

# A Psychological Study of Stubbornness and Aggression in Youth based on Gender and Birth order

Udaysinh P. Vala<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Javnikha S. Sheth<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Research Scholar, Department of Psychology, Shah K. S. Arts and V. M. Parekh Commerce College, Kapadwanj

<sup>2</sup>Guide, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Shah K. S. Arts and V. M. Parekh Commerce College, Kapadwanj

**Abstract** - The present study investigated stubborn attitude and aggression among youth with reference to birth order and gender. A sample of 240 youths was selected using the random sampling method. Data were collected using the Stubborn Attitude Scale developed by Dr. Dhara R. Doshi and Kartavi N. Bhatt, and the Aggression Scale constructed by Dr. Pragati Bansal. A  $2 \times 3$  factorial research design was employed, and statistical analysis was carried out using Karl Pearson's product-moment correlation coefficient along with appropriate F-tests.

The results revealed that gender had no significant effect on stubborn attitude ( $F = 3.65$ ), whereas birth order showed a significant effect ( $F = 4.68$ ). The interaction effect of gender and birth order on stubborn attitude was also found to be significant ( $F = 6.42$ ). In contrast, gender ( $F = 0.61$ ), birth order ( $F = 2.12$ ), and their interaction ( $F = 1.38$ ) did not have a significant effect on aggression. Further analysis indicated a significant low positive correlation between stubborn attitude and aggression ( $r = 0.20$ ), suggesting that higher levels of stubborn attitude are associated with increased aggression among youth.

Overall, the findings highlight the importance of birth order as a significant factor in understanding personality traits and behavioral tendencies among youth. The study was limited to students from the field of education; therefore, future research may extend the scope by including youth from urban and rural backgrounds, individuals working in diverse professional sectors, and youth from joint and nuclear families to enhance the generalizability of the findings.

**Keywords**- Birth order; Gender; Youth; Stubborn attitude; Aggression; Correlation; Factorial design

## I. INTRODUCTION

In the contemporary era, human life has become highly dynamic, fast-paced, and competitive, leading to increasing irregularities in individuals' daily routines. Such inconsistencies in lifestyle have not only weakened physical health but have also posed significant challenges to mental well-being. Consequently, the levels of aggression, anxiety, fear, and stubbornness among individuals have risen considerably. Furthermore, a decline in enthusiasm and satisfaction with life has contributed to an alarming increase in suicide rates.

Among the various factors that hinder personality development as well as social and economic progress, a stubborn nature represents a major psychological barrier. Individuals with a stubborn disposition often fail to adapt to environmental changes. Instead of understanding the true demands of a given situation, they remain rigidly attached to their own thoughts, evaluations, and decisions. This rigidity frequently results in persistent frustration, anxiety, and psychological distress, ultimately affecting their social adjustment and economic growth.

## II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

(A) "Effect of Self-Focused Parenting on Aggressive and Stubborn Behaviour in 6-Year-Old Children in Yazd"

Souzan Deghanpour, Hamed Badmas, Alireza Kiamanesh (2013)

The purpose of this study was to examine the role of self-focused parenting in reducing aggression and

stubborn behaviour among 6-year-old children in Yazd. In total, 66 children and their mothers were selected through random sampling. They were divided into an experimental group ( $N = 30$ ) and a control group. The experimental group followed a self-focused parenting style, while the control group followed a regular parenting style. After the intervention, aggression and stubborn behaviour in children were assessed using Rutter's Behaviour Questionnaire and a researcher-constructed stubbornness questionnaire. The results indicated that self-focused parenting was effective in reducing both aggressive and stubborn behaviours among children. Statistical analysis showed that the average stubbornness score of children decreased from 38.06 before training to 31.23 after training, indicating the impact of the intervention. Similarly, the mean aggression score decreased from 10.2 before training to 6.83 after training, demonstrating the effectiveness of the program. Based on T-score distribution, the findings were statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.

