

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MODERNITY AND SOCIAL MATURITY OF THE WOMEN STUDENTS IN ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLEGES

Research
Paper

ABSTRACT

Modernity, which cannot be alone identified by fashionable practices is actually a philosophy of life, which perfumes one's interrelations in the social climate. The women students are generally handicapped in this regard. The modernity of a woman student decides her relationship with her peer and this relationship has a tremendous impact on her social maturity. The main aim of the present study is whether there is any significant relationship between modernity and social maturity of the women students in arts and science colleges. The investigator has used the modernity and the social maturity scales as tools. The sample consists of three hundred arts and science college women students from 4 colleges in Kanyakumari District. The stratified random sampling technique has been used for collecting data. The major findings of the study are 16.7% of the college women learners have high level perception regarding modernity and there is significant relationship between the modernity and social maturity of the college women students.

RATIONALE FOR THE STUDY

For a considerable period of time, women have had no role to play in the scheme of things. Today, women have a clearer perception of their roles in a fast changing ambience. The adolescent might not be fully conversant with the demands of modernity except perhaps some familiarity with modern trends and fashions, particularly those connected with costumes and conversational modes. In order to derive the maximum benefit from a modern dispensation, she has to make the world's best values and the required mindset that suits the contemporary situation.

It is a universally acknowledged and a tangible fact that the progress of any nation depends mainly on the effectiveness of education. Since education is viewed as an instrument to develop the cognitive qualities, tolerance and understanding of people, it should prepare the younger generation to understand and face the realities of globalization. Attitudes, habits,

Manners and above all the character and personality of the students have to be moulded and shaped by the society and environment. Since society is a stem of growth characteristics of an adolescent period by which everyone should adapt to the society in which we live and

to which she is expected to adjust and contribute, maturity receives importance at the present context.

In the modern world there are so many conflicts that destroy a person's happiness and the satisfaction of their human minds. In these prevailing situations, whether a woman's social maturity which reflects her social adjustment empowers her modernity for entrusting herself with satisfaction is a great question in the mind of the investigator. Hence, the investigator felt the need of a study to seek the current position of relationship between modernity and social maturity of the women students in arts and science colleges.

OBJECTIVES

1. To find out the level of modernity and social maturity of the women college students.
2. To find out whether there is any significant difference between rural and urban women college students in their perception regarding modernity.

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3. To find out whether there is any significant difference between rural and urban women college students in their social maturity.
4. To find out whether there is any significant relationship between modernity and social maturity of women college students.

It is inferred from the table that 52.7% of women college students have moderate level perception regarding modernity. 30.7% and 16.7% of women college students have low and high level perception regarding modernity respectively.

METHODOLOGY

The investigator has adopted the survey method to study the relationship between modernity and social maturity of the women students in arts and science Colleges.

SAMPLE

The population of the study consists of the women students of four arts and science colleges in Kanyakumari District. A total of 300 women students of arts and science college are selected as sample by stratified random sampling.

TOOLS USED IN THE PRESENT STUDY

The investigator has used Modernity Scale to find out the modernity of women college students, which is a standardised tool.

The investigator has used the Social Maturity Scale to find out the social maturity of women college students, which is also a standardised tool.

ANALYSIS OF DATA

To interpret the raw scores meaningfully, the data are analysed using mean, standard deviation, 't'-test, and Carl Pearson's product moment correlation.

Table - 1
LEVEL OF MODERNITY OF WOMEN COLLEGE STUDENTS

| Variables | Low | | Moderate | | High | |
|-----------|-----|------|----------|------|------|------|
| | No | % | No | % | No | % |
| Modernity | 92 | 30.7 | 158 | 52.7 | 50 | 16.7 |

Table -2
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RURAL AND URBAN COLLEGE WOMEN STUDENTS IN THEIR MODERNITY

| Modernity and its Dimensions | Rural (N=150) | | Urban (N=150) | | Calculated value of 't' | Remark at 5% level |
|------------------------------|---------------|------|---------------|------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| | Mean | SD | Mean | SD | | |
| Women's rights | 16.46 | 1.02 | 16.61 | 1.08 | 1.21 | NS |
| Changes | 19.99 | 1.5 | 20.31 | 1.37 | 1.93 | NS |
| Religiosity | 15.12 | 0.86 | 15.25 | 0.69 | 1.47 | NS |
| Mass Media | 18.04 | 1.42 | 18.26 | 1.45 | 1.32 | NS |
| New working experiences | 17.57 | 0.77 | 17.65 | 0.89 | 0.9 | NS |
| Education | 16.55 | 0.76 | 16.91 | 0.92 | 3.7 | S |
| Modernity (General) | 103.3 | 5.3 | 104.5 | 5.35 | 1.97 | S |

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

From the above table it is understood that there is significant difference between rural and urban woman college students in their perception regarding modernity with regard to the dimension of education, because the calculated 't' value is 3.7 which is greater than the table value. With regard to the other dimensions of modernity like women's right, changes, religiosity, mass media and new working experiences, there exists no significant difference between rural and urban woman college students as the respective calculated values 1.21, 1.93, 1.47, 1.32, 0.9 are lower than the table value 1.96.

