

Comparative study of the problems of adolescent students studying in secondary schools

Nishtha Saxena

Asst. Professor

Sant Hirdaram Girls College Bhopal

E-mail: nishtha.229@gmail.com

Adolescence is a time of development and a roller coaster of adjustments to adult life. This is the third stage of human development that comes after infancy and childhood and marks the period of transition from childhood to adulthood. It is characterized by rapid physical, physiological and psychological changes. There are wide normal variations between the time of onset and the attainment of full maturity. Some adolescents do not negotiate these challenges positively and develop personal and social problems which lead towards their maladjustment. It is a period which requires attention, protection and meeting of the special needs of adolescents as the unmet needs during this phase affects the individual, family, community, society and nation at large. Researchers have produced a substantial body of work on the biological and psychological changes that occur during adolescence, as well as the family, peer, and cultural influences that shape adolescents' lives in important ways.

Need for the study

Adolescence has long been recognized as a period of heightened risk-taking. In this period, they must be properly guided and counselled, otherwise there arises the problem of maladjustment. If the adolescents are once properly guided and aroused right educational aspirations, they will excel in all aspects of life and education. The study presents an overall and contrasting portrait of the current situation of adolescents in the region. The results of this study will help the educational planners, teachers and students to modify the present state of affairs as many students fail in Secondary school level.

Objectives

1. To study the Family, Personal, Socio-economic and Educational Problems among adolescent students.

2. To find out the difference, if any, between Government and Private school students in respect to their problems.
3. To find out the difference, if any, between male and female adolescent students in respect to their problems.

Hypothesis

1. There exists significant difference among adolescent male and female students in respect to their problems.
2. There exists no significant difference between Government and Private school students in respect to their problems.
3. There exists no significant difference among the adolescent male and female students in respect to their educational problems.

Plan and procedure of the study

Keeping in view, the nature and purpose of the study at hand, the investigator used the survey method.

Tool used:

The information was collected by Youth Problem Inventory developed by Sadhya Sharma, consists of four dimensions that are personal problems, family problems, socio-economic problems and educational problems.

Sample

Random sampling technique has been used in the selection of the sample. To cover adolescent stage 100 students from class XI to XII were randomly selected from two Government and two Private schools situated in Dabra city of Gwalior district. Out of which 50 students were male and 50 were female.

Analysis and Interpretation of data

The obtained data have been analyzed using descriptive statistics like Mean, Standard Deviation (SD) and inferential statistics like t-test. The result of the study is presented below along with its analysis:

Hypothesis 1. There exists significant difference among adolescent male and female students in respect to their problems.

Table 1

Shows Mean, Standard Deviation and t-Test scores of Problems faced by Male and Female students studying in secondary Schools

Female students		Male students		Standard Error	t-Test
Mean	S D	Mean	S D	0.79	3.1
104.98	3.35	107.46	4.54		

It is observed from the above table that the calculated value of 't' comes out to be 3.1 which is higher than that of table value 1.98 and 2.63. Therefore the hypothesis no. 1 is thus rejected on both 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance, depicting that Male and Female student do not differ significantly in respect to their problems.

Hypothesis 2 : There is no significant difference between Government and Private school students in respect to their problems.

Table 2

Shows Mean, Standard Deviation and t-Test scores of Problems faced by students studying in Government and Private Schools

Private School Students		Government Schools Students		Standard Error	t-Test
Mean	S.D	Mean	S.D	0.73	0.60
106.38	3.2	105.94	4.1		

It is observed from the above table that the calculated value of 't' comes out to be 0.60 which is lower than that of table value 1.98 and 2.63. Therefore the hypothesis no.2 is thus accepted on both 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance, depicting that Government and Private Schools students do not differ significantly in respect to their problems.

Hypothesis 3: There exists no significant difference among the adolescent male and female students in respect to their educational problems.

Table 3

Shows Mean, Standard Deviation and t-Test scores of Educational problems faced by Male and Female students studying in secondary Schools

Female students		Male students		Standard Error	t-Test
Mean	S.D	Mean	S.D	0.69	1.2
16.78	3.37	15.9	3.7		

It is observed from the above table that the calculated value of 't' comes out to be 1.2 which is lower than that of table value 1.98 and 2.63. Therefore the hypothesis no.3 is thus accepted on both 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance, depicting that male and female students do not differ significantly in respect to their educational problems.

Major Findings

- There is no significant difference between Male and Female students in respect to their Family, Personal, Socio-economic and Educational Problems.
- There is no significant difference between Government and Private school students in respect of their Family, Personal, Socio-economic and Educational Problems.

Conclusion

It was found by Comparing male and female adolescent students studying in government and private schools, in various problem areas, that the two groups do not differ significantly to each other. The possible reasons for the above finding may be that both adolescents are facing the same type of problems like Parental dominance, fake administration, corrupted officials, incompetent teachers, social inferiorities, insecurity, lack of affiliation, isolation, home violence etc. in different areas of life like in family, schools, society, personal front, etc., which have made their lives equally problematic and difficult.

References

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