

CONCLUSIONS

Discipline in the child-rearing process is very important, since it has an important function in the shaping of personality and attitudes towards social life. It is significant in preparing children for their future involvement in the structures and functions of society. With regard to disciplining in the child-rearing process, the present study has indicated that Indian parents have a strong conservative/rigidity attitude. This holds good in respect of a number of important social variables, namely, age, education, income, occupation, and religion. The same study has shown that in respect of the younger, better-educated, and economically independent South African Indians, the so-called western way of life has had a considerable influence in weakening traditional attitudes which are typical of the Indian cultures. Apparently this does not hold good for attitudes towards disciplining, since the present data indicate that all sectors of the adult population retain a conservative/rigid view of discipline. Perhaps this is an indication that a wish still exists that traditional values and norms shaped by the socio-historical development of the Indian community in South Africa be retained.

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