

## International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

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# Studies on Psychology and Behavior on Ascendance and Submission among Dual Career Couples in Relation to Age and Length of Marriage

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**ABSTRACT:** Adjustment in marriage is a fundamental fact of emotional maturity. Marriage gives the partner an opportunity for the satisfaction of their needs for companionship, affection and sexual expression. Submission and dominance are the most easily observed complementary traits in marriage. In the present study dual career couples were taken as sample, age of the couples and length of marriage were independent variables (IVS). Ascendance submission was dependent variable (DVS). The present study was conducted on a sample of 200 dual career couples 100 males, 100 females. The sample was purposive sample i.e. married sample which included only dual career couples the scale for measuring was Ascendance – submission in personality by **Allport and Allport** was used. Present finding supported the hypotheses on regarding significant difference between husband and wife on ascendance. It meant that husband of various age had strong ascendance value and women were more submissive than husband.

**KEYWORDS:** Ascendance & Submission, Behavior, Psycho diagnostics.

### I. INTRODUCTION

The dual career family pattern offers an interesting situation in which men and women's performance of various roles could be studied to extent that both men and women in the dual career families are involved in the parallel tasks of gainful employment together with homemaking and child care. They experience various pros and cons of being dual career couples. The employment of wives may possibly have quite different consequences for job satisfaction marital quality and well being of the two sexes. Studies about the consequences of wives employment for husband's well being and marriage and family living are not consistent. Some studies have indicated that wives employment results in a shift towards participation by husbands in household tasks. This shift has occurred, it is said, in response to the wife's being in the labor force other studies have indicated that wives employment causes major treat and distress among husbands.

So what is more important is perhaps the manner in which they integrate the work and family. Thus it is very important to know what factors would predict affective attitude of these couples towards their job, marriage and health. As the number of dual career couples increases and as interest in the quality of working life grows these issues will become more important, events such as people turning down transfers because of the spouse's career opportunities and the growing recognitions of the cost of stress related health and behavioral outcomes are just two examples of pressures, which make the work, family interface so salient.

**Rapport & Rapport (1976)** define dual career couples as individuals who, rather than being simply employed have jobs which require a high degree of commitments and which have a continuous development character. They define a dual career family as "one in which both heads of household pursue careers and at the same time maintain a family life together. **Johnson Kaplan and Tusel (1978)** discuss other characteristics that are implied in this life style including high level of career responsibility, economic reward social prestige and personal investment of time and energy on the part of both partners.

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Working women face different problems and receive diverse treatments in two types of families. Family environment is highly influenced by family structure. Women's attitude towards their stereotyped role is changing to their participation in education and in employment as well. It leads to new stress of problems in their working, both, in their family and professional life. It is reported in several studies that due to dual role a source of conflict emerges which increases the level of stresses among them **Haynes and Feinleib, 1980; Loonker, 1996; and Misra, 1999.**

As the tendency towards dual-career family increases, the classic expatriate wife happily accompanied her husband to wherever his company sent him and accepted the life she found there as a fait accompli. By these days partners, whether women or men, are less pliable and the rise of the dual-career couples is becoming ever more and issue for multinationals.

**Rapport and Rapport** define dual-career family as "one in which shades of household pursue careers and at the same time maintains a family life together".

While, the time and energy demands of dual-career couples will continue to restrict their participation in extension programs this new life style may create opportunities for extension programmes. The fact that married women are going to work and working more consistently than ever before is undeniable. Extension professionals find an opportunity to help individuals to meet the challenges and cope with the stress, so that they can enjoy the positive aspect of the dual-career lifestyle. A woman who tries to combine a career and a family, is soon reminded that she's flaunting the socially accepted norms. She finds herself in a no-win-situation. The qualities associated with the role of wife-mother [nurturance, emotionality, responsiveness to people rather than ideas] are seem to be incompatible with qualities associated with success in occupational sphere [independence, rationality and assertiveness].

The number of couples currently pursuing this life style is difficult to determine since career involvement is a very important determinant than income. However, the number of couples is increasing and will continue to do so in the decade ahead. The fact that married women are going to work and working consistently than even before is undeniable. Extension professionals have an opportunity to help individuals meet the challenges and cope with the stress so that they can enjoy the positive aspects of the career life style.

