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DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF THE TOOL
SELF-CONCEPT SCALE

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ABSTRACT

Self-concept implies a person perception on view of himself. Self-concept is what the individual thinks as his actual self. Self-concept plays an important role in the development of personality of an individual. The influence of the 'self' on behavior operates both consciously and unconsciously and is main more noticeable where motivated and need satisfying interaction are involved, and also in situation where there is a choice. The self accepting person believes that he/she can deal with life and is confident that he/she is as worthy as other; and assumes responsibility for his/her own behaviour. So every person must possess an adequate Self-concept. The purpose of this study is to establish the reliability and validity of the tool Self-concept Scale. The study has revealed that the reliability and validity of the tool was ensured.

KEYWORDS: *Self-concept.*

INTRODUCTION:

Self-concept implies a person perception on view of himself. Self-concept is what the individual thinks as his actual self. Self-concept plays an important role in the development of personality of an individual. The positive Self-concept is likely to enable an individual to lead a happy, contented and well managed life. The idea of self starts growing from the period of infancy and group during childhood, adolescence and maturity.

The influence of the 'self' on behavior operates both consciously and unconsciously and is main more noticeable where motivated and need satisfying interaction are involved, and also in situation where there is a choice. According to Shoben in any case 'self' involved behaviour seems close to impossible to explain on the basis of a tension reduction model and population of self involvement seems necessary to account for the pursuit of long term goals, so typical of human motivation.

The role of self is prominent in goal directed activities. Its role and influence is extended too many spheres of activity like perceiving, thinking, learning and other cognitive process and of courses in many complex activities like decision making. The goal setting task performance is known to be influenced by the self. Adjusting and coping behavior of varied kinds are also influenced by the self. Choice of behavior consistency integrating continuity and a number of attributes of human action seem to be very much influencing by the self. In the words of Sherif, in brief, "The growing interest in a Self-concept reflects the search for integrating concepts, particularly motivation, where empirical work has tended to be fragmentary".

A person must have a Self-concept which is realistic and which is not too different from his/her ideal of what he/she should be. This helps him/her to accept him/herself. The self accepting person is familiar with his/her weakness. He/She accept that weakness and tries to overcome them. The person who accepts himself/herself is guided by his / her own standard. He/She has insight into and understanding of his/her ability. The self accepting person believes that he/she can deal with life and is confident that he/she is as

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worthy as other; and assumes responsibility for his/her own behavior. So every person must possess an adequate Self-concept.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM
The investigator has selected the present study with the aim of establishing the reliability and validity of the tool Self-concept Scale. Therefore it has been entitled as "DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF THE TOOL SELF-CONCEPT SCALE".

SAMPLE
The sample consists of 50 B.Ed. First Year Students studying in the Cholan College of Education, Kancheepuram District.

VARIABLES OF THE STUDY
i. Gender (Male/Female)
ii. Age (Age 20 and below/Age 21-25/Age 26 and above)
iii. Community (OC/BC/MBC/SC-ST)
iv. Religion (Hindu/Non Hindu)
v. Marital Status (Married/Unmarried)
vi. Student's Residence (Hostel/Day Scholar)
vii. Locality of the Institution (Rural/Urban)
viii. Father's Occupation (Coolie/Government/Business/Farmer)
ix. Mother's occupation (House Wife/Government/Others)
x. Family Monthly Income (Below Rs.5000/Rs.5000-10,000/Above Rs.10, 000)

PILOT STUDY
The investigator has conducted pilot study in Cholan College of Education, Kancheepuram District. The investigator met 50 B.Ed. First Year Students studying in this college and explained to them the purpose of the questionnaire and distributed. In addition to this, the investigator has consulted with 4 Senior Professors who have got more than 15 years of teaching experience.

TOOL USED IN THE PRESENT STUDY
i.   The General Information Schedule
It includes general information about the respondents regarding Gender, Age, Community, Religion, Marital Status, and Student's optional subject, student's Residence, Locality of the Institution, Parent's occupation and Family Monthly income.

ii.   Self-concept Scale developed by Morris Rosenberg, (1965)

ESTABLISHING VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY OF THE TOOL
(i) VALIDITY OF THE TOOL
A test is said to be valid if it measures what it intends to measure. The investigator has established validity for the tool Self-concept Scale. The tool has been submitted to a panel of experts and 4 Senior Professors with more than 15 years of teaching experience who have agreed with the statements in the tool. Thus, the validity of the tool has been established.

(ii) RELIABILITY
Reliability of the test refers to the degree of consistency and accuracy with which a test measures what it intends to measure.

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The investigator has used test-retest method for establishing the reliability of the tool. The investigator randomly chooses 50 B.Ed. First Year Students studying in Cholan College of Education, Kancheepuram District and the tool administered to them. After an interval of two weeks, the same tool was administered to the same set of student teachers. Correlation co-efficient between the two sets of scores was calculated. The reliability of Self-concept Scale was found to be 0.82. This is highly reliable to conduct a research. Thus the reliability of the tool was established.

SCORING PROCEDURE

The validated Self-concept Scale comprised of 50 items. The respondents are asked to respond to the statement on 5 point scale. All the favorable statements are scored as 5 points for the response fully agree, 4 points for the response agree, 3 points for the response uncertain, 2 points for the response disagree and 1 point for the response fully disagree.

For the unfavorable statements, the scoring system is reversed as 1 point for the response fully agree, 2 points for the response agree, 3 points for the response uncertain, 4 points for the response disagree and 5 points for the response fully disagree.

CONCLUSION

In this present study the investigator has established the reliability and validity of the tool Self-concept Scale. The pilot study was conducted by the investigator. The validity and reliability of the tool was established. The reliability of the tool was found to be 0.82, which is highly reliable to conduct a research.

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