Effect of Environmental Factors on Personality Development

Neelu Varma

Sr. Lecturer
Govt. Women's Polytechnic College
Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Abstract:
Environmental variables are thought to be extremely important in influencing the personality traits and living conditions of individuals. These elements must be updated on a frequent basis. Individuals from all jobs, communities, categories, and origins must emphasise characteristics that foster a pleasant, social, and clean environment in their homes and other settings. These include educational institutions, training centres, workplaces, religious sites, public spaces, and natural environmental factors. Environmental impact research appears to be intriguing because people may change this aspect. Humans, in particular, can alter the influence of environmental elements such as family, peers, formal education, work, religion, and community. The Effect of Environmental Factors on Personality Development will be discussed in this study.

Keywords:
Environmental Factors, Personality Development, Characteristics, Psychological Events, Social Acceptance, Social Deprivation, Educational Factors, Family Determinants, Cultural Factors, Home Environment.

Introduction:
Personality has been defined in a variety of ways, but as a psychological construct, two basic definitions have emerged. The first is concerned with the constant differences that occur between people: in this sense, personality research focuses on identifying and understanding relatively stable human psychological features. The second meaning emphasises the characteristics that unite all people and distinguish psychological man from other species; it directs the personality theorist to look for commonalities among all people that define the nature of man as well as the factors that influence the course of lives. [1]

This duality may help explain the two directions that personality studies have taken: on the one hand, the study of increasingly specific qualities in people, and on the other, the search for the organised totality of psychological functions, which emphasises the interplay between organic and psychological events within people and the social and biological events that surround them. Most of the topics mentioned here are intertwined with the dual concept of personality. However, it should be noted that no definition of personality has received general approval within the discipline. [2]

Many psychologists were shocked by the weakness of shared environmental effects in developing personality, which prompted study into non-shared environmental effects, or environmental influences that distinguish siblings from one another. Differential treatment by parents, individually diverse reactions to the same family environment, peer effects, experiences outside the home, and measurement error are all examples of the non-shared environment. The non-shared environment in adults may also encompass the unique roles and environments encountered after leaving the family of origin. studies suggests that diverse career, marital, and family experiences are connected with personality change in adulthood; these effects are reinforced by studies concerning the impact of important good and negative life events on personality. [3]

Individuals' personalities are influenced by environmental influences. Individuals' lives are influenced by a variety of contextual circumstances that allow them to improve their overall personality features. The home's environmental conditions are viewed as critical. Individuals differ in a variety of ways, including caste, creed, colour, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, educational credentials, jobs, communities, classifications, and backgrounds. Regardless of these disparities, families must ensure that they establish a friendly and pleasant environment within their houses. Infrastructure, amenities, and facilities should be provided. Parents are

regarded as the primary teachers of their children. They must educate their children in terms of numerous norms, values, and morality.

They must also guarantee that their children are raised in a nice and friendly environment. Individuals from underprivileged, marginalised, and economically disadvantaged areas of society must understand that males and girls must be treated equally and have similar rights and opportunities. [4]

As a result, all persons, regardless of their groups, categories, or backgrounds, are expected to provide equal rights and opportunities to both male and female children. This denotes a pleasant atmosphere within the home.

Some environmental elements that influence personality development. Four critical factors are discussed below:

- **Social Acceptance:**

This is a key aspect in the development of one's personality. We all live in social groups where we seek acceptance and recognition from the other members. When a person's performance behaviour and role play conform to group expectations, the group members approve.

The extent to which social acceptance influences a person's behaviour is determined by two factors:

• A person's sense of security in his social standing; and

• The value he places on social approval.

If a person is confident in his position, he will act freely and will not be swayed by others. Again, if a person places a high value on social acceptance, he will always endeavour to act in accordance with the approval of the group's members.

- **Social Deprivation:**

This factor has a significant influence on personality development. People who are socially deprived do not have the opportunity to enjoy social relationships such as love and affection. Such people become socially isolated, which is especially harmful for the very young and the elderly, negatively impacting their personalities. Young children are unable to build a normal and healthy personality. They act in a socially inappropriate manner, and people have a negative opinion of them.

