

PERCEPTION ON GENDER EQUALITY AMONG THE PARENTS OF HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

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Abstract

Gender Equality plays vital role in the development of nation. Both men and women are same in all the aspects except physical. The educated and healthy women in a society are more supportive and accommodating towards their families and nations. (Lorber, 2005). Gender equality is the foremost and primary human right. Women are equally entitled to live in freedom as well as dignity form fear and from want. Empowering women is an effective tool for reducing poverty and advancing development. Empowered women are in a better position for contributing towards productivity and health of entire families as well as communities. They can also support in improving prospects specifically for the future generation. (Kramer, 2004). Our research finds that parents perception on gender Equality only differs to the variables, Family Type, Mother's Education, and Monthly Income.

Keywords: Perception, Gender Equality, Parents

Introduction

The term 'Gender Equality' says that the equal valuing of the different roles assumed by men and women. The both men and women are capable of equally contributing towards social, political, cultural and economic developments within society. When men and women enjoy equality, it will be reflected in the education system. The educated and healthy women in a society are more supportive and accommodating towards their families and nations. (Lobber, 2005). The men and women are not similar in physical, but it is the economic, political, social and legal interpretation of such differences that ultimately lead to create inequality among them. The task completed by men seems to have much higher status as compared with women who have the major responsibility for child-care, elderly-care, preparing and managing food for their families. Gender equality mention a society in which men and women enjoy the similar opportunities, recognition, and appreciation in life.

Equality between women and men exist only when both sexes are sharing mutually in all aspects.

Methodology

Sample

In this Study random Sampling method is used. **Random sampling** is the purest form of probability sampling. Each member of the population has an equal and known chance of being selected. In the present study the size is 203. This includes parents of Higher secondary school students studying in class 9 following Tamil Nadu State Board syllabus and Matriculation syllabus. The students of 60 parents were from Government Schools 104 were aided schools and 39 were from Matriculation Schools.

Method

Normative survey method was adopted for the study.

Tool Used

The initial tool constructed consists of 56 items covering the seven aspects regarding Marriage, Economics, Values, Quality of life, Home management, Society, Motivation. There was 30 positive Statements 26 Negative Statements. "Perception on Gender Equality among the parents of Higher Secondary School Students" was constructed initially with 56 items. First the tool was administered to 50 parents of whose towards are studying at secondary level in different school of Madurai city. The inventory was given to the parents and necessary instructions were given to the parents. The investigator personally administered.

In addition to this, the investigator explained them orally and doubts were clarified, whenever asked. After the responses given by the samples, the inventories were collected. The investigator checked the inventory from every student to make sure that all items are responded. The scoring was done. Item whole correlation was adopted. The items whose r values were significant i.e 0.26 or greater than 0.26 were included in the final tool the other items are eliminated for the final study. Totally 40 items were considered for final study.

Hypothesis 1

There is no significant difference in the Perception of parents of students studying at Higher secondary level towards Gender Equality in the aspect namely Quality of life with reference to the variables namely Area of the school, School type, Nature of the school, Family type, Father's education, Mother's education, Father's employment, Mother's Employment, Monthly Income.

To test this hypotheses Quality of life with reference to variables namely School Area, Nature of School and Family type 't' was adopted the results are given in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9 't' Test Results – Perception towards the Component Quality of Life and School Area, Nature of School and Family Type

		Sample Size	Mean	S.D.	't' Value	Significant/Not Significant
School Area	Rural	60	16.80	3.72	-0.39	Not significant
	Urban	143	16.99	2.92		
Nature of School	Co – Education	11	16.83	3.09	-0.53	Not Significant
	Non co- Education	93	17.06	3.28		
Family Type	Nuclear	141	17.08	3.20	0.96	Not Significant
	Joint	62	16.61	3.10		

Since the Calculated 't' Values are less than the table 't' value 1.96 for DF of 203 at 5 % level. Hence there is no significant difference in the perception of parents of students studying at higher secondary level towards Quality of life with reference to the variables namely Area of the school, Nature of the school and Family type. Hence this hypothesis is accepted.

To test this hypotheses Quality with reference to variables namely Type of School, Father's Education, Mother's Education, Father's Employment, Mother's Employment and Monthly Income ANOVA was adopted the results are given in Table 4.10.

Table 4.10 ANOVAs Results – Perception towards the Component Quality of Life and Type of School, Father's Education, Mother's Education, Father's Employment, Mother's Employment, Monthly Income

Variable		Sum of Squares	DF	Mean Square	F	Significant / Not Significant
Type of School	Between Groups	10.89	2	5.44	0.53	Not Significant
	Within Groups	2023.27	200	10.11		
Father's Education	Between Groups	68.65	3	22.88	2.31	Not Significant
	Within Groups	1965.51	199	9.87		
Mother's Education	Between Groups	32.20	4	8.05	0.79	Not Significant
	Within Groups	2001.96	198	10.11		
Father's Employment	Between Groups	65.81	3	21.93	2.21	Not Significant
	Within Groups	1968.35	199	9.89		
Mother's employment	Between Groups	28.00	3	9.33	0.92	Not Significant
	Within Groups	2006.16	199	10.08		
Monthly Income	Between Groups	17.03	2	8.51	0.84	Not Significant
	Within Groups	2017.13	200	10.08		

The calculated 'F' values are less than the table value 2.6 at 5 % level the null hypothesis is accepted for the variables type of School, Father's Education, Mother's Education, Father's Employment, Mother's Employment and Monthly Income.

Hypothesis 2

There is no significant difference in the Perception of parents of students studying at Higher secondary level towards Gender Equality in the aspect namely Society with reference to the variables namely Area of the school, School type, Nature of the school, Family type, Father's education, Mother's education, Father's employment, Mother's Employment, Monthly Income. To test this hypotheses Society of life with reference to variables namely School Area, Nature of School and Family type 't' was adopted the results are given in Table 4.11.

Table 4.11 't' Test Results – Perception towards the Component Society and School Area, Nature of School and Family Type

Variable		Sample Size	Mean	S.D.	't' Value	Significant/Not Significant
School Area	Rural	60	19.90	6.05	-0.16	Not significant
	Urban	143	20.01	3.47		
Nature of School	Co - Education	110	19.79	3.90	-0.66	Not Significant
	Non co-Education	93	20.20	4.89		
Family Type	Nuclear	141	20.40	4.48	2.06	Significant
	Joint	62	19.03	4.00		

Since the Calculated 't' Values are less than the table 't' value 1.96 for DF of 203 at 5 % level. Hence there is no significant difference in the Perception of parents of students studying at secondary level towards Quality of life with reference to the variables namely Area of the school, Nature of the school. Hence this hypothesis is accepted.

To test this hypotheses Society with reference to variables namely Type of School, Father's Education, Mother's Education, Father's Employment, Mother's Employment and Monthly Income ANOVA was adopted the results are given in Table 4.12.

Table 4.12 Anova Results – Perception towards the Component Society and type of School, Father's Education, Mother's Education, Father's Employment, Mother's Employment, Monthly Income

Variable		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Significant / Not Significant
Type of School	Between Groups	18.51	2	9.25	0.48	Not Significant
	Within Groups	3855.41	200	19.27		
Father's Education	Between Groups	74.96	3	24.98	1.30	Not Significant
	Within Groups	3798.96	199	19.09		
Mother's Education	Between Groups	216.15	4	54.04	2.92	Significant
	Within Groups	3657.76	198	18.47		
Father's Employment	Between Groups	137.01	3	45.67	2.43	Not Significant
	Within Groups	3736.90	199	18.77		

Mother's employment	Between Groups	82.48	3	27.49	1.44	Not Significant
	Within Groups	3791.43	199	19.05		
Monthly Income	Between Groups	132.269	2	66.13	3.53	Significant
	Within Groups	3741.652	200	18.70		

The calculated 'F' values are less than the table value 2.9 at 5 % level the null hypothesis is accepted for the variables type of School, Father's Education, Father's Employment, and Mother's Employment.

Result

Parents of students studying at Higher secondary level do not differ significantly in their Perception towards Gender Equality in the aspect namely Quality of life with reference to the variables, Area of the school, School type, Nature of the school, Family type, Father's education, Mother's education, Father's employment, Mother's Employment, Monthly Income.

Parents of students studying at higher secondary level do not differ significantly in their Perception towards Gender Equality in the aspect namely Society with reference to the variables, Area of the school, Nature of the school, Father's education, Father's employment, Mother's Employment, Type of school. Parents of students studying at secondary level differ significantly in their perception towards Gender Equality in the aspect namely Society with reference to the variables, Family Type, Mother's Education, Monthly Income.

Discussion

The present study shows that the Perception of parents on Gender Equality is mostly not different in any aspect. The Perception of the parents on Gender Equality is differ only in few of the aspects. The Perception of parents on Gender Equality differ in the variables namely Home management, society, Father employment, Mother Employment, Values, Father Education and Mother Education.

In the present era of technological development there is essential need for the women to be educated. In certain cultural aspects still the women are not given freedom and so not given proper education. There is a gradual awareness of realising the importance of equality and it could contribute substantially for the social, economic, moral and political development. The families with educated members, employed parents and value bounded system express their positive mentality Equality. So, in order to raise the level of family, society and nation , it is essential to develop positive mentality on equality among the parents of rural area and Government school students. The teachers and teacher educators can mainly contribute significantly to develop positive mentality on gender equality among parents.

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