

Father Son Relationship in Tandav Series with Reference to the Attachment Theory

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Abstract

The purpose of this exploratory study is to examine the father-son relationship in Amazon Prime series Tandav and how the relationship faces a setback after the race for power. The relationship experiences effects of leadership development specifically in the sun. I choose to study the influence of power on the son which gradually takes a toll on their relationship. It should be noted that all fathers are sons but not all sons are fathers. My central research question is: How power influences relationships and specifically father-son relationship in Tandav series? I address this question through a deep analysis of the web series and have created a relationship of the series with the Attachment Theory and coming out with a conclusion from a cultural point of view. Attachment theory of child development also provides useful tools with which to analyze the multivariate levels of mutual influence in the progression of the son-father relationship, and the question as to how rationality can affect the emergence of specific leadership qualities or abilities.

Keywords: Attachment theory, caregiver, stages of attachment, types of attachment, influence of power, relationship.

Introduction

British psychologist John Bowlby was the 1st attachment theoretician, describing attachment as a "lasting psychological connectedness between human beings." Bowlby was interested in understanding the separation anxiety and distress that children experience once separated from their primary caregivers. Some of the earliest behavioural theories urged that attachment was merely a learned behavior. These theories proposed that attachment was simply the result of the feeding relationship between the kid and the caregiver. Because the caregiver feeds the kid and provides nourishment, the child becomes hooked up. What Bowlby observed is that even feedings did not diminish the anxiety of old kids once they were separated from their primary caregivers. Instead, he found that attachment was

characterized by clear behavioral and motivation patterns. When kids' area unit frightened, they will get proximity from their primary caregiver so as to receive each comfort and care.

WHAT IS ATTACHMENT?

Attachment is an emotional bond with another person. Bowlby believed that the earliest bonds formed by youngsters with their caregivers have a tremendous impact that continues throughout life. He suggested that attachment additionally serves to keep the kid getting ready to the mother, thus raising the child's probabilities of survival. Bowlby viewed attachment as a product of evolutionary processes, whereas the activity theories of attachment advised that attachment was a learned method, Bowlby and others proposed that youngsters area unit born with an innate drive to create attachments with caregivers. Throughout history, children World Health Organization maintained proximity to AN attachment figure were additional seemingly to receive comfort and protection, and therefore additional seemingly to survive to adulthood. Through the process of selection, a motivational system designed to regulate attachment emerged. So what determines roaring attachment? Behaviorists counsel that it was food that led to forming this attachment behavior, but Bowlby and others incontestable that aid and responsiveness were the first determinants of attachment.

DEPRIVATION FROM MOTHER

Harry Harlow's infamous studies on maternal deprivation and social isolation throughout the Fifties and Sixties conjointly explored early bonds. In a series of experiments, Harlow incontestable, however such bonds emerge and the powerful impact they need on behavior and functioning. In one version of his experiment, newborn rhesus monkeys were separated from their birth mothers and reared by surrogate mothers. The infant monkeys were placed in cages with 2 wire-monkey mothers. One of the wire monkeys held a bottle from that the babe monkey may acquire nourishment, while the different wire monkey was coated with a soft terry textile. While the babe monkeys would go to the wire mother to get food, they spent most of their days with the soft cloth mother. When frightened, the baby monkeys would turn to their cloth-covered mother for comfort and security.

Stages of Attachment

Researchers Rudolph Schaffer and Peggy Emerson analyzed the variety of attachment relationships that infant's kind in an exceedingly longitudinal study with sixty infants. The infants were observed each four weeks throughout the 1st year of life, and then once more at 18 months. Based on their observations, Schaffer and Emerson made public four distinct phases of attachment.

Pre-Attachment Stage: From birth to 3 months, infants do not show any particular attachment to a particular caregiver. The infant's signals, such as crying and fussing, naturally attract the attention of the caregiver and therefore the baby's positive responses encourage the caregiver to stay close.

