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# Investigating and analyzing the impact of family differences on students' academic failure

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#### Abstract

Throughout the history of human life, the family has always been considered as the first institution for the education and upbringing of children, and this role is still envisioned for it. In all societies, the family is responsible for preserving the generation and socializing the children, and it is the responsibility of the family to create a familiar and intimate environment with love and affection. The family plays the main role in the formation of the child's values and beliefs and affects any type of relationship that a person or other collective factors and institutions have, including education. Parents' lack of attention to the mental and emotional health of their children and sometimes the lack of proper relationships between family members make children face severe emotional, mental and communication deficiencies. Therefore, the purpose of this study was to Investigating and analyzing the impact of family differences on students' academic failure. This research is a descriptive correlational study. In the academic year 99-98, the number of students according to the latest statistics in this year was 360 persons. In this research, a questionnaire has been used which is a tool for validity and using from Cronbach's alpha, the value of which is equal to 87.50% and the reliability and validity of the questionnaire were confirmed. The results obtained from the statistical analysis indicate that all research hypotheses have been accepted.

**Keywords:** Family, education institution, family problems, academic failure, psychological and emotional environment of children.

#### **1. Introduction**

Undoubtedly, one of the basic elements of development and cultural, economic and social factors of any society is its education system. In terms of judging the efficiency of this system, it is possible to mention academic progress with the concept of students' success in passing the courses of an academic level [1]. In general, the analysis and investigation of the factors affecting educational progress can be the basis for making decisions that improve the internal efficiency of this system and subsequently provide the grounds for all-round development. The study of students who have academic failure shows that one of the effective factors for this phenomenon is family problems, especially family disintegration, low literacy of parents, emotional problems, isolation, social atmosphere, family psychology, lack of intimate relationship with parents, family income [2]. Parents' occupation, parents' level of understanding, the presence or absence of parents, the educational status of other siblings have a great impact on the mental and physical health of the student. His mental health is not provided; he neglects his education or leaves it after satisfying his needs [3]. Responding to the needs of the parents is necessary for the success of every student, while some parents, without knowing their duty towards the student, only expect success from him. The results of a research show that the level of education of the parents has a great impact on the quality of the student's education, because educated parents, especially fathers, will be the best helpers in solving their children's academic problems and can be very good models of education for their children [4].

Family fights between husband and wife and their continuation is one of the factors that greatly weakens students' morale and academic performance. Since children quickly lose their energy and strength in such moments and cannot shoulder the burden of family problems at the same time as studying, they become tired and weak, and the first signs of their mental fatigue can be seen in the quality of their academic grades. Witnessed [5]. Parents should not expect good grades from their students and tell them that these fights have nothing to do with you. Such a thing is impossible because children are a part of the family environment and anything positive or negative will have many effects on them in the family environment. It is the duty of parents to take care of the spirit of their student children in order to prevent their personality from sinking and in this way to close the way to any kind of deviance that threatens the children's future in such moments [6-8]. Among the academic courses of education, the secondary course has been chosen as the focus of the subject due to the

biological, social and psychological condition of the students, as well as to influence the decisions of this age period in all areas of life. By reviewing the background of the academic progress of this course, we see that the academic progress is not the result of the influence of one factor. If the individual characteristics of the student (general and emotional intelligence, learning methods, self-efficacy and mental health, etc.), the social origin of the student (psychological environment of the family, its cultural and economic status, etc.) and the educational structure (class structure, teacher's expectations, the teaching method and its facilities, etc.) are among the basic issues in this field. According to these words, our hope is to show the relationship between the emotional atmosphere of the family and the academic failure of students. Let's find out the drop in education.

#### 2. Statement of the problem

Nowadays, the effects of education can be seen in all the fundamental fields of scientific, economic, cultural and political life. The intensity of these effects is such that every day a new change occurs in people's lives, which is less similar to yesterday, so that a person has no other choice but to adapt to these changes with the help of education to continue his social life [9]. With this extent of influence, it is natural that every day the type of education and the functioning of schools are questioned and criticized, and researchers were forced to identify the effective dimensions [10]. The education system in our country has undertaken this huge mission. According to the latest changes, the training courses are divided into seven courses from preparation to continuous associate. Middle school period is one of the sensitive and effective periods of social and individual life due to the biological, social and psychological condition of students [11]. During this period, most of the specific talents of teenagers emerge, their learning power reaches its maximum, their curiosity finds a certain direction, and new life issues such as choosing a field, choosing a profession, etc. occupy their minds. Therefore, any kind of dissatisfaction and disruption in this course will directly affect the performance and quality of every general and higher education circle and ultimately the quality of life [12]. marketable skills in the labor market, creating adequate and favorable preparation for university studies, helping to discover and recognize individual talents and abilities. Indeed, why is it impossible to reach these defined goals? In addition to this failure of the product, the problem of academic failure in schools and the poor performance of students in the process of training courses has doubled the problems. In our country, academic

