



## A STUDY ON SELF-CONFIDENCE OF SECONDARY LEVEL STUDENTS OF PURULIA DISTRICT IN WEST BENGAL

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### ABSTRACT

*In the era of modern technological society self-confidence is an important asset of every human being to be successful in the society. Success or achievement is the goal of student life. A self-confident student has the better possibility to be the successful one. In our present educational system class Xth or secondary level is the first doorstep towards the challenging society. This study was conducted over 200 students of secondary level in the district of Purulia, West Bengal, to know and compare between the levels of their self-confidence. The data has been collected by standardized questionnaire from the students. It has been found that urban students have shown higher level of self-confidence than their rural counterpart. In this paper few more results have been discussed.*



**KEY WORD:** Self-confidence, Secondary Level.

### 1. INTRODUCTION:

Self confidence always plays an important role in one's personal growth. It is an inevitable part of human being that helps one to achieve the goal and to be successful in the society. In his paper Emerson<sup>1</sup> has nicely said that "the prime secret of success is self confidence". If person suffers from inferiority complex, it creates many problems, so there must have strong self confidence. Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam<sup>2</sup>, in his speech on eve of 58th independence Day -2004 stressed on literacy of people which is essential to increase the self confidence so that nation can progress vigorously. The present study is based on self confidence. Self confidence is such a centre of person around which person's personality develops. Basavanna<sup>3</sup> "In general terms, self confidence refers to an individual's perceived ability to act effectively in a situation to overcome obstacles and to get things go all right". Self confidence is somewhat the instrument to push one in the period of crisis as stated by Stan Smith<sup>4</sup> – "Self-confidence means believing in Your Abilities even in the worst of times. Self confidence is the central issue of personal development. "Experience tells you what to do; confidence allows you to do it." Woodworth<sup>5</sup> believes "that perception is always driven by a direct, inherent motive which might be called the "will" to perceive".

Self confidence is an important aspect for the one's achievement. The need of achievement is such a position stimulating to an individual that can lead to an individual to reach some higher standards in the works of many situations. Self confidence used to boost up this level of aspirations.

Secondary level is supposed to be the very first level of exposure to the competition academically. In adolescence a child experiences many physical, mental and emotional changes. Therefore, he is always under stress and strains. As he grew, he faces many problems. In such circumstances it is very important to inculcate self confidence. Self-confidence is essential factor of personality. With the strength of self-confidence one can solve the difficulties in social, intellectual, educational, individuals and economic field

etc. Locality and gender used to play an effective role in the concept of one's self confidence according to Fareen Fatma<sup>6</sup>. The individual with profound self-confidence can face the conflict fearlessly. Self confidence is affected by locality. So the researcher decided to study the topic effect of locality and gender on the self-confidence of secondary school students in the district of Purulia, West Bengal.

## 2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE:

Dr. Rohtas Kumar Verma and Saroj Kumari<sup>7</sup> found that that significant relationship exists between self-confidence and academic achievement of elementary school students. It was also found that there exists difference in the academic achievement of elementary school students with high and low self-confidence. Tripti Vyas and Prof. Ravi Gunthey<sup>8</sup> found that there is no significant difference between the male and female adolescents on self-confidence and also there is significant difference between the urban and rural adolescents on self confidence. Wankhade and Rokade<sup>9</sup> conducted a comparative study on self-confidence of rural and urban students studying in 8th standard of various schools of Amravati. It was found that the average self-confidence of rural and urban, boys and girls are almost same and the rural boys were superior in their self-confidence in comparison to rural girls.

## 3. VARIABLES:

**Independent variables were -**

- Gender : i. male, ii. Female
- Residential area: i. Urban, ii. Rural

**Dependent variable –**

- Self-confidence

## 4. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- I. To know the significant difference in self-confidence of secondary level students in relation to their locale.
- II. To know the significant difference in self-confidence of secondary level students in relation to their gender.

## 5. HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY:

H<sub>0</sub>1: There is no significant difference exist between male and female secondary level students in relation to their self confidence.

H<sub>0</sub>2: There is no significant difference exist between urban and rural secondary level students in relation to their self confidence.

H<sub>0</sub>3: There is no significant difference exist between rural male and urban male secondary level students in relation to their self-confidence.

H<sub>0</sub>4: There is no significant difference exist between rural female and urban female secondary level students in relation to their self-confidence.

## 6. METHODOLOGY:

### • Population of the study:

In research it is the subject, object, individuals, institution or geographical area about which the investigator is interested to study, is called population. For example-all eight class students, all the secondary school teachers may be population. All secondary school students studying in Purulia district (W.B.) are constituted as the target population for the present study.