Women are traditionally less involved in decision making at all levels, their important role is not recognized and therefore still not accepted in decision making structures is still very low and their participation is mostly stressed by political parties, more as an element of their own publicity and proof of democratization, than as a real interest and need. For example 3% of women are members of political parties; they are also less active in professional association and bodies (**Stenenia 1998**).

Submission and dominance are the most easily observed complementary traits in marriage. In Indian culture, husbands tend to get what they want by leading their wives; wives tend to get what they want by following their husbands sometime is this pattern is reversed, as in the hen packed husband pattern where both wants to be leader or both want to be followers marital conflict tend to result. A wife who follows and likes to follow, the lead of her husband may not feel submissive on inferior.

**Maslow (1942) and Lu (1952)** making an extensive study of unmarried women have found that all the women whether submissive or dominant, preferred men who took the lead in love making, but the women of low dominance feeling preferred men who were gentle, kind and brutal and quick in their love making. The dominant women were generally much more active sexually than the submissive women. Maslow (1942) has thus concluded that strong desire to dominate on the part of the either sex leads to difficulties in social and sexual adjustment. **Craddock (1977)** has found that high authoritarian males prefer marital power in their hands whereas low authoritarian males and females express an equalitarian view. A too gregarious partner may serve as a desirable match for a too unsociable one. **Mc Kinney (1960)** has found that marriage between intelligent and unintelligent partners can work out quite satisfactory; for instance, an ambitious well appearing man of mediocre intelligence and emotional immaturity may get attracted to a brilliant girl of great drive and stability and the girl liking his handsome boyishness. **Leary (1957); Kerchaff & Daue (1962)** have stated that individuals seeks to interact with these whose behaviors is reciprocal to them. **Sharan (1972)** has failed to find that dominance of spouse is not an independent factor which contributes to happiness in marriage.

## Problem:

In ascendance-submission among dual career couples in relation to age and length of marriage it was hypothesized that length of marriage may affect ascendance submission of the couples. Husbands may have higher level of ascendance as compared with wives.

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## II. MATERIAL AND METHOD

The present study was conducted on a sample of 200 dual career couples 100 males, 100 females. The sample was purposive sample i.e. married sample which included only dual career couples. Their age was between 25-45 years and length of marriage was 5 to 20 years. It was assumed that sociability, self-sufficiency, manifest anxiety, and many more traits are common to the population being studied. Numerical comparisons within these populations could be made.

### Reaction study (A-S):

The scale for measuring Ascendance-submission in personality by **Allport and Allport** was used. This behavior study aimed to discover the disposition of an individual to dominate his fellows in various relationships of everyday life. A fairly large number of situations were presented, in each of which the subject was required to select one of a group of standardized responses which most nearly characterizes his usual behavior in that situation. Not all of the responses chosen reveal an invariable ascendance or submission, for most people show both types of behavior at different times and under different conditions. The study, however, has situations to detect which of these two types of reaction, if either is the more characteristic; and the total score gives an expression of the dominance of the one or the other.

### Scoring:

In the various situations each response choice checked is considered as having a diagnostic value for indicating ascendance or submission according to the scores given in table. A plus score indicates responses which show ascendance; while minus scores denotes submissive reaction. A few responses have no diagnostic value either way. These are given a value of zero. There are separate tables of score values for men and for women. Each item was separately scored, or items in which more than one choice is marked, count 0 score. The final score is the algebraic sum of the scores for the separate items. This score was obtained by adding separately the plus scores and minus scores and subtracting sum from the larger, retaining the sign of the larger.

### Statistical analysis

1. Frequency distribution, means, standard deviations.
2. Persons 'r' was computed on the scores obtained for the relationship between the variables.
3. There analysis of variance for estimation of effects and interaction effects of all response measures, for different groups was obtained.

### Results:

#### Ascendance Submission & Age

Significant difference was found on husband for ascendance on age and no significant difference was found in submission of husbands and wives, this can be explained by detailed description of table no: 1.

**Table No. 1 (Ascendance & age)**

Display of mean, SD and F value among age groups of couples in Ascendance- Submission.