- **Educational Factors:**

Educational considerations play a significant role in the development of personality. Teachers, school, and college, as well as the child's experiences with them, how he perceives them, his attitude towards school and college, teachers and fellow students, and the value of studies, all have a significant impact on his personality. Students like their school experience if they have a positive attitude towards academics and have friendly, amicable connections with their professors and peers. This boosts their self-esteem and gives them confidence.

- **Family Determinants:**

Family influences an individual's personality in both direct and indirect ways at all stages of life. The many child-training methods used to build a child's personality, as well as how members convey their interest, attitude, and values, have a direct influence on personality. When parents are overly rigid, their children become reliant on external restraints and even impulsive when they are not under their parents' supervision.

Personality is determined by factors other than genetics. In terms of chromosomes and genes, heredity only gives the blueprint. The ability to function on that gene, however, is heavily reliant on the presence of a proper environment. [5]

Environmental factors are broadly summarized under three headings:

1.   Social factors
2.   Cultural factors
3.   Economic factors.

1.   Social Factors:

Humans are social creatures. We are born and raised in society. As a result, social situations, social institutions such as family, school, marriage, religion, peer groups, and neighbourhood, as well as several other social groupings, will all influence personality development. Some of the more significant social elements are as follows:

- **Parents:**

Parents are the first people who interact with their children. Different parents treat their children in various ways. Some parents are overly lenient and indulgent, ignoring faults and doing everything for the child rather than allowing him to fend for himself.

- **Home Environment:**

The type of environment that exists in a family has a significant impact on our personality. Families with strong emotional relationships between siblings and parents are more encouraging and supportive of their children.

- **Birth Order:**

Adler was the first psychologist to claim that a child's ordinal position among his siblings, i.e., birth order, influences personality development. According to Adler's research, the firstborn kid is often reclusive and introverted, whereas the youngest or last-born child experiences feelings of inadequacy, lack of confidence, and self-reliance.

- **School:**

After the family, school is the second most essential component in a person's personality formation. The school has two effects on personality. The first is that it influences the development of personality traits. Second, it boosts self-esteem. The personality of the instructor, classroom climate, discipline system, and academic achievement all have an impact on the child.

- **Neighborhood:**

One's personality is heavily influenced by the type of neighbourhood in which they live. Neighbourhood families are similar in terms of socioeconomic level and other variables since birds of a feather flock together, allowing for a seamless transition from home to culture. They share essentially identical values and parenting approaches, but they expose the child to a range of family types, and the child learns to accept the variances.

Social acceptance:

Social acceptability is defined as receiving approval and appreciation from significant persons. People who are more socially accepted exhibit traits such as leadership, self-confidence, and superiority feelings, whereas those who are less socially accepted are more likely to be introverts with low self-esteem and a lack of social adjustment.

2. Cultural Factors:

Culture is a broad term that incorporates all practises, traditions, people, fashions, and other facets of existence. We are all impacted by at least one culture. As a result, cultural influences on personality are unavoidable.

The cultural impact is most seen in how we meet and greet tourists. When we meet someone in India, we greet them with folded hands and namaskar; nevertheless, when a Japanese meets someone, he bows first, while an American shakes hands or kisses them. This obvious difference in welcoming someone is just a function of cultural learning.

- **Child-Rearing Practices:**

various cultures have various techniques to raising children. Hostility, violence, and introversion are more prevalent in civilizations where physical punishment is often employed to raise children. Curiosity, extroversion, and inventiveness are more widespread in children in countries where parents use less physical punishment and spend more time with their children.

3. Economic Factors:

Children from low-income and rich families were asked to relate the size of various circles of light to the size of various denominations of currency in an intriguing study. It was revealed that children from low-income families overestimated their talents, whereas children from wealthy families underestimated their abilities.

Environmental Influences on Child Development:

A child's growth and development are often influenced by the family, school, or general environment in which they live and interact. Children learn from their surroundings, how to handle issues, develop habits and behaviours, socialise, and function in general during their formative years. As a result, it is vital to investigate

the major environmental elements influencing a child's growth and development. The social, emotional, economic, and physical environments are examples of these.

