

Original Article

A compositional analysis of life events leading to apprehension of School Dropout in Mohali

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ABSTRACT

In the present world, when purposeful education has become a vital issue, it is important to lay foundations of child-centered education and training to facilitate children complete their schooling. Dropping out means leaving high school, college, university, or another group for practical reasons, necessities, or disillusionment with the system from which the individual in question leaves. The process often starts before a child entering into the school system. Poor academic achievement as early as elementary school is predictor of dropping out of school. There are many factors that put a student at risk to dropping out of school. Dropout statistics can be used to monitor the success of schools and identify students needing special attention. In addition, statistics would provide an overall indication of the success of the educational system. Purposive sample selection was followed to target the school dropouts. Subjects included 70 school dropout children, boys as well as girls between 7 and 16 years of age, from varied sociodemographic profiles. It was notified that the most prominent reasons for the school dropout were poverty, parental discord, denial of school for girl child, financial reasons, illiteracy among parents, too many kids at home, rearing or caring for siblings, gambling/alcoholism in father, stress, lack of toilets at school, doing parents jobs, and going for work.

Keywords: Development, education, school dropouts

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INTRODUCTION

According to data put out by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, the national dropout rate at the primary level was 4 has surged. There are many reasons why a child might drop out from school, which range from migration of families and child marriage to lack of school infrastructure such as drinking water and toilets. Poverty, availability, and accessibility are three big reasons^[1-3] why children drop out of school. Another reason why drop rates rise after Class V is that this is the stage when a child reaches the age - 10–11 years - when it is considered suitable for induction into child labor. The role of the teacher, too, is critical, as dropouts often speak of teachers beating them. Before schools can tackle the problem of school dropouts, they need to know who is considered a dropout and who is a graduate. Numerous definitions of dropouts appear in the educational literature, and the lack of a common definition and standard data collection procedures have left educators and policymakers with little accurate and reliable information

about dropouts. Research shows that leaving school early is the outcome of a long process of disengagement from the school;^[4,5] dropout is preceded by indicators of withdrawal (e.g., poor attendance) or unsuccessful school experiences (e.g., academic or behavioral difficulties) that often begin in elementary school. Overt indicators of disengagement are generally accompanied by feelings of alienation, poor sense of belonging, and a general dislike of school. Dropout statistics can be used to monitor the success of schools and identify students who need special attention. In addition, statistics would provide an overall indication of the success of the educational system. To make these assessments, however, data must be collected according to the same definitions, using the same procedures, and over the same period of time.^[5-8] Even those who sit for the final examinations and received ungraded results are regarded as learners who dropout. Education is a key to develop the economic, social, scientific, and political institutions of nation states.^[9-14] Hence, access to education is at the center of the development agenda of most low-income

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countries. Students often drop out of high school and college due to apathy or boredom [Table 1]. High school students often report that academic content is not interesting and they do not have a personal connection with their teachers. High school dropouts and college students may have other alternatives that seem more appealing, such as getting a job or starting a career. High school students who are not interested in going to college may not see the value of a high school education. Boredom is a problem that must be addressed by students, parents, school faculty, and education boards to see if better course offerings and more student-teacher interactions would help [Tables 2 and 3]. Students often drop out because they struggle academically and do not think that they will have the GPA or credits necessary to graduate.^[15-19] Some high school students do not want to risk failing, which could mean summer school or another year of high school. College students' academic problems often lead to a loss of scholarships or grants and may result in having to repeat classes to earn needed credits. The lack of parental involvement is a problem that often leads to higher dropout rates, especially with high

school students. Parents play an important role when it comes to high school attendance [Table 4]. High school dropouts often have parents who were not engaged or concerned with their academic success. If a parent does not encourage her child to stay in school, show interest in classes and teachers, communicate with administration, or pay attention to homework assignments, the child might not see any reason to follow through with the coursework. Some high school students and college students drop out because they want to work to earn money.^[20] They may need money to finance a car, pay for auto insurance, buy clothes or electronics, pay for housing, or support unhealthy addictions. Most high school and college students do not have the time and energy to go to school all day, complete homework assignments, and still work enough hours to support lofty expenses [Table 5]. Dropouts who are concerned about their immediate, short-term financial situation may see a full-time job as the best way to maintain the lifestyle they desire [Tables 6 and 7].