dropout is one of the most important issues and current problems of education, which wastes tens of billions of the country's budget every year and removes the potential forces of the society from education and thus the best assets of the society. which is human power remains fruitless. So far, in order to solve this problem, various solutions have been taken by the authorities to prevent the drop in education in secondary school, such as removing the single year system or easing the acceptance conditions, which is perhaps more like a gloss on the statistical table than scientific solutions.

In the current situation, we are facing the problem of what factors have caused this poor academic performance? And what are the factors affecting academic progress? The study and review of the research shows that academic progress is not the result of the influence of one factor, but several factors influence this variable. Some of the factors are motivation, ability and past knowledge of the individual, psychological environment, class structure, peer group, teacher's expectations and intelligence. Also, research on other individual and educational factors such as the academic average of the previous year (Martin and Holter 1997), academic talent (Laverrichen 1997), cognitive factors such as general intelligence (Kazarla 1997), emotional intelligence (Bob et al. 2001), academic self-efficacy (Vank 1998-Karamti, 1380), self-regulation strategies (Gerban, 1996) and class structure (Maya, 2002) have been considered effective in academic performance. The weak performance of students and the emphasis of psychology and sociology studies on the importance of actions and decisions of this course reveal the need to pay more attention to the state of the educational system and the phenomenon of academic failure. Therefore, in the present research, we intend to investigate the relationship between family atmosphere and the level of learning and academic failure of students.

#### 3. Necessity of research

Perhaps no word can express the level of achievement of the intended goals in the education system at each level of education and in each subject more than academic progress. Academic progress in each subject makes the progress of the education system clear and determines the efficiency and effectiveness of investment in the education sector [13]. Middle school period is a very important period in terms of biological, psychological and social conditions, it is a period that links general education to higher education and prepares a large group to enter the society and the labor market [14]. Unfortunately, the statistics obtained from the research in

the country's schools show that academic failure in the form of failure or dropping out of school or otherwise wastes a large amount of financial resources and human talents of our society and leaves bad effects [15]. According to the intended goal, which is to know the factors affecting academic progress, its results are a help to educational planners to adopt appropriate policies to provide effective factors in education and learning so that they can work in this field with a better vision and insight [16].

In fact, the most basic aspect that makes this research necessary is the alarming statistics of the number of high school dropouts and also the necessity of today's life in order to optimally use the time and mental resources of these students. Therefore, it is necessary to pay attention to this issue and find the cause, and clarify the strategies for creating a favorable situation [17]. It is obvious that the first step in this process is to identify the factors that cause the aforementioned situation, because after identifying these factors, it is possible to identify suitable solutions to eliminate the shortcomings and also to strengthen the strengths, and the families and schools made it more scientific than this phenomenon. The importance of the present study is also because it intends to investigate the relationship between family differences and academic failure and the level of students' learning in order to somehow achieve the effects of family factors on academic failure.

## 4. Reasons for students' academic failure

Academic failure is a situation that may have involved many families and students. When we talk about academic drop, we mean a situation in which a student's academic performance has decreased compared to his previous course, and this drop in education even leads to repeating a level of education or dropping out before the end of it [18]. In other words, academic failure means that a student gets a low grade of 10 or 12 in most subjects, and no one is satisfied with the academic status of this student, and sometimes he even has to repeat an academic year again, and in the end, he may drop out of school. And don't continue studying [19]. Academic failure of students can have different reasons, some of which are related to the individual and others are related to the environment and living conditions and external factors. In the following, we examine the individual cause of academic failure in students and the impact of family, school and society on academic failure of students.

**1. Lack of self-confidence:** One of the reasons for academic failure in teenagers is lack of self-confidence. Low self-confidence can prevent students from seeing their own strengths. When

a student can't see his strengths or doesn't want to accept his weaknesses and try to strengthen them, otherwise he becomes a person who doesn't try for anything and always waits to be broken. As a result, such a student gets weaker grades over time and becomes one of the causes of academic failure in students [20].

