

Name- PUNYA PILLAI

Educational qualifications- M.Sc Child Development, Ph.D. (Human development and Childhood Studies), University of Delhi

Profile-

Punya Pillai has been working at the Department of Human Development and Childhood Studies (HDCS), from 2005 in permanent capacity. Prior to that, she worked at Lady Irwin College (1999-2004) and M.S University of Baroda (1997-1998), on temporary basis. She was awarded Ph.D. degree in 2013 by University of Delhi. Her doctoral work was in the area of social cognition and culture, the specific theme being children's understanding of truth. Her major publications over the years include chapters in edited books and journal articles on the themes of children's developmental understanding of truth, psychobiography of Indira Gandhi, cultural origins and directions of decision making, development in middle childhood and adolescence, children's construals of happiness, research on the young child in India, variables in research, and children's play in the times of the covid-19 pandemic. She has also created modules on early childhood development for UNICEF Gandhinagar, and undertaken course writing for distance learning programs at Jamia Milia Islamia and Lady Irwin College. Her areas of teaching have been foundation courses on human development, research methods, computer applications, social psychology, theories of human development, development in adolescence and youth, and child rights. She is currently guiding doctoral dissertations on the structural and functional changes of the Indian family, artificial intelligence initiatives in Delhi schools, and the experience of loneliness among Indian youth. Her other areas of doctoral research guidance have been prosocial behaviour development in young children in multiple caregiver settings and scale errors and scale estimations in young children.

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