

## The Analysing the Perception of Fathers Who Bring Their Children for Paternity Test Relating to Family Atmosphere

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**Abstract:** This study has been planned in order to determine the relation with the reason of having paternity test of males who apply for paternity, the condition domestic violence, their future plans, the confirmation of test by mother, suspicion process of fathers and the condition of family atmosphere. The study has been carried out with 42 fathers who applied to Ankara University, Medical Faculty, The Department of Forensic Medicine for paternity test. In research General Information Form which has been developed by researchers and Family Atmosphere Scala have been used. Data have been analysed by using SPSS 11,000 demand in research. One sided variance analysis has been practiced to determine wheather there is a significant relation between the reason of paternity test, the condition of home violence, theIr future plans, their suspicion process, the confirmation of test by mother and the quality of family atmosphere. In result of variance analysis if there is a statistically meaningful difference, Duncan Test has been made to determine from which group it origins. In result of research while there has been found a meaningful difference between the changeble condition of confirmation for paternity test by family members and unity, dimension control and total family atmosphere point ( $p < 0,01$ ), between the suspicion process of fathers and dimation control and total family atmosphere point ( $p < 0,01, p < 0,05$ ), there has been found a significant difference between reason for paternity test, the condition of home violence, their future plans and family atmosphere points and dimation ( $p > 0,05$ )

**Key words:** Forensic medicine • Paternity test • Family atmosphere • Control and unity

### INTRODUCTION

Since it forms the basis of social structure, family patern has a direct effect on social order. In a similar way, social and cultural structure, which is gradually getting more complicated, makes the individuals' adaptation process difficult and the problems in social structure effects the relations of family members by causing domestic problems [1]. The manner of the relationship of parents not only defines becoming happy or unhappy of two adults' togetherness but also effects the children's character and mental health [2-4].

There have been various studies which differently analyses family, conjugal union, social problems causing a break of this structure and its reasons and it is certain to be always researched depending on the change of social structure. Apart from having suspicion of not being able to be a father of a child is not a new situation, it has been

a kind of problem which is increasingly encountered depending on the improvements of some scientific methods. Commenly using of molecular genetics tests makes a major controbution to solving problem. As is known, the half of the genes forming the child's genetic profile is transfered by father and the other half is transfered by mother. Since tests which are identified as paternity test reveal if there is genetic adjustment up to %99,99, DNA analysis has been considered to be the most reliable method in resolution of this problem [5-7].

The reasoning of the suspicion whether there is a biological adaptation between father and child can be depended on both personal and effect of the immediate surroundings. In our study they have been purposed to determine the reasoning of suspicion, whether having a domestic violence caused by suspicion, suspicion process, future plans in accordance with results, the quality of family atmosphere relation of applicant fathers.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

**Population and Sample:** The research has been carried out with 42 fathers who applied to Ankara University, Medical Faculty, the department of Forensic Medicine for paternity test. Data have been collected between January 1, 2005- January 1, 2008.

**Instruments:** In research, interview form and Family Atmosphere Scala have been used as a means of collectiong data. Family Atmosphere Sacala which was developed and adopted by Usluer to Turkish has been used so as to evaluate the perception of father's family atmosphere [8,9]. Family Atmosphere is a scala which is used to test the perception of family relations of person and consists of two subtests. The first subtest of scala includes the criterion considering family relations with respect to union, the second subtest requires the criterion considering the family relations with respect to inspection. Unity consists of 16 articles, inspection consists of 10 articles. There are variable answers from "I strongly agree" to "never agree" in evaluating the scala in dour likert. When the points which are given to these articles are added up, the highest point which can be obtained from unity subtest is 64 and the highest point which can be obtained from inspection is 40 [10].

**Application:** First of all, the fathers (or candidates) have been informed about the study, it has been confirmed that their names will not be used, the data are to be only used for the purpose of study and this test and form are used with the father who are willingly.

**Data Analysis:** In our research, unilateral variance analysis has been applied in order to determine the reasoning of fathers for paternity test, their future plans through the test result, whether the mother's confirmation of test makes a significant difference in perceiving the family atmosphere. Duncan Test has been made so as to determine from which group this differentiation originates if there is a significant difference statistically in the result of variance analysis [11].

## RESULTS

In our research, the explanations such as pressure from environment for paternity test, being informed by phone calls claiming for father not being the real father or

inheritance which are the answers for the question asked for determining the factors which cause suspicion of not being the biological father of a child are put into group as "environmental reasons", the difference in blood group, seeing no resemblance between father and child are "reasons related with child", being told by mother that the is not the real father of child is "the statement of mother" and despite of secure sex, the pregnancy of mother and mother's try for clarifying herself are considered to be "other reasons". The people who don't want to give information have been taken into the group who is unwilling for declaration.