### • Sampling of the study:

Sampling is the technique of collecting samples from population. In this study, researcher has been used simple random sampling technique to select the sample.

• **Sample of the study:**

It is difficult to study the entire target population. So that we take a representative proportion of the population, in which all the characteristics of population exists for the purpose of data collection, which may be termed as sample. The sample for the present study consists of 200 students studying in the secondary schools of Purulia district (W.B.).

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
RURAL	50	50	100
URBAN	50	50	100
TOTAL	100	100	200

**Table 1: Sampling frame**

• **Tools of the study:**

In this study, researcher has used Self-confidence inventory (PSCI), was constructed and standardized by Dr. D. D. Pandey (1971). This inventory consists of 60 true – false type items. Only two response are provided for each item either yes or no.

**7.ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA:**

• **Descriptive Statistics:**

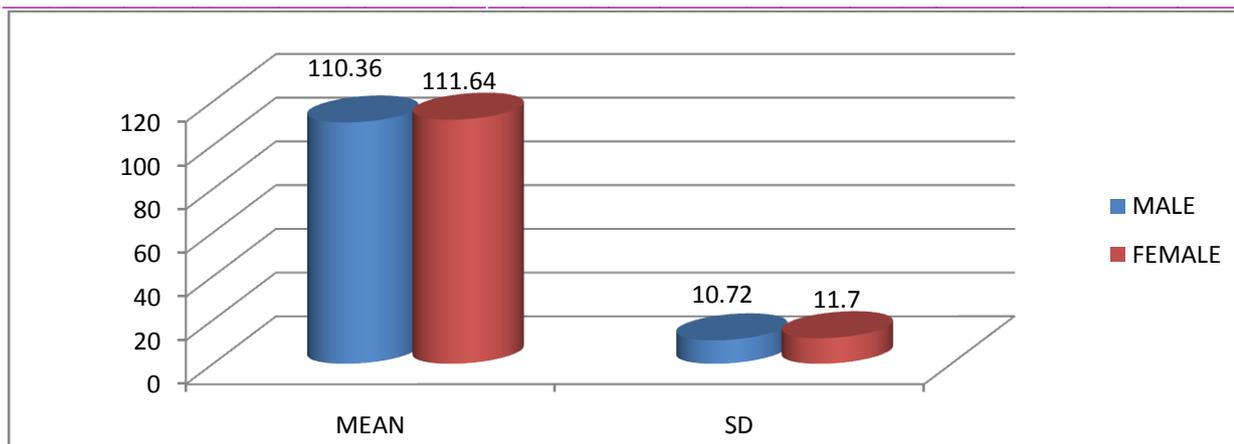
Each descriptive statistics reduces lots of data into a simpler summary. Here we present our descriptive data in the form of mean and standard deviation (SD) along with ‘t’ critical ratio for self confidence.

**Testing of hypotheses:**

▪ **Hypothesis H<sub>0</sub>1:** There is no significant difference exists between male and female secondary level students in relation to their self-confidence:

Pair	N	MEAN	S.D.	MEAN DIFFERENCE	df	CALCULATED t-VALUE	TABLE t-VALUE	REMARK
MALE	100	110.36	10.72	1.28	198	0.80	1.97(0.05) 2.60(0.01)	Not Significant
FEMALE	100	111.64	11.70					