(B) "Study to Assess the Level of Aggression Among Government and Private High School Students"

Dr. Pramod Totewad, Mr. Vilas Rathod, Mr. Gitanjali Parmar (2023)

The objective of this research was to identify the difference in aggression levels between government and private high school students, as well as to determine the difference in aggression between male and female students. A sample of 60 students (30 from government schools and 30 from private schools) was selected through random sampling. Each group included 15 male and 15 female students. Only students aged 14 to 22 years were included in the study. The results revealed a difference of 0.82 in aggression scores between government and private school students. A significant difference in aggression was also observed between male and female students ( $t = 4.93$ ), which was statistically significant at the 0.01 level.

### III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To examine the main effect of the gender variable on stubborn attitude.

2. To examine the main effect of the birth-order variable on stubborn attitude.
3. To examine the combined interaction effect of gender and birth-order variables on stubborn attitude.
4. To examine the main effect of the gender variable on aggression.
5. To examine the main effect of the birth-order variable on aggression.
6. To examine the combined interaction effect of gender and birth-order variables on aggression.
7. To examine the correlation between stubborn attitude and aggression.

### IV. HYPOTHESES

- H01. There will be no significant effect of the gender variable on stubborn attitude.
- H02. There will be no significant effect of the birth-order variable on stubborn attitude.
- H03. There will be no significant combined difference in stubborn attitude with reference to gender and birth-order variables.
- H04. There will be no significant effect of the gender variable on aggression.
- H05. There will be no significant effect of the birth-order variable on aggression.
- H06. There will be no significant combined difference in aggression with reference to gender and birth-order variables.
- H07: There will be no significant correlation between stubborn attitude and aggression.

### V. RESEARCH SAMPLE

In the present study, youths were selected using the random sampling method. A total of 240 youths were selected as the sample. Among them, 40 females were selected as first-born children, 40 females as second-born children, and 40 females as third-born children. Similarly, 40 males were selected as first-born children, 40 males as second-born children, and 40 males as third-born children.

#### ❖ Stubborn Attitude Scale

To measure the level of stubborn attitude among youths, the Stubborn Attitude Scale developed by Dr. Dhara R. Doshi and Kartavi N. Bhatt (2024) was used. The scale consists of 30 statements.

- Reliability

For checking the reliability of the present scale, correlations were obtained from 350 samples using the Odd-Even and Split-Half (First Half vs. Second Half) methods through the Spearman–Brown formula (Garrett, 1981). The obtained reliability values were 0.81 and 0.68 respectively, which are significant at the 0.01 level. Further, based on the Test–Retest method, a retest was conducted after an interval of one to one and a half months. The correlation between these two tests was 0.85, also significant at the 0.01 level. Here, 110 samples were administered the Test–Retest. Thus, both methods indicate a high level of reliability for this Stubborn Attitude Scale.

- Validity

For establishing the validity of the present scale, it was sent to five subject experts in psychology. 90 percent of these evaluators (experts) agreed that the scale appropriately measures stubborn attitude.

- ❖ Aggression Scale

The present scale was developed by Dr. Pragati Bansal, and its Gujarati adaptation was carried out by Dr. Yogesh A. Jogsan and Dr. Dhara R. Doshi (2018). It is a six-point scale consisting of a total of 30 statements.

- Reliability

The reliability of the present scale obtained through the split-half method is 0.82, which indicates high reliability. The Test–Retest reliability coefficient is 0.78.

- Validity

The validity of the present scale, when examined with Chauhan and Tiwari's Depression Scale, yielded a validity coefficient of 0.74. The validity coefficient of the original Hindi scale was found to be 0.78.

## VI. DATA COLLECTION

The process of data collection plays a crucial role in any research study. The primary objective of the present study was to assess stubborn attitude and aggression among youths with reference to their birth order. To measure stubborn attitude, the Stubborn Attitude Scale developed by Dr. Dhara R. Doshi and Kartavi N. Bhatt was employed. Aggression among youths was measured using the Aggression Scale developed by Dr. Pragati Bansal, which was adapted into Gujarati by Dr. Yogesh A. Jogsan and Dr. Dhara R. Doshi.

In accordance with the 2×3 factorial design of the study, youths enrolled in various colleges in Rajkot city were selected as participants. The sample included 40 first-born females, 40 second-born females, and 40 third-born females. Similarly, 40 first-born males, 40 second-born males, and 40 third-born males were selected for the study.