Table 1: Percentage of school dropout by household area

Variable	Categories	Percentage
Place of residence	Urban	21
	Rural	79

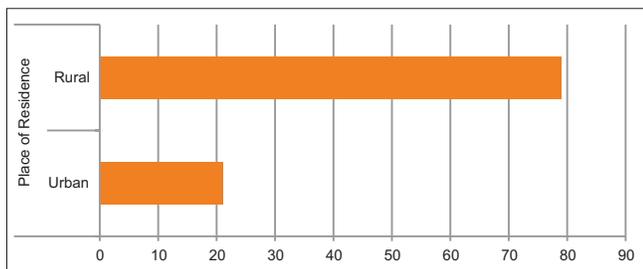


Table 2: Percentage of school dropout by household size

Variable	Categories	Percentage
Household size	1 to 4 members	9
	5 to 8 members	42
	9 and above	49

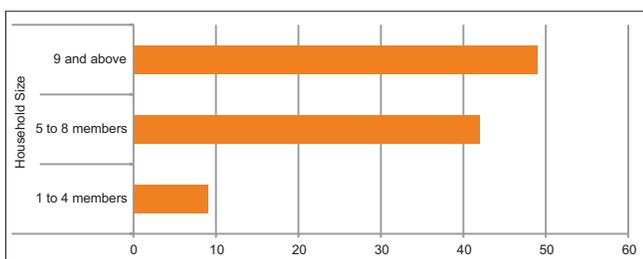


Table 3: Percentage of school dropout by sex of household head

Variable	Categories	Percentage
Sex of household head	Male	91
	Female	9

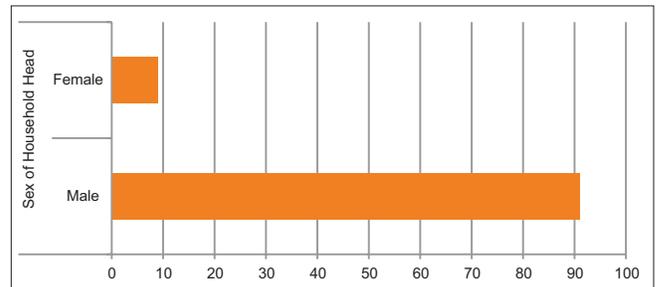


Table 4: Percentage of school dropout by landholding

Variable	Categories	Percentage
Landholding	No agriculture land	57
	less than 1 hectare	19
	1–5 hectares	14
	5 and above hectares	10

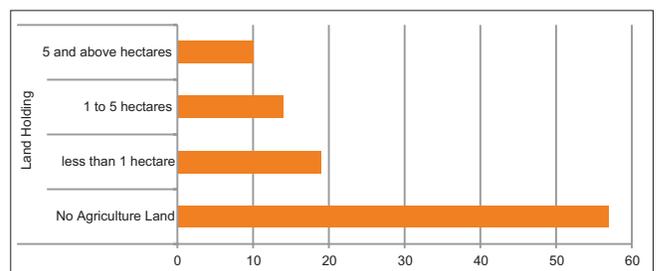


Table 5: Percentage of school dropouts by selected parental characteristics

Factors	Categories	Percentage
Education of parents	Both are illiterates	94
	Both are literate	2
	Mother is illiterate	1
	Father is illiterate	3