**2.** Improper study skills: Another factor of academic failure in students is improper study. When you don't know what conditions you should have for studying and what methods you should use to read and understand the course material, it is natural that you will not be able to achieve the necessary results. Gain from studying. You may even read a text many times, but you still cannot understand it well or commit it to memory. For this reason, most students and people who do not have proper study methods dislike studying. To know the correct method of studying, we suggest you read the article on the most basic method of study (SQ3R method) prepared at Barça Educational Institute [21].

**3.** Lack of motivation to study and study: Another effective condition in students' academic failure is lack of motivation to study. When a student becomes disinterested in studying, he will no longer have the motivation to continue and try. Lack of motivation can be caused by fear of failure and making mistakes, setting wrong goals, not knowing what we want and what our goals are in life, loneliness, procrastination in teenagers and laziness, depression in students, etc. If you feel that you or one of your friends has suffered from lack of academic motivation recently, you can read the article on the motivation to study in teenagers and use strategies to deal with lack of motivation [22].

**4. Physical condition:** One of the most effective factors in a teenager's academic failure is a person's physical condition, which can affect his education. If a student has poor vision or hearing or has another problem that makes him physically more vulnerable, he will definitely face more problems during his studies and on the way to studying. If this situation is not evaluated correctly, it will reduce the student's motivation and self-confidence, and as a result, the student will fall academically [23].

**5.** Not having a specific goal for education: One of the reasons for academic failure in teenagers is the lack of a goal. There are people who are interested in education, but they do not know exactly where they want to reach by studying and studying and going to school and their goal is to study. what. These students are confused and little by little this confusion makes them lose their way. For this reason, they are unmotivated and uninterested in studying and face many problems [24].

6. Intelligence: The level of IQ of people can be one of the reasons for academic failure in teenagers. Especially with the increase in the level of education, more problems are shown and repetition of a level happens for the second year [25]. IQ score is measured by standard intelligence tests. Of course, you need to know that the effort and perseverance of students has a much greater impact than their intelligence. To know the great effect of effort, you can read the article "talent is more important" or "effort" prepared by the psychologists of Barca Institute [26].

**7. Mental health:** If a student suffers from depression, social anxiety disorder, etc., he definitely cannot perform effectively and well in the field of education and work as well as in life. These situations and problems have a negative effect on the memory, concentration, self-confidence, motivation and learning of students and reduce them. So lack of mental health can cause students to fail [27].

**8. Temperament:** Every person who is born has his own temperament. Some people have difficult temperaments. It means that they are more inflexible against the conditions and environment and their tolerance threshold is lower. For this reason, they are more vulnerable to problems and cannot show proper reactions. Students with difficult temperament are more likely to suffer from academic failure [28].

**9.** Procrastination and poor time management: Students who wait until the last minute to do their homework and end up doing it with difficulty will not perform well in school. These students usually delay their studies during the exam, and as a result, their grades go down. These people generally do not know how to manage time well. Because of this, they often have problems in class and school, and it is natural for these students to fail [29].

**10. Lack of personal independence:** Lack of personal independence is one of the factors affecting academic failure. Some students have not learned how to do their own work and not rely on others, and they have problems in school. These students should have learned that it is their responsibility to do their homework, take the appropriate books and materials for each class, and bring homework home [30].

**11.** Spending a lot of time with computers, mobile phones and cyber space: Perhaps a very obvious reason for the academic decline of students is the excessive use of tools such as computers and mobile phones, which sometimes even distracts a person from a healthy diet and physical activity [31].

#### 5. The importance of family in students' academic failure

**1.** Physical or mental illness in parents: If the student's parents suffer from physical illnesses that affect a lot of their time and life, they neglect their own children and have less time to supervise them. The same is true for parents who suffer from mental illnesses. The involvement of these parents with illness, (both physical and mental) and the reduction of care for students and teenagers can cause a situation in which the child takes the wrong path [5].

**2. Family discord and troubled family:** the existence of family discords such as divorce, the presence of a stepfather or stepmother, the existence of inappropriate atmosphere and conditions in the family, frequent fights between parents and... are among the conditions that make the student run away from the family environment. It disturbs his mental and physical condition and can expose such a student to failure [9].

