ATTITUDE TOWARDS RESEARCH OF POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS IN RELATION TO RESEARCH ANXIETY

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ABSTRACT:

Research plays a significant role in our daily life. All inventions have been possible with the help of research. With the help of research human being were able to find the cure for flue, polio and many other horrible diseases. Not only in medicine, and it also helped a lot in technology. Talking to long distance relatives is the outcome of research in technology. Research is the process of collecting and analysing information to increase our understanding of the phenomenon under study. It gives rewarding learning experiences for students, producing graduates capable of high personal and professional achievement. This study contributes to know the attitude of post-graduate students towards research in relation to their research anxiety. Samples are drawn from post-graduate students from various colleges affiliated to Bangalore University belonging to various courses form different management. Data is collected by using Attitude Scale towards Research by Dr. Vishal Sood and Prof. Y.K Sharma (2012) and Research Anxiety Scale by Higgins and Kotrlik (2006). Result found that post-graduate students' attitude towards research and research anxiety are correlated.

KEYWORDS: *Attitude towards Research, Research Anxiety, Post-Graduate Students.*

INTRODUCTION:

In the fast moving world research has become important intellectual equipment for the human beings to change their life style according to the needs and necessities of the society. Research opens new frontiers in all the fields like medicine, agriculture, space, business, and also in education.

Research is an integral part of all academic disciplines and the related foundational concepts which should form the background knowledge of students within the linguistics programme. Therefore, in order to produce the ideal linguistics graduate, linguistics lecturers need to ensure that students develop the skills to conduct research using the accepted methodologies associated with the various sub-disciplines of linguistics.

Research leads to the generation of new knowledge. It is therefore essential that quality of research should be given utmost priority. Quality depends upon a number of variables related to institution, guide and researcher itself. Students at the undergraduate university level, typically tend to view research-related courses with negative attitudes and feelings. These negative attitudes have been documented in numerous studies for a number of years in relation to courses in research, statistics and mathematics (Adams &Holcomb, 1986; Elmore & Vasu, 1980; Wise, 1985). One of the main problems of these negative attitudes is that they have been found to serve as obstacles to learning (Wise, 1985; Waters, Martelli, Zakrajsek, & Popovich, 1988). In turn, these negative attitudes have been found to be associated with poor performance in such courses (Elmore, & Lewis, 1991; Woelke, 1991; Zeidner, 1991). Causal

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models, however, suggest that attitudes are actually mediators between past performance and future achievement (Meece, Wigfield, & Eccles, 1990) Environmental factors of the institution help in developing positive attitude of research among researchers. Comprehensive definition of attitude includes emotions, beliefs, behaviours and their interaction (Zan & Martino, 2007).The attitude towards research basically means a detailed study of thinking, feeling and the person's behaviour towards research. According to Papanastasiou (2005), it is important to identify the attitudes towards Research so that a positive attitude can be developed among students and hence their learning can be facilitated in turn.It gives rewarding learning experiences for students, producing graduates capable of high personal and professional achievement (Fishbein & Ajzen, 1975).

NEED FOR THE STUDY

Research is the process of collecting and analysing information to increase our understanding of the phenomenon under study. The aim of research is to contribute towards the understanding of the phenomenon and then to communicate that understanding to others which also lead to the generation of new knowledge. It is therefore essential that quality of research should be given utmost priority. Quality depends upon a priority. Quality depends upon a number of factors in developing positive attitude of research among researcher. Researcher claims that attitude is more important than experience and academic preparation. Review of various studies in this area reveals that attitude towards research is influenced by a number of factors and there is a need to study these factors keeping this aspect in mind, the researcher has made an attempt to investigate the attitude towards research of Post-Graduate students in relation to research anxiety.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY
- To investigate the relationship between attitude towards research and research anxiety of postgraduate students.

HYPOTHESES
1. There is no significant relationship between attitude towards research and research anxiety of post graduate students.

METHODOLOGY

Survey method was used to conduct the present investigation. Giving representation to type of college management, a sample of 240 post-graduate students was chosen from M.A., M.Sc., & M.Com. in Bangalore University using stratified random sampling technique. The total number of students in the entire post-graduate students including government and private colleges is identified as the population of the present study.

Table-1 shows Gender-Wise Sample Distribution over Type of College Management

S.No.	Type of College Management	Male	Female	TOTAL
1	Government	60	60	120
2	Private	60	60	120
TOTAL		120	120	240

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Fig-1 shows Sample Distribution over Type of College Management