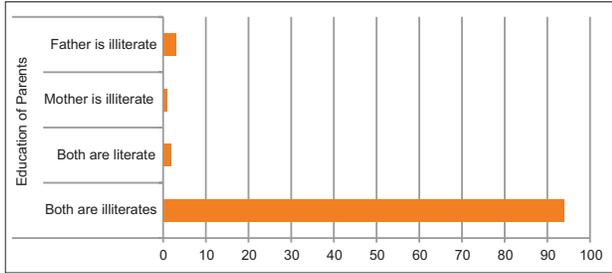


Table 6: Percentage of school dropouts by working status of parents

Factors	Categories	Percentage
Working status of parents	Father is working	20
	Mother is working	12
	Both are working	54
	Both are not working	14

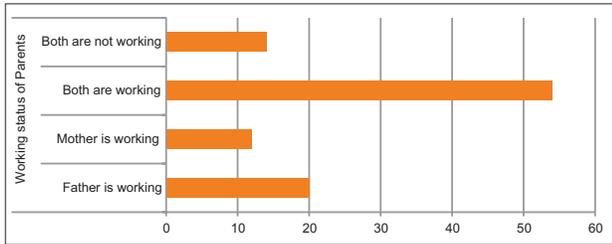


Table 7: Percentage of school dropouts by mothers exposure to mass media

Factors	Categories	Percentage
Mothers exposure to mass media	No exposure	68
	Partial exposure	30
	Full exposure	2

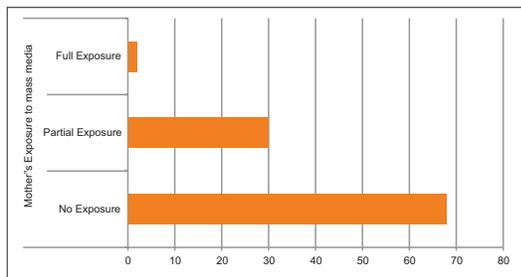


Table 8: Reasons of school dropout related to students

Reason	Percentage
Disinterest in studies	51
More interested in play	59
Inferiority feelings	25
Accidents or handicaps in child	48
Problem behaviors in child	24
Prolonged illness	31
Going for work	71
Poor academic achievement	31
Fear of punishment	59
Influence of films/TV	42
Love affairs	7
Poor job opportunities after studying	33
Pride and ego in children	31
Progress not good	37
Failed	31

