



## A comparative study of social awareness among community centre students of district Srinagar

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### Abstract

The purpose of the study was find out the Social Awareness among community centre students of District Srinagar. The total sample involved in this investigation was 255 trainees of community centres located in both areas i.e. Urban and Rural. In all 8 community centres were taken. Both community centres as well as trainees were selected on the basis of randomization. Social awareness scale was developed by the investigator after though study of the subject of social awareness, its meaning, nature and scope and its relation with education and scale construction. The results indicate that significant difference between rural and urban trainees of community centres.

**Keywords:** social awareness, community centre students, Srinagar

### Introduction

Social awareness as a readiness to see the whole situation in which one finds oneself and not only to orientate one's action on immediate tasks and purposes but to base them on a more comprehensive vision. Awareness does not convey the mere accumulation of rational knowledge. It means the readiness to see the whole situation in which one finds oneself in the life of the individual and in that of community. Awareness does not emphasize ones action on immediate tasks and purpose but to base these on a comprehensive vision. Awareness is not knowledge, but an attitude of mind. Its development does not depend on instructions only but also on the removal of certain obstacles such as fear, unconscious etc. Social awareness refers to the factual knowledge about important aspects of social system and its allied problems. It also refers to the capacity on the part of the individual to make proper diagnosis and thereby develop an attitude of mind. Social awareness has been defined in terms of the importance that students attribute to: 1) speaking up against social injustice; 2) creating awareness of how people affect the environment; 3) promoting racial tolerance and respect; and 4) making consumer decisions based on a company's ethics. These dimensions constitute the type of social awareness that students need to develop during their college years, in order to function well in a complex and diverse society.

The word 'community' is derived from the Latin word 'communities' means 'the same'. According to Merriam (2008), community is an interacting population of various kinds of individuals in a common location and having common interests. Keeping consistency with the meaning of community, community center (CC) means premises operated by or on behalf of a government or non-profit organization for providing community activities, which may include but is not limited to arts, crafts, physical, social, charitable and

educational activities (CCD, 2005). Community centers are also one part of an integrated network of community resources. They aim to provide activities that respond to local community needs, to be inclusive, accessible, and encourage active participation and involvement in the community (CC, 2005). A community center (CC) provides spaces for people with similar interest but often vary from social, religious and political backgrounds who come to play, to learn, or to work together for personal satisfaction and / or community improvements.

Social awareness us a prelude to both success and prosperity and this has to become an objective for national development. Education take this challenge and brought the scheme of orienting young minds to the new system along with their training in the non-formal way.

Adult education is looked upon as a method of human resources development, including literacy, functional development and creation of awareness among the poor regarding their inherent power to determine their destinies should become the method in new development process. It can contribute to the new development strategy in three significant ways. Firstly by making a substantial portion of the work-force literate and better skilled, secondary by involvement of people in various development programmes which would make it possible to achieve optimum potential and minimize wastage, and thirdly, by creation of awareness among the poor regarding the laws and policies of government, whereby, it would be possible to implement the strategy of redistribute justice.

Various other institutions were involved to carry out these three basic components of NAEP to obtain these purposes community centres also play a vital role to follow the same besides providing the training of different handicraft skill among illiterate adults for the age group of 14+ to 35 years.

**Objective of the Study**

The following objective has been framed for the present study:

1. To study the social awareness among the trainees of community centres.
2. To compare the rural and urban trainees of community centres on their level of social awareness.

**Hypothesis**

1. There is no significant difference between rural and urban trainees of community centres.

**Sample for the Present Study**

The total sample involved in this investigation was 255 trainees of community centres located in both areas i.e. Urban and Rural. In all 8 community centres were taken. Both community centres as well as trainees were selected on the basis of randomization.

**Tools Used**

1. Social Awareness Scale: Social awareness scale was developed by the investigator after thorough study of the subject of social awareness, its meaning, nature and scope and its relation with education and scale construction.

**This Scale Includes the following Dimensions**

1. Functioning of community centres.
2. Knowledge about different institutions of the society.
3. Functional development

**Analysis and Interpretation**

**Table 1:** Showing the mean and S.D. of trainees on Social Awareness Scale

Group	N	Mean	S.D
Rural	129	57.22	1.47
Urban	126	55.08	1.98

In above table both the groups possess somewhat similar means and standard deviations.

**Table 2:** Showing the mean and S.D. of trainees on Social Awareness Scale of Rural and urban areas (N=145)

Group	Mean	S.D	t-value
Rural	57.22	1.47	7.64*
Urban	55.08	1.98	

\*Significant at 0.01 level

In the above table the t-value is 7.64 which is significant at 0.01 level. It indicates that the trainees of both the areas rural and urban differ significantly on high social awareness.

**Conclusion**

1. There is a significant difference between rural and urban trainees of community centres.
2. Rural trainees have high social awareness as compared to urban trainer of community.

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