Parental support and artistic creativity at the beach: An observational approach

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BACKGROUND:

- Artistic creativity is the production of novel resources that contribute to the arts (Chemi, 2017)
  - Can be integral to improving the mental health of both artists and consumers of art
- Artistic creativity is associated with several defining traits of a human's personality: creative people are shown to have increased openness to new experiences, self-confidence, and ambition (Feist,1998). Creativity is positively correlated with parental warmth and support (Wang, 2023).
- Supportive parenting contributes to child development by practicing parental sensitivity, cognitive stimulation to learning, and unconditional love (Lin, 2023)
- Parental support may encourage children to find healthy ways of expressing their emotions artistically
- Causal theory: Supportive parenting has a causal effect on a child's artistic creativity.
- Hypothesis: On average, children with parental supervision engage in artistic hobbies more frequently compared to children without supervision.

METHODS:

Design

- An observational research design was conducted to gather information on the relationship between parental support and artistic creativity.

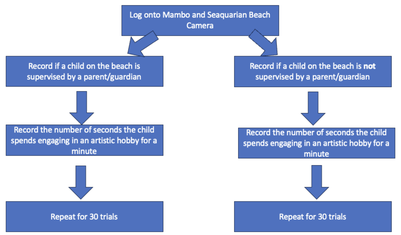
Participants

- A total of 60 young children, both supervised and unsupervised by their parents, were observed on a website camera featuring the coast of Maho Beach in Sint Marten
- Link to web camera: (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LtzkkAeW_Qg).

Measures

- **Predictor** variable- **supportive parenting**:
  - Children **have** supportive parenting if they are supervised by their parent/guardian over a minute-long observation. If unsupervised, they have **no** supportive parenting.
- **Criterion** variable- **artistic creativity**:
  - Children are artistically creative if they spent time engaging in an artistic hobby during a minute of observation. If not, they are not artistically creative
  - Artistic hobby: defined by creative skills in the arts such as drawing, building a sandcastle, collecting seashells, listening to music, dancing

PROCEDURE:



On average, children with parental supervision do not engage in artistic hobbies more frequently than children without supervision.

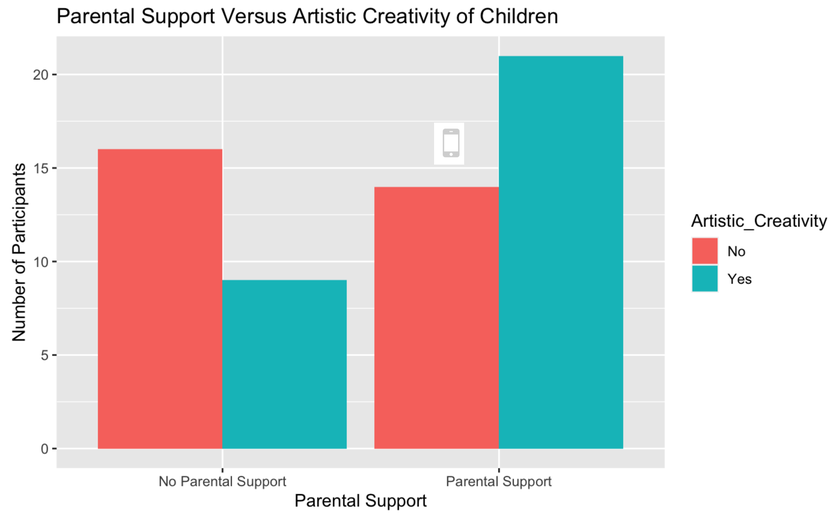


Figure 1. Bar chart indicates the number of participants, with and without parental support, that either had artistic creativity or not. There is no significant increase in artistic creativity among children with parental supervision.

Take a picture to **download** the **full paper, materials, code, and analysis**

OPEN MATERIALS

OPEN CODE

PREREGISTERED

OPEN DATA

RESULTS:

- All data collected were used in analysis
- Results were analyzed using a chi-square analysis test, due to dichotomous predictor and criterion variables.
  - Predictor: Participants were classified into either having parental support or not
  - Criterion: Participants were classified into either having artistic creativity or not
- There was not a significant difference in participation in artistic hobbies among participants with and without parental supervision
- There is no significant influence of parental support on artistic creativity
- The alternative hypothesis is not supported.

	Parental Supervision	No Parental Supervision
Artistic Hobbies	21 children	9 children
No Artistic Hobbies	14 children	16 children

X^2 **(2,** N **= 60) = 3.36,** p **= .067.**

DISCUSSION:

The goal of research was to determine if minor participants' artistic hobbies were positively correlated with parental guidance, indicating weak support that parental support can have a causal effect on artistic creativity.

Results do not support the alternative hypothesis:

- On average, children with parental supervision do not engage in artistic hobbies more frequently than children without supervision.
- It cannot be determined that parental support is a causal factor that has a direct influence on a child's artistic creativit

Strengths and limitations:

Strengths:

- High external validity
- No researcher interaction with participants
- No participant bias when performing activities

Limitations:

- Limited time observing participants
- Dichotomous outcome, results are not on a continuous scale
- Limited factors observed to determine "supportive parenting and "artistic creativity"

FUTURE WORK:

- Increase the sample size of participants
- Extend observation time from one minute to 30 minutes or longer
- Observe more variables that would indicate parental support apart from parental supervision
- Observe participants in a larger variety of public spaces