# THE EFFECT OF HEURISTIC TEACHING METHODOLOGY ON SELF ESTEEM AND COPING TO STRESS ON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

By
SIDRA FAROOQ BUTT



A thesis presented to Bahria University, Islamabad

In partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the degree of

Masters in philosophy

2017

# BAHRIA UNIVERSITY, ISLAMABED

#### APPROVAL SHEET

# SUBMISSION OF HIGHER RESEARCH DEGREE THESIS

Candidate's Name: Sidra Faroog Butt

Discipline: Masters of Clinical Psychology (M.PHIL)

Faculty/ Department: Institute of Professional Psychology (IPP)

I hereby certify that the above candidates' work, including the thesis, has been completed to my satisfaction and the thesis is in a format of an editorial standard recognized by the faculty/department as appropriate for examination.

Signature:

Supervisor: fairal · t fadel

Date: 28-8-2017

## The undersigned certifies that

- 1. The undersigned presented at a pre-completion seminar, an overview and synthesis of major findings of the thesis and that the research is of standard and extent appropriate for submission as a thesis.
- 2. I have checked the candidate's thesis and its scope. Format and editorial standards are recognized by the faculty/department as appropriate.

Signature:

Dean/Head of Faculty/Department: Farial. 2 fault

Date:

28-8-2017

# **DECLARATION OF AUTHENTICATION**

I certify that the research work presented in this thesis, to the best of my knowledge, is my own. All the sources used and any help received in the preparation of this thesis have been acknowledge. I hereby declare that I have not submitted this material, either in whole or in part, for any other degree at this or any other institution.

ande

#### **ACKNOWLWEDGEMENT**

"In the name of "ALLAH", the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful".

First of all I thank the Allah Almighty for giving me the strength and patience to work through all so that today I can stand proudly with my head held high.

This thesis is the culmination of my journey of M.Phil. Which was just like climbing a high peak step by step accompanied with encouragement, hardship, trust, and frustration. When I found myself at top experiencing the feeling of fulfillment, I realized though only my name appears on the cover of this dissertation, a great many people including my family members, well-wishers, my friends, colleagues and various institutions have contributed to accomplish this huge task.

At this moment of accomplishment I am greatly indebted to my research guide, Dr. Zainab F Zadeh who offered me her mentorship, love and care. This work would not have been possible without her guidance and involvement, her support and encouragement on daily basis from the start of the project till date. Under her guidance I successfully overcame many difficulties and learnt a lot. Her own zeal for perfection, passion, unflinching courage and conviction has always inspired me to do more.

My sincere thanks to Dean "Dr Farooq-e-Azam cheema and the team of Authorities who gave me this opportunity to design intervention plan and guided me throughout. As without their support this thesis was not possible.

I greatly appreciate and acknowledge the support and valuable prayers received from my parent's friends, cousins and siblings.

Words would never say how grateful I am to all. I consider myself the luckiest in the world to have such a lovely and caring family, standing beside me with their love and unconditional support. Love you all.

#### **DEDICATION**

I owe everything to my family who encouraged me and helped me in every stage of my personal and academic life and longed to see this achievement come true. Hence I dedicate this work to my nurturing mother "Zarina Kausar Butt," sincere, hardworking and generous Father, "Muhammad Farooq Butt" and my beloved Husband "Muhammad Jaber Haqanni" Who worked equally hard with me to in helping compile this thesis and was patient throughout.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Copyright	ž
Approval Sheet	ii
Declaration of Authentication	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Dedication	v
Table of Content	vi
List of Tables	x
List of Figures	xi
Abstract	1
CHAPTERS	
I. Introduction	2
1.1 Background	2
1.1.1 Learning Environment	5
1.1.2 Student Learning Style and Personality Development	7
1.1.3 Factors Affecting Students Leaning Behavior	8
1.1.4 Teacher's Effectiveness and Its Impact	9
1.2 Problem Statement	10
1.3 Objectives	11
1.4 Research Questions	11
1.5 Significance of the Study	11
1.6 Structure of the Thesis	12
1.7 Definition of Key Terms	13
1.8 Heuristic Teaching Methodology	12
1.9 Traditional Teaching Methodology	12
1.10 Operational definition of Key Terms	13
1.10.1Coping Responses	13

### LIST OF TABLES

Main Demographic Variables of Participants	47
T-Test Results Comparing Pre-Test and Post-Test Scores for Experimental Group (Heuristic Teaching)	48
(Traditional Teaching) and Experimental Group (Heuristic Teaching)	50

#### **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of the present study was to investigate the relationship between Heuristic teaching methodology and its effectiveness in improving self-esteem and coping responses to stress of university students. The present study hypothesizes to increases self-esteem and coping responses of students by teaching them heuristically. For the purpose of this study an experimental research was employed to gather data throught convenient sampling from 90 students of fourth semester in management science department of BUKC. 45 students were in Experimental and 45 students were in control group. The age ranges of participants were between 19-25 years. For that purpose a heuristic teaching method intervention was developed. A pretest and post design was used to assess increase in self-esteem and coping responses of students. The intervention was employed in 12 sessions with in 4 four months of a regular semester. Its results were compared to class which was taught traditionally.Participants of heuristic group showed significant increase in self-esteem and the difference was significant t=1.94 and p<0.05 and in task coping t=5.38 and p<0.05 to stress moreover, participants of the same group showed significant decrease in emotional coping to stress showing significant result at t=-4.54 and p< 0.05 and distraction coping to stress at t=-3.27and p< 0.05. The findings of the research also indicated significant difference in self-esteem levels of control and experimental group and the difference was significant at p<=0.05. The results of the present study could be useful for increasing self-esteem and coping responses in university students and for future references.