



International Journal of Arts & Education Research

STUDY OF ATTITUDE OF COLLEGE STUDENTS TOWARDS COMPULSORY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AT UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

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ABSTRACT

The study of the environmental education has gained considerable attention since after 1971 and 1972 deliberations at Fourese and Stockholm. Unquenching thirst for comfort has made man so blind that he is not serious towards his generation. Generally environmental education means the educational process dealing with man's relationship with his natural and made surroundings and includes the relation of population.

And attitude is defined as "a disposition to react favorably or unfavorably to a class of objects."

In the present study attempt has been made to know the attitude of college students towards compulsory environmental education at undergraduate level with respect to sex and locality. It was an attempt to know the attitude of college going students towards compulsory environmental education through the Likert method. This method is more pragmatic in nature, so for as administrative economic and time facilities are concerned. Forty statements were taken for the purpose of conducting study related to compulsory Environmental education. To find out this, the study was conducted on 200 college going students of Kangra District of H.P.

Keywords: Attitude, Environmental Education, College Students.

INTRODUCTION

Attitude is a broad term covering almost all the important field of human knowledge. It is especially prominent in the field of education, psychology, Sociology and politics. It is a guiding force behind all human actions. It has received considerable attention from researchers in all walks of life. Who have defined it in different ways and have extracted meaning from it. Psychologists have defined attitude in various ways, some identify it completely with the opinion that individuals hold whereas, others define attitude as a complex set up.

Guilford define attitude as "the tendency to favour or not to favour some type of object or situation. Thurston defined attitude as "the degree of positive, negative affect associated with some psychological object.

So, we can say that attitude is a predisposition to respond in a certain way on a certain way to a person, object, situation, event or idea in a consistent manner which has been learn and has become ones typical mode of response.

Environmental education means education about the various aspects of nature and their importance in the life of mans relationship with his natural and man made surroundings and

includes the relation of pollution, resource allocation and depletion, conservation, transportation, technology and urban and rural planning to the total human environment.

The goal of environmental education is to develop a world population that is aware of and concerned about the environment and its associated problems and which has the knowledge skill, attitude, motivations and commitment to work individually and collectively towards solutions of current problems and the prevention of new one.

Environmental education for the development of positive attitude it is essential to educate the pupils and people for ecology and environmental balances. Time is to wake up or to face tragedy or catastrophe of unimaginable dimensions. Therefore, there is the need for the development of positive attitude of pupils towards environmental and environmental education.

OBJECTIVES

1. To prepare a scale for measuring attitude of students towards compulsory environmental education.
2. To study the effect of sex –difference on the attitude towards compulsory environmental education.
3. To study the differences in the attitude of both urban and rural area college students to the introduction of compulsory environmental education at undergraduates stage.
4. To study the distribution of scores in the attitude scale which is prepared on Likert's method?
5. To find out the joint influence of sex and back ground of the students whether rural or urban on the attitude of the students towards the subject.

HYPOTHESES

1. There will be no significant difference between the attitude of male & female students from urban areas toward compulsory environmental education at undergraduate level.
2. There will be no significant difference between the attitude of male & female students from rural areas toward compulsory environmental education at undergraduate level.
3. There will be no significant difference between the attitude of male & female students from rural & urban areas toward compulsory environmental education at undergraduate level.
4. There will be no significant difference between the attitude of male & female students from urban & rural areas toward compulsory environmental education at undergraduate level.

DELIMITATIONS

1. The present study was conducted on randomly selected male and female college students.
2. The sample was randomly selected from rural and urban area colleges of Distt. Kangra (H.P)
3. Only two hundred (one hundred male & one hundred female) students were selected for the present study.
4. The attitude of the students was measured with the help of an attitude scale based on Likert's method.

METHODOLOGY

Keeping in view the nature of study, 200 students were selected at random of different colleges of District Kangra. The researcher has adopted a scientific attitude towards its preparation. To study the attitude of students towards compulsory environmental education an attitude scale was constructed. All the necessary steps were followed in constructing the attitude scale. Likert's five point scale was chosen. Raw Score, Mean, standard deviation, Range and Critical Ratio were used as statistical tool.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

Table I: Showing Mean and Standard Deviation of different groups

S. No.	Group	N	Mean	S.D
1	Male students from Urban area Colleges	50	130.40	16.48
2	Female students from Urban area Colleges	50	148.36	16.24
3	Male students from Rural area Colleges	50	144.44	16.72
4	Female students from Rural area Colleges	50	136.64	18.86

Table II: Showing Mean SD and Critical Ratio

S. No.	Group	N	Mean	S.D	Critical Ratio	Remarks
1	Male students from Urban area	50	130.40	16.48	44.9	S*
	Female students from Urban area	50	148.36	16.24		
2	Male students from Rural area	50	144.44	16.72	6.39	S*
	Female students from Rural area	50	136.64	18.86		
3	Female students from Urban area	50	148.36	16.24	8.68	S*
	Female students from Rural area	50	136.64	18.86		

* Significant at 0.05 level of significance.

INTERPRETATION

1. Table-II shows that critical ratios (C.R) of the attitude of Male and Female students belonging to urban areas towards the compulsory Environmental Education was found to be 44.9 which is greater than 2.58 at 0.05 level of significance; hence the null hypothesis is rejected. It can be interpreted that there is a significant difference between the attitude of Male and Female students from urban areas towards the Compulsory Environmental Education at undergraduate level.
2. Critical Ratio (C.R) of the attitude of Male and Female students belonging to Rural areas towards the Compulsory Environmental Education was found to be 6.39 which is greater than 2.58 at 0.05 level of significance; hence the null hypothesis is rejected. It can be interpreted that there is a significant difference between the attitude of Male and Female students from Rural areas towards the Compulsory Environmental Education at undergraduate level.
3. Critical Ratios (C.R) of the Attitude of Female students belonging to urban and Rural areas towards the Compulsory Environmental Education was found to be 8.68 which is greater than 2.58 at 0.05 level of significance, hence the null hypotheses is rejected. It can be interpreted that there is a significant difference between the attitude of Male and Female students from Urban areas towards the Compulsory Environmental Education at undergraduate level.
4. Critical Ratios (C.R) of the attitude of Male students from Urban and Rural areas towards the Compulsory Environmental Education was found to be 35.1 which is greater than 2.58 at 0.05 level of significance, hence the null hypothesis is rejected. It can be interpreted that there is a significant difference between the attitude of Male and Female students from Rural areas towards the Compulsory Environmental Education at under-graduate level.

On the whole, the attitude of students of Degree Colleges of Kangra (H.P) is favourable towards the Introduction of Compulsory Environmental Education at undergraduate level.

CONCLUSION

1. On the whole an attitude of students of degree colleges is favourable towards compulsory Environmental Education at undergraduate level.
2. The attitude of the students belonging to rural area is favourable towards the compulsory Environmental Education at College level.
3. The attitude of the students belonging the Urban areas is also favourable towards the introduction of Environmental Education at undergraduate level of education.

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