**Table 2: Mean, Standard deviation and t-value of 100 male and 100 female students on self- confidence**

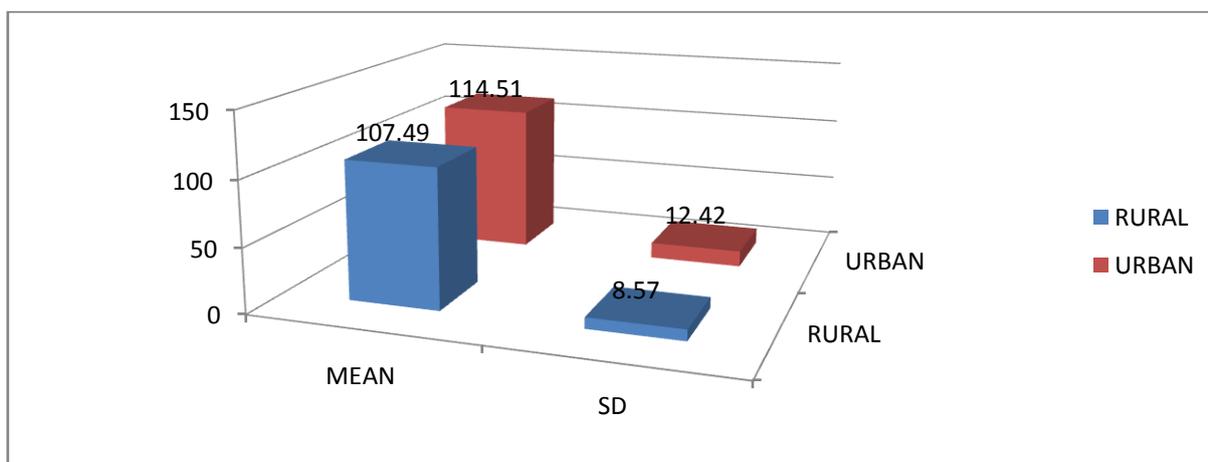


It is found that the mean scores of both male and female are 110.36 and 111.64 respectively. When the t-test is applied to compare the mean scores of both the groups, it is found that the calculated t-value 0.80 is not significant at 0.05 or 0.01 level of significance. Hence hypothesis  $H_01$  is accepted i.e. there is no significant difference exists between male and female secondary level students on their level of self-confidence.

- **Hypothesis  $H_02$ :** There is no significant difference exists between rural and urban secondary level students in relation to their self-confidence.

**Table 3: Mean, Standard deviation and t-value of 100 rural and 100 urban students on self- confidence**

PAIR	N	MEAN	S.D.	MEAN DIFFERENCE	df	Calculated t-VALUE	TABLE t-VALUE	REMARK
RURAL	100	107.49	8.57	3.85	198	4.64	1.97(0.05)	Significant
URBAN	100	114.51	12.42				2.60(0.01)	

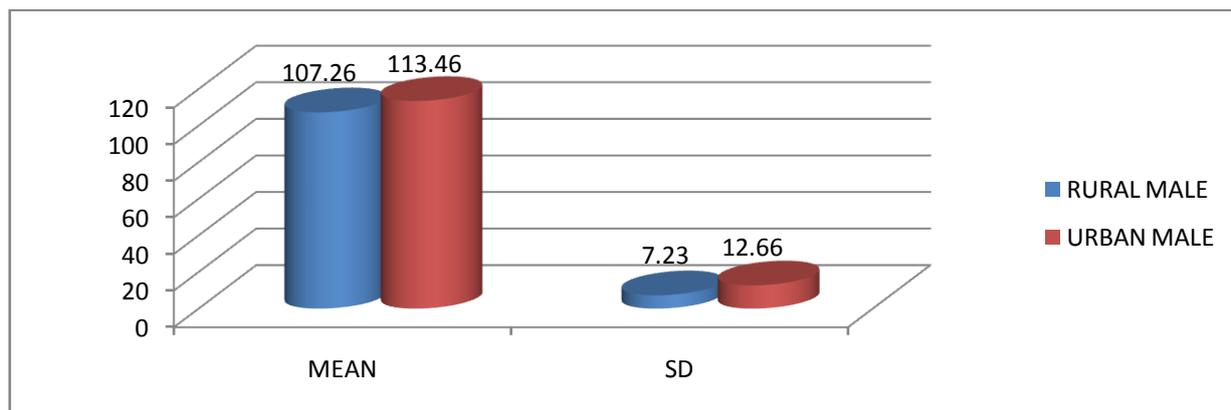


It is found that the mean scores of both rural and urban are 107.49 and 114.51 respectively. When the t-test is applied to calculate the significant difference between the mean scores of both the groups, it is found that the calculated t-value 4.46 is significant at 0.05 or 0.01 level of significance. Hence hypothesis  $H_02$  is rejected i.e. there is significant difference exists between rural and urban secondary level students on their level of self-confidence.

- **Hypothesis  $H_03$ :** There is no significant difference exists between rural male and urban male secondary level students in relation to their self-confidence.