The physical environment is the place and location in which the child grows, and it influences his or her health, learning, and behaviour. Furthermore, research reveals that the physical environment, such as housing, pollution exposure, and neighbourhood quality, all have an impact on the child's mental development.

Consider a disabled youngster gaining access to a ramp to let them swiftly access various regions of their home. This example illustrates the influence of the physical environment on growth. [6]

Review of Literature:

Individuals are in constant engagement with their settings (e.g., the womb, home, school, society; Bronfenbrenner, 2005) from conception. Environmental elements in the context of talent development are those that try to move an individual down a talent development route. Examples include emotional and financial support from family members, specialised classes or coaching both inside and outside of typical educational contexts, and access to chances and talent specialists. [7]

The most important and noticeable influences are hereditary and environmental factors. The interaction of these and life events contributes to the modification and development of personality traits (Kandler, 2012, p. 69). The recurrence of similar life events is the most reliable indicator of hereditary events. Every person exhibits behavioural inclinations formed from genetically impacted brain regions, resulting in the creation of the same life event that is more consistent with the genetic influences. Those life events have their own implications, which eventually alter the personality features. [8]

If an individual with incredible mathematical potential but less potential in other disciplines is assigned to a performing arts school rather than a science magnet school, the atmosphere is less likely to foster mathematical ability development. Although typical sibling rivalry does not provide a context for talent development, competing against a sibling who is highly skilled in the same domain, as described by Syed (2010) on his path to becoming a table tennis champion, provides a compelling example of a home environment that supports talent development. [9]

Influence students' learning. According to Verna and Campbell (1999), various learning environments are established by families from different socioeconomic groups, which affects the child's academic achievement. The family approach includes a supportive environment, homework supervision, supplemental reading resources, tutoring, and, if available, computer access. Powell (1963) finds that many of the values, attitudes, and interests that comprise an individual's mature behaviour had their origins, and are frequently fully crystallised, in the early influences of home and family.

Family experiences have far-reaching consequences on teenagers' life outside of the family, including their relationships with peers, teachers, and other adults, their academic performance, and their eventual occupational choice and level of success.

The emotional climate of the family, the manner in which parents train their children, and the possibilities and challenges that family life presents for normal development are present from childhood, continue to have an impact in adolescence, and define the future trajectory of adolescents' lives. Education encompasses the community's conscious planning, selection, and application of influences for the benefit of future generations. [10]

Objectives:

- Personality is crucial in influencing environmental sentiments.
- Examine the major factors that influence personality development.
- Describe how childhood isolation influences development.

Research Methodology:

This study's overall design was exploratory. As a result, it is clear that environmental influences have a significant role in affecting individuals' personality traits and living conditions. Understanding the meaning and significance of environmental factors, types of environmental factors that influence personality traits, and strategies to lead to the improvement of all types of environmental conditions are the primary ideas considered in this study article. We look at studies on five key contextual factors of personality characteristic

development. Parental financial status, parenting practises, peer relationships, romantic relationships, and work experiences are among these determinants. In general, we discovered that the relationships between these characteristics and personality traits are minor. Furthermore, evidence exists for bidirectional relationships between personality traits and environmental circumstances. [11]

Result and Discussion:

People are extremely complex. They have diverse skills and interests. Most work failures, however, are caused not only by a person's lack of intelligence, but also by specific personality traits. Personality plays a significant role in determining an employee's behaviour. Different authors have classified personality determinants in various ways. However, the following is a general summary of these factors:
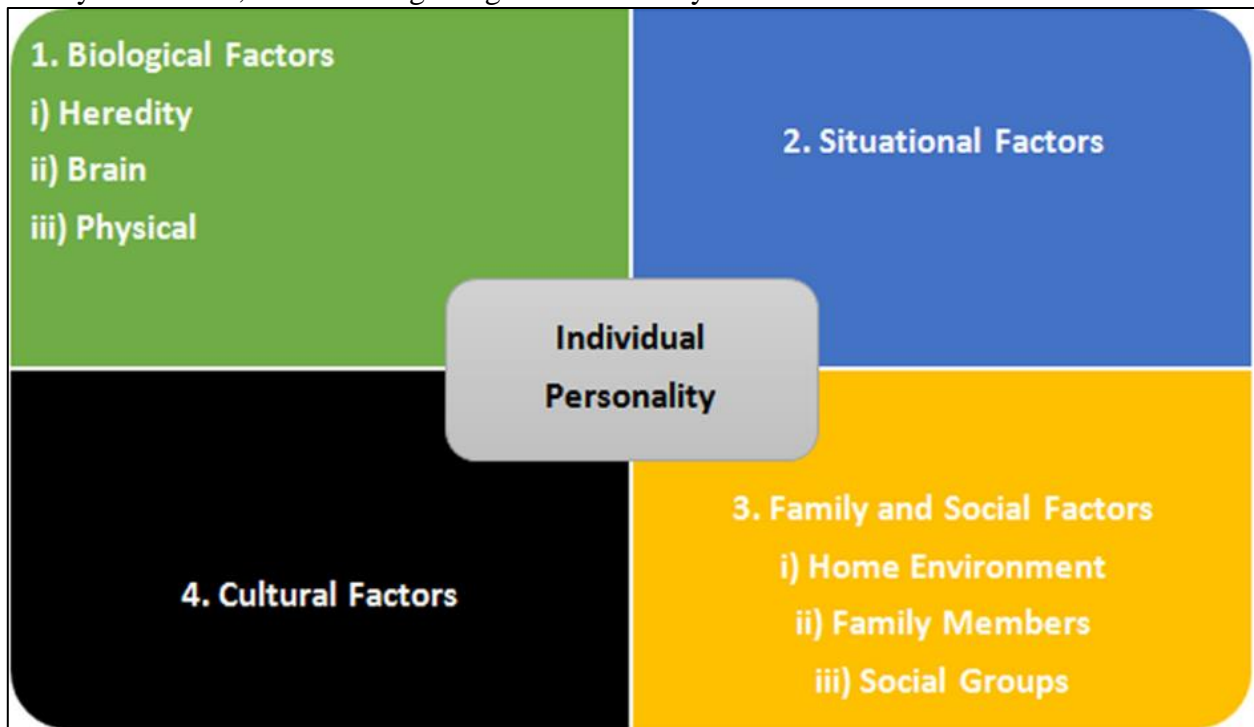
Figure 1: Individual Personality

1. **Biological Factors:**

Human beings' general biological traits influence how they notice external events (data), interpret them, and respond to them. The biological factors include the three major factors listed below.

- Heredity
- Brain
- Physical Features
- Situational Factors

Aside from biological considerations, situational factors influence personality development. The S-O-B model of human behaviour takes into account the context in which the behaviour occurs. In other words, the environment has a significant impact. Knowledge, skill, and language are learned and constitute significant behavioural changes. Learned behavioural adjustments are not passed on to children; they must be acquired via their own personal experience and interaction with the environment. The situation, according to Milgram, places a significant pressure on the individual.

2. **Family and Social Factors:**

Individual development is influenced by a variety of socialising influences and agencies ranging from the nuclear family to more distant or global organisations. Family and social groupings have the greatest influence on personality development.

- Home Environment
- Family Members

- Social Groups

3. Cultural Factors:

Cultural variables play a significant role in determining a person's behaviour. Culture is a complex set of beliefs, values, and environmental strategies that are shared among people and passed down from generation to generation. Culture necessitates both conformity and acceptance from its participants. Despite the relevance of culture on personality, academics have been unable to demonstrate a linear relationship between these two notions, 'Personality' and 'Culture'. [12]

Environment Factors:

Except for his genes, the environment is everything that impacts the individual. An individual's environment is the sum total of the stimuli he experiences from conception to birth. In reality, the following environmental considerations must be taken into account.
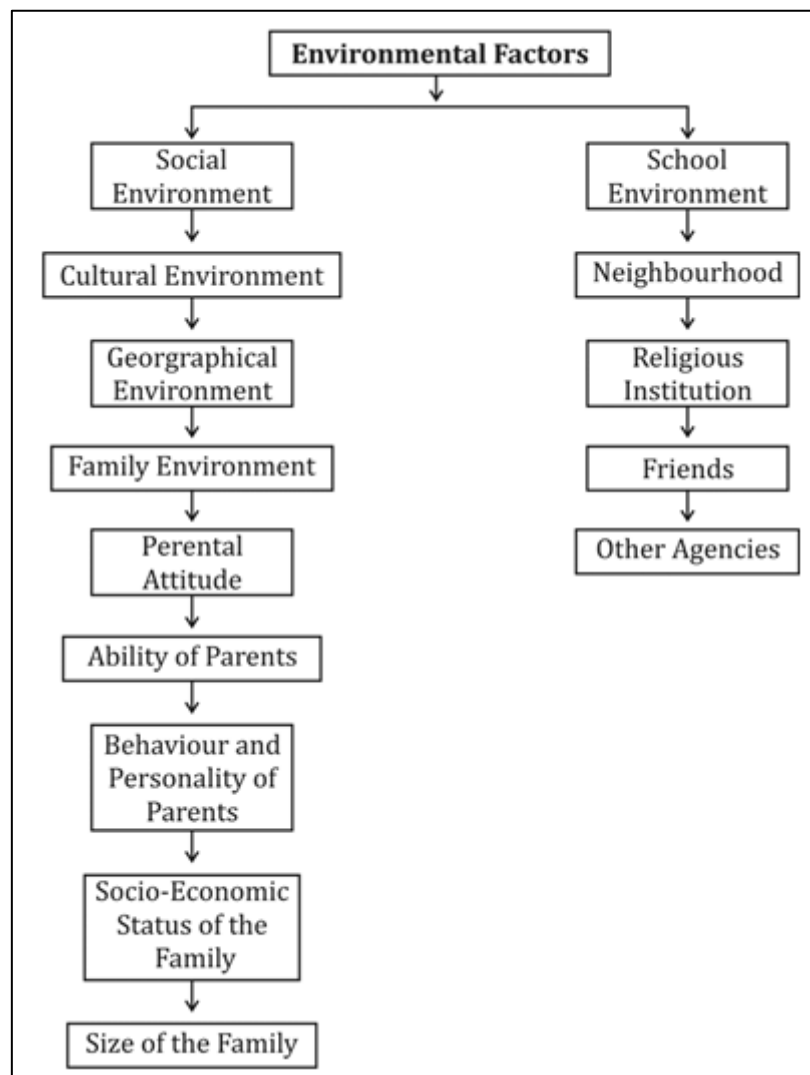

Figure 2: Environment Factors [13]

Cholesky Decomposition Model:

We used a Cholesky decomposition model to investigate the causes of differential stability. The variance within and covariance across personality variables across each assessment are decomposed into genetic and environmental components inside a triangle, or Cholesky decomposition, model (see Figure 1). To obtain genetic, shared environmental, and nonshared environmental correlations, the genetic, shared environmental, and nonshared environmental covariances can be standardised on their respective variances in this model. These statistics show how much a certain effect (for example, the genetic influence) at one evaluation is connected with the same effect at another.