- ❖ Research Design

Since the purpose of the present study was to examine stubborn attitude and aggression among youths on the basis of birth order, a 2×3 factorial design was used. Additionally.

## VII. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

H01. There will be no significant effect of the gender variable on stubborn attitude.

Table 1.1

No.	Variable	Mean	N	f	Sig.
1	Male (A <sub>1</sub> )	92.34	120	3.65	NS
2	Female (A <sub>2</sub> )	95.13	120		

Significant level 0.05=3.89

0.01=6.76

NS = Not Significance

In Table 1.1, it is observed that the mean score of males (A<sub>1</sub>) is 92.34, whereas the mean score of females (A<sub>2</sub>) is 95.13. The mean score of females is therefore higher

than that of males. The obtained F-value is 3.65, indicating that the difference between the two groups is statistically non-significant.

H02. There will be no significant effect of the birth-order variable on stubborn attitude.

Table 1.2

No.	Variable	Mean	N	f	Sig.
1	First child (B <sub>1</sub> )	93.40	80	4.68	0.05
2	Second child (B <sub>2</sub> )	91.19	80		
3	Last child (B <sub>3</sub> )	96.61	80		

Significant level 0.01=4.71

0.05=3.04

NS = Not Significance

In Table 1.2, it can be observed that the mean score of youth with first birth order (B<sub>1</sub>) is 93.40, the mean score of youth with second birth order (B<sub>2</sub>) is 91.19, and the mean score of youth with third birth order (B<sub>3</sub>) is 96.61. The obtained f-value is 4.68. Therefore, a significant difference is found at the 0.05 level, leading to the rejection of the previously formulated

hypothesis. A possible explanation for this finding is that children of different birth orders tend to experience varying patterns of parental behaviour. For instance, the youngest child in the family often receives more affection, care, and indulgence from parents, which may contribute to the development of a more stubborn attitude compared to other children.

H03. There will be no significant combined difference in stubborn attitude with reference to gender and birth-order variables.

Table 1.3

No.	Variable	Mean		N	f	Sig.
		Male (A <sub>1</sub> )	Female (A <sub>2</sub> )			
1	First child (B <sub>1</sub> )	95.53	91.28	80	6.42	0.01
2	Second child (B <sub>2</sub> )	87.08	95.30	80		
3	Last child (B <sub>3</sub> )	94.43	98.80	80		

Significant level 0.05=3.04

0.01=4.71

NS = Not Significance

In Table 1.3, it is observed that among the first-born youth, the mean score for males is 95.53, whereas the mean score for females is 91.28. Among the second-born youth, the mean score for males is 87.08, while that for females is 95.30. For the third-born group, the mean score of males is 94.43 and that of females is 98.80. The obtained f-value is 6.42, indicating a significant difference at the 0.01 level. Therefore, the

previously formulated hypothesis is rejected. A possible explanation for this finding is that the youngest child in the family often receives greater affection and care, and females tend to hold on to their opinions for a longer time. These factors may contribute to higher levels of stubborn attitude among females.

H04. There will be no significant effect of the gender variable on aggression.

Table 1.4

No.	Variable	Mean	N	f	Sig.
1	Male (A <sub>1</sub> )	64.42	120	0.61	NS
2	Female (A <sub>2</sub> )	62.74	120		

Significant level 0.05=3.89

0.01=6.76

NS = Not Significance

In Table 1.4, it is observed that the mean score for males (A<sub>1</sub>) is 64.42, while the mean score for females (A<sub>2</sub>) is 62.74. The obtained f-value is 0.61, indicating

that the difference is not significant. Therefore, the previously formulated hypothesis is accepted.

H05: There will be no significant effect of the birth-order variable on aggression.

Table 1.5

No.	Variable	Mean	N	f	Sig.
1	First child (B <sub>1</sub> )	66.70	80	2.12	NS
2	Second child (B <sub>2</sub> )	61.99	80		
3	Last child (B <sub>3</sub> )	62.05	80		

Significant level 0.05=3.04

0.01=4.71

NS = Not Significance

In Table 1.5, it is observed that the mean score of first-born youth (B<sub>1</sub>) is 66.70, the mean score of second-born youth (B<sub>2</sub>) is 61.99, and the mean score of third-born youth (B<sub>3</sub>) is 62.05. The obtained f-value is 2.12,

indicating that the difference is not significant. Therefore, the previously formulated hypothesis is accepted.