**Table 4: Mean, Standard deviation and t-value of 50 rural male and 50 urban male students on self-confidence**

PAIR	N	MEAN	S.D.	MEAN DIFFERENCE	df	CALCULATED t-VALUE	TABLE t-VALUE	REMARK
RURAL MALE	50	107.26	7.23	5.43	98	3.00	1.98(0.05)	Significant
URBAN MALE	50	113.46	12.66				2.63(0.01)	



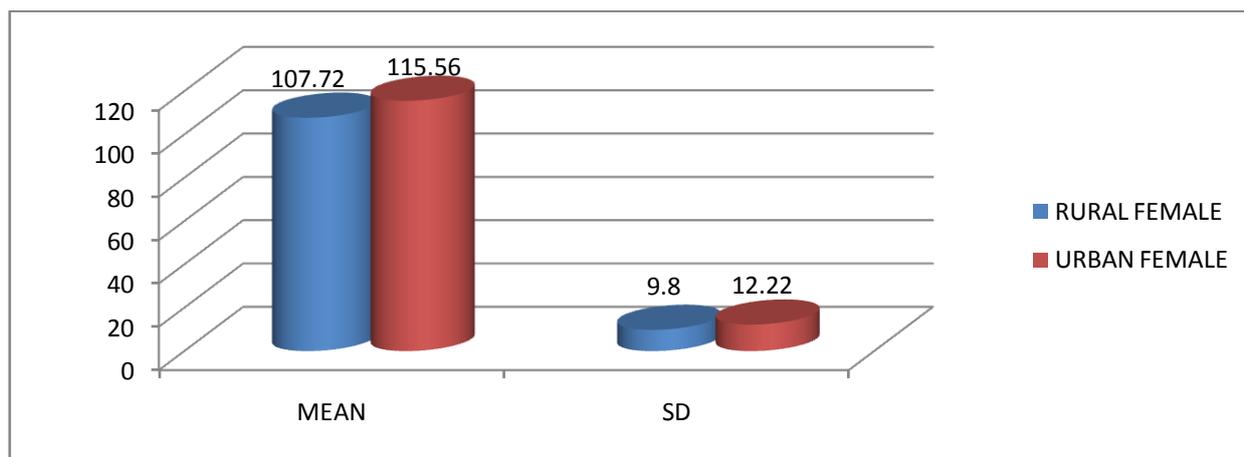
It is found that the mean scores of both rural male and urban male secondary students are 107.26 and 113.46 respectively. When the t-test is applied to calculate the significant difference between the mean scores of both the groups, it is found that the calculated t-value 3.00 which is significant at 0.05 or 0.01 level of significance. Hence hypothesis  $H_03$  is rejected i.e. there is significant difference exists between rural male and urban male secondary level students on their level of self-confidence.

- **Hypothesis  $H_04$ :** There is no significant difference exists between rural female and urban female secondary level students in relation to their self-confidence.

**Table 5: Mean, Standard deviation and t-value of 50 rural female and 50 urban female students on self-**

PAIR	N	MEAN	S.D.	MEAN DIFFERENCE	df	CALCULATED t-VALUE	TABLE t-VALUE	REMARK
RURAL FEMALE	50	107.72	9.80	2.42	98	3.53	1.98(0.05)	Significant
URBAN FEMALE	50	115.56	12.22				2.63(0.01)	

confidence



It is found that the mean scores of both rural male and urban male secondary level students are 107.72 and 115.56 respectively. When the t-test is applied to compare the significant difference of mean scores of both the groups, it is found that the calculated t-value 3.53 is significant at 0.05 or 0.01 level of significance. Hence hypothesis  $H_04$  is rejected i.e. there is significant difference exists between rural female and urban female secondary level students on their level of self-confidence.

**8. DISCUSSIONS:**

This paper was a partially exploratory effort to measure level of self confidence among secondary level students in relation to the gender and locale. The self confidence doesn't differ significantly among the male and female students though the mean score of female students is slightly higher than their male counterpart. This result is in the same tone with the findings of F. Fatma<sup>6</sup>. In case of rural and urban secondary students, they differ significantly in their mean score and urban students show more self confidence than the rural ones. In last two cases there exist significant difference between rural male and urban male, rural female and urban female in relation to their self confidence. The urban students clearly show higher mean score than their rural counterparts. The results are same with the findings of T. Vyas and R. Gunthey<sup>8</sup>, T. Malhotra and M. Malhota<sup>10</sup>.

**9. CONCLUSIONS:**

As with the tune of women empowerment the self confident among male and female student are so far the same. But it is an inevitable fact that the urban students are used to get more exposure to the modern techno friendly world than that of the rural students. The self confidence gradually increases for those urban students. This paper shows that the urban students are more self confident than rural students. The students belonging to the urban region can get effective schooling, opportunity to build self esteem, career advancement, and awareness among the parents. These factors in long run help them to be more self

confident. Urban male and female are effective than rural male and female. The rural students need to get more aware about the modern society development and learn some skills to develop their self confidence.

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