Particular groups	Variables	components	N	MEAN	SD
Age 25-35	Ascendance	Husband	48	16.8353	8.82051
		Wife	48	18.5208	7.80613
	Submission	Husband	48	25.6042	9.82125
		Wife	48	19.7917	8.36649
Age 35-45	Ascendance	Husband	52	21.7115	10.12924
		Wife	52	20.9423	7.04165
	Submission	Husband	52	26.8846	9.65412
		Wife	52	21.1923	8.19861

Groups	Couple	Comparison	Sum of	df	Mean	F	Sig
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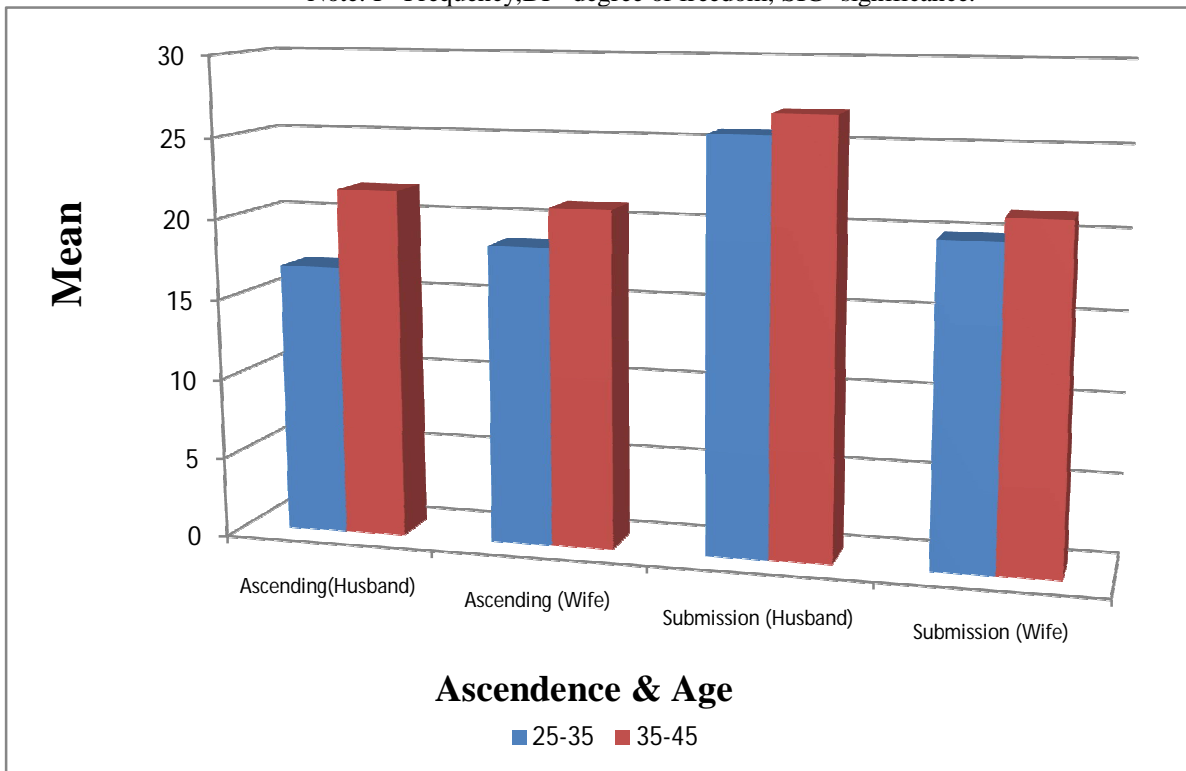
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		squares		Square			
<b>ASCENDENCE</b>	Husband	Between Groups	593.970	1	593.970	6.548	<b>&lt;.01</b>
		Within Groups	8889.340	98	90.708		
		Total	9483.310	99			
	Wife	Between Groups	146.354	1	146.354	2.650	<b>N.S.</b>
		Within Groups	5392.806	98	55.029		
		Total	5539.160	99			
<b>SUBMISSION</b>	Husband	Between Groups	40.923	1	40.923	.432	<b>N.S.</b>
		Within Groups	9286.787	98	94.763		
		Total	9327.710	99			
	Wife	Between Groups	48.966	1	48.966	.714	<b>N.S.</b>
		Within Groups	6717.994	98	68.551		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>6766.960</b>	<b>99</b>			

Note: N is total number of scores, SD-standard deviation.

Note: F- Frequency, DF- degree of freedom, SIG- significance.



It is clear from table and Figure- that mean value in couples from age 25-35 yrs, Ascendence value of wives is greater than husbands and in submission husbands has greater mean scores. Couples whose age was 35-45 yrs the

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husbands have greater ascendance value then wives and in submission again husbands have greater mean value then wives.