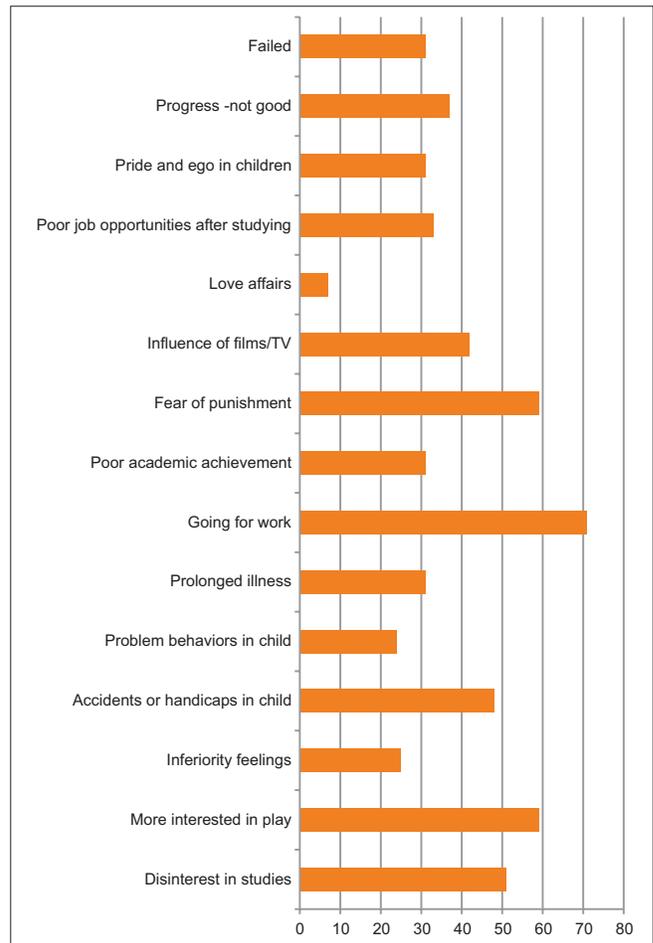
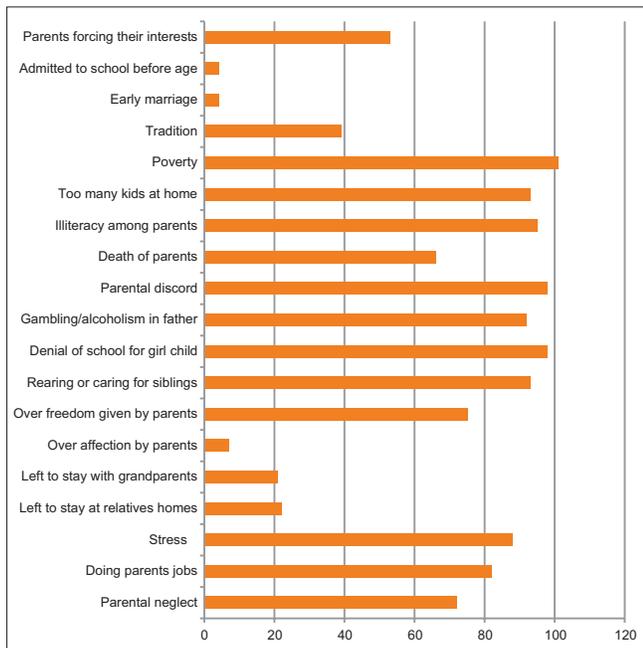


Table 9: Reasons of school dropout related to parents

Reason	Percentage
Parental neglect	72
Doing parents jobs	82
Stress	88
Left to stay at relatives homes	22
Left to stay with grandparents	21
Over affection by parents	7
Over freedom given by parents	75
Rearing or caring for siblings	93
Denial of school for girl child	98
Gambling/alcoholism in father	92
Parental discord	98
Death of parents	66
Illiteracy among parents	95
Too many kids at home	93
Poverty	101
Tradition	39
Early marriage	4
Admitted to school before age	4
Parents forcing their interests	53

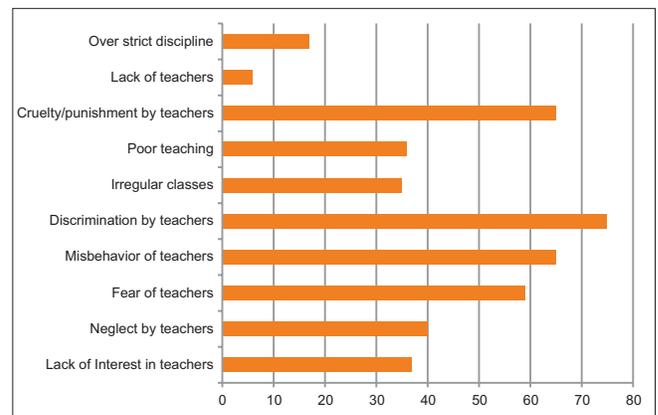


METHODS

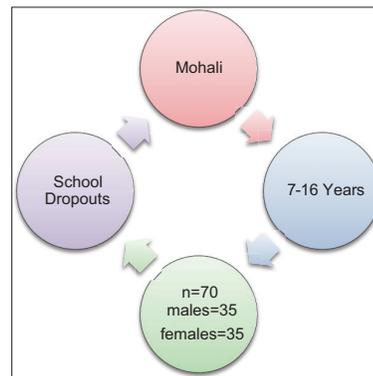
This research is a meaningful and purposeful study that included a school-level inquiry and a household level inquiry. Attitude and opinion surveys were conducted with teachers, parents, and school dropouts. Information was also attained regarding the facilities available which have a marked effect

