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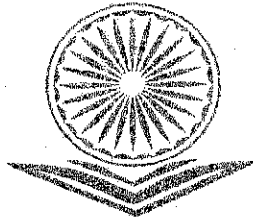
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## 4. Effect of Age and Area of Residence on Ego-Strength of Urban and Rural Women's

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### Introduction

"Ego-strength" is a much used and useful term, though the concept is not easy to define. According to Wolberg (1977, p.4.), "... it connotes the positive personality assets that will enable the individual to overcome his anxieties, to yield secondary gains of his illness, and to acquire new, more adequate defenses." Ego-strength is also the patient's capacity to hold on to his own identity despite psychic pain, distress, turmoil and conflict between opposing internal forces as well as the demands of reality (Brown et al., 1979, p. 184). The patient needs to have sufficient ego-strength to be able to give up his neurotic defences when confronted with them in BDP. Conversely, each successful challenge or confrontation of a transference reaction increases the ego-strength.

Before challenging the defences, the therapist must be able to detect the fragility of the patient's ego and also differentiate between ego fragility and regression. Some patients, despite their proclivity to regress, bounce back quickly to an adult level and function well due to their ego-strength. Therefore, strong initial confrontation, leading to a successful breakthrough in BDP, is possible even in cases of early damage provided the patient has sufficient ego-strength.

In Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory of personality, ego strength is the ability of the ego to effectively deal with the demands of the id, the superego and reality. Those with little ego strength may feel torn between these competing demands, while those with too much ego strength can become too unyielding and rigid. Ego strength helps us maintain emotional stability and cope with internal and external stress.

According to Sigmund Freud, personality is composed of three elements: the id, the ego and the super-ego. The id is composed of all the primal urges and desires and is the only part of personality present at birth. The super-ego is the part of personality that is composed of the

internalized standards and rules that we acquire from our parents and from society. The ego is the part of personality that mediates between the demands of reality, the urges of the id and the idealistic standards of the super-ego.

In situations involving psychological disorders, ego strength is often used to describe a patient's ability to maintain their identity and sense of self in the face of pain, distress and conflict. Researchers have also suggested that acquiring new defenses and coping mechanisms is an important component of ego strength.

#### **High Ego Strength**

An individual with strong ego-strength approaches challenges with a sense that he or she can overcome the problem and even grow as a result. By having strong ego-strength, the individual feels that he or she can cope with the problem and find new ways of dealing with struggles. These people can handle whatever life throws at them without losing their sense of self.

#### **Low Ego Strength**

On the other hand, those with weak ego-strength view challenges as something to avoid. In many cases, reality can seem too overwhelming to deal with. These individuals struggle to cope in the face of problems, and may try to avoid reality through wishful thinking, substance use and fantasies.

David R. Berman, Ryan M. Johnson (2000) Age, ambition, and the local charter: a study in voting behavior. This article tests ambition theory by looking into the relatively unexplored area concerning the voting behavior of local charter committee members. Our findings lend support to the notion in ambition theory that age is an important factor in understanding voting blocs and differences on issues. More specifically, our study suggests that differences in political ambition along age lines may help ex

S. Epstein (*December 1961*) Food-related responses to ambiguous stimuli as a function of hunger and ego strength. College students were given the Rorschach after periods of food deprivation up to 23 hours. Food imagery increased through 8 hours and decreased at 23 hours when strong food associations were eliminated. High ego strength Ss reported less hunger and produced fewer food-related responses, including a decrease at 23 hours. Food related activity responses were related to deprivation; food object responses were not.

D.K. Deady, M.J. Law Smith, M.A. Sharp, E.A.S. Al-Dujaili (*January 2006*) Maternal personality and reproductive ambition in women is associated with salivary testosterone levels. Previous research has linked testosterone levels with sex-specific personality traits within women. The present study investigates the relation between salivary testosterone levels and specifically maternal personality traits in healthy adult women. Twenty-seven young women completed the Bem Sex Role Inventory (BSRI). Additional questions were asked about maternal personality (importance of having children, self-rated maternal/broodiness), reproductive ambition (ideal number of children, ideal own age at first child) and career orientation (importance of having career). Higher circulating testosterone levels were associated with lower scores on measures of maternal personality and reproductive ambition. There was no relation of career orientation with testosterone. A median split on BSRI masculinity revealed high scorers had higher testosterone levels than low scorers. There was no relation of BSRI femininity with testosterone. Results suggest maternal tendencies may be partly androgen driven.

#### **Objective of the Study**

1. To find out the effect of age and area of residence on ego-strength of urban and rural women's.
2. To find out the effect of age and area of residence on ambitiousness of urban and rural women's.

#### **Aim of the Study**

1. To Examine out effect of age and area of residence on ego-strength of urban and rural women's.
2. To Examine out the effect of age and area of residence on ambitiousness of urban and rural women's.

#### **Hypothesis**

1. 22-25 years women's have significantly high ego-strength than the 18-21 years women's
2. High socio-economic status women's have significantly high ego-strength than the low socio-economic status women's
3. Urban women's have significantly high ego-strength than the rural women's

**Sample**

For the present study 200 Sample were selected from Dr. babasaheb ambedkar university Aurangabad, Maharashtra State. The effective sample consisted of 200 subjects, out of whom 100 subjects were urban women's and 100 subjects were rural women's. The age range of subjects was 18-25 years.

**Tools****Differential Personality Inventory (DPI)**

This test is developed and standardized by L.N.K. Shinha and Arun Kumar Singh. The test consisted of 165 Items. The subjects were required to respond to each item in terms of 'True' OR 'False'. The test - retest Reliability Coefficient Range from .73 to .86 which were high and significant indicating that the Different dimensions of the Scale have sufficient Temporal Stability.

**Procedures of Data Collection**

One instrument could be administered individuals as well as a small group. While collecting the data for the study the later approaches was adopted. The subjects were called in a small group of 20 to 25 subjects and there seating arrangements was made in a classroom. Prior to administration of test, through informal talk appropriate rapport form. Following the instructions and procedure suggested by the author of the test. The tests were administered and a field copy of test was collected. Following the same procedure, the whole data were collected.

**Variable**

<b>Independent variable-</b>	Age	a) 22-25y	b) 18-21y
	SES	a) High	b) Low
	Women's	a) urban	b) Rural

**Dependent Variable** 1. Ego-strength

**Statistical Treatment of Data**

Urban and rural women's S.D and Three Way ANOVAs of factors 'ego-strength'

Factor	Group	A1B1C 1	A1B1C 2	A1B2C 1	A1B2C 2	A2B1C 1	A2B1C 2	A2B2C 1	A2B2C 2
Ego-strength	Mean	15.96	13.16	10.4	8.24	15.00	13.08	9.8	7.24
	S.D.	0.68	0.85	0.87	1.2	0.91	0.95	1.22	1.66
A = Age		B = SES				C = Residence			

beyond 0.01 level. And Support the Hypothesis high socio-economic status women's has significantly high ego-strength low socio-economic status.

Main Effect C represent the factor of Residence, it was also varied at two level from the summary it is seen that main effect C is Associated with a High F values ( $F = 238.02$ ,  $df = 1$  &  $192$ ,  $P < 0.01$ ) It is Clear that Urban and Rural Subjects Differ Significantly From each other from the mean scores and graph it was found that the Urban women's have significantly high ego-strength than Rural women's. Support the Hypothesis.

### Conclusion

1. 22-25 years women's have significantly high ego-strength than the 18-21 years women's
2. high socio-economic status women's have significantly high ego-strength than the low socio-economic status women's
3. urban women's have significantly high ego-strength than the rural women's

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