- In both groups husbands have greater mean value.
- It is clear from table that F value for husbands on ascendance is significant (F= 6.54, p <.01) it means age has effect on ascendance.
- F value of wives is in significant for ascendance between and within groups.
- F value of husband is also significant for submission, between and within groups
- F value of wives is also in significant for submission, between and within groups.

### Ascendance - Submission & Length of marriage

There was no significant difference found in ascendance, submission of husbands and wives on length of marriage. This can be explained by detailed description of table 2.

It is clear from table and figure- that couples whose length of marriage was 5-10 yrs. Ascendance mean value of wives is greater than husbands and in submission husbands mean value is greater than wives. In length of marriage of 10-15 yrs husbands Ascendance have slightly greater mean scores then wives and in submission husbands have greater mean score than wives.

On length of marriage of 15 to 20 yrs husbands ascendance submission mean scores is greater then wives mean scores. It is clear from table that there is no significance difference between Ascendance F value of husbands and same in wives no significance difference was found. There is no significance difference between submission F value of husbands and wives.

### Comparison of age groups on ascendance submission:

**Table No: 2(Ascendance& LOM)**

Display of mean, SD and F values among length of marriage groups of couples on ascendance Submission.

Independent variable	Dependent variable	component	N	MEAN	SD
LOM 5-10	ASCENDENCE	Husband	51	18.0192	9.84486
		Wife	51	19.4615	7.80513
	SUBMISSION	Husband	51	25.9423	10.36285
		Wife	51	19.6731	8.48233
LOM 10-15	ASCENDENCE	Husband	23	20.6087	9.96694
		Wife	23	20.2609	8.31328
	SUBMISSION	Husband	23	28.2609	9.97824
		Wife	23	20.6087	8.60095
LOM 15-20	ASCENDENCE	Husband	26	20.5000	9.96865
		Wife	26	20.2308	8.26934
	SUBMISSION	Husband	26	25.3077	8.37028
		Wife	26	22.7692	7.56998

Note: N:total no. of scores SD: standred deviation

Groups	Couple	comparision	Sum of squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig
ASCENDENCE	Husband	Between Groups	170.358	2	85.179	.861	N.S
		Within Groups	9596.802	97	98.936		
		Total	9767.160	99			
	Wife	Between	17.357	2	8.678	.150	N.S

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		Groups					
		Within Groups	5603.403	97	57.767		
		Total	5620.760	99			
<b>SUBMISSION</b>	Husband	Between Groups	117.145	2	58.573	.605	<b>N.S</b>
		Within Groups	9393.895	97	96.844		
		Total	9511.040	99			
	Wife	Between Groups	198.825	2	99.412	1.486	<b>N.S</b>
		Within Groups	6490.015	97	66.907		
		Total	6688.840	99			

