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EFFECT OF RELIGIOUS DOMINANCE ON SECURITY-FEELING AND SELF-CONCEPT OF HINDU VILLAGERS

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ABSTRACT:

With the objective of investigating into the effect of Hindu and Muslim dominance on Security- Feeling and Self- Concept of Hindu villagers Hindi version of Mental Health Battery (MHB-SS) constructed and standardised by Singh, A.K. and Sengupta, A. (2012) was administered on 400 Hindu villagers. Out of these 400 Hindu villagers there were 280 Hindu dominated villagers (170 male + 110 female) and 120 Muslim dominated villagers (70 male + 50 female). Sample was collected from different villages of Chapra and Siwan districts of Bihar. The age range of subjects was from 20 to 55 years. The analysis and comparison of Security- Feeling and Self- Concept scores of Hindu dominated and Muslim dominated villagers and male and female villagers revealed that Hindu dominated villagers are significantly higher than Muslim dominated villagers on Security- Feeling and Self- Concept. Sex variable has been found significantly influencing only Self- Concept of only Hindu dominated villagers.



KEYWORDS: Security- Feeling, Self- Concept, Hindu, Religious, Dominance, Villagers.

INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

Security-insecurity refers to a high or low sense of safety, confidence and freedom from fear, apprehension or anxiety particularly with respect to fulfilling the person's present or future needs. Self concept refers to the sum total of the person's attitudes and knowledge towards himself and evaluation of his achievements. Feeling of security or in-security and development of higher or lower self-concept depends to a large extent on environmental factors.

AND

Surrounding environment, particularly neighbouring environment, is very important in this sense. If social and family environment of any individual is equipped with discrimination, humiliation and harassment, it is likely to increase in-security feeling and lower self-concept of any individual. Hindus of Muslim dominated villages face not only discrimination and humiliation but also sexual harassment through recent waves of Love Jihad. Love Jihadis pose a severe threat

before those Hindus who live in villages dominated by Muslims. In this situation the investigation will bring to light existing differences between Hindu dominated and Muslim dominated Hindu villagers on security-insecurity feeling and level of self concept.

The review of studies indicates that different investigators have directed their attention towards exploring different variables responsible for security-feeling and self-concept. Singh and Kumar (1997) compared security-insecurity feeling of

upper caste and lower caste students. They found that upper caste students feel significantly higher security than Harijan Caste students and Harijan Caste students feel significantly higher insecurity than Upper Caste students. Kumari (2011) compared Security-Insecurity Feeling of Backward Caste and Forward Caste students. She found that Backward Caste students felt significantly higher security than Forward Caste students. Gupta (2013) conducted a study on 200 students of class X of Jammu district to seek the relation of sex and caste with security-insecurity feeling. It was found that scheduled caste students showed significantly higher insecurity-feeling than scheduled tribe students. There was not found significant effect of sex on security-insecurity feeling of students. Singh and Kumar (2011) tried to explore the relation of nature of employment with security-feeling and satisfaction. The analysis of data revealed that contractual employees of government hospitals experienced significantly higher insecurity feeling than regular employees. It was also found that insecurity feeling of employees was negatively correlated to their job satisfaction.

Pandey (2014) reported significantly higher self-concept possessed by low deprived subjects than high deprived subjects. Upper Caste subjects were found possessing significantly higher self-concept than Scheduled Caste subjects. Sontakke (2009) investigated the relationship of caste, SES and intelligence with self-concept. It was found in the investigation that caste is not a significant factor of self-concept. But SES bears positive correlation with self-concept. Subjects stemming from higher SES were found significantly higher than subjects stemming from lower SES. Subjects higher on IQ were found higher also on self-concept. Sen and Saxena (1997) compared self-concept of Upper Caste and Scheduled Caste school students of Delhi. They found that Upper Caste and Scheduled Caste boys did not differ significantly on any dimension of self-concept, Upper Caste boys and Upper Caste girls; and Scheduled Caste boys and Scheduled Caste girls did not differ on any dimension of self-concept, but Scheduled Caste girls and Upper Caste girls differed significantly on physical dimension of self-concept. But Kumar (2006) found significant adverse effect of deprivation on self-concept and ego-strength of college students. Narain (2013) reported that congenial family environment leads to higher self-esteem of adolescents whereas uncongenial family environment leads to lower self-esteem of adolescents because significant positive correlation exists between family environment and self-esteem of adolescents. But Singh and Ahmad (2004) found significant difference on different dimensions of self-concept between healthy and poor parent-child relationship groups neither in male sample nor in female sample.

The objectives of the investigation are:--

- To bring to light comparative status of security- insecurity feeling and self-concept of Hindus residing in Hindu dominated and Muslim dominated villages.
- To bring to light comparative status of security- insecurity feeling and self-concept of male and female villagers.

In the light of above objectives the following hypotheses were formulated:-

- 1 There shall be significant differences between Hindu dominated and Muslim dominated villagers on security- insecurity feeling and self-concept.
- 2 There shall be significant differences between male and female groups on security- insecurity feeling and self-concept.

METHOD

Sample:- The study was conducted on 400 Hindu villagers. Out of these 400 Hindu villagers there were 280 Hindu dominated villagers (170 male + 110 female) and 120 Muslim dominated villagers (70 male + 50 female). Sample was collected from different villages of Chapra and Siwan districts of Bihar. The age range of subjects was from 20 to 55 years.

Tools:- For measuring security- insecurity feeling and self-concept Hindi version of Mental Health Battery (MHB-SS) constructed and standardised by Singh, A.K. and Sengupta, A. (2012) has been used. A Self-made 'Personal Information Inventory' was also used which sought detail personal information from subjects.

Statistical Analysis:- Mean, S.D. and 't' test have been applied for testing hypotheses.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Own group religious dominance has been found significantly improving security-feeling and self-concept of Hindu villagers, whereas out group (Muslim) religious dominance has been found lowering security-feeling and self-concept of Hindu villagers. The mean scores on security-feeling and self-concept of HDV (Hindu Dominated Villagers) group are 9.06 and 9.48 respectively while the mean scores on the same dimensions of MDV group are 8.11 and 8.04 respectively (Table - 1). The obtained 't' ratios for HDV x MDV compared groups on security-feeling and self-concept are 3.113 and 4.632 respectively. Both 't' ratios are significant at .01 level. Higher scores on both dimensions denote higher security-feeling and/or higher self-concept. Since HDV group has obtained significantly higher mean scores than MDV on both dimensions, so HDV group not only feels higher security than MDV group but also holds significantly higher self-concept than MDV group. It appears that Hindus living in Muslim dominated villages feel high insecurity, emotional instability and restrained autonomy which impairs their self-concept. On the other hand Hindus residing in Hindu dominated villages feel significantly higher security, emotional stability and autonomy which improves their self-concept.

TABLE - 1
Showing Means, S.Ds. and 't' ratios of Scores on security-feeling and self-concept - HDV and MDV Groups.

Groups	Dimensions	N	Means	S. D.	df	't' ratios	Level of Sign.
HDV	Secu. Feeling	280	9.06	2.99	398	3.113	0.01
MDV	„	120	8.11	2.71			
HDV	Self-Concept	280	9.48	2.87	398	4.632	0.01
MDV	„	120	8.04	2.84			

Sex has proved to be a significant potent variable of only self-concept and only in Hindu dominated group. Sex variable has not proved to be a significant potent variable for security feeling and self-concept in Muslim dominated group. The mean scores on security-feeling and self-concept of HDV-M subgroup are 9.27 and 10.06 respectively while the mean scores on the same dimensions of HDV-F subgroup are 8.74 and 8.58 respectively (Table - 2). The mean scores on security-feeling and self-concept of MDV-M sub-group are 8.31 and 8.15 respectively while the mean scores on the same dimensions of MDV-F sub-group are 7.83 and 7.89 respectively (Table - 3). The obtained 't' ratios for HDV-M x HDV-F compared sub-groups on these dimensions are 1.455 and 4.024 respectively while the same for the same dimensions of MDV-M x MDV-F compared subgroups are 0.929 and 0.500 respectively. Out of these four 't' ratios one 't' ratio is significant at .01 level and three 't' ratios are lower than the required value for significance at .05 level. So there donot exist significant differences between compared sub-groups on one dimension (security-feeling) in HDV group and on both dimensions (security-feeling and self-concept) in MDV group between male and female subgroups.

TABLE - 2
Showing Means, S.Ds. and 't' ratios of Scores on security-feeling and self-concept - HDV-M and HDV-F subgroups.

Groups	Dimensions	N	Means	S. Ds.	df	't' ratios	Level of Sign.
HDV-M	Secu. Feeling	170	9.27	3.26	278	1.455	N.S.
HDV-F	„	110	8.74	2.78			
HDV-M	Self-Concept	170	10.06	3.35	278	4.024	0.01
HDV-F	„	110	8.58	2.76			

TABLE - 3
Showing Means, S.Ds. and 't' ratios of Scores on security-feeling and self-concept - MDV-M and MDV-F subgroups.

Groups	Dimensions	N	Means	S. Ds.	df	't' ratios	Level of Sign.
MDV-M	Secu. Feeling	70	8.31	2.87	118	0.929	N.S.
MDV-F	„	50	7.83	2.73			
MDV-M	Self-Concept	70	8.15	2.94	118	0.500	N.S.
MDV-F	„	50	7.89	2.71			

Male subjects whether they reside in Hindu dominated villages or Muslim dominated villages have obtained higher score than their female counterparts on both dimensions. But this difference is statistically significant only in HDV group and only with regard to self-concept. Our findings regarding security-feeling support the findings of Gupta (2013) who did not find significant effect of sex on security-insecurity feeling of students. Our findings regarding self-concept of male and female subjects of MDV group support the findings of Suresh and Yadav (2015) and our findings regarding HDV group contradicts the findings of Mohanty et.al. (2015).

The study finally led to the following conclusions-

- 1 Difference of religious dominance brings variations on security-feeling and self-concept of Hindu villagers.
- 2 Hindu dominated Hindu villagers are significantly higher than Muslim dominated Hindu villagers on security-feeling and self-concept.
- 3 Sex of villagers partially influences their self-concept but not their security-feeling.
- 4 Males of HDV feel insignificantly higher security and possess significantly higher self-concept than their female counterparts.
- 5 Males of MDV feel insignificantly higher security and possess insignificantly higher self-concept than their female counterparts.

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