

Influence of infancy parent's general characteristic on happiness and life satisfaction level

En-Young Lee^{1*}, Sung-je Cho^{2**}

¹Department of Education at Dongbang Graduate University

²Department of Education at Dong bang Graduate University, Seoul, Korea

Abstract. The purpose of this study is to analyze the influence of infancy parent's general characteristic on happiness and life satisfaction level. The subject of the study was 250 parents fostering infant child in Ulsan. The data was collected through survey from 30th of April to 5th of July in 2015. Significant level of difference was proved within $p < .05$ level through frequency analysis t-test, one-way ANOVA, and Scheffe's multiple range test. This study's actual proof of analysis was proved within significance level of 5%, and SPSSWIN 18.0 program was used for statistical analysis. As a result of analysis, first, there was significant level of difference of parent's happiness due to general characteristics including education level, monthly income, and religion. On the other hands, there was no difference in significance level regarding parent's sex, age, number of child, and occupation. Second, in life satisfaction level from parent's general characteristic, there was significant level of difference regarding parent's occupation and monthly income. However, there was no significant level of difference within 5% according to sex, age, number of child, education level, and religion. The study is implicated to be used as alternation for inventing program of improving infancy parents' happiness and life satisfaction level.

Keywords: Infancy child, Parent, happiness (level), Life satisfaction level

1 Introduction

1.1 Study Necessity

Every human being hopes to live happily throughout one's life. There has been many approaches regarding certain standard or achievement level of being happy. Recently, our contemporary society has been bringing changes regarding life satisfaction level of happiness and perspective. Since 1990s, there has been growing interest in 'improving life quality.' Therefore, for life satisfaction level, many studies were conducted with key words for individual happiness or life quality [1]. To this, this study has learned previous studies regarding the influence of infancy parent's happiness on life satisfaction level. Furthermore, it was found that mother's happiness and child's happiness have significant static relationship [2]. Hence, infancy mother's life satisfaction

and parent efficacy have static relationship, and it was found that life satisfaction level takes mediacy role in influencing parent efficacy [3]. In addition, parent's taking care of infancy child has influence on subjective happiness or depression, which partly mediates infancy child's subjective happiness [4]. Specially, learning various variables of infancy parent's general characteristic affecting life satisfaction is needed. Also, study on whether parent's happiness variables affect life satisfaction level or not should be conducted.

Therefore, the purpose of this study is to learn the influence of infancy parent's happiness on life satisfaction level.

1.2 Study Question

Specific study questions are as follows.

First, how is life satisfaction level according to infancy parent's general characteristic?

Second, how is happiness level according to infancy parent's general characteristic?

2 Study Method

2.1 Study Subject

The study was conducted on surveying parents having infancy children attending kindergarten in Ulsan, Korea. The survey was conducted from 30th April to 5th July of 2015. For sample size of study subject, G*Power 3.1 proof analysis program was used according to Cohen's sampling equation. Significance level was set to be 5%, and proof level was set to be 90%. Effect size was set as 0.15, the medium number. The minimum sample number was calculated to be 125 persons.

2.2. Study Plan

Before conducting survey, enough explanation about survey filling and survey purpose was given. Then, the survey was conducted through having participants fill in by them. Also, more investigation was done through individual interview.

2.3 Study Tool

The survey was composed of seven demographical questionnaires, 48 happiness related questionnaires, and 10 life satisfaction level related questionnaires.

2.3.1 Demographical characteristic

Study tool of parent's demographical characteristic for community health investigation question was composed of sex, age, education level, marital status, class, home-room teacher age, class size, teacher assistant, wage, working hour, religion, and occupation.

2.3.2 Life satisfaction level

For life satisfaction level, Lee Myeong-sin[1998]'s standard was used. The standard was composed of 20 questions from Lee Myeong-sin[1999]'s study. 10 questions were about importance of life condition, and 10 questions were about life condition achievement level. Yet, for this study, ten questions of life condition achievement level were used, and each question was composed of 5 level Likert criterion. Thus, the higher the score, the more satisfied with life. The Cronbach α for life satisfaction level tool's reliability was shown to be .77.

2.3.3 Happiness

In order to measure parent's happiness, Korean adult's happy life criterion by Kim Myeong-so, Kim Hye-won, Cha Gyeong-ho, Lim Ji-yeong, and Han Yeong-suk[2003] was used. Furthermore, questionnaire edited by Kim Do-ran and Kim Jeong-won[2008] was used. For the study, level 1 meant 'never,' and level 4 meant 'always.' The higher the score, the higher the mother's happiness related to subordinate range.

