

A STUDY ON ATTITUDE TOWARDS DEMOCRACY OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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Abstract

This investigation was done to see if there is any significant relationship in attitude towards Democracy of high school students. The sample comprises of 300 higher secondary students acquired from ten higher secondary schools in Virudhunagar district through simple random sampling technique. The collected data is analysed statistically in SPSS software. The findings reveal that the level of attitude towards Democracy of high school students is moderate.

Keywords: *Attitude towards Democracy, high school students, Descriptive, Survey method and SPSS.*

Introduction

Democracy is a behavioural process by which a person maintains balance among various needs that one encounters at a given point of time. Each and every situation of life demands that the person concerned should be able to effectively perform in accordance with some guiding principles and should be able to strike a balance among various forces. Democracy is defined as a process wherein one builds variations in the behaviour to achieve harmony with oneself, others or the environment with an aim to maintain the state of equilibrium between the individual and the environment.

A major goal in the health caring of today's youth is education so that adolescents can become knowledgeable about the relationship between their lifestyle and their physical and mental health. They also need help in achieving the maturity essential to choose a healthy lifestyle and accept responsibility for their personal health. Adolescents need health caring providers who are able to communicate with them in a manner they can understand and who respect them as unique individuals. In surveys of 48 adolescents and their health caring needs as they perceive them, adolescents have said they want health caring providers who are warm and compassionate, have a sense of humor and are able to show emotional responsiveness, can be objective and nonjudgmental when dealing with adolescent health problems are able to demonstrate flexibility, tolerance, and enjoyment in working with young people can maintain their adult identity and serve as role models, and are knowledgeable about the special needs of adolescents

Significance of the Study

High School Students belong to the adolescent stage of development. Adolescence is a period of concomitant growth. It is the formal operational stage of development

(Piaget, 1952). They think in abstract terms, follow the logical propositions and form hypothesis. They can isolate the elements of a problem and systematically explore all possible solutions to problems. It is essentially a period of rapid development and transition and is full of complexities. Academic failure may lead to frustration and poor Democracy in them. They are emotionally disturbed and develop an unhealthy attitude towards life. The sense of failure complex which in turn may lead to a retreat into non communicative fantasy or overt misbehaviour. So the important non-cognitive factors which are more complementary to achievement have been taken like attitude towards Democracy. They are further challenged from different angles to develop this personality as they are involved in all the activities of the school. The student's attitude towards Democracy and Democracy caring of them and the ways to enhance it are of great importance for every teacher. Through the findings of the study, one can understand that the Democracy. The assessment of the Democracy of the individuals can help the competent authorities to develop the Democracy of the students. Hence the investigator choose this present study 'A Study on Democracy of High School Students'.

Objectives of the Study

1. To find out the level of attitude towards Democracy of high school students.
2. To find out the level of attitude towards Democracy of high school students with respect to gender.

Null Hypothesis

1. There is no significant difference between male and female high school students in their attitude towards Democracy.
2. There is no significant difference between rural and urban high school students in their attitude towards Democracy.

Delimitations

1. The investigation is limited to high school students of Virdhunagar district only.
2. The present study has been confined with a sample of 300 high school students from 10 schools only.

Methodology

A descriptive survey method was adopted by the researcher to conduct this study.

Population for the Study

The population for the present study is the high school students in Virudhunagar district.

Sample for the Study

The sample size is 300 high school students from 10 schools in Virudhunagar district.

Tool

Attitude towards Democracy scale prepared and validated by investigator & guide (2022).

Statistical Techniques

Percentage, Mean, standard Deviation, 't' test and correlation.

Analysis of Data

Objective: 1

To find out the level of Attitude towards Democracy of high school students.

Table 1 Level of Attitude towards Democracy of High School Students

Low		Moderate		High	
Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
148	49.3	92	30.7	60	20.0

It is inferred from the above table that 49.3% of the high school students have low, 30.7% of them have moderate and 20.0% of them have high level of attitude towards Democracy.

Objective: 2

To find out the level of Attitude towards Democracy of high school students with reference to gender.

Table 2 Level of Attitude towards Democracy of High School Students with Reference To Gender

Gender	Low		Moderate		High	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Male	77	56.2	39	28.5	21	15.3
Female	71	43.6	53	32.5	39	28.9

It is inferred from the above table that, 56.2% of the male high school students have low, 28.5% of them have moderate and 15.3% of them have high level of Attitude towards Democracy. 43.6% of the female high school students have low, 32.5% of them have moderate and 28.9% of them have high level of Attitude towards Democracy.

