

## **Behavioral Problems in Children: A Systematic Review of Research Literature in Pakistan**

**\*Amna Affan Butt and Ruhi Khalid, PhD**

Institute of Psychology, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore,  
Pakistan

Children are becoming a focus of contemporary research due to alarming rise in behavioral problems. This rise is a matter of concern for Western countries and Asian countries like Pakistan. Objective of this article was to review research literature for studies regarding behavioral problems of children less than 18 years. Studies published in Pakistani journals and abstract booklets from 1970's to 2014 were reviewed. Review of these studies revealed that researchers initially showed interest in aggression among male children and role of socioeconomic status and cultural factors. Gradually, focus narrowed down to Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and its correlates. Contemporary studies are exploring myriad of factors associated with behavioral problems of children along with adaptation and validation of behavioral problems' scales. Trend of carrying out intervention studies is quite recent. Implications of this review are discussed.

*Keywords:* Behavioral problems, children, internalizing behaviors, externalizing behaviors, emotional problems