



A comparative study of interest towards education between male and female higher secondary students of tribal dominated Gariyaband district of Chhattisgarh

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Abstract

The aim of the present study was to compare educational interest between male and female higher secondary students of tribal dominated Gariyaband district of Chhattisgarh. 500 male and 500 female higher secondary students from Gariyaband district of Chhattisgarh served as sample in the present study. The overall interest in education was assessed by Education Interest Record prepared by Kulshrestha (2007). The results reveal significant impact of gender on overall educational interest of higher secondary students. Female higher secondary students showed significantly more magnitude of interest towards education as compared to male higher secondary students. It was concluded that government policies of girl empowerment is working in creating awareness about role of education in their life.

Keywords: education, interest towards education, policies of girl empowerment

Introduction

Curiosity to explore the unknown things creates interest towards certain things. This interest gives us pleasure and satisfaction while performing tasks. According to Jones feeling of likening associated with a reaction, either actual or imagined to a specific thing or situation may be termed as interest. According to Lowman (2003) [4] interests are relatively stable psychological characteristics of people which identify the personal evaluation attached to particular groups of occupational or leisure activity clusters. Educational theorists namely Hidi & Baird, 1988 [3]; Renninger, 2000 [6] have bifurcated interest into two part. One being individual interest and the other being situational interest. Individual interest is more enduring trait and can be considered a temperament that individuals take with them from one circumstance to the next. Interest is often thought of as a process that contributes to learning and achievement. That is, being interested in a topic is a mental resource that enhances learning, which then leads to better performance and achievement (Hidi, 1990).

Ainley, Hidi, & Berndorff, 2002 [1] scientifically documented that situational and individual interest promote effort, persistence, motivation to achieve goals with enhanced attention. Schiefele, Krapp, & Winteler (1992) [2] in their study also shown the positive correlation between interest and performance in academic and practical settings. Hence it is important to know the magnitude of education interest in male and female higher secondary students so that they can be advised and counselled about developing interest in educational subject. In rural and tribal areas of India gender discrimination is still around and it has been a standard view that girls do not necessarily be educated because they have to look after their families. Hence it is necessary to assess overall educational interest of female higher secondary students in

comparison to male higher secondary students. The importance of this study is more so because researchers like Sarika Mohta (2013) [4], Rai and Meenakshi Sharma (2014) [5], Srilakshmi (2016) studied educational interest in varied perspective but no study has yet been conducted in which interest of higher secondary students from tribal dominated Gariyaband region of Chhattisgarh towards education has been assessed in the light of gender. Hence the present study was planned.

Hypothesis

It was hypothesized that male higher secondary students will show significantly more magnitude of educational interest as compared to female higher secondary students.

Methodology

The following methodological steps were taken in order to conduct the present study.

Sample

500 male and 500 female higher secondary students were chosen to act as sample in the present study. The selection of higher secondary students was done from tribal dominated Gariyaband district of Chhattisgarh. Purposive sampling was used for selection of sample.

Tools

Educational Interest Record

Educational interest record prepared by Kulshrestha (2007) was used to assess overall educational interest of higher secondary students. The EIR assess educational interest in the areas namely agriculture, commerce, fine arts, home science, humanities, science and technology respectively. The test-retest reliability coefficient of this EIR was found to be 0.76

which denotes high degree of reliability. The coefficient of validity was also satisfactory for this Educational Interest Record. Higher the score superior is educational interest is the direction of scoring.

Procedure

Required number of higher secondary students of both the sexes was selected randomly from various schools operational in Gariyaband district of Chhattisgarh. Voluntary participation

of subject was assured and permission from school authority was obtained for data collection. Education Interest Record prepared by Kulshrestha (2007) was administered to each subjects as per directions provided in manual. The scoring of responses was conducted with the help of instructions provided in authors manual. To compare educational interest between male and female higher secondary students, independent sample 't' test was used. Result shown in table 1.

Result & discussion

Table 1: Comparison of Educational Interest between Male and Female Higher Secondary Students

Variable	Higher Secondary Students				t	Level of Significance
	Male (N=500)		Female (N=500)			
	M	S.D.	M	S.D.		
Educational Interest	47.91	14.65	52.33	15.23	4.42	4.67**

** Significant at .01 level

A perusal of entries reported in table 1 shows significant difference in educational interest of higher secondary students on the basis of gender. The calculated $t=4.67$ reveal that educational interest in female higher secondary students was significantly higher ($M=52.33$) as compared to that of male higher secondary students ($M=47.91$) at .01 level of statistical significance.

Results are surprising in the context of male dominated Indian society but it shows the beneficial effect of various programs run by state and central government towards girl empowerment to make them aware about importance of education in their life. Hence results indicate towards a fact that girls are showing more consciousness towards education due to various schemes and awareness program being run by local authorities along with central and state government.

Conclusion

On the basis of results, it may be concluded that overall interest towards education is significantly higher in female higher secondary students as compared to male higher secondary students.

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