

Education Influence on Baby Naming

Eğitim Düzeyinin, Bebeğe İsim Verme Davranışı Üzerine Etkisi

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ABSTRACT Objective: The tradition of naming newborn babies shows differences between different societies and cultures. There are many factors that influence the naming trend, and the cultural evolution of the community can be followed by these names. In our study, we searched the effect of the education level on naming the newborn baby. **Material and Methods:** This is a prospective cross-sectional study. A total of 1372 pregnant women with low-risk pregnancies experiencing their first pregnancy were recruited for the study. The educational status, the name they planned to give to their baby to be born and the factors that influenced this were asked to these people by a questionnaire. **Results:** In our study, it was observed that as the level of education decreased, the tendency to give parental names increased, whereas on the contrary, as education level increased, there was a tendency to give a more unique name. **Conclusion:** As the level of education increases, the environmental interaction of the people increases and accordingly, alternative thoughts increase in naming and the tendency to give parental names decreases.

Keywords: Baby; education status; culture; name; parent

ÖZET Amaç: Yenidoğan bebeğe isim koyma geleneği farklı sosyal çevreler ve kültürlerde değişiklik gösterir. isim verme alışkanlığını etkileyen çok sayıda faktör vardır ve isim verme geleneğini takip ederek toplumun kültürel evrimini takip etmek mümkündür. biz çalışmamızda yenidoğan bebeğe isim verme geleneği üzerinde, ebeveynlerin eğitim seviyesinin etkisini inceledik. **Gereç ve Yöntemler:** Bu prospektif kesitsel bir çalışmadır. Gebelik açısından risk faktörü içermeyen ve ilk gebeliği olan 1372 gebe çalışmaya alındı. bir anket yardımıyla ebeveynlerin eğitim durumu, koymayı planladıkları isim ve bu ismi etkileyen faktörler kaydedildi. **Bulgular:** Çalışmamızda görüldü ki eğitim seviyesi düştükçe babanın ebeveynlerinin ismini koyma geleneği artmakta, eğitim seviyesi arttıkça daha özgün isimlere yönelinmektedir. **Sonuç:** Eğitim seviyesi arttıkça çevresel etkileşim artmakta, alternatif düşünceler güçlenmekte ve bu durum ailesel isimlere yönelimi azalmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Bebek; eğitim düzeyi; kültür; isim; ebeveyn

As long as there has been language, there have been names. Naming is the first task of speech through which we differentiate one person or thing from all others. When shared across individuals, psychological processes can shape the beliefs, norms, tastes, and institutions that make up culture and names.¹ Every society has a naming system, and all these systems have certain common elements. An example of a cultural trait potentially influenced by drift is the name given to newborn babies. In addition, names affect psychological, social, and economic consequences. Laham et al. showed people with easy to pronounce names are judged positively and are associated with social success.²

Naming traditions vary from country to country and culture to culture and there are very few studies in eastern European societies showing the effect of education on culture. We investigated the relationship between the educational status and the naming tradition in this study.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

This is a prospective cross-sectional study. A total of 1372 pregnant women with low-risk pregnancies experiencing their first pregnancy from 17724 pregnant women who were admitted to Health Sciences University, Bursa Training and Research Hospital, Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic between January 2017 and September 2017 were recruited for the study. Demographic characteristics of the patients were recorded. Patients were divided into three groups according to their educational status. Three groups were formed as illiterates, those who studied up to the level of high school and those who graduated from high school. After routine obstetric examination, it was asked to all patients whether they would give the names of their parents to their new born babies by a questionnaire. Education status of the participants noted. Main question was "Do you prefer the naming your baby with your own parents name?" The answers were noted.

We used the SPSS version 21.0 software (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL). Continuous variables were expressed as mean \pm standard deviation. Normalities of distributions were tested using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. The variables showed a normal distribution ($p > 0.05$). The measurement results of the three examiners were analyzed for any significant differences and variations. Binary logistic regression analysis was used to determine associations between education status and name of the babies. Study approved by local ethics committee.

RESULTS

The mean maternal age was 24.5 ± 5.7 years. Mean marriage duration was 2.3 ± 2.1 years. There were 369 patients in group 1, 571 patients in group 2 and

TABLE 1: Naming status according to groups (n:1372).

	Choosing Parent's Name	Not Choosing Parent's Name	p Value
Group 1	267	102	<0.05
Group 2	302	269	N/S
Group 3	110	322	<0.05

432 patients in group 3. In the first group the tendency to give parental name to the new born baby was statistically significantly high whereas in the third group this tendency was not to give parental name to the babies and this was also statistically significant ($p < 0.05$). The results show that as the level of education increases, the tendency to give parental names decreases (Table 1).

DISCUSSION

The names of the people who make up the society are important to investigate a nation's history, cultural level, religious beliefs and worldview. Every culture has its own tradition of naming. An older person bestows the name, first by whispering it to the baby, because a newborn should know his or her name before anyone else does, then by announcing the name to everyone attending the ceremony at Africa. Many Native Americans developed naming systems in which a person's individual name included the name of his or her clan. In China, all given names are created out of words in the Chinese language that have an obvious, immediate meaning. In today's popular American culture, phenomena are influencing the names given.³ Taken to the collective level, this suggests that the cultural success of a given item may be influenced by the popularity of similar items. Songs, for example, may be more likely to become popular if their chord progressions are similar to those in recent hits.⁴

In the Middle East culture Family traditions are a strong influence as well, and boys are often named after their father or grandfather.⁵ As education level increases, the number of children made decreases. As a result, parents give a more unique

name to their baby. In a study by Ogihara et al. it was shown that as the individuality in the Japanese society increased, people were getting away from the traditional naming tendency.⁶ However, as the level of education increases, people move away from their extended family life and towards smaller familial life, become more individualized and away from tradition.

In various studies it was shown that the names given to newborn babies changed as cultural changes increased.^{7,8} Especially as the level of education increases, people are more influenced by the books they read, movies they watch or popular characters and are directed to call their babies that way and move away from traditional family names. Furthermore, parents might spend more time choosing names for their children when they have only one child than they do when they have two or three children.

One of the weak points of this study is that the economic status of the participants was not assessed in the study and the economic difference between the groups was not investigated. Whereas in a study by Grossman, it was shown that as the financial income increased, the cultural structure also changed.⁹ It was shown that the choice of name changed with the increase of financial income.¹⁰

CONCLUSION

The results of our study show that as the level of education increases, the tendency to give parental names to newborn babies decreases. This can be explained by the fact that the higher education level leads to the more influence that affect the world view of the people.

Source of Finance

During this study, no financial or spiritual support was received neither from any pharmaceutical company that has a direct connection with the research subject, nor from a company that provides or produces medical instruments and materials which may negatively affect the evaluation process of this study.

Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest between the authors and / or family members of the scientific and medical committee members or members of the potential conflicts of interest, counseling, expertise, working conditions, share holding and similar situations in any firm.

Authorship Contributions

Idea/Concept: Engin Korkmazer, Tayfur Çift; **Design:** Engin Korkmazer, Emine Arslan; **Control/Supervision:** Emine Arslan; **Data Collection and/or Processing:** Engin Korkmazer; **Analysis and/or Interpretation:** Tayfur Çift; **Literature Review:** Engin Korkmazer; **Writing the Article:** Engin Korkmazer, Emine Arslan; **Critical Review:** Emine Arslan

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