A genetic correlation of 1.0 indicates that all genetic factors are consistent across assessments, whereas a correlation of zero indicates that there is no genetic overlap. Thus, we were able to explicitly assess the extent to which hereditary and environmental effects contribute to the differential or rank-order stability of personality over time using this approach.
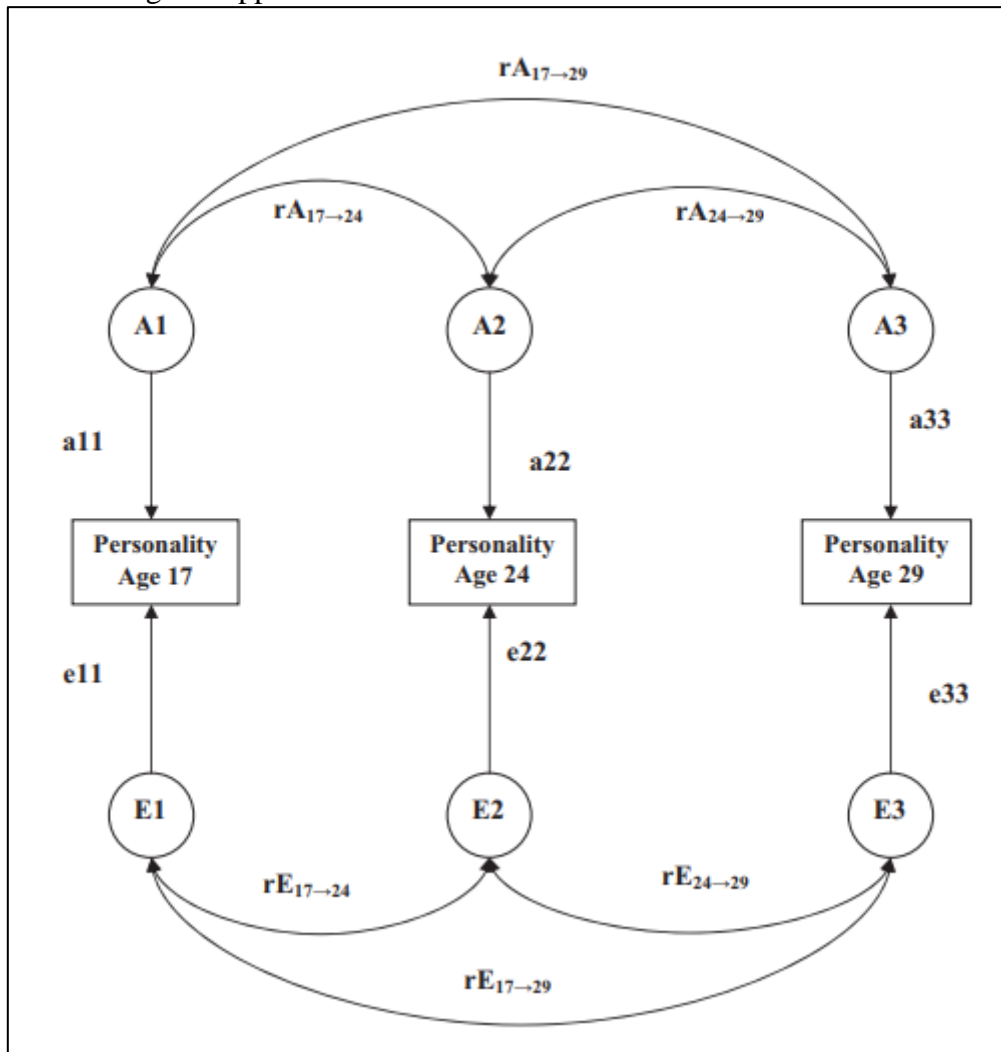
Figure 3: Path diagram of Cholesky decomposition model. (Source: personality.faculty.ucdavis.edu)

The variation in liability to personality at each assessment is divided into additive genetic effects (A1, A2, and A3), shared environmental effects (E1, E2, and E3), and nonshared environmental impacts (E1, E2, and E3). Although present in the model, shared environmental impacts (C) are not depicted here for clarity. Similarly, this path diagram reflects only one twin of a pair (the cotwin's results are identical).

Lowercase letters followed by two numerals (e.g., a11) signify paths that are squared to estimate the proportion of variation accounted for. A lowercase r indicates a genetic or environmental correlation, followed by details about the specific association (e.g., rA17 - 24 shows a genetic correlation between ages 17 and 24). [14]

Conclusion:
Environmental conditions within homes, educational institutions, training centres, employment settings, neighbourhood, natural environmental conditions, relationships with family members, cultural factors, possession of resources and materials, and overall living conditions are examples of environmental factors that influence personality traits. Finally, external influences such as family, society, culture, and media have a significant impact on the formation of an individual's personality. These factors alter how a person perceives themselves and the world around them, resulting in the construction of their identity. When considering the formation of an individual's personality, all of these contextual elements are taken into account.

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