The high point average of fathers from unity and control subtests is a sign for the raise in the unity and control in family.

It has been observed that the reason of paternity test makes no significant differentiation in the average points of unity ( $F_{4,41}$ : 0.80  $p > 0.05$ ), control ( $F_{4,41}$ : 0.30  $p > 0.05$ ) and total ( $F_{4,41}$ : 0.58  $p > 0.05$ ) in family atmosphere. When the the point averages are analysed, It can be seen that the group which takes the lowest point from the unity part of the family atmosphere is the fathers who are being told by mothers as "not your child" (X: 15.33) and the group which takes the lowest point from the control and general condition of family atmosphere is the fathers who apply for paternity test since the dissimilarity of blood group and physical appearance with their children. (X: 12.33, X: 28.33).

It has been asked for those who attended in study whether the suspicion of the possibility of not being child's real father causes domestic violence or not. When Table 2. is analysed, it has been observed that the condition of domestic violence makes no significant difference in the averages relating to family atmosphere in unity ( $F_{2,41}$ : 0.26  $p > 0.05$ ), control ( $F_{2,41}$ : 0.07  $p > 0.05$ ) and total ( $F_{2,41}$ : 0.13  $p > 0.05$ ). It draws attention that the fathers who sometimes resorting to violence get the lowest point from unity (X: 15.85) and control (X: 28.77), the fathers who often resorting violence take the lowest point from control size (X: 12.80)

When Table 3 is analysed, it has been observed that the condition of their future condition makes no significant difference in the averages relating to family atmosphere in unity ( $F_{2,41}$ : 0.06  $p > 0.05$ ), control ( $F_{2,41}$ : 0.76  $p > 0.05$ ) and total ( $F_{2,41}$ : 0.19  $p > 0.05$ ). It is observed that the fathers who state "I am indecisive" take the lowest points from unity size (X: 16.10) and the fathers who state "My relation will change with my child and I will divorce" take the lowest point from unity (X: 12.36) and total size (X: 28.55).

Table 1: Results of reasoning for paternity test

Reason for DNA analysis	n	Unity		Control		Total	
		M	SD	M	SD	M	SD
Environmental reason	7	15.86±4.14		12.71±2.21		28.57±5.86	
Reasons related with child	6	16.00±4.00		12.33±2.16		28.33±5.96	
Mother's statement	15	15.33±3.15		13.20±1.97		28.53±4.14	
Other reasons	6	18.17±3.97		13.50±2.43		31.67±5.57	
Taking no position	8	17.00±3.16		13.13±2.10		30.13±4.26	
Total	42	16.24±3.53		13.02±2.05		29.26±4.84	
<i>Variance analysis results</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>
Between Groups	4	.80	.53	.30	.87	.58	.67
Within Groups	37						
Total	41						

Table 2: Averages, Standard Deviations and Variance Analysis Results related with family atmosphere points with respect to the condition of domestic violence of fathers who have been included in research

Group and condition	n	Unity		Control		Total	
		M	SD	M	SD	M	SD
Of Domestic Violence							
Yes, Sometimes	13	15.85±3.48		12.92±2.14		28.77±4.95	
Yes, Often	5	17.20±2.17		12.80±1.79		30.00±3.74	
No, Never	24	16.25±3.85		13.13±2.13		29.38±5.13	
Total	42	16.24±3.53		13.02±2.05		29.26 ±4.84	
<i>Variance analysis results</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>
Between Groups	2	26	.77	.07	.93	.13	.88
Within Groups	39						
Total	41						

Table 3: Averages, Standard Deviations and Variance Analysis Results related with family atmosphere points with respect to future plans of fathers who have been included in research

Group and Fathers' Future Plans	n	Unity		Control		Total	
		M	SD	M	SD	M	SD
My relation not change	11	16.55±4.20		13.27±1.62		29.82±4.71	
My relation will change and I will divorce	11	16.18±2.99		12.36±2.01		28.55±4.78	
I am Indecisive	20	16.10±3.58		13.25±2.29		29.35±5.14	
Total	42	16.24±3.53		13.02±2.05		29.26 ±4.84	
<i>Variance analysis results</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>
Between Groups	2	.06	.94	.76	.47	.19	.82
Within Groups	39						
Total	41						

Table 4: Averages, Standard Deviations and Variance Analysis Results related with family atmosphere points with respect to the confirmation of paternity test by family members

Group and the condition of family members paternity confirmation	n	Unity		Control		Total	
		M	SD	M	SD	M	SD
Father brings, mother knows	6	17.50	4.04	15.33	1.03	32.83	4.31
They bring together	8	21.13	1.36	14.25	2.19	35.38	3.25
Father brings, mother doesn't know	28	14.57	2.27	12.18	1.61	26.75	3.00
Total	42	16.24 ±3.53		13.02 ±2.05		29.26±4.84	
<i>Variance analysis results</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>
Between Groups	2	23.28**	.00	11.46**	.00	26.26**	.00
Within Groups	39						
Total	41						