**3.** Improper parenting style: parents who have an authoritarian parenting style or a permissive parenting style or parents who are no longer in harmony with each other in the way they raise their children, constantly blame and blame their children, they punish physically, constantly compare children or do not monitor their work, creating conditions for teenagers that can cause their grades to drop [17].

4. Unsuitable economic conditions and addiction in the family: Lack of suitable economic conditions or bankruptcy of the family can cause the student's thoughts to deviate from continuing his education to going to the job market quickly, and as a result, the teenager suffers academic failure. Likewise, if the parents are involved in addiction, their child cannot be in a situation to think about studying and continuing education, and it is completely natural for them to fail in this situation [1].

**5.** The attitude of the family towards education: Another important point in families is how much they care about their child's academic progress and future education and support the teenager's continued education, or encourage their child if he/she makes good academic progress and gets good grades. And they encourage him [22].

## 6. The importance of school in students' academic failure

**1. Relationships with peers:** Relationships with peers at school, especially during adolescence, play an important role in making the school and classroom environment enjoyable. Also, inappropriate peers and friends can destroy the student's motivation to study and cause him problems in school [8].

**2. Teachers and coaches:** If the teachers have a strict and dry manner, do not have the skills to deal with students, have bad manners, or behave inappropriately and humiliatingly towards the student, it is natural that the student dislikes lessons and school. It is possible and this case will undoubtedly cause students to fail in education [15].

**3. Problems related to the educational system:** The educational system is one of the most important things that can make students interested in studying or make them run away from studying and continuing their education. Using attractive teaching methods along with educational aids can increase the student's interest in the lesson; And on the contrary, inflexible and dry teaching methods keep students away from their studies and even cause them to fail in their studies [12].

#### 7. Solutions to compensate for students' academic failure

Academic failure is a problem that can be solved by planning and spending time. Of course, you should know that we need to spend a lot of time to deal with academic failure, and academic failure is not one of those problems that can be solved very quickly.

**1. Proper study to make up for academic failure:** Studying too much without rest makes the student tired and dislike studying, and a study that is constantly interrupted is not a useful study. The right way to study is to take time to rest along with studying [19]. One of the methods that we can use is the stage method in which the study and rest time in each stage is as follows: 90 minutes of study and 15 minutes of rest, 75 minutes of study and 30 minutes of rest, 60 minutes of study and 45 minutes of rest, 45 minutes of study and a lot of rest and doing other things. Another important point is that your study should be away from bright audio and visual devices. Be sure to study while sitting, not while moving or walking. Do not study when you are tired or worried. Take the right time to sleep and rest [26].

2. More concentration, less academic failure: Focusing on the lesson while learning is one of the most important principles of effective studying. It is possible that there are factors in the home environment and when doing homework or studying lessons that cause distraction and decrease the student's concentration [7]. Including television, game console, mobile phone, etc., these items should be away from the student's study environment while studying. You

can also increase your concentration and accuracy with exercises, and increase your attention, accuracy and memory by using puzzles, crossword charts, etc [15].

**3.** Having a goal prevents academic failure: We said that not having a clear and clear goal can cause confusion for the teenager and keep him away from studies. When students are helped to determine their short-term and long-term goals, after that they can plan for themselves and study according to their plans and goals [29].

4. Diversity in education makes up for academic failure: Education and learning should not be limited to what is told to students in school. Parents can teach their children at home. Remember, it doesn't matter if your child learns math or chemistry. In addition to these courses, if he learns other skills such as painting or a sport, the fatigue and boredom of studying will go away, which will lead to the student's academic progress [6].

**5.** Compensating academic failure with a good mood: timely praise and encouragement can be an important factor for students to continue studying with more interest. But remember that this praise and encouragement should not be overdone [11]. Appreciating the academic success of students and encouraging them to achieve more success will make them have a better mood and make up for the past academic failure. Lack of motivation and apathy can be one of the factors of academic failure. By creating internal motivation and strengthening it, we can increase students' interest in studying [24].

**6.** More effort, more progress: Studying, if it is repeated, can help the student a lot in the academic field. Also, frequent reading creates the habit of reading in a person and makes the teenager get used to reading and as a result, he feels better while studying [30].

**7.** Compensating academic failure by increasing self-confidence: Having enough self-confidence is one of the factors that not only makes the student progress academically, but also affects the work field and the student's life in general. Students who do not have enough self-confidence, do not make an effort in the field of study and as a result, they face poor results, which reduces their self-confidence again [31].

