Does Negative Teacher Behaviour Influence Students' Motivational Beliefs?

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Abstract

In a hierarchical society such as India's, negative teacher behaviors are often part of the routine. However, there is a gap in the literature investigating the influence of negative teacher behaviors (specifically admonishing and dissatisfied behaviors) on students' mastery goal orientation (MGO) and self-¬efficacy for learning which are important for student success. Accordingly, we examined these associations in Indian middle schoolers (N =6423) after controlling for prior year outcomes and demographics. The data was collected through paper and pencil-based surveys at the beginning and the end of the 2015-16 academic session. Teacher behavior was measured using the Questionnaire on Teacher Interaction (QTI) whereas self-efficacy and MGO were measured using the Motivated Strategies for Learning Questionnaire (MSLQ). The analysis involved structural equation modelling of admonishing and dissatisfaction behaviors and student self-efficacy and MGO where we controlled for students' prior outcomes and demographics. The independent variables collectively explained 27.4% and 22% of the variation in MGO and self-efficacy. Higher levels of teachers' dissatisfied behaviors reduced students' self-efficacy and MGO within one year. Teachers' admonishing behavior was linked with lower self-efficacy. Implications for policymakers, administrators and teachers will be discussed during the presentation.

Speaker Profile

Kathan Shukla is an assistant professor in Ravi J. Matthai Centre for Educational Innovation. He completed his PhD from the University of Virginia (UVa) in the Educational Research, Statistics and Evaluation program. Kathan has worked as a postdoctoral fellow and taught educational statistics at UVa. His work emphasises on the synergy of methodological rigour and in-depth substantive inquiry of educational problems. Methodologically, his research focuses on the applications of contemporary quantitative techniques (structural equation modelling, multilevel modelling, latent class modelling); Educational testing & measurement; Scale development and validation. Primary substantive interest: Social and Emotional Climate in Schools and Students' Academic & Psychological Outcomes.

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