Table 10: Reasons of school dropout related to teachers

Reasons	Percentage
Lack of interest in teachers	37
Neglect by teachers	40
Fear of teachers	59
Misbehavior of teachers	65
Discrimination by teachers	75
Irregular classes	35
Poor teaching	36
Cruelty/punishment by teachers	65
Lack of teachers	6
Over-strict discipline	17



on schooling.^[21-25] Besides, supplementary information was collected from the subjects and their families. Purposive sample selection was followed to target the school dropouts [Tables 8-10]. Subjects included 70 school dropout children, boys as well as girls between 7 and 16 years of age, from varied sociodemographic profiles. The sample selection was confined to Mohali. The first step included sample selection, and then, rapport was formed with the subjects, their families, and teachers and school authorities (where they used to study before withdrawing their schooling).^[26-30] Planned as well as clinical interview and observation method was followed. A performat stating the life events was used during the interview process.



Sampling

Table 11: Reasons of school dropout related to the school

Reason	Percentage
Financial reasons	89
Long distance	58
School primary (further education not available)	30
Fear of school	33
School atmosphere not conducive	33
Unhygienic school surroundings	34
Poor school maintenance	34
Lack of toilets at school	78
Faulty system of examinations	26

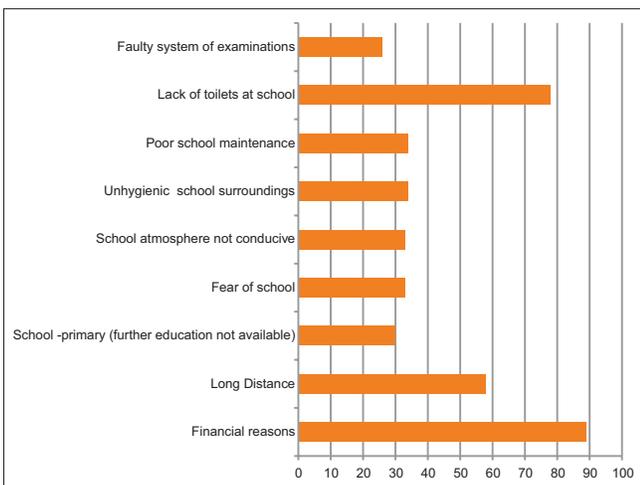
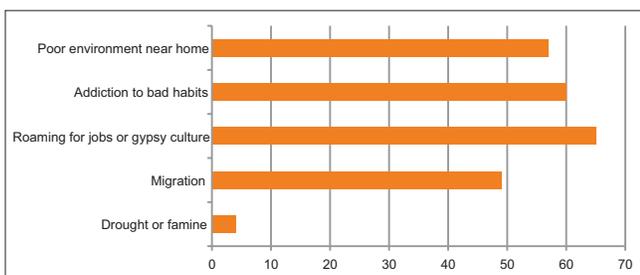


Table 12: Reasons of school dropout related to the environment

Reason	Percentage
Drought or famine	4
Migration	49
Roaming for jobs or gypsy culture	65
Addiction to bad habits	60
Poor environment near home	57



RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

The main reason of the school dropout as related to the child was the fact that he/she has to work and earn for the family.

The main reason of the school dropout as related to the parents/ family was the monetary issue. The main reason of the school dropout as related to the teacher was discrimination and cruelty on her/his part. The main reason of the school dropout as related to the school was unaffordability and lack of toilets in schools [Tables 11 and 12]. The main reason of the school dropout as related to the environment was dawdling followed by addiction, poor environment of home, and migration.^[31-35] It was notified that the most prominent reasons for the school dropout were poverty, parental discord, denial of school for girl child, financial reasons, illiteracy among parents, too many kids at home, rearing or caring for siblings, gambling/alcoholism in father, stress, lack of toilets at school, doing parents jobs, and going for work.

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