A Study of Adolescents Attitude towards Human Rights in Relation to their Academic Achievement

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Abstract


The aim of the study was to explore the changes in knowledge and attitudes of Adolescents towards Human Rights in relation to their Academic Achievement. The survey was conducted on 500 adolescents (250 Male and 250 Female) of Ghazipur City in Uttar Pradesh. To study the attitudinal impact of exposure to relevant programme. The ‘Human Rights Attitude Scale’ was used to measure attitude of Adolescents. The “HR Attitudinal Scale” measured the individual’s attitudes towards human rights in relation to their academic achievement (the previous year marks obtained by the students). The sample consisted of 250 male and 250 female intermediate students studying in class 12th. HRAS was administered on 50 items. 50 items were made by investigator which included the different aspects of economical, Social, religious, Political and educational rights. Objectives: (1) To see the difference between male and female adolescents attitude towards Human Rights. (2) To see the effect of academic achievement on adolescents attitude towards Human Rights.

Method: The data collected through descriptive normative survey method and analysis by both qualitative and quantitative approach. A sample of 500 adolescents was selected for the study using random sampling technique. Likert scale was administered in preparing HRAS. For analyzing data statistic techniques namely mean, standard deviation, ‘r’, ‘t’ tests were applied. Analysis of variance and other suitable techniques were used. The tools used for data collection in the study: (1) Human Rights Attitude Scale. (2) Academic Achievement (Previous year marks obtained by the students of 12th standard).

Findings: (1) the result of the study concludes that male and female adolescents’ differ significantly in their attitude towards Human Rights. (2)
The male and female adolescents with high Academic Achievement attitude towards human rights are not significant. The male and female adolescents with low academic achievement attitude towards human rights are not significant. The study cites eleven references.

Keywords: 1. Human Rights 2. Adolescents 3. Academic Achievement

Introduction
The history of mankind is marked by efforts to ensure respect for the dignity of human beings. The concept of human rights was introduced and developed by thinkers from various cultural and religious traditions. An important contribution to the promotion of this idea was made by statesmen and lawyers and written norms establishing protection of the rights of individuals were gradually inscribed in national laws.

Steps were also taken to establish international human rights standards, in particular in the nineteenth century and after the First World War. However, it was only in the second half of the twentieth century that a comprehensive international system of human rights promotion and protection was set up. This was mainly due to the efforts of United Nations, its Specialized Agencies and regional intergovernmental organizations.

Definitions of Human Rights
Moses Moscowilz is of the view that “human rights are more than a collection of formal norms; they are dynamic, political, social, economic, juridical, as well as moral, cultural and philosophic conditions which define the intrinsic values of man and his inherent dignity”. In short, human rights are said to be “common language of humanity”.

Review of Related Literature
Study-1
Christianity and Islam in Central Asia: Religion, the State, and Human Rights
This paper studies the relationship between Islamic and Christians organizations in Central Asian countries neighbouring Afghanistan. Particular attention will be paid to the spread of Christianity among traditionally Muslim peoples in Central Asia from the 1990s to today, and the reaction of the Islamic community, including extremists, to this phenomenon. Authorities in each of the states in the region have attempted to control the activities of both Islamic and Christian communities. What will be the ramifications of these trends for the region and the rest of the world? How will the international community, including the US government, deal with the changed environment? This study is based on interviews with both Christian and Muslim believers, spiritual leaders, and government officials, as well as and notes collected in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan during the years 1999 to 2002.
**Statement of the Problem**
Various research findings reveal that adolescents attitude towards human rights are determined by number of factors. Of all these factors sex and academic achievement may be the major factors influence adolescents attitude towards human rights. The present study has been entitled as: “A Study of Adolescent’s Attitude towards Human Rights in Relation to their Academic Achievement”.

**Objectives of the Study**
The present study aims at achieving the following objectives:
1. To see the difference between male and female adolescents attitude towards Human Rights.
2. To see the effect of academic achievement on adolescents attitude towards Human Rights.

**Subsidiary objective**
In addition to the above said objectives of the study, following subsidiary objective has also been realized:
1. Construction and standardization of ‘Human Rights Attitude Scale’ (HRAS).

**Needs of the Study**
1. It helps in democratization of the adolescents.
2. It is one of the latest topics that are why it is chosen by the investigator for study.
3. The study may help in future for the construction of policy for the Govt. of India.

**Hypothesis of Study**
In order to achieve the above mentioned objectives of the study, the following hypothesis will be subjected to empirical verifications:-
1. Male and Female adolescents do not differ significantly in their attitude towards human rights.
2. Male and Female adolescents with high academic achievement do not differ significantly in their attitude towards human rights.
3. Male and Female adolescents with low academic achievement do not differ significantly in their attitude towards human rights.

