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Social maturity of adolescent students

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Abstract
Social Maturity is the indication of mastery in social behavior in terms of human relationships, social techniques and social institutions. Social maturity is the ability to function in an appropriate responsible manner. Social maturity is a unit of key to handle social relationship. As adolescence is the age for an individual to express mature behavior. Social maturity is an essential aspect for the individual as well as society. The present research study was undertaken to assess the social maturity of adolescents. For this purpose a total sample of 560 adolescent students in 11th and 12th standard was taken on Convenience Sampling Method basis from the schools of Wardha district in Maharashtra. Out of which 280 were male and 280 were female. In order to collect the data Social Maturity scale (SMS) developed by Dr. R.P. Srivastava was used. The results revealed that there is no significant difference in social maturity of male and female adolescent students. There is no significant relation between social maturity and age group, monthly income of the family and area of adolescent students.

Keywords: Social maturity, adolescents

Introduction

"Social Maturity is the process of appropriate attitude for personal, interpersonal and social adequacies of an individual which are essential for functioning effectively in the society."

Harlock says, that a social mature individual conforms not so much because he approves of existing patterns of behavior or because of fear of others but to realize that each individual must be willing to fit his wishes into the pattern approved by the group as a whole.

Anderson (1939) [1] has very aptly, pointed out, "growth and development are not merely changes in physical size or body proportions changes occurs in almost every relation within and without the human being."

"Social maturity involves learning to properly relate to acquaintances, family, neighbors, friends, and intimate relationships. It involves understanding how to honor and respect those in authority."

Social performance, sociable and pre-social behavior, social inhibition and withdrawal are some of the traits associated with the psychosocial maturity of an individual. They are either the components or the resultants of social maturity. How an individual performs in an environment also depends largely on how he or she has adapted or adjusted to it. Adjustment is a built–in mechanism for coping with the problematic or other realities of life. Adjustment has been considered as an index to integration; a harmonious behavior of the individual by which other individuals of society recognize that the person is well adjusted (Pathak, 1990). Optimal adjustment to the learning environment seems to be a precursor to maximizing achievement of students. School psychologists often come across numerous cases in which a child performing brilliantly at one school is unable to actualize his potential at a different school or class.

Concept of Social Maturity

The maturity marks the end of growth and development. In some aspects of development, maturity of structure and function comes at fairly early age, whereas, in other it comes later development comes from maturation and learning. The concept is concerned with the force, inside and outside the individual. The social maturity as a term is used commonly in two ways. Firstly, in reference to the behavior that conforms to the standards and expectations of the adults and secondly in reference to the behavior that is appropriate to the age of the individual under observation. Psychologists usually use maturity in the second sense. (Srivastava, 1987)

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Development is essential aspect for the individual as well as the process of socialization. It is also true that maturity marks the end of growth and development. In some aspects of development, maturity of development in term of structure and function comes of fairly early age, whereas in others it comes later. Development depends upon the maturation and learning which is concerned with the force, inside as well as outside of the individual. Generally there are three types of maturity *viz.*, physical, psychological and social maturity. So a person who has characteristics of awareness of his roles in the group desire, to keep pace in social life, sense of fair play, considerate about the treatment of others, willingness to be a non-conformist etc. may be called as a socially matured person. The sensitive side of dealing with the adolescent social maturity is that, the society/culture of behavior to particular situation which is taught from the childhood. If the adolescent is unable to behave as his age appropriate in the society he may become socially immature. A small child can be accepted if he is socially immature but not the adolescent. An immature adolescent creates problems with his social relations and family relations. Thus a socially matured person is well accepted by the peers as well as society. So an adolescent has to be socially matured. Thus, the social maturity has various aspects of social abilities as self-sufficiency, occupational activities, communication self-direction and social participation.

Review of Literature
Goyal, Preety (2015) [3] was conducted, "Social maturity among adolescents". A study was undertaken to assess the social maturity of adolescents. To achieve this objective, Social Maturity scale (SMS) developed by Dr. R. P. Srivastava (1983) [7] was used. The results revealed no significant difference of social maturity of adolescents on the basis of gender and area and also reported that adolescent students belonging to private schools have higher social maturity than those belonging to government schools. The study has implications for the parents, teachers and policy makers.

Kumar, AC Lal (2016) [5] was Conducted, "Social maturity of higher secondary students". A study was designed to investigate the social maturity of higher secondary students. For this purpose a total sample of 300 higher secondary students studying in 12th standard was taken on purposive basis from the schools of Vellore district in Tamilnadu. Out of which 162 were male and 138 were female. In order to collect the data Social Maturity scale by Nalini Rao's were administered on the participants. Thus obtained data was analyzed using means, S. D, t- test and F test. The results of analysis showed no significant contribution of social maturity towards gender, locality of institution, type of institution, medium of instruction, parental qualification, residence of students, mode of school and type of family.

Objectives
1. To study the social maturity of male and female adolescent students.
2. To find out the significant difference in social maturity of male and female adolescent students.
3. To study the significant relation between social maturity and age group of adolescent students.
4. To study the significant relation between social maturity and family income of adolescent students.
5. To study the significant relation between social maturity and area of adolescent students.

Hypothesis
1. There is no significant difference in social maturity of male and female adolescent students.
2. There is no significant relation between social maturity and age group of adolescent students.
3. There is no significant relation between social maturity and family income of adolescent students.
4. There is no significant relation between social maturity and area of adolescent students.

Methodology
Sample Method
The present study was conducted on samples of 560 adolescent students in 11th and 12th standard was taken on the basis of Convenience Sampling Method from the schools of Wardha district in Maharashtra. Out of which 280 were males and 280 were females.

Tools
Social Maturity scale (SMS) by Dr. R.P. Srivastava (1983) [7] was used to assess the social maturity of adolescent students.

Statistical Techniques used
Frequency, Percentage, Mean, Standard Deviation, Standard Error Mean, Variance, t-test, X^2 – tests were used.

Results and Discussion
The Collected data was analyzed with descriptive and inferential statistical techniques and interpreted.

Table 1: Social maturity of male and female adolescent students

Sr. No.	Social Maturity	Boys		Girls		Total Students	
		F	(%)	F	(%)	F	(%)
1	Superior	09	01.61	05	00.89	14	02.50
2	Above Average	11	01.97	13	02.32	24	04.29
3	Average	183	32.68	172	30.71	355	63.39
4	Below Average	17	03.03	30	05.36	47	08.39
5	Inferior	60	10.71	60	10.72	120	21.43
	Total	280	50	280	50	560	100

F - Frequency

From the above table, came to know that of all total 280 boys, boys of social maturity of superior level are 9 (1.61%), the level of above average are 11 (1.97%), having average level are 183 (32.68%), the level below average are 17 (3.03%) and of Inferior level are 60 (10.71%).

Out of 280 girls, girls of social maturity of superior level are 5 (0.89%), the level of above average are 13 (2.32%), having average level are 172 (30.71%), the level below average are 30 (5.36%) and Inferior level are 60 (10.72%).

All total 560 Students, Students having social maturity of superior level are 14 (2.5%), the level of above average are 24 (4.29%), having average level are 355 (63.39%), the level below Average are 47 (8.39%) and of Inferior level are 120 (21.43%).

H_1: There is no significant difference in social maturity of male and female adolescent students.

Table 2: Difference in social maturity of male and female adolescent students

Sr. No.	Statistical Variable	Boys (N=280)	Girls (N=280)
1	Mean	94.9	93.2429
2	Standard Deviation	12.6716	11.8206
3	Standard Error Mean	0.70641	0.75728
4	Variance	160.5706	139.7258
5	Degree of Freedom	558	
6	t – Value	1.6002	
7	P- Value	0.110129	
8	Significance at 0.05	Not Significant	

The above table, concludes that in the statistical analysis performed to see the difference in the level of social maturity of boys and girls. The mean of boys is 94.9 and girls is 93.2429, S.D. is 22.6716 and 11.8206 respectively, 't' value is 1.6002. 't' value 1.6002 is less than table value 1.96 at 0.05 level of significance. Hence it is not significant.

Hence, the Hypothesis (H_1) that there is no significant difference in social maturity of male and female adolescent students is accepted. From the table it is noticed that the percentage of boys is superior, above average and average level is higher than that of girls indicating the level of social maturity.

H_2: There is no significant relation between social maturity and age group of adolescent students.

Table 3: Relation between social maturity and age group of adolescent students

Sr. No.	Student Age	Social Maturity Level of Students					Total
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	
		Superior	**Above Average**	**Average**	**Below Average**	**Inferior**	
1	16 Year	2 (0.36%)	2 (0.36%)	28 (5.00%)	1 (0.18%)	7 (1.25%)	40 (7.15%)
2	17 Year	7 (1.25%)	8 (1.43%)	183 (32.68%)	30 (5.36%)	64 (11.43%)	292 (52.15%)
3	18 Year	4 (0.71%)	9 (1.61%)	118 (21.07%)	12 (2.14%)	41 (7.32%)	184 (32.85%)
4	19 Year	1 (0.18%)	5 (0.89%)	26 (4.64%)	4 (0.71%)	8 (1.43%)	44 (7.85%)
	Total	14 (2.5%)	24 (4.29%)	355 (63.39%)	47 (8.39%)	120 (21.43%)	560 (100%)

(X^2=12.7992, N = 560, DF = 12, C = 0.149, P = 0.38380, Not significant $P<0.05$, $X^2 < 0.05$)

From the above table, came to know that the relation between the two variables such as student's age and the level of social maturity of total 560 adolescent students, total 40 (7.15%) of the age group of 16 years, students having level of social maturity, superior are 2 (0.36%), above average are 2 (0.36%), average are 28 (5%), below average is 1 (0.18%) and inferior are 7 (1.25%).

Total 292 (52.15%) students in the age group of 17 years, students having level of social maturity, superior are 7 (1.25%), above average are 8 (1.43%), average are 183 (32.68%), below average are 30 (5.36%) and inferior are 64 (11.43%).

Total 184 (32.85%) students in the age group of 18 years, students having level of social maturity, superior are 4 (0.71%), above average are 9 (1.61%), average are 118 (21.07%), below average are 12 (2.14%) and inferior are 41 (7.32%).

Out of total 44 (7.85%) students in the age group of 19 years, students having level of social maturity, superior is 1 (0.18%), above average are 5 (0.89%), average are 26 (4.64%), below average are 4 (0.71%) and inferior are 8 (1.43%).

By observing correlation in between two variables according to X^2 test 12 degree of freedom and significance level of 0.05, the X^2 value is 12.7992 is less than table value 21.026. (X^2 = 12.7992, N = 560, DF = 12, C = 0.149, P = 0.38380, Not significant at $P<0.05$, $X^2 < 0.05$) by this there is an average significant relation in students age and level of social maturity is not observed.

Hence, the Hypothesis (H_2) that there is no significant relation between social maturity and age group of adolescent students is accepted.

H_3: There is no significant relation between social maturity and family income of adolescent students.

Table 4: Relation between social maturity and family income of adolescent students

Sr. No.	Family Income of Students	Social Maturity Level of Students					Total
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	
		Superior	**Above Average**	**Average**	**Below Average**	**Inferior**	
1	Less than 10,000 Rs.	9 (1.61%)	15 (2.68%)	182 (32.50%)	26 (4.64%)	72 (12.86%)	304 (54.29%)
2	10,001 to 30,000 Rs.	5 (0.89%)	7 (1.25%)	157 (28.04%)	18 (3.21%)	41 (7.32%)	228 (40.71%)
3	30,001 to 50,000 Rs.	0 (0.0%)	2 (0.36%)	16 (2.85%)	3 (0.54%)	7 (1.25%)	28 (5.00%)
	Total	14 (2.5%)	24 (4.29%)	355 (63.39%)	47 (8.39%)	120 (21.43%)	560 (100%)

(X^2 = 6.9131, N = 560, DF = 8, C= 0.110, P = 0.5460343, Not significant $P<0.05$, $X^2< 0.05$)

From the above table, came to know that, by observing relation between the two variables such as monthly income of the student's family and level of social maturity of the total 560 adolescent students, the monthly income of the student's family is less than 10,000Rs. are 304 (54.29%) of them having level of social maturity, superior are 9 (1.61%), above average are 15 (2.68%), average are 182 (32.50%), below average are 26 (4.64%) and inferior are 72 (12.86%).

Total 228 (40.71%) students, having monthly income of the family is 10,001 to 30,000Rs. of them having level of social maturity, superior are 5 (0.89%), above average are 7 (1.25%), average are 157 (28.04%), below average are 18

(3.21%) and inferior are 41 (7.32%).

Out of total 28 (5%) students, having monthly income of the family is 30,001 to 50,000Rs. having level of social maturity, above average are 2 (0.36%), average are 16 (2.85%), below average are 3 (0.54%) and inferior are 7 (1.25%).

By observing correlation in between two variables according to X^2 test 8 degree of freedom and significance level of 0.05, the X^2 value is 6.9131 is less than table value 15.507. (X^2 = 6.9131, N = 560, DF = 8, C= 0.110, P = 0.5460343, Not significant at $P<0.05$, $X^2 < 0.05$) by this there is an average significant relation in monthly income of the students family and level of social maturity is not observed.

Hence, the Hypothesis (H₃) that there is no significant relation between social maturity and family income of adolescent students is accepted.

H₄: There is no significant relation between social maturity and area of adolescent students.

Table 5: Relation between social maturity and area of adolescent students

Sr. No.	Area of Students	Social Maturity Level of Students					Total
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	
		Superior	**Above Average**	**Average**	**Below Average**	**Inferior**	
1	Urban	5 (0.89%)	15 (2.68%)	198 (35.36%)	31 (5.54%)	67 (11.96%)	316 (56.43%)
2	Rural	9 (1.61%)	9 (1.61%)	157 (28.03%)	16 (2.85%)	53 (9.47%)	244 (43.57%)
	Total	14 (2.5%)	24 (4.29%)	355 (63.39%)	47 (8.39%)	120 (21.43%)	560 (100%)

(X^2 = 4.6178, N = 560, DF = 4, C = 0.090, P = 0.328804, Not significant $P<0.05$, $X^2 <0.05$)

From the above table, came to know that by observing relation between the two variables such as area of students and level of social maturity of total 560 adolescent students, their area is urban are 316 (56.43%) of them having superior level of social maturity are 5 (0.89%), above average are 15 (2.68%), average are 198 (35.36%), below average are 31 (5.54%) and inferior are 67 (11.96%).

Total 244 (43.57%) students their area is rural of them having superior level of social maturity are 9 (1.61%), above average are 9 (1.61%), average are 157 (28.03%), below average are 16 (2.85%) and inferior are 53 (9.47%).

By observing correlation in between to variables according to X^2 test 4 degree of freedom and significance level of 0.05, the X^2 value is 4.6178 is less than table value 9.488. (X^2 = 4.6178, N = 560, DF = 4, C = 0.090, P = 0.328804, Not significant at $P<0.05$, $X^2 < 0.05$) by this there is an average significant relation in area of students and level of social maturity is not observed.

Hence the Hypothesis (H₄) that there is no significant relation between social maturity and area of adolescent students is accepted.

Conclusions
- Maximum (32.68%) boys and (30.71%) girls total (62.39%) students having social maturity is an average level.
- There is no significant difference in social maturity of male and female adolescent students.
- There is no significant relation between social maturity and age group of adolescent students.
- There is no significant relation between social maturity and family income of adolescent students.
- There is no significant relation between social maturity and area of adolescent students.

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