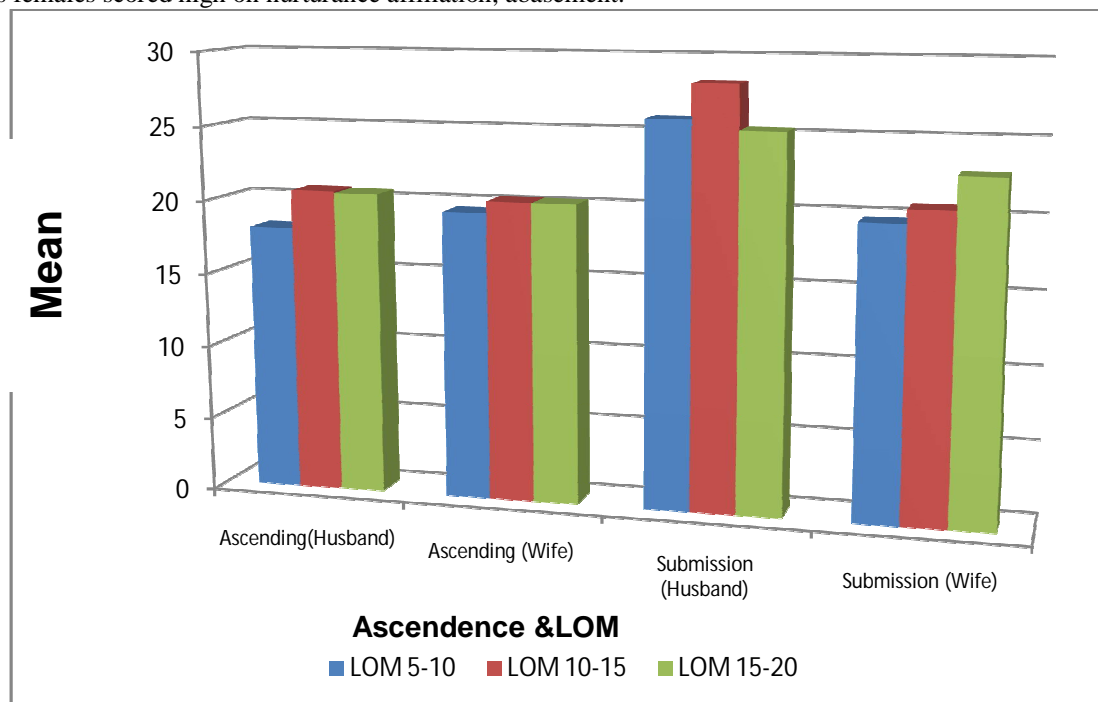
Note: F:Frequency

DF : degree of freedom

SIG: significance

It is clear from table and figure that there was significant difference in value of husbands on ascendance (F-6.54, <.01) it mean that age had effect on ascendance. In 25-35 yrs age groups wives had greater ascendance value then husbands and in submission husbands had greater scores. In age groups of 35-45 yrs husbands had greater ascendance values then wives and same as submission also.

**Reiter (1970)** had observed that happy marital relationship would rest upon some couples entry needs rather than homogeny of needs. In his study the males scored higher than females an dominance, achievement, endurance whereas females scored high on nurturance affiliation, abasement.



Submission and dominance are the most easily observed comp entry traits in marriage. In Indian culture husbands tend to get what they want by leading their wives; wives tend to get that they want by following their husbands sometimes this pattern is reversed as in the "hen-packed" husband pattern, where both want to be leader or both want to be followers, marital conflict tends to result. A wife who follows and likes to follow, the lead of her



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husband may not feel submissive or inferior. Wives who are markedly superior to their husbands in education have low happiness score, while the scores are must higher where the husbands are markedly superior in education.

### III. COMPARISON ON LENGTH OF MARRIAGE GROUPS AND ASCENDANCE-SUBMISSION:

It is clear from Table-2 and Figure-2 that there was no significant difference found in Ascendance-submission of husband and wives for length of marriage. Couples whose length of marriage was 5-10 yrs. Ascendance value was greater than husband and submission was greater in husbands, and in 10-15 yrs and 15 to 20 yrs length of marriage husbands' ascendance and submission was greater than wives.

**Mc Kinney (1960)** has found that marriage between intelligent & unintelligent can work out quite satisfactory; for instance , an ambitious well appearing man of mediocre intelligence and emotional immaturity may get attracted to a brilliant girl of great drive and stability and the girl liking his handsome boyishness.

It has been found that a male attitude towards marriage role continues to appear more male dominant; while female seems to be more equalitarian/equalitarian. There are many adjustment problems in marriage, one the problem in husbands, is the felling that his wife dominates him and treats him like a child and wife has feeling of being a slave to home, elderly person or husband himself. As the length of marriage increases dominance of husbands lower down and dominance in wives increases women are traditionally less involved in decision, making at all phases of married life.

### IV. CONCLUSION

The aim of present research was to study “ascendance submission among dual career couples in relation to age and length of marriage.” The findings of the study provide ample support to most of hypotheses and pertinent theoretical models. Some of the findings of earlier studies have also been substantiated by the present data. The present investigation is one of the few which specifically focuses on marital ascendance submission of dual career couples. Present finding supported the hypotheses on regarding significant difference between husband and wife on ascendance.

It meant that husband of various age had strong ascendance value and women were more submissive then husbands. Though women were educated and working. Indian women, today, are increasingly playing multiple roles. She appears to be gigging in the two main domains of life work and family, so much to today the issues pertaining to women have become of social and political relevance in India. Enjoying emancipation, today's women has taken up employment but she feels still imbedded in the strands of home responsibilities with her prime concern.

The changing role of women and implication it has on family and ultimately on their marital adjustment. Only since the rise of dual career concept however society has become aware of a new class of determining aspect of work defined by their target psychological effects and in some cases by their psychological and sociological repercussion so special emphases should be on improving the marital adjustment set in such a way that it is beneficial for over all role of dual career couples.

“One should remember that one can always get another job but one cannot really get another family.”

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