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MORAL JUDGEMENT OF HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS



V. Sharmila

INTRODUCTION

Moral judgement is distinctively identifiable and an evaluative concept. Moral development kindles the range of moral judgement. Moral Development in children depends upon age and a few other factors. Unlike physical or intellectual development it does not depend upon heredity. It is purely an acquired character. The process of the development of moral judgement has been studied from the cognitive, developmental and social learning theory point of view. Learning theories assume that the moral behaviour is the result of reinforcement, rewards or punishment and that much moral conduct is a result of child's modeling himself on as advised adult. Moral education is considered as essentially a matter of developing appropriate behaviour and habits. That is it is nothing more than character development. As such, it involves that of certain specified virtues and habits. The ability to make moral judgement based on sound reasoning is a very important aim of moral

ABSTRACT

The study was intended to find out the Moral Judgement of Higher Secondary School Students in Madurai District, Tamil Nadu, India. Random Sampling Technique was used to compose a sample of 600 Higher Secondary School students Mean, Standard Deviation and t values were calculated for the analysis of data. The result revealed that the Locality and Types of family had no significant difference but, Gender, Subject group and Types of School exhibited significant difference in respect of their Moral Judgement of Higher Secondary School Students.

KEYWORDS : Moral Judgement, Higher Secondary School Students.

SHORT PROFILE

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education and has take deliberately cultivated. Morality actually is concerned with what there are reasons for doing or not doing, for bringing into or removing from existence. The reasons must be relevant in the sense that they must be based on acceptable principles.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

Moral development of the child results automatically from the social life of the school. The child as a number of the group learns the attitudes, 8 values and general behaviour of the group and continually tries to mould himself according to the group norm, here comes the importance of schools. Schools being the nurseries of future citizens have a great role to play in moral education. The adolescent period is said to be a period of stress and strain. They are easily susceptible to any impulsive action and certain external forces. Over burdened with huge syllabus and soaring expectations from the parents and society they

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are emotionally disturbed. Our society is in constant flux. Emotionally, socially and morally we are influenced by the materialist nature of the world. The present system of education does not tune the children emotionally in a proper manner. So, it is imperative to know that and what extent our children are emotionally sound and how that reflects in their moral judgement.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The problem selected for the present study may be stated as follows, "Moral Judgement of Higher Secondary School Students"

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The researchers have framed following objectives for the study to find out the difference in Moral Judgement if any, among:

1. Male and Female Higher Secondary Students
2. Rural and Urban area Higher Secondary Students
3. Arts and Science group Higher Secondary Students
4. Government and Private Schools Higher Secondary Students
5. Nuclear and Joint family Higher Secondary Students.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

For the present study, based on the objectives the researchers framed the following hypotheses,

1. There is significant difference between Male and female Higher Secondary Students in respect of their Moral Judgement.
2. There is significant difference between Rural and urban area Higher Secondary Students in respect of their Moral Judgement.
3. There is significant difference between Arts and Science group Higher Secondary Students in respect of their Moral Judgement.
4. There is significant difference between Government and Private Schools Higher Secondary Students in respect of their Moral

Judgement.

5. There is significant difference between Nuclear and Joint family Higher Secondary Students in respect of their Moral Judgement.

METHODS OF THE STUDY

Normative survey method was employed. The tool is administered to the samples of 600 Higher Secondary Students. The data was collected and subjected to statistical analysis to arrive at a conclusion.

TOOLS USED

Moral Judgement tool was developed by the investigator which includes 15 questions. These questions are framed according to the present day situations. His situations were constructed involving basic values. Like, honesty, sense of duty, concern for others, respect for others, generosity and discipline. This questionnaire consisted of 15 items or moral situations followed by 4 alternative responses. After reading the main item, students must thoroughly read the situations and select the correct situation. The situation which is given in the multiple choice form for each one had one best answer. Each best answer has four marks. An individual score is the sum of all the score of the 15 items. The maximum score that one can get in this is 60. Higher score indicates the presence of high Moral Judgement and the Lower score indicates the presence of low Moral Judgement.

The questionnaire used in this study, in order to measure students Moral Judgement has construct validity. Also the intrinsic validity found by the author (V.Sharmila) of this tool was 0.94 and the reliability was found to be 0.88 by the split-half technique. Thus the Moral Judgement questionnaire has reliability and validity.

SAMPLE OF THE STUDY

In this present study, 600 Higher Secondary Students studying in different Higher

Secondary schools were taken as sample. The random sampling technique has been used in the selection of the sample. The samples were collected from the Higher Secondary Teachers of various Higher Secondary schools in Madurai District, Tamil Nadu, India.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES USED

The following statistical techniques have been used in the present study for the analysis of collected data.

- 1.Descriptive Analysis
- 2.Differential Analysis

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE MEANS OF THE MORAL JUDGEMENT

SL. NO	VARIABLE		NUMBER	MEAN	S.D	t'	Significant value
1.	Gender	Male	360	37.67	4.72	2.72	S
		Female	240	34.80	6.86		
2.	Locality	Rural	290	33.15	6.09	0.86	NS
		Urban	310	32.28	5.87		
3.	Subject Group	Arts	300	31.76	6.67	2.42	S
		Science	300	35.34	4.93		
4.	Types of School	Government	350	31.17	6.84	2.12	S
		Private	250	33.38	4.87		
5.	Types of family	Nuclear	380	33.16	5.25	1.12	NS
		Joint	220	32.88	6.74		

S=Significant

NS=Not Significant

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

(i)The verification of the hypothesis based on the analysis of data indicates that there is significant difference in the Moral Judgement of Male and female Higher Secondary Students (t=2.72) and it is inferred that the Male Higher Secondary Students have more Moral Judgement than the Female Higher Secondary Students.

(ii)The testing of the hypothesis based on the analysis of data indicates that there is no significant difference in the Moral Judgement of Rural and urban area Higher Secondary Students (t=0.86).

(iii)The testing of the hypothesis based on the analysis of data indicates that there is no significant difference in Emotional Intelligence of Arts and Science group Higher Secondary Students (t=2.42) and it is inferred that the Science group Higher Secondary Students have

more Moral Judgement than the Arts group Higher Secondary Students.

(iv) The testing of the hypothesis based on the analysis of data indicates that there is significant difference in the Moral Judgement of Government and Private Higher Secondary Students (t=2.12) and it is inferred that the Private School Higher Secondary Students have more Moral Judgement than the Government School Higher Secondary Students.

(v) The testing of the hypothesis based on the analysis of data indicates that there is no significant difference in Moral Judgement of Joint and Nuclear family Higher Secondary Students (t=1.12)

CONCLUSION

To sum up, the following conclusions have been reached in the light of the present

investigation. Locality and Types of family had no significant difference but, Gender, Subject group and Types of School exhibited significant difference in Moral Judgement of Higher Secondary students in Madurai District, Tamil Nadu, India.

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