\*p<0.05. \*\*p<0.01

Table 5: Averages, Standard Deviations and Variance Analysis Results of fathers included in research related with family atmosphere points with respect to the suspicion process

Group and suspicion Process of fathers	n	Unity		Control		Total	
		M	SD	M	SD	M	SD
0-1 month	18	15.22	3.23	12.56	1.82	27.78	3.98
1 month - 1 year	11	15.45	2.25	12.27	1.27	27.73	2.41
1-2 years	3	19.00	6.93	15.00	3.61	34.00	10.44
more than 2 years	10	18.10	3.41	14.10	2.13	32.20	4.69
Total	42	16.24	±3.53	13.02	±2.05	29.26	±4.84
<i>Variance analysis results</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>
Between Groups	3	2.45	.07	3.04*	.042	63.74*	.01
Within Groups	38						
Total	41						

\*p<0.05. \*\*p<0.01

When Table 4 is analysed, it has been observed that the condition of confirming paternity test by family members condition makes significant difference in the averages relating to family atmosphere in unity ( $F_{2,41}: 23.28 p<0.01$ ), control ( $F_{2,41}: 11.46 p<0.01$ ) and total ( $F_{2,41}: 26.26 p<0.01$ ). In result of Duncan Test, It has been seen that the difference origins from fathers who bring their children without informing their wives. In our study fathers who apply for paternity test without informing mothers, take the lowest points from unity (X:14.57), control (X: 12.18) and total sizes.(X: 26.75)

When Table 4 is analysed, it has been observed that the condition of suspicion process of fathers makes significant difference in the averages relating to family atmosphere in control ( $F_{3,41}: 3.04 p<0.05$ ) and total ( $F_{3,41}: 3.74 p<0.05$ ) In our study, it remarks that fathers who are suspicious for 0-1 months take the lowest points from unity size (X: 15.22), who are suspicious for 1 month to 1 year takes the lowest point from control size (X: 12.27) and total size (X: 27.73).

### DISCUSSION

Although family is considered to be a place where mostly security, comfort and love are felt, it is the smallest agent where many kinds of violence, even murder, can be seen. Among the studies which have been carried out about marriage conflicts and divorce and generally marriage relationship the studies which analyse the relation of gender-role conflict, love, hatred and enviousness are considered as directive for violence in marriage. It has been observed that the males who resort to violence are mostly those whose frustration threshold is low, impulse control is weak, pathologically jealous, fond of alcohol, eyewitness of violence between parents or the one who was exposed to violence, economically weak or out of work. [12-14].

In Turkey, divorcements become intense between the ages 25-39 in males, 20-34 in females. When the divorce averages are analysed in the rough for the last ten years, It can be seen that there has been a stable structure till 1996, a decrease from 1997 to 2000 and an increase in 2000. According to the data of 2000 the rough average of divorcements is 0.53 per thousand. While this rate is 0.73 in 2002, it has increased up to 0.75 in 2004 [15]. This shows us that there has been an increase in divorce rates each passing days and it needs to be analysed the factors relating to this subject and to be studied in resolution.

**Divorcement Is a Painfull Process:** During this process problems may result from not being asked the divorce by two sides. One can be left alone without perceiving what happens to himself in a mood of daze by the other's decision. In this period, the psychological needs of child may be disregarded by parents. If we consider what the the psychological needs of a child, whose parents are in the process of divorce, can be, we can see that the most basic need is "the feeling of confidence. Destruction in order (one of member's leaving home, goods sharing, moving into a new house) may propose the questions for child such as "what will happen to my position? What will I do?" for agenda. Family means home. Maybe what makes a family is the sense of being gathered under a single roof. Home as a location for children determines the feeling of being secure and whole. The feeling of disconfidence of a child recurs in devorcement process. It is highly important that a child feels himself not to be left alone and what expected from parents is to give this confidence to thir children. This can be provided by means of words or touch. In order to help child to adopt himself for this new situation, information about this new process should be given according to the level of his age. What is expected from

parents here is to decide to say what and when in a cooperation. So they can prevent their child from an attitude as forcing to follow a side.

For a father, having suspicion of mother and child can be a sign that shows the corruption in marriage accomodation, unity feeling and reliability for his wife. Our study displays the corruption in quality of paternity test and family relations. In this difficult and painful process for both parents and children, parents should certainly be supported by professional guidance. For this reason, a commission which evaluating paternity tests must be founded and lawyer, psychologist, pedagogue, psychiatrist, forensic science expert and biologist must take place in this commission.

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