

Abstract

The purpose of the current research was to examine the emotion socialization of toddlers' in an Indian context from the perspective of multiple caregivers. This research is a part of cross-cultural research on emotion socialization in five cultural groups, namely, India, United States, Turkey, Romania and Israel. Using snowball sampling, 50 mothers and 11 secondary caregivers of young children (19-34 months) participated in the research. Secondary caregivers were selected based on the reports of the mothers as those family members who were perceived as being the most involved caregivers. Multi methods comprising survey questionnaires, interviews and laboratory observations of mother-child dyads were employed. Research tools were adopted from the larger cross-cultural study and used after modification to suit the cultural context of the present study. Data was analysed using ANOVAs, correlation, t-test and content analysis. The results of the study revealed that family remains the major source of learning for child-rearing of the caregivers. Other socialization sources included internet, magazines, and seeking help from health professionals. Caregivers endorsed more relational goals over individualistic goals followed by balanced goals. Both primary and secondary caregivers shared more similarities than differences in emotion socialization strategies. The findings of the study add to the cultural knowledge of emotion socialization in an urban Indian context.