3 Study Result and Interpretation

3.1 General Characteristic Factor Analysis

For parental composition, 18.1% were father and 81.9% were mother. 46.7% answered to be in age range of 36-40, 29.0% in 31-35 age range, followed by 41-50 and 25-30 range. The highest percentage answered to have only child, followed by 45.2% with two children, and 4.6% with three children. Then, the highest percentage showed to have graduated from university level, and 42.1% graduated from college level. For occupation, house wife answered to be 34.4%, technician occupation was 12.7%, followed by service and office job with 10.0%. For monthly income of parent, no income like housewife was 30.9%, 1.5-2.5 million won was 23.9%, 2.5-3.5 million won was 18.9%, and 3.5-5 million won scored 12.4%. 39.0% of interviewees did not believe in any religion, 37.5% believed in Buddhism, followed by Christianity and Catholic.

3.2 Happiness

As a result of happiness, the average was 3.20. The happiness level ranked infant's stable growth, relationship with parents and relatives, independency, love with partner, economy, achievement and proprioception, positive life view, relationship with others, self-improvement and goal achievement, health, outlook, social position and acceptance, leisure, religion, social-political-cultural environment in order from the highest to the lowest.

3.3 Life satisfaction level

As a result of life satisfaction level, the overall average was 3.67. The life satisfaction level ranked affection satisfaction level, self-actualization satisfaction, safety satisfaction, natural satisfaction, respecting satisfaction in order from the highest to the lowest.

3.4 Happiness difference according to parent's general characteristic

The result for happiness difference according to parent's general characteristic is as follows.

While happiness difference was significant regarding parent's education level, monthly income, and religion, there was no significant level of difference regarding sex, age, number of child, and occupation. For parent's education level, the happiness ranked in order of university level graduation, college level graduation, below high school level from the highest to the lowest. For monthly income, the happiness level ranked in order of above 3.5million won, 1.5-2.5 million won, 2.5-3.5 million won, and below 1.5million won from the highest to the lowest. For religion, the happiness level ranked in order of others, Christianity, Buddhism, none from the highest to the lowest.

3.5 Difference in life satisfaction level according to parent's general characteristic

As a result of life satisfaction level difference regarding parent's general characteristic, there was significant level of difference from parent's occupation, and monthly income. Yet, there was no significant level of difference within 5% for sex, age, number of child, education level, and religion.

4 Discussion and Conclusion

In this study, we learned the relationship between infancy parent's happiness level and life satisfaction level. The discussion based on study result is as follows.

First, looking at happiness level, the overall happiness average was 3.20. The happiness level ranked infant's stable growth, relationship with parents and relatives, independency, love with partner, economy, achievement and proprioception, positive life view, relationship with others, self-improvement and goal achievement, health, outlook, social position and acceptance, leisure, religion, social-political-cultural environment in order from the highest to the lowest. This result explains that mother's individual factor affects mother's happiness, and among the subordinate factor, social position and acceptance, relationship with parent and relative, love with partner, and outlook appearance influencing on mother's happiness coincided meaningfully with the influence from mother's background factor [5]. Furthermore, [6] infancy mother's marital period and monthly income showed to have influence on infant's problem behavior. In marital period, those under ten years showed to have high problem behavior of infant compared to that of over 10 years [7]. This result implies that infancy parent's happiness level plays very important factor in parent's role.

Second, looking at life satisfaction level, the overall average was 3.67. The life satisfaction level ranked affection satisfaction level, self-actualization satisfaction, safety satisfaction, natural satisfaction, respecting satisfaction in order from the highest to the lowest. For mother's happiness and infant's positive social emotional behavior showed static relationship among subordinate factors, the higher the happiness level of infancy mother, the more positive social emotional behaviors infants show[8]. Among subordinate factors of mother happiness, achievement and self-acceptance, economy, self-improvement and altruism, child's stable growth, relationship with parent and relatives, love with partner, positive perspective and relationship, and child's peer competence all showed to have significantly meaningful negative relationship[9].

As a result, for infancy parent's life satisfaction level puts much influence on children, ways to improve parent's life satisfaction level should be searched.

For further study from this study, the following is suggested.

First, as a result of influence on parent's happiness, result with significant level of difference showed that in order to manage happy life of mothers, having relationship with psychological factors is important. For parent's happiness works as great factor in parental role for infancy children, education program establishment is required.

Second, general characteristic's life satisfaction level showed significant difference in parent's occupation and monthly income. For parent's life satisfaction level puts much influence on children, ways to improve parent's satisfaction level should be further studied.

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