H06: There will be no significant joint effect of gender and birth order on aggression.

Table 1.6

No.	Variable	Mean		N	f	Sig.
		Male (A <sub>1</sub> )	Female (A <sub>2</sub> )			
1	First child (B <sub>1</sub> )	68.38	65.03	80	1.38	NS
2	Second child (B <sub>2</sub> )	60.35	63.63	80		
3	Last child (B <sub>3</sub> )	64.53	59.58	80		

Significant level 0.05=3.04

0.01=4.71

NS = Not Significance

In Table 1.6, it is observed that among first-born youth, the mean score for males is 68.38, while the mean score for females is 65.03. Among second-born youth, the mean score for males is 60.35, whereas that for females is 63.63. For the third-born group, the mean

score of males is 64.53 and that of females is 59.58. The obtained f-value is 1.38, indicating that the difference is not significant. Therefore, the previously formulated hypothesis is accepted.

H07: There will be no significant correlation between stubborn attitude and aggression.

Table 1.7

No.	Variable	N	Mean	r	Sig.
1	Stubborn Attitude	240	93.73	0.20	0.01
2	Aggression	240	63.58		

Significant level 0.05=0.10

0.01=0.12

S= significant

An examination of Table 1.7 reveals that the correlation between stubborn attitude and aggression is 0.20, indicating a low positive relationship. This suggests that as stubborn attitude increases, aggression also tends to increase. A possible explanation for this finding is that individuals who are firm in their decisions may exhibit anger or aggressive behaviour when confronted or opposed by others. Thus, an

increase in stubbornness may be accompanied by heightened aggressive tendencies. Since the correlation value of 0.20 is significant at the 0.01 level, the previously formulated Hypothesis No. 10—stating that “there will be no significant correlation between stubborn attitude and aggression”—is rejected.

#### VIII. CONCLUSION

1. In relation to the variable of gender, no significant effect was found on stubborn attitude. Therefore, the previously formulated hypothesis is accepted.
2. In the present study, a significant difference at the 0.05 level was observed in stubborn attitude with reference to the variable of birth order. Hence, the previously formulated hypothesis is rejected.
3. No significant interaction effect of gender and birth order was found on stubborn attitude. Therefore, the previously formulated hypothesis is accepted.
4. With respect to the variable of gender, no significant effect was found on aggression. Thus, the previously formulated hypothesis is accepted.
5. In relation to the variable of birth order, no significant effect was found on aggression. Therefore, the previously formulated hypothesis is accepted.
6. No significant joint effect of gender and birth order was observed on aggression. Hence, the previously formulated hypothesis is accepted.
7. A correlation of 0.20 was found between stubborn attitude and aggression. Therefore, it may be concluded that there is a low positive correlation between stubbornness and aggression.

#### IX. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

1. Only youths from the Saurashtra region were selected as the sample.
2. The present study was conducted using a limited sample size.
3. Only young students were included in this study.
4. Since the research was conducted on youths, factors such as age, gender, residential area, and education may have influenced the results.
5. The study relied exclusively on the questionnaire method for data collection.
6. Only 240 youths were selected as the sample for the present study.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Bibha kumari and Shiv kumar prasad (2024) "A correlational study of frustration among University student" international journal of

advance research in multidisciplinary, voi-2, E-ISSN:2583-9667, online received by:<https://multiresearchjournal.theviews.in>

- [2] Deghanpur, S., Burma, H., & Kiamanesh, A. R. (2013). Effect of self-focused parenting on aggressive and stubborn behaviour in 6-year-old children in Yazd. *European Journal of Experimental Biology*. Retrieved from <http://www.pelagiaresearchlibrary.com>
- [3] Totewad, P., Rathod, W., & Parmar, G. (2023). Study to assess the level of aggression among government and private high school students. *The International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research*. Retrieved from <http://www.ijfmr.com>