

PSIWORLD 2014

# How children see their parents – a short intergeneration comparative analysis

Ioana Lepadatu\*

*Spiru Haret University, 7 Turnului Str., Brasov, Romania*

---

## Abstract

This research is based on Rose Vincent's 50-year-old project, showing how children live their relationships with their parents. The findings show that girls are more critical of their mothers, but more permissive with their fathers. The respondents' ideal parent includes not only elements that the contemporary social life finds in the family, but also elements that are found in time (friendship and the mother-friend) evidence of common necessities in ontogenesis about the intra-family relationships and the emotional climate.

© 2015 The Authors. Published by Elsevier Ltd. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>).

Peer-review under responsibility of the Scientific Committee of PSIWORLD 2014.

*Keywords:* relational needs; parenting styles; developing relationships; family

---

## 1. Introduction

The following issues are very important in human life: image, concept and self-esteem, beliefs and values that are passed from one generation to another. Being the most constant, they are the most essential human psychological characteristics contributing to personality development, initiation and development of relationships, being formed during childhood under the great influence of family, persisting throughout life.

Every family has its own values, customs, patterns of functioning that are maintained by two types of constraints: the former is generic, regarding the universal rules of family organization and hierarchy of power; the latter is idiosyncratic, regarding the mutual expectations of some members, each contributing to the development and strength of these expectations. The most important influence of family environment on children's development comes from the familial atmosphere, which can be supporting and loving or full of conflicts. In a research on 226 families from diverse ethnical background with children of school age, marital conflict was correlated consistently with ineffective parenting, and the children exposed to the misunderstandings between parents and poor parenting tended to show a high level of internalizing behavior such as anxiety, fear and depression, and also externalizing behaviors, such as aggression, involvement in fights, disobedience and hostility. The way parents address their

---

\*Corresponding author.

E-mail address: [ioanalepadatu@yahoo.com](mailto:ioanalepadatu@yahoo.com)

children's need to make their own decisions, their economic situation and work affect the well being of children, which contributes to the family atmosphere (Papalia, Olds Wendkos, & Feldman Duskin, 2010). Parenting practices and parenting skills and how parents see their children and take care of them are very important in human life in its manifestation and personality development in initiating and developing relationships (Baumrind, 1991).

## 2. Objectives and Hypothesis

### 2.1. Objectives

The goal of this project was to verify if and how the time has changed children's perception of parents, referring to a similar study of Rose Vincent, created 50 years ago in France.

The objective of this research was to illustrate how children perceive their parents and their preferences for the different parenting styles.

- Note1. We compared different cultural spaces, in different time intervals using different illustrations.
- Note2. We worked on a narrower age range compared to the author's reference study in order not to overlap two of Piaget's intelligence stages of development.
- Note3. We used the work *Knowing the Child* published and translated into Romanian language in our practical work with our students only for the didactic-scientific purpose.

### 2.2. Hypothesis

The working hypotheses have sought to ensure that:

H 1. the children's perception of their real mother and father is different from the children's image of the ideal mother and father;

H 2. boys and girls have different images of ideal mother and father;

H 3. children would like a certain parenting style.

## 3. Methods

### 3.1. Participants

In order to represent the target population appropriately in our research, sampling was made by random selection in such a way that each individual had an equal probability of being selected.

47 boys and 54 girls answered the *Rose Vincent* questionnaire. The children were pupils in grades 3, 4 and 5 at School No. 2 and *Unirea* National College from Braşov. Thus, the photographs were presented to 101 pupils with very diverse backgrounds, boys and girls, aged between 7 and 11, pupils of a neighborhood school and a central school.

Compared to the original research, where the children were between 4 and 14 years old, we changed the range of ages due to the following considerations: - in developmental psychology the ontogenetic development plan is particularly important, the staging periods being realized while taking into account some fundamental needs, development tasks, types of activities and relationships; - the age interval from 4 to 14, which the psychologist Vincent Rose used in his research, encompasses several periods of age. Thus, the first stage, called the preoperational stage by J. Piaget, lasts from approximately 2 to 7 years of age and has a sub-stage of intuitive thinking that lasts from about 4 to 7 years of age, when the child performs sorting and grading operations by various properties (at this level the classification is done by only one feature). After that Piaget talks about the concrete operational stage (from approximately 7 to 11 years of age), characterized by the development of mental operations and of reversibility, when children begin to apply logical rules to the information processing operations in order to solve the problems they are facing, the child also acquiring the ability to classify things according to several features. Thus, during the concrete operational stage, the child performs a large number of intellectual tasks provided the child has intuitive support.

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/1110294>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/1110294>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)