Indiscriminate Attachment: Between 6 weeks of age to seven months, infants begin to show preferences for primary and secondary caregivers. Infants develop trust that the

caregiver will respond to their wants. While they still settle for care from others, infants start distinctive between acquainted and unknown individuals, responding more absolutely to the primary caregiver.

Discriminate Attachment: At this point, from about seven to eleven months of age, infants show a strong attachment and preference for one specific individual. They will protest once separated from the first attachment figure (separation anxiety), and begin to display anxiety around strangers (stranger anxiety). **Multiple Attachments.** After about nine months of age, children begin to kind sturdy emotional bonds with different caregivers on the far side the first attachment figure. This often includes the father, older siblings, and grandparents.

LASTING IMPACT OF EARLY ATTACHMENT

Research suggests that failure to type secure attachments early in life will have a negative impact on behavior in later childhood and throughout life. Children diagnosed with oppositional disobedient disorder (ODD), conduct disorder (CD), or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) frequently show attachment issues, possibly due to early abuse, neglect, or trauma. Clinicians suggest that kids adopted once the age of half dozen months have a higher risk of attachment issues. While attachment designs displayed in adulthood area unit not essentially a similar as those seen in infancy, early attachments can have a serious impact on later relationships. Those who area unit firmly connected in childhood tend to possess smart vanity, strong romantic relationships, and the ability to self-disclose to others. Children WHO area unit firmly connected as infants tend to develop stronger vanity and higher self-sufficiency as they grow older. These children additionally tend to be additional freelance, perform better in college, have successful social relationships, and experience less depression and anxiety.

ATTACHMENT THEORY'S RELATION TO TANDAV SERIES

In Tandav Series, It can be easily identified, the lack of trust of Father (Devki Nandan), on his Son (Samar Pratap Singh), when the father talks to his all-weather political friend , that, he sees a dictatorial figure in the eyes of his son. This lack of trust manifests many other folds. As the series continues it becomes evident that the son doesn't like, in fact makes him disgruntled, when his own father thinks him as an incapable of the position of Prime Minister. This leaves him with forced self-doubt, and is also perceived as less valued. It is for sure that the son had many serious grudges against his father but could not evacuate it due to the influential power position of his father. The major set-back of the father-son relation can be sensed with the closeness of his father and his lover Anuradha Kishore. The son felt ignored and devalued with the growing closeness of them. The father-son relation comes to the culmination point where the son adds Aconite (drug) to father's wine, which lead father to the death bed. Jealousy and acquisition of power becomes the impetus for the son's action.

AFFECTS OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT IN SON OVER FATHER-SON RELATIONSHIP

The father-son relationship experiences leadership development from both the sides. The son after acquiring excellence in his academic and political-career, was vacuum sucked, where he had high self-image but had no political post. Political values acquired by the son were mostly from his own father. One of the core value acknowledged was that all relations are set-a-side against the power position or if position needs to be acquired. A sense of insecurity on both the sides of relation was being witnessed as the position was crucial and both wanted to take charge upon it. A tacit insecurity was being sensed between father-son. The nature of power and leadership in the context of the child's moral development, reminds us of the nature of selective imitation by which children learn by copying their parents. Also, a sense of reciprocity grows between the child and the parent. At the highest level of reciprocity is the phase where son appeals to a national concept of justice that lies far-off from the perceptible rules of social order.

INFLUENCE OF POWER OVER SON

Father after winning the elections was entitled to take the seat. Son's desirability and zeal to control the power, intimidated him to act in all possible way. Son without power started growing his feelings in a resentful manner and did not want to be taken for granted. It can also be perceived that the acts done by the son was also to safe guard his self-esteem and worth. The liberty to exercise power embodied son, that he discarded the basic rule of societal structure. Self-acquired values after certain hardcore life experiences empowered son to put them into implications and enjoy the luxury of those values. This inside trading of acquired values created a tense environment in the one-on-one interaction. Negating the opinions of the son, by the father made the relation sour, as with the instinct to dominate both side's opinion should have considered. Dealing with the power immaturely can cause a lot of worries and developing authoritative nature caused him loss of interpersonal relation with his own blood.