In general there is significant difference between rural and urban woman college students in their perception regarding modernity. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected.

Table - 3
LEVEL OF SOCIAL MATURITY OF WOMEN COLLEGE STUDENTS

| Variable | Low | | Moderate | | High | |
|-----------------|-----|------|----------|------|------|----|
| | No | % | No | % | No | % |
| Social Maturity | 70 | 23.3 | 185 | 61.7 | 45 | 15 |

It is inferred from the table that 61.7% of women college students have moderate level of social maturity. 23.3% and 15% of women college students have low and high level of social maturity respectively.

Table - 4
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RURAL AND URBAN WOMEN COLLEGE STUDENTS IN THEIR SOCIAL MATURITY

| Social Maturity | Rural (N=150) | | Urban (N=150) | | Calculated value of 't' | Remark at 5% level |
|-----------------|---------------|------|---------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| | Mean | SD | Mean | SD | | |
| | 233.3 | 5.66 | 243.5 | 10.39 | 10.62 | S |

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

From the above table it is inferred that there is significant difference between rural and urban women college students in their social maturity, because the calculated 't' value is 10.62 which is greater than the table value 1.96 at 5% level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected.

Table - 5
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MODERNITY AND SOCIAL MATURITY OF WOMEN COLLEGE STUDENTS

| No | Σx | Σy | Σxy | Σx^2 | Σy^2 | Correlation co-efficient | Remarks at 5% level |
|-----|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 300 | 71513 | 31158 | 7430692 | 17075910 | 3244688 | 0.212 | S |

(At 5% level of significance, for 298 df, the table value is 0.113)

There is significant relationship between modernity and social maturity of the women college students, because the calculated 'r' value 0.212 is greater than the table value 0.113 at 5% level of significance for 298df. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected.

FINDINGS

52.7% of the women college students have moderate level of modernity. There is significant difference between rural and urban college women students in their perception regarding modernity with regard to the dimension of education. With regard to the other dimensions of modernity like women's right, changes, religiosity, mass media and new working experiences, there exists no significant difference between rural and urban women college students.

61.7% of the women college students have moderate level of social maturity. There is significant difference between rural and urban women college students in their social maturity.

There is significant relationship between modernity and social maturity of the women college students.

DISCUSSION

The present study reveals that a majority of the women college students are oriented towards moderate level perception regarding modernity. It is also found that only 16.7% of the women college learners have high level perception regarding modernity. The women folk in India were denied education in the past because of superstitious beliefs and were relegated to the background. It was the British government who opened the door for their education in order to accelerate the process of modernization. Education of women has to spread in the midst of illiteracy, poverty, superstitious beliefs, child marriage, sati and other social evils. Free India is providing all opportunities for them to come out from traditionalism and conservatism. As a result, education of women is growing, they take responsibilities in all walks of life and in maintaining equality in all spheres of life.

't' test result of modernity based on the locality of the college shows significant difference between urban and rural women college students in their mean scores. The

mean score of the urban college students is greater than that of the rural college students. The reason could be the better understanding of the concept of modernity by urban women college students than by the rural college students. The urbanized environment enables the learners not only to conceive but also to practice their principles in day-to-day life. The colleges located in urban areas foster more modernity among the women students than the colleges located in the rural areas. This finding is quite natural in the sense that there is always greater process of modernity in urban areas. Since rural areas tend to be conservative, the government is taking a lot of measures to set right the mismatch. All facilities are created in the rural areas in the form of telephones, internet etc. The colleges in rural areas take measures to foster modernity among rural women students by organizing awareness camps, seminars, conferences and other relevant programmes.

Regarding social maturity the present study reveals that the women college students show moderate level of social maturity. The 't' test results of social maturity exhibit the existence of significant difference between the mean scores with regard to the locality of the college. Generally the term social maturity refers more to the level of social ability and vocational ability. The urban women college students seem to possess greater level of social maturity than the rural college students. The urban college students are exposed to varied situations of wider nature that enable the process of social maturity to take place effectively which is lacking in the case of rural college students.

There is significant relationship between modernity and social maturity of the women college students. The social maturity of a person is defined as the total outcome of social development and the ultimate result of effective socialization. Similarly, modernity refers to the readiness and positive attitude of an individual towards changes in culture, concepts etc. It is beyond a shadow of doubt that social maturity and modernity have inherent relationship between each other influencing one another. It is to be understood that the socially mature personality will surely be prone towards modernity. The conception of newer concepts and changes will easily take place in the minds of the individuals who are socially mature.

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I, S. Sebastian, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

S. Sebastian