then given to 14 experts for analysing the content. After preliminary try out and item analysis, only items with 't' value of above 1.96 were retained for the final form of the inventory. The final form of the inventory consists of 48 items. The internal consistency of the tool was established through test-retest, Split half method and Cronbach Alpha which yielded statistically significant result. Content and concurrent validity was ascertained and norms were also established for the interpretation of the obtained scores. Statistical analysis of the results indicated that the home environment inventory is highly valid and reliable.

Keywords: Construction, Standardization, Home Environment, Validity, Reliability, Norms, Percentile.

INTRODUCTION

Home environment has been conceptualized as the quality of human interactions and includes those aspects that foster growth and development of the child. It refers to all the objects, forces and conditions in the home which influenced the child physically, intellectually and emotionally. Home is characterized by mutual love and cohesion between the family members. The intertwined relationship among the family members and experiences at home influences an individual in developing certain behaviour and attitudes that govern his pattern for life on people, things and institutions.

The social ecological perspectives of Urie Bronfenbrenner place an enduring foundation on approaches to child development and examines how human beings develop according to the environment. The micro system in the ecological model is the most immediate environment where the child lives and directly interacts with social agents like the family, peers, teachers and neighbours. Albert Bandura's reciprocal determinism model also supported the fact about environmental influences on the behaviour of an individual. Over the last few decades, psychologists and researchers have explored the different factors of home environment to understand human behaviour and individual differences. Researchers have identified various characteristics of home environment by child rearing practices such as parenting styles (Diana Baumrind, 1960). Attachment type of parenting (Bowlby and Ainsworth, 1950) and Parental functioning. (Belsky, 1984).

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