

Resilience among Children with and without Hearing Loss: A Comparative Study in Pakistan

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Abstract : Objective: This cross-sectional descriptive study aimed to compare the level of resilience among children with and without hearing loss. Methodology: In this descriptive cross sectional study total 500 children (with hearing loss = 250 and without hearing loss = 250) were recruited conveniently. Children with hearing loss were recruited from the special schools whereas children without hearing loss were selected from regular schools located in cities of Gujrat and Jhelum of Pakistan. Respondents' age ranged from 9-14 years. Resiliency scale named RSCA (Resiliency Scales for children and adolescents) developed by Sandra Prince Embury (2006) was used. RSCA consist of three core theoretical areas: MAS (Sense of Mastery Scale), REL (Sense of Relatedness Scale) and REA (Emotional Reactivity Scale). Results: Findings indicated that there was a significant difference in the resilience level of participants with and without hearing loss. The mean comparison showed that the children with hearing loss showed lower scores on MAS ($X = 43.32$, $SD = 7.55$) as well as on REL ($X = 49.96$, $SD = 7.65$) as compared to their counterparts on MAS ($X = 53.96$, $SD = 9.90$, $t = -7.31^{***}$) and on REL ($X = 68.43$, $SD = 14.57$, $t = -10.18^{***}$). However children with hearing loss showed higher scores on REA ($X = 42.12$, $SD = 5.84$) as compared to hearing participants ($X = 28.84$, $SD = 13.97$, $t = -8.20^{***}$). The findings revealed no significance difference in the resilience level of hearing and deaf children on the basis of their gender and age. Research Outcomes and Future Scope: Children with hearing loss showed a lower level of resilience, therefore, needs a program to develop resilience for better social-emotional adjustment and enhancement of their psychological well-being. In the end, the researcher gave recommendations for future research.

Keywords : children with hearing loss, psychological Wellbeing, resiliency scales for children and adolescents, resilience

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