8. Compensating academic failure with time management: How a student manages his time so that he can study courses and do homework and do other things is a skill that he must learn. By learning the skill of time management in studying, he avoids poor results in courses and school, and he can do other activities besides studying so that he is not limited to a boring academic environment [32].

# 8. Hypotheses and Hypothesized model

- 1. The status of family traditions is effective on the educational status of children.
- 2. Parents' agreement leads to children's academic progress.
- 3. The parents' lack of agreement causes the children's academic decline.

## 9. The method, target population and sample:

The statistical population of this study was all high school male students of Shahin Dezh city in the academic. Therefore, all secondary school students in the city of Shahin Dezh are included. The total number of students in this section was 360 students.

## **10.** Analysis of information

43% of these students have 12-14 years old, 57% of these students have 14-16 years old.

We used SPSS 19.0 to analyze the data. In following the results of test hypotheses are offered:

**10.1. Testing Hypothesis H1.** The status of family traditions is effective on the educational status of children.

The results of SPSS are shown below:

Table. 1. One-Sample Statistics							
	N Mean Std. Deviation Std. Error Mean						
H1	360	6.7483	1.9873	.21974			

	Test Value = 5						
					95% Confidence Interval of the		
					Difference		
	Т	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Lower	Upper	
H1	16.944	359	.000	1.7431	1.04722	1.7885	

 Table. 2. One-Sample Test

**10.2. Testing Hypothesis H2.** Parents' agreement leads to children's academic progress. The results of SPSS are shown below:

1	<b>Fable.</b>	3. One	-Sample	Statistics	

-	Ν	N Mean Std. Deviation		Std. Error Mean			
H2	360	6.6438	1.0693	.19893			

Table. 4. One-Sample Test								
		Test Value = 5						
	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference							
	Т	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Lower	Upper		
H2	16.7832	359	.000	1.75604	1.8732	2.0921		

**10.3. Testing Hypothesis H3.** The parents' lack of agreement causes the children's academic decline.

The results of SPSS are shown below:

Table. 5. One-Sample Statistics							
N Mean Std. Deviation Std. Error Mean							
H3	360	6.8626	1.0869	.26381			

Table. 6. One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 5						
					95% Confidence Interval of the		
					Difference		
	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Lower	Upper	
H3	16.0807	359	.000	1.8035	1.0709	1.8492	

# **11.** Conclusions

Every person spends most of his life in his family. Family refers to the first kinship group of a child and is the first link between the child and the surrounding environment. There, the child learns the basic ideas about the outside world. It develops physically and mentally. He learns to speak and the basic norms of behavior and finally his attitudes, morals and morals are formed in the family and in other words he becomes socialized. The study of students who have an academic decline shows that one of the effective factors for the phenomenon of family problems, especially family disintegration, parental illiteracy, emotional problems, isolation, social and psychological atmosphere of the family, lack of close communication with parents, the amount Family income, parents' occupation, level of parental understanding, presence or absence of parents, educational status of other brothers and sisters have a great impact on the mental and physical health of the student. He is not self-sufficient and his mental and spiritual needs are not met. After satisfying his needs, he neglects his education or

abandons it. Family disputes between husband and wife and their continuation are one of the factors that greatly weaken the morale and academic decline of students. to be Since children lose their energy and strength in such moments and cannot shoulder the burden of family problems at the same time as their studies, they become tired and weak, and the first effects of their mental fatigue can be seen in the quality of their academic grades. Witnessed. Parents should not expect good grades from their students and tell them that these fights have nothing to do with you. Such a thing is impossible because children are a part of the family environment and everything whether positive or negative will have many effects on them in the family environment. It is the duty of the parents to take care of the morale of their student children in order to prevent their personality from sinking and in this way to close the way to any kind of deviance that threatens the children's future in such moments. The findings showed that in the degree of influence of family problems on the academic performance of students, there are various factors such as: the type of problem, the mental and psychological conditions of the person, the education that the person has received from the environment and school throughout his life, the conditions and environment that The person lives in it, the level of support of the people around him, the understanding of the student himself, etc. are involved. According to the results obtained, it was found that the existence of these problems cannot be considered as an obstacle on the way of students' academic progress, because to achieve any kind of success in any field, one's own effort and will is necessary, and the existence of a suitable platform and The support of those around you can facilitate the achievement of this success and proper family education can cause the right reactions to these problems.

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