

## A comparative study of values patterns of adolescents

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### Abstract

Life is becoming complex and complicated day by day. Moreover, with the advancement of technology at the fastest rate in proportion to that moral crisis are on increase. Consequently, the norms of the family, society, politics, professional ethics are changing and becoming increasingly strained. Values, the guiding principles that make our life easier are deteriorating badly. There are value crisis everywhere. So it is obligatory for all of us to make serious efforts to inculcate values not only in children but also in adults for which we must have the knowledge of value patterns of adolescents. Therefore, this paper is an attempt to understand the value pattern of adolescents because an adolescent is also known as foundation stage in the human life. As individuals grows into upper adolescents his believes, attitudes and values changes due to one's needs and experience. The individual formulates his own philosophy of life on the basis of one's moral development; therefore, there is a need to properly channelize their values so that adolescents can develop their philosophy towards positive side. For giving proper direction we must understand the pattern of their value.

**Keywords:** value pattern, moral crisis, society, professional ethics

### Introduction

Values are considered to be organising factors with in personality and especially important to moral character. Life with values is always meaningful. Moreover it means literally something previous, something dear, something for which one is ready to suffer, to sacrifice for and it is indeed valuable to die for.

Broudy (1965) gave seven areas of values i.e. Economic, Health, Bodily and Recreational, Social, Moral, Aesthetic, Intellectual and Religious values. Each value area has a subjective and an objective aspect. Sometimes, we speak of values from individual experience of satisfaction and sometimes values refer to some property or quality of the object or of an act, as value is a relation between an organism and an object. Although we can not ever be sure just how much each contribute to the transaction.

Adolescence the period of transition from childhood to adulthood brings many changes in young one's ways of life. The changes are due to developments with in the adolescent himself and to demands placed upon him by the culture in which he lives. His social concepts and their manipulations give rise to a new logic of moral value as he manipulates them with in the larger context of rights and duties. His intellectual development keeps pace with his social and emotional growth, which in turn influences his progress in moral values. As he grows into upper adolescent his beliefs, attitudes and values in this sphere are determined by his own needs and experiences and find expression in different ways. The demands which adolescents face are changing and this fact in itself requires a re-appraisal of his value systems. This is the period in which the character of the individual takes its final shape and its value patterns become more or less stable. He formulates his own philosophy of life on the basis of these values in-habited

by him. Therefore, the investigator has decided to study the value patterns of adolescents.

From the review of literature it was found that studies have been conducted by Kaul (1973), Panto (1984), Adhikari and Adhikari (1987), Kumari (1987) [7], Kaur (1988) [6], Karim (1991) [5], Jha *et al.* (1992), Shivamurthi *et al.* (1992) on values. But only two stude3 is have been found on value patterns of adolescents in sources. Hence, to fill this gap in the knowledge, the investigator thought to explore this area further. Moreover, the study is of great importance at this juncture when everybody feels values deterioration in the society particularly in the younger generation.

### Objective of the study

1. To determine the value patterns of adolescents.
2. To find out significant difference in values patterns of adolescents boys and adolescents girls.
3. To find out significant difference in value patterns of adolescent from rural and urban areas.

### Hypothesis

1. There is a significant difference in value patterns of adolscents boys and girls.
2. There is a significant difference in value patterns of adolescents of rural and urban areas.

### Sample

The sample of the present study consisted of 250 students of +1 classes taken from schools and colleges of Abohar & Fazilka towns and their adjoining rural areas. The selection of the school and colleges were made on random basis by lottery method. All the students present on the data of administration

of the test had been taken due to low enrolment of students in 10+1 class.

**Tools**

1. A study of values by Ohja (1959)
2. Self made short questionnaire for biographical information.

**Statistical Technique Used**

Mean, S.D ‘t’ ratio’s were calculated to test the hypothesis.

**Analysis, Interpretation and Discussion**

The data were tabulated under the following variables- six values, sex and area-wise in order to see the influence of independent variables on dependent variable. The analysis of the data was presented category wise along with the discussion.

**Value patterns of adolescents**

Table No.1 shows the mean scores of adolescents on six values. It is clear from the table that adolescents gave first preference to social values, second to political values, third to economic and theoretical values, fourth to aesthetic and religious values.

**Table 1:** Value Patterns of adolescents, No. of Students =250

Value	Mean (Boys)
A – Theoretical	4.988
B – Economic	5.004
C – Aesthetic	4.480
X - Social	5.932
Y – Political	5.416
Z - Religious	4.460

On the basis of means on six values of the adolescent. We can say that the adolescents have different values patterns. But the difference in means have been found to be minor. The reason may be that the adolescents are conscious of all these values. More – over all the values are ultimately inter- related with each other. No value can be ignored.

**Table 2:** Value Patterns of Adolescent Boys and Girls

Value	Mean (Boys)	Mean (Girls)	S.D. (Boys)	S.D. (Girls)	C.R.
A – theoretical	5.26	4.83	1.15	1.76	2.33*
B	5.35	4.91	1.11	1.48	2.68**
C	5.06	4.09	1.08	2.08	4.85**
X	5.63	6.11	1.04	1.34	3.17**
Y	5.63	5.30	1.55	2.13	1.41
Z	4.89	4.13	2.68	1.20	2.62**

\*\*Significant at .01level

\*Significant at.05level

N1=97, N2=153, df=248

Table 2 shows the value patterns of adolescent boys and girls. It is quite clear from the table that adolescent boys gave first preference to social and political values whereas adolescent girls gave first preferences to social values. Boys gave second preference to Economic values whereas girls gave third preference to economic values. Boys gave third preference to

theoretical values and girls gave fourth preference to theoretical values. Both boys and girls gave fifth preference to Religious values. Adolescent boys gave fourth preference to Aesthetic value as compared to adolescent girls who gave sixth preference to Aesthetic value.

The table also exhibits the significant difference between means for Economic, Aesthetic, Social and Religious values at .01level and for theoretical values at .05level.

It is evident from the table that adolescent boys and girls gave first preference to social values. It may be due to the fact that in adolescent period, they are more influenced by their friends and peer groups.

Adolescent boys gave first preference to political value whereas adolescent girls gave second preference because adolescent boys are more interested in power, prestige and place in society than the girls. Similarly boys are higher in economic values than adolescent girls because adolescent boys are more political. Adolescent boys preferred theoretical values more than adolescent girls due to the structure of our society which is static, traditional conservative. As far as religious values are concerned both preferred them on same footing. It may be due to the fact that that got religious training during the period of development by their parents and other members of their family. Aesthetic values are more preferred by boys as compared to girls. It may be due to the wandering nature of boys. Girls are confined to the four walls of their houses. On the basis of mean, we can say that there is a difference in hierarchy of preferences showed by adolescent. Table No.2 also shows the significant difference between two groups on the basis of means. Hence, hypothesis No.1 is retained for theoretical, economic, and aesthetic, social and religious values. The findings are supported by the findings of Taneja (1969) and Hartman (1970).

Value patterns of Adolescents from Rural and Urban:

It is quite clear from the table that rural adolescents as well as urban adolescents gave first preference to social value, second to political, third to theoretical and economic values. Urban adolescents gave fourth preference to religious values and aesthetic rural adolescents showed fourth preference to aesthetic and fifth to religious values.

**Table 3:** Value Patterns of Adolescent from Rural and Urban Families

Value	Mean (Boys)	Mean (Girls)	S.D. (Boys)	S.D (Girls)	C.R.
A – theoretical	5.26	4.79	1.40	1.61	2.44*
B - Economic	5.21	4.75	1.14	1.96	2.22*
C -Aesthetic	4.70	4.22	1.42	1.95	2.19*
X –Social	5.95	6.00	.45	1.20	.423
Y –Political	5.80	4.98	1.42	2.06	3.61**
Z -Religious	4.61	4.25	.81	1.33	2.53

\*\*Significant at.01level

\*Significant at.05 level

N1 = 135, N2 = 115, df =248

The table also reveals the significant difference among six values of urban and rural adolescent as ‘t’ is significant for political values at .01 level of confidence whereas ‘t’ is also significant for Theoretical, Economic, Aesthetic and Religious value at .05 level of confidence. No significant difference is

found in social values.

The table reveals that adolescents from urban and rural areas gave first preference to social values because both are resourceful and can translate virtues like love, sympathy and kindness into their behaviour. They gave second preference to political values. It may be due to the influence of politicians from these areas at centre and state levels. Moreover, it is an established fact that more social persons are always more political.

At the third place, they preferred the theoretical values. That means both, are very conservative. They are not ready to accept any change in their traditional outlook.

Both are preferred Economic values at third place. The reason may be that the people of these areas are economically very sound.

Aesthetic and religious values are found to be at Fourth and Fifth place. It may be due to the fact that these people do not find time to devote themselves for Aesthetic and Religious matters.

In the light of above discussion, we can say that there exists difference in hierarchy of preference given by adolescents. The table also show significant difference between the groups on the basis of means on Theoretical, Economic, Aesthetic, Political and Religious values. The findings re also in line with findings of Jha, kumar and Kumar (1992)

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