



A STUDY OF LEADERSHIP STYLES OF THE SCHOOL PRINCIPALS IN RELATION TO CERTAIN VARIABLES

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ABSTRACT :

Present study was undertaken to know the leadership styles of school Principals in context to Gender and Experience .Null hypothesis was formed to know the effect of the variables.Present study is limited to school Principals of Ahmedabad. Total 130 schoolPrincipals were selected by using stratified random sampling method. Descriptive survey methodwas used to collect data by using Leadership Style Scale developed and standardized by Dr.Seema. A. Singh. Data wasanalyzed using Mean, Standard Deviation, and t-test. Gender and Experience were affecting variables on the Leadership styles of the Principals.

KEYWORDS : Leadership styles, Principal, School.

➤ INTRODUCTION:

In the present scenario of school education. Principal being the head of the school plays a pivotal role in the overall functioning of the school. Principal being in the leadership position, leads the school keeping in mind the vision and mission and philosophy of the school. Recently many researches are done in the area of school organizations focusing on the concept of Principal as a leader.

A leader has to demonstrate capabilities in both personal and professional front. They must equip themselves with the art of using their knowledge, skill and competencies in combination with wisdom to understand the needs of changing circumstances and to solve the problems of changing circumstances.

The role of principal is very crucial in creating the school environment that ensures holistic development of not just the students but also provides opportunities to other stakeholders to enhance their learning for growth and development.

Leadership needs capabilities (beyond competencies) to denote a dynamic capacity to respond positively to changing circumstances.

Leadership includes leader's ability, personality, interest, attitude, decision-making capabilities, etc.

Interpersonal skills forms the core of a leader as Leadership is concerned with dealing and coordinating with the people.Educational leaders are those who transmit educational practices with clear purpose and meaning. They encourage their team to strive to maintain high quality of teaching learning processes. The educational leader must also support their team by scaffolding its members so that each

member of the team grows and evolves as a competent professional.

Leadership styles means the way, manner, the pattern or the style in which the leader discharges his/her duties. When we explore leadership style in detail, we come across varied leadership styles and the fact that different leaders exhibit different styles of leadership.An educational leader choose the styles through which he/she commands,manages or



coordinates effectively. The differential leadership styles are governed by the conditions or situations suitable for them in the process of leadership.

It is also an observed phenomenon that some school are better recognized than others. Parents also keep the leadership in mind while choosing the school for their ward. This has resulted in shifting of students from less recognized school to better-recognized school. This situation has created competitions amongst the schools. These changing circumstances inspired the researcher to study the Leadership Style of school principals in relation to various variables.

➤ **Statement of the Study:**

“A Study of Leadership Styles of the School Principals in relation to certain variables.

➤ **Objectives of the Study:**

1. To study the effect of Gender on the Leadership style of the school Principals.
2. To study the effect of Experience on the Leadership style of the school Principals.

➤ **Hypotheses of the Study**

Ho1. There is no significant difference between mean scores of Leadership Style Scale of Male and Female Principals.

Ho2. There is no significant difference between mean scores of Leadership Style Scale of Inexperienced (Experience up to 10 Years) and Experienced (Experience above 10 Years) Principals.

Limitations of the Study:

The limitations of the present study are as under:

1. Present study is limited to school Principals of Ahmedabad.
2. Present study is limited to Gender and Experience of the school Principals.

Population and Sample of the Study:

The researcher has decided to study the Leadership Styles of school Principals of Ahmedabad. Therefore, all the school Principals were considered as population of the present study.

A sample of 130 school Principals of Ahmedabad were selected.

Research Method:

Descriptive Survey method has been used for present study since the research was dealt with data collection and analysis.

Tool of the Study:

To know the Leadership Style, “Leadership Style Scale” prepared and standardized by Dr. Seema. A. Singh was used for the present study.

Data Analysis:

Following Statistical Method were used for data analysis

1. Mean and Standard Deviation
2. t-value.

Calculation was made using Microsoft Excel and SPSS (Student Version). Tables as per variables given in Table-1

Table-1
Values of Data Analysis as per Variables

Ho. No.	Variable		N	Mean	SD	M.Diff	t-value	Remark
Ho.1	Gender	Male	25	128.04	17.38	5.44	1.458	Not significant
		Female	105	122.60	13.95			
Ho.2	Experience	Inexperience (Experience up to 10 Years)	66	123.17	13.66	0.97	0.709	Not significant
		Experienced (Experience above 10 Years)	64	124.14	15.91			

According to the Table-1. Nosignificant differencehas been found between the Leadership Style, of Male and FemalePrincipals,Inexperienced and Experienced Principals.

FINDINGS:

1. It is evident that there is no significant difference between Leadership Style of Male and Female Principals. Therefore, null hypothesis is accepted. Gender as a variable does not affect the Leadership Style of the Principals.
2. It is evident that there is no significant difference between Leadership Style of Inexperienced (Experience up to 10 Years) and Experienced (Experience above 10 Years) Principals. Therefore, null hypothesis is accepted. Experience as a variable does not affect the Leadership Style of the Principals.

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