ABSTRACT

The present study aimed to investigate the effects of visual impairment of adolescents on parental stress and parental quality of life. For this purpose, 100 parents of visually impaired adolescents and 100 parents of sighted adolescents were sampled for the study. The sample included 50 parents of female sighted and visually impaired adolescents and 50 parents of male sighted and visually impaired adolescents. The data on Parental Stress was collected from the parents by using Parental Stress Scale (Berry and Jones, 1995). Parental Quality of Life was measured by using the brief version of World Health Organization Quality Of Life (WHOQOL-BREF) (WHOQOL Group 1994a, 1994b, 1995). The analysis performed on the collected data included Correlation, Regression, and Two way MANOVA. The results of the study revealed that visual impairment significantly predicts parental stress and parental quality of life. The findings also indicated significant negative correlation between parental stress and parental quality of life. Furthermore, the results of the study indicated significant differences on parental stress and different domains of quality of life of parents in terms of their gender and visual ability of their child with mothers of visually impaired adolescents having higher level of parental stress and lower quality of life than fathers. All the results of the study are supported by theoretical evidences and related literature. This study has wide implications in the field of special education.