CHARACTERISING SON'S ATTACHMENT WITH EXAMPLE

To have a better point of view regarding the role and characteristic of Samar Pratap Singh, we need to have simple and acute knowledge of the Attachment Theory.

The Attachment Theory argues that, a strong emotional and physical bond to one primary caregiver in our initial years of life, is critical to our development. If our bonding is strong and we are securely attached, then we feel safe to explore the world. We know there is always that safe base, to which we can return to anytime. If our bond is weak, we feel insecurely attached. We are afraid to leave or explore a rather scary looking world. People who are securely attached are said to have greater trust and can connect to others and as a result are more successful in life. Insecurely attached people tend to mistrust others, lack some social skills and have problems forming relationships.

There is one type of secure attachment and there are three types of insecure attachments:

1. Secure Attachment (Organized)
2. Anxious Ambivalent(Organized)

3. Anxious Avoidant (Organized)
4. Anxious Disorganized (Disorganized)

Understanding with an Example:

A married couple, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, have 4 children A,B, C and D. Parents cuddle, make frequent eye contact, speak warmly, and are always there for their kids. But one day Mrs. Smith dies. For Mr. Smith life now becomes very difficult. He spends all day working, while at the same time trying to care for his children. An impossible task for a single parent.

1. Eldest of child at 6 years of age, (son) A's brain is for the most part developed, his character is strong and his world view is well shaped. The new situation does not affect him much, he knows there is always dad, his safe haven. He feels securely attached. Later, he turns into a trusting and optimistic young man. His self-image is positive.

2. B (daughter), 3 years of age, has problem coping with the new lack of attention. To Ann, her father now acts unpredictably. She is anxious about their relationship, and as a result becomes clingy. To get her dad's attention, she has to raise her emotional state and scream. When her mom finally reacts with a predictable response, she herself acts ambivalent and show her true feelings. Later in life, others think Ann is unpredictable or moody. Her self-image is less positive. Her attachment style is ANXIOUS AMBIVALENT.

3. C(son) who is 2 years old, spends his days with his uncle who loves him, but thinks that a good education means being strict. If little Joe shows too much emotions or is too loud, his uncle gets any and sometimes punitive. This scares Joe and causes emotional harm. He learns that to avoid fear, he has to avoid showing his feelings also in other situations. As an adult he continues this strategy and has problems entering into relationships. His image of himself is rather negative. His attachment is Anxious Avoidant.

4. D (daughter), who is just one year old, gets sent to a nursery. The staff there is poorly trained, overworked and often very stressed. Some are outright abusive. Amy therefore becomes anxious of the very people she seeks security from, a conflict which totally disorganizes her idea about love and safety. As she is experiencing fear without resolution, she tries to avoid all social situations. As an adult she thinks of herself as unworthy of love. Her self-image is very negative. Her attachment is Anxious Disorganized.

Our attachment is formed in the very first years of our lives, a time when we are too young to communicate our anxiety and as a result can experience high levels of stress. Then our adrenal gland, an organ sitting on top of our kidneys, produces the stress hormones i.e. adrenaline and cortisol. The heart rate increases, the blood pressure goes up and we become alert. If that happens frequently, it is called toxic stress. Toxic, because it impairs the development of a child's brain, and weakens the immune system. In embryo or at a very young age, toxic stress can even switch the expressions of genes, which can affect our health many decades later. By simulating a strange situation, we can assess an attachment style, already by the age of one. To do this, we let the child play with his mother for a few minutes

inside a room. Then the child is left alone. The key moment is the child's reaction when her mother returns. Securely attached children first usually hug their mother, then can calm down and eventually get back to playing. Insecurely attached children can be ambivalent and avoidant. Some cannot stop crying or refuse to continue playing. The long term effects of our attachment in the early years, are well documented. Using the theory, many scholars were able to predict already at age 3, if a child would drop out of high school with 75% accuracy. In another study, undergraduates at Harvard were asked to assess how close they felt to their parents. 35 years later they were asked about their health. 90% of those who said they had a rather broken relationship with their mother were also diagnosed with health issues, including coronary artery disease, hypertension and alcoholism. For those that had reported a warm relationship, the figure of poor health diagnosis was just 44%. But there is another reason why the early years deserve special attention. They are the starting place for subsequent behavior. A kid that feels securely attached at age 2, can make friends at kinder garden. Their worldview gets reinforced with every interaction and they develop optimism. As a result they make good relationships at school, then at college and later at work. Highly insecurely attached children can miss out on this opportunity. Psychologist JOHN BOWLBY, a pioneer in ATTACHMENT THEORY, allegedly said, "*What cannot be communicated to the parent, cannot be communicated to the self.*" In other words those who feel insecurely attached, might not quite understand themselves. To get to know who they are and what they feel, they might have to go way back in time.

SIMILARITY OF TRAITS

We can clearly connect to the personality of an Anxious Ambivalent with Samar Pratap Singh, the protagonist, in Tandav Series. AS, just like Samar was not given enough attention after the death of his mother, and his father being in politics could not address his worries, being emotionally unavailable, insensitive parenting, transferring insensitivity and antipathy. Therefore, Samar had to strive for emotional desired response of his father, asking for acceptance, which made him a person with Anxious Ambivalent Attachment.

Samar hated his father's relationship with Anuradha Kishore, Devki's lover, who was also an active senior member of their party. In one way or another Samar believed that she is the root cause of him not receiving the desired attention, trust and security of his father. The agony of the emotional void prompted inside him could be witnessed in the later part of the series. Ignoring or not paying enough attention after the death of his mother caused Samar to be person of Anxious Ambivalent attachment. This deformity in the relationship of father and son makes Samar more anxious about their relationship and acts clingy in more negative sense.

Samar wanted to be acknowledged and be appreciated for his contribution, for gathering the youth's votes, from his father. He did received acceptance from the general public and is considered as realized youth leader of the party, but was always overlooked by

the father. This made Samar filled with discontentment against his own father. Such behavior shows the characteristic of advanced anxious ambivalent attachment. It can be observed that Samar was a bright student and had obtained his academic degree from Harvard University, therefore an achiever kind of personality. When ignored of his abilities, he felt like a loser and disheartened, which escalated resentment against his father. I would consider this personality trait as extreme anxious ambivalent, where the person rebels against the person or thing who gives that sense of insecurity. To feel like a winner and bolster his self-esteem in his own image, he had to gain power and position greater than the source of rejection and feed the ego.

Father being the role model consciously or subconsciously leaves his traits in the personality of the son. An extra marital affair of father, which was inflicted upon son, somehow was pushed to the Anxious Ambivalent Attachment, where insecurity was validated. Such kind of people is confused regarding their relationships and subconsciously seeks validation, security and attention from more people. Being unpredictable and moody are ramifications of being Ambivalent in attachment. There were many incidences where Samar acted dubiously.

Samar showed a traits of Anxious Ambivalent Attachment style, which can also be noticed forced attachment, when an old friend and so called uncle of Samar was murdered with an accident and such act was justified by the father with adialogue, "*Raajneetimai tum rishteydhoondhogey, tohhogyakalyaantumhara, yahasirfek he rishtahotahaisatta se aur kursi se.*" At this adult stage of the son, insensitivity and antipathy's seeds were nurtured, and thus leaves him with a personality of Anxious Ambivalent Attachment.

Conclusion

John Bowlby was the pioneer to analyze the anxiety and stress felt by a child in their initial stage of life and how it can transform their personality during adult hood. Attachment is a way a kid or new born feels emotionally and adapts instinctively according to the situation. There are various stages of attachments. Lack of inconsistent parenting or emotional unavailability can hamper the cognitive balance of the child. There are various types of Attachment interlinked to a person's personality, depending upon the nurturing factors and environment provided. Samar Pratap Singh in 'TANDAV' series inflicted characteristics of Anxious Ambivalent Attachment, which revealed his certain pattern of action and the rationale of it. Similarity of traits were observed and analyzed which gave a clearer picture of the protagonist in the series.

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