Null Hypothesis: 1

There is no significant difference between male and female high school students in their attitude towards Democracy.

Table 3 Difference between Male and Female High School Students in their Attitude towards Democracy

Gender	N	Mean	SD	Calculated 't' value	Remarks at 5% level
Male	137	137.263	12.18	2.558	S
Female	163	140.712	11.15		

(At 5% level of significance, for df 298, the table value of 't' is 1.96)

It is inferred from the above table that calculated 't' value (2.558) is greater than the table value (1.96) for df 298 and at 5% level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected.

It shows that there is a significant difference between male and female high school students in their attitude towards Democracy.

Null Hypothesis: 2

There is no significant difference between rural and urban high school students in their attitude towards Democracy.

Table 4 Difference between Rural and Urban High School Students in their Attitude towards Democracy

Locality of school	N	Mean	SD	Calculated 't' value	Remarks at 5% level
Rural	175	141.183	12.3559	3.695	S
Urban	125	136.272	10.1944		

(At 5% level of significance, for df 298, the table value of 't' is 1.96)

It is inferred from the above table that calculated 't' value (3.695) is greater than the table value (1.96) for df 298 and at 5% level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. It shows that there is a significant difference between rural and urban high school students in their attitude towards Democracy.

Major Findings

Descriptive Analysis

1. 49.3% of high school students have low, 30.7% of them have moderate and 20.0% of them have high level of attitude towards Democracy.
2. 56.2% of the male high school students have low, 28.5% of them have moderate and 15.3% of them have high level of Democracy.
3. 43.6 % of the female high school students have low, 32.5% of them have moderate and 28.9% of them have high level of Attitude towards Democracy.

Inferential Analysis

1. There is a significant difference between male and female high school students in their Democracy.
2. There is a significant difference between rural and urban high school students in their attitude towards Democracy.

Interpretation

1. The 't' test result shows that there is significant difference between male and female high school students in their attitude towards Democracy. Female students (140.712) are better than male (137.263) in their attitude towards Democracy. This is may be due to fact that female students may participate rich co-curricular programme and also they have more opportunity to mingle among their classmates.
2. The 't' test result reveals that there is significant difference between rural and urban high school students in their attitude towards Democracy. Rural students (141.183)

are better than urban students (136.272) in their attitude towards Democracy. This is may be due to family environment of rural area which plays an important role to make the rural student more able to adjust with diverse circumstances of life. Due to availability of electronic media and resources of communication urban students are more comfortable to deal with the uncertainty of their daily life than rural students. Frequently participation of various social and formal activities builds them extrovert.

Recommendations of the Study

1. In view of the major findings of the present study and in view of enriching the qualitative improvement of Education in attitude towards Democracy in particular at the high school educational scenario of the state, the investigator put forth the following recommendations for implementing into practice during curriculum transaction at high school level.
2. The state educational authorities, policy makers, educational planner's curriculum experts have to bestow their attention while revamping and restructuring the high school curriculum, about the significant role of parents to play in the education of their children. For ensuring in discharging of educational responsibility of parents instead of teachers alone, proper orientation courses to be designed and necessary handbooks for orientation programmes of parents are to be prepared and to be implemented. For this, the concerned authorities have to take appropriate decisions for formulating necessary orders for implementation

Suggestions of the Study

The following are the suggestions for further research studies.

1. A comprehensive research study can be conducted by selecting more psychological variables namely multiple intelligence, emotional intelligence, creativity, interest, aptitude and attitude of Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary students as correlates of Biological Achievements.
2. Comprehensive research study can be conducted by selecting more socio familial variables namely cultural level of the family, education of parents, income and occupation of parents, home learning facilities, family acceptance education and family neighborhood of Primary, Secondary and high school students as correlates of Democracy and Democracy caring.

Conclusion

In this study, it was discovered that there is a considerable disparity in Democracy behaviour between male and female higher secondary students. Female high school students perform better than males in terms of attitude towards Democracy of high school students in Relation to Democracy Caring. If there are any concrete benefits from parent-child participation, they are likely to include higher educational expectations, lower truancy, reduced absenteeism, and a greater emphasis on homework and all of which should ideally lead to enhanced academic accomplishment.

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