



INFLUENCE OF THE TYPE OF SCHOOL ON HEALTH STATUS, ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION ON CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES OF HIGHER SECONDARY STUDENTS

Samuel Stella

Assistant Professor in Biological Science, St.Christopher's College of Education, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.



ABSTRACT:

This study aimed to investigate the influence of the type of school on health status, academic achievement and participation in co-curricular activities of students at the higher secondary level. The sample comprised of 300 students randomly selected at the higher secondary level from different schools in Chennai. Findings showed that significant differences were found with respect to health status, academic achievement and participation in co-curricular activities based on the type of school in which they were studying.

KEYWORDS : health status, academic achievement and participation.

INTRODUCTION

Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Good health is an essential pre-requisite for learning. The term good health is defined not simply as an absence of illness but rather as the physical and mental fitness to accomplish educational tasks at the learner's optimum potential. Educational achievement is one when people are judged to be in the best of health when they pursue learning goals with the sharpest wit and greatest diligence of which they are capable. Co-curricular activities stand as directed and supervised learning experiences, planned by the group, adapted to the needs of the group, and appraisal for social, educational and health values.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

The present study may be considered significant because it will help to throw light on the health status of adolescents, which is a period of rapid physical growth and development and for some it is a period of rapid physical mental or emotional stress hence health appraisal is necessary. Schools are often the sites of child population based screening since the school is the community institution providing the most universal access to children and such activities have a direct relevance to educational performance. Further this study is expected to serve a useful purpose by providing enlightening data on the health status of children and encouraging the students towards academic success and to bring to light the attitude of students towards participation in co-curricular activities.

OBJECTIVES

- To find out the significant difference between students studying in aided and corporation schools in their health status, academic achievement and participation in co-curricular activities.

HYPOTHESES

1. There is no significant difference between the health status of students and the type of school.
2. There is no significant difference between the academic achievement scores and the type of school.

3. There is no significant difference between the participation in co-curricular activities and the type of school.

METHODOLOGY

300 students were randomly selected from six different schools in Chennai city. The health tool constructed and validated by the researchers was used for the study. The reliability of the scale was calculated using the test, re-test method and was found to be 0.83. The intrinsic validity of the scale was found to be 0.91. From this data it was inferred that the test was highly reliable and valid. The co-curricular activities tool constructed and standardized by Nalini 2003 was used for the investigation. The reliability of the tool was calculated using odd-even method and was found to be 0.81 and the intrinsic validity of the scale was found to be 0.90.

Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1: Type of School vs. Health Status

Health Status	Type of School	N	Mean	SD	t-value	Remark
	Aided	250	73.42	33.92	7.5	Significant @0.01 level
	Corporation	50	108.06	28.65		

From Table-1, the t-value 7.5, which is greater than the table value at 0.01 significant level. Thus there is significant difference between aided and corporation schools regarding their health status.

Table 2: Type of School vs. Academic Achievement

Academic Achievement	Type of School	N	Mean	SD	t-value	Remark
	Aided	250	49.59	8.44	6.10	Significant @0.01 level
	Corporation	50	56.57	7.72		

From Table-2, the t-value 6.10, which is greater than the table value at 0.1 significant level. Thus there is significant difference between aided and corporation schools regarding their academic achievement.

Table 3: Type of School vs. Participation in Co-curricular Activities

Participation in Co-Curricular Activities	Type of School	N	Mean	SD	t-value	Remark
	Aided	250	15.88	6.27	3.09	Significant @0.01 level
	Corporation	50	20.20	7.37		

From Table-3, the t-value 3.09, which is greater than the table value at 0.01 significant level. Thus there is significant difference between aided and corporation schools regarding their participation in co-curricular activities.

FINDINGS

- Higher secondary school students of different type of schools differ significantly in their health status.
- Higher secondary school students of different type of schools differ significantly in their academic achievement.
- Higher secondary school students of different type of schools differ significantly in their participation in co-curricular activities.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- John W. Best (1963). Research in Education (4th Ed.). New Delhi: Prentice Hall of India Pvt. Ltd.
- Bhatia, Baldev & Bhatia, Kamala. (1974). The Philosophical and Sociological foundation of Education (1st Ed.). New Delhi: Doaba House.
- Davies, M.B. Hygiene and Health Education for Training Colleges (6th Ed.). London: Longmans, Green and Co., pp.31-57.
- Hallock, Grace, T. & Wheatley, M. George (1971). Health observation of school children (2nd Ed.). McGraw Hill Book Company, Inc.