



ISSN: 2395-7476

IJHS 2018; 4(3): 160-161

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www.homesciencejournal.com

Received: 29-07-2018

Accepted: 30-08-2018

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Social maturity of adolescents in relation to their education system: Co-education and single sex education system

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Abstract

Social Maturity is the major aspect of one's personality. The skill which enables an adolescent in an appropriate manner among the society is known as social maturity. As a child grows to an adolescent, he begins to show a more mature behavior which is full of awareness, responsibility and participation. Present research study is based on the comparison of social maturity of adolescents belonging to co-education system and single sex education system. The study has been performed in Lucknow city.

Keywords: Adolescents, education system, social maturity

Introduction

As Aristotle has said, "Man is essentially a social animal by nature". A man is not merely a biological entity in the physical environment, he is considered a human being only when he lives in a society along with all aspects of development of personality, a man must develop some skills required to survive in a society as its part. Social maturity implies a desired level of social skills in a child at a particular stage. This is a gradual process. Social maturity covers many of the personality traits of a person which includes social awareness, stress taking ability, decision making, coping in adverse situation, good communication and being responsible for the society etc. Adolescent is the age when a child steps into puberty and then after adult like appearance and responsibilities. This is the greatest transformation period of one's life. So at this time an appropriate level of social maturity is compulsory for their development as a healthy and responsible person and as a person who can benefit the society. Thus, present study is aimed to assess and compare the social maturity of adolescents of single sex education system and co- education in Lucknow city.

Variables

- 1. Dependent variables:** Social maturity
- 2. Independent variable:** Education System: Co-education & single sex education system.

Objectives of the Study: To compare the social maturity of adolescents

Hypothesis of the study: Following hypothesis is tested in the present study.

There is no significant difference between the social maturity of adolescents of single sex education system and coeducation system.

Research Method

Research design: Descriptive research design is used for the study.

Sampling method: Stratified random sampling technique was used to select the sample of 400 adolescent students of senior secondary schools belonging to single- sex education and coeducation system.

Sample size: The sample size is 400 students out of which 200 were from single sex education system and 200 were from coeducation system.

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Tools and techniques used: For this study, Dr. Nalini rao’s Social maturity scale was used. It contains 90 items and three sub-areas of social maturity i.e. Personal Adequacy, Social adequacy and Interpersonal Adequacy. Each of the sub area contains three dimensions.

Personal Adequacy: Work orientation, Self –Direction and Ability to take stress.

Interpersonal Adequacy: Communication, Enlightened trust and Co- operation.

Social adequacy: Social commitment, Social Tolerance and Openness to Change.

Data Analysis: To compare the social maturity of adolescents belonging to co-education and single sex education system, means of the scores, Standard deviations, mean differences, t-values and significance levels have been drawn and illustrated in table-1.

Table 1: Means, SD’s, Mean Difference, t-value, Significance level of Adolescents of Single-sex education system and coeducation system

Social Maturity Scores	N	Education system	Mean scores	SD’s	Mean Difference	t-value	Significance level
	200	Co-education System	242.955	15.97			
200	Single-sex education system.	244.763	20.749				

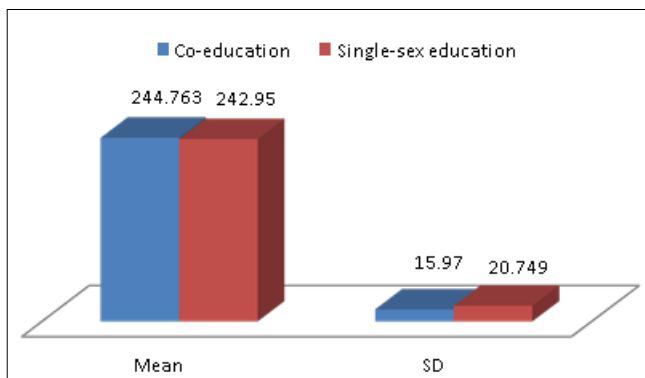


Fig 1: Social Maturity Score of Adolescents of Co-education & Single-Sex Education System

Table-1 & Figure-1 show that the mean scores of co-education and single-sex education Adolescents are 242.95 and 244.76 respectively. Their St. Dev. are 20.74 and 15.97 respectively. The t-value for the mean scores of the respondents of both education Systems is 1.8075 and Significance level is 0.168. Thus the null hypothesis is accepted. The results show that there is no significant difference between the social maturity of co-education and single-sex adolescents.

Findings of the study

No significant difference is found between the social maturity of adolescents belonging to single-sex education system and co- education system.

Educational implications

Findings of the study can assist the parents, teachers, educational planners. Parents can make smart choices of schools irrespective of single or mixed education system, because most of the parents are now inclined to admit their children in co-education schools. It can also help the researchers to find the levels of social maturity of adolescents regarding other aspects.

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