**Research Design**
The objective of the present investigation was to study Adolescent’s Attitude towards human rights in relation to their academic achievement. For this purpose, A sample of 500 Senior Secondary School adolescent’s (250 Males and 250 Females) studying in class 11th & 12th in Crescent Convent School, Dildarnagar, Ghazipur (UP) were taken. The groups were administered by four tools viz Human Rights Attitude Scale (constructed by Investigator), Academic Achievement (Previous year marks obtained by the adolescents) to obtain raw scores for various purpose of the study.
Sample & Population
The samples were consisted of five hundred students (250 Males & 250 Females) from Dildarnagar, Ghazipur (UP), studying in class XI & XII.

Tools
Following tools were used in present study:
1. Human Rights Attitude Scale by self.
2. Academic Achievement (Previous year marks obtained by the students)

Procedure for Data Collection
The study was conducted on a sample of 500 students of class XI & XII from Ghazipur (U. P.). The entire test, viz. Human Rights Attitude Scale and Academic Achievement, were filled and given by the sample students and returned back to investigator.

Statistical Analysis
For analyzing data statistic techniques namely mean, standard deviation, ‘r’, ‘t’ tests were applied. Analysis of variance and other suitable techniques were used.

Testing of Hypothesis – 1
To test hypothesis one, the total scores of male and female adolescents (N=500) on human rights attitude scale were taken. To analyze the score ‘t’ test was applied and critical ratio was obtained. The results are shown in table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Calculated Critical Ratio</th>
<th>Level of Significance</th>
<th>Tabulated Critical Ratio</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>192.62</td>
<td>19.12</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>6.011</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>1.96</td>
<td>Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>203.14</td>
<td>20.15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hypothesis – 1
“Boys and Girls do not differ significantly in their attitude toward human rights”.
Table – 1 indicates that the Critical Ratio (CR) value obtained on Human Rights Attitude Scale is 6.011. This value is significant at .05 level of significance because it is greater than the required Critical Value 1.96 when df is 498. It shows that boys and girls differ significantly in their attitude towards human rights. Thus, the hypothesis, “Boys and Girls do not differ significantly in their attitude towards human rights” may be rejected.

Testing of Hypothesis – 2
To test hypothesis two, the high groups of academic achievement adolescents boys
and girls (N=250) were taken to test human right attitude. To analyze the score ‘t’ test was applied and critical ratio (CR) was obtained. The results are shown in table-2.

**Table 2:** Table showing the value of Critical Ratio of high academic achievement adolescents’ boys and girls.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Calculated Critical Ratio</th>
<th>Level of Significance</th>
<th>Tabulated Critical Ratio</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>67.32</td>
<td>9.19</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>1.31</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>Not Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>68.88</td>
<td>9.71</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>1.96</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>Not Significant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hypothesis**

High academic achievement adolescents’ boys and girls do not differ significantly in their attitude towards human rights.

Table-2 indicates that critical ratio (CR) value obtained on high academic achievement is 1.31. This value is less than the required critical value 1.97 at 0.05 level of significance when df is 248. It shows that boys and girls do not differ significantly in their attitude towards human rights. Thus, the hypothesis, “High academic Boys and Girls adolescents do not differ significantly in their attitude towards human rights” can be accepted.

**Testing of Hypothesis–3**

To test hypothesis three, the low academic achievement adolescents boys and girls (N=250) were taken to test human right attitude. To analyze the score ‘t’ test was applied and critical ratio (CR) was obtained. The results are shown in table-3.

**Table 3:** Table showing the value of Critical Ratio of low academic achievement adolescents boys and girls.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Calculated Critical Ratio</th>
<th>Level of Significance</th>
<th>Tabulated Critical Ratio</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>49.00</td>
<td>4.604</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>1.96</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>Not Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>50.28</td>
<td>5.70</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>1.96</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>Not Significant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hypothesis**

Low academic achievement adolescents’ boys and girls do not differ significantly in their attitude towards human rights.
Table-3 indicates that critical ratio (CR) value obtained on low academic achievement is 1.96. This value is less than the required critical value 1.97 at 0.05 level of significance when df is 248. It shows that boys and girls do not differ significantly in their attitude towards human rights. Thus, the hypothesis, “Low academic Boys and Girls adolescents do not differ significantly in their attitude towards human rights” can be accepted.

Discussion

Adolescents' Attitude towards Human Rights
The result of the study concludes that male and female adolescents’ differ significantly in their attitude towards Human Rights.

High Academic Achievement Adolescents Attitude towards Human Rights
The result of the study concludes that male and female adolescents with high Academic Achievement attitude towards human rights are not significant.

Low Academic Achievement Adolescents Attitude towards Human Rights
The result of the study concludes that male and female adolescents with low academic achievement attitude towards human rights are not significant.

Educational Implications of the Study
Human Rights Education is an immense use in our present day society in which people of different caste, creed, religion and culture live together. Our constitution bestowed some rights and value i.e respect for human dignity and social integrity. The findings of the present study show that human right education may help too much for the development of boys and girls adolescents'.

Conclusion
The result of the study concludes that male and female adolescents’ differ significantly in their attitude towards Human Rights. Male and female adolescents with high Academic Achievement attitude towards human rights are not significant. Male and female adolescents with low academic achievement attitude towards human rights are not significant.

Bibliography

to India.
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