

## MONO-PARENTING AND ITS INFLUENCES ON THE CHILD'S BEHAVIOUR

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**Abstract:** *This literary work aims to add contributions on theoretical level and on the empirically applied, in the domain of the child's psychology, family's psychology and counseling. In theory, there are presented current topics regarding monoparenting, divorce, and also their consequences on the child's behaviour in the development of aggression, anxiety and loneliness. As a subject of scientific research, the child's investigation is a priority for human adaptation. The erosion of the nuclear family in the context of the current socioeconomic favour at the very young ages the aggressiveness, anxiety and loneliness. The literary work “Monoparenting and its influences on the child's behaviour” aims to guide the research in the following directions:*

- *Show the connection between the type of family and the child's behaviour;*
- *Identify the existing differences in the behaviour depending on the gender of the subjects;*
- *Investigate the relationship between the types of behaviour that are studied.*

**Key words:** *monoparenting, behaviour, child, aggression, anxiety, loneliness.*

Based on extensive documentation I have outlined the theoretical framework for the study of aggression, anxiety and loneliness focusing on specific development stage studied and features from mono-parenting's influence caused by divorce. Parents have the responsibility to create a climate in which children feel loved, protected and they can develop according to their own interests and skills. Children entering school, a distinct step on the road of life is an important barometer of the extent to which parents fail to provide a favorable climate for future adult self and optimum adaptation to requirements.

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Aggression can be considered a characteristic of those forms of destructive behavior-oriented way, in order to produce damage, whether material or moral, psychological or mixed (Necula, 2003). The late twentieth century witnessed a tremendous intolerance for violence unprecedented, an incredible one. Delinquency and crime are forms of aggression peak, and statistics show a worrying rise because of this “scourge”. The main cause of death of young people is violence and not cancer or heart diseases (I. Mitrofan, 2003).

Anxiety or more exactly anxiety state becomes increasingly present both among adults and children. Anxiety is a psychological phenomenon that has been defined in different ways, but there is a common view that the anxiety is an emotional state vague, diffuse anxiety, pressure, tension, anxiety and fear groundless, devoid of purpose, which is uncomfortable psychological from point of view. All these authors agree that expectant attitude is essential in the face of danger, a sense of imminent danger of invasion personality alertness and experience the feeling of helplessness.

Loneliness is a major problem that can have negative consequences for children, both immediate and long term. Although researchers' attention recently stopped on the lonely children, studies reveal that children understand the concept of loneliness. It is very important to take into account the stage of development and personal preferences.

Motivation of this literature work aims particularly strong growth in the divorce rate over the past twenty years. This increase is mainly related to changes in expectations towards marriage and divorce due to transformation of the society. If the family was traditionally seen as primarily fulfilling economic functions of procreation and socialization of children, the emphasis is now placed on psycho-emotional function. Partners are expected to give each other love, care, respect and support. This change is reflected in the grounds of divorce law: if in 1948 the most frequently the wives requested divorce because of the violence, excessive alcohol consumption and lack of financial support from the partner, in 1990 most often cited reasons are lack of a sense of closeness, love, communication problems and sexual relationships' issues. The research aimed to decrease anxiety and loneliness of children through a training program. Beneficiaries of this study are: sociologists, social workers, teachers, parents and any other persons because harmonious and balanced development of our children is the responsibility of the entire society.

#### Research methodology

##### 1. Objectives

To achieve the objectives of the research are:

1. Highlighting the link between family type (single parent, bi-parental) and child behavior (aggressive, anxious, lonely).
2. Identifying differences in behavior by types of subjects.
3. Investigating the relationship between aggression, anxiety and loneliness.

## 2. ASSUMPTIONS

Hypothesis HS1 - There are significant differences in the level of aggressiveness of children from one parent to the bi-parental families.

Hypothesis HS2 - There are significant differences in anxiety levels of children from one parent to the bi-parental families.

Hypothesis HS3 - There are significant differences in the level of loneliness status of children from one parent to the bi-parental families.

Hypothesis HS4 - There are significant differences in the level of aggressiveness (high, medium, low) based on such subjects.

Hypothesis HS5 - There are significant differences in terms of anxiety level (high, medium, low) based on such subjects.

Hypothesis HS6 - There are significant differences in the level of loneliness (high, medium, low) based on such subjects.

Hypothesis HS7 - There is a significant correlation between aggression and anxiety;

Hypothesis HS8 - There is a significant correlation between aggression and loneliness;

Hypothesis HS9 - There is a significant correlation between anxiety and loneliness.

## 3. INVESTIGATED SUBJECTS

The group has 97 subjects, pupils in the 3<sup>rd</sup> aged 9-11 years in which 48 girls and 49 boys.

## 4. TOOLS

In this paper we used validated instruments to measure the behaviour of the Romanian population and used in scientific research.

1. *Loneliness scale for children*

2. *Aggression scale*

3. *Child manifest anxiety scale (CMAS)*

## 5. Results analysis

According to the objectives and hypotheses of the research, we were particularly interested in the results on child behavior (aggressive, anxious, lonely) depending on the type of family relationship is involved.

Comparative analysis of the type of behavior depending on the type of family relationship shows that there are significant differences in the behaviour between children of one or another type of relationship.

Comparative analysis of the link between the type of family relationship and aggressive behavior shows that children who are involved in single-parent relationships have a more aggressive behavior than those involved in bi-parental relationship.

From descriptive results is observed that 76.37% of children with only one parent have high physical aggression, compared to 45.24% of those involved in bi-parental relationship. For the average level of physical aggression the situation changes for children in single-parent relationships 23.63% to 54.76%

**Table no. 1. Level of physical aggression by type of relationship (mono-parental or bi-parental).**

Subjects	Monoparental		Biparental		Total group		physical aggression
	Nr.	%	Nr.	%	Nr.	%	
	23	54.76	13	23.63	36	37.12	High
	19	45.24	42	76.37	61	62.88	Medium
	-	-	-	-	-	-	Low
Total	42	100	55	100	97	100	

With regard to verbal aggression is observed that 76.36% of children in single-parent relationships have higher verbal aggression compared to 40.47% of those who are in a bi-parental relationship. Anger is only one factor that is not significantly different descriptive value of 65.45% for the single parent relationship type and 50% for bi-parental relationship. For hostility descriptive values are as follows: 29.09% for children in single-parent relationships and 4.76% for bi-parental relationship. Comparative analysis of the link between the type of family relationship and anxious behavior shows that children who are involved in single-parent relationships have a higher level of anxiety than those involved in bi-parental relationship.

From descriptive results it is observed that 69.09% of children with only one parent have high anxiety compared to 26.19% of those involved in bi-parental relationship. Average level of anxiety situation changes for children in single-parent relationships from 29.09% to 73.81%.

**Table no. 2. Statistical values of the variable anxiety**  
 depending on the type of relationship (mono-parent or bi-parental)

Anxiety	N	Minimum	Maximum	Average	Standard deviation
Mono-parental	42	12.00	41.00	29.7636	6.1913
Bi-parentală	55	17.00	29.00	23.7143	3.3150

**Table no. 3. "T" test for equality of the averages**

ANXIETY	Value T	Liberty level Df	Significance scale	Diference between the average
Anxiety	-5.731	95	.000	6.0493

Comparative analysis of the link between the type of family relationship and solitary behavior shows that children who are involved in single-parent relationships have higher levels of loneliness than those involved in bi-parental relationship. From the descriptive results it is observed that 56.36% of children with only one parent have high loneliness versus 16.66% of those involved in bi-parental relationship. For the medium level of loneliness the situation changes in the favor of the children from single-parent relationships 43.64% compared to 83.34%.

**Table no. 4. Statistical values of the variable loneliness**  
 depending on the type of relationship (mono-parental or bi-parental).

Loneliness	N	Minimum	Maximum	Average	Standard deviation
Mono-parental	42	28.00	41.00	36.2857	3.3297
Bi-parental	55	18.00	36.00	24.9818	4.5684

**Table no. 5. "T" test for equality of the averages**

Loneliness	Value T	Liberty scale df	Significance level	Average differences
Loneliness	13,520	95	.000	11,3039

Comparative analysis of the link between type and behavioral subjects reveals that not all three hypotheses emitted are differences

depending by type. According to the third goal and the assumptions made we were interested to investigate the relationship between aggression, anxiety and loneliness. Analysis of the results shows a significant relationship between physical aggression and loneliness. Aggressive children have the highest levels of loneliness and social dissatisfaction. Analyzing the correlation coefficient, we see that it is highly significant ( $p < 0.05$ ), demonstrating confirm the hypothesis that there is a correlation between physical anxiety and loneliness.

In our research, Pearson correlation study regarding anxiety and loneliness that small children showed a positive relationship between the two variables under study. The correlation between anxiety and loneliness shows that the two variables have a linear relationship ( $r = 0.372$ , at  $p = 0.000$ ). It can be concluded in this respect the important role of affectivity in personality development. Instability of the secured environment for the child who needs a harmonious development causes emotional instability, volatility in attitudes, excitability and hyperactivity; they associated themselves in a direct sense of loneliness. It is assumed that repeated exposure to stressful situations of child, family conflict causes to a high level of anxiety.

In conclusion, installing aggression, anxiety and loneliness of children of school age depends on genetic factors, environmental and parental relationship in which they are involved. The ultimate goal of education should be not only enriching meta-cognitive skills, but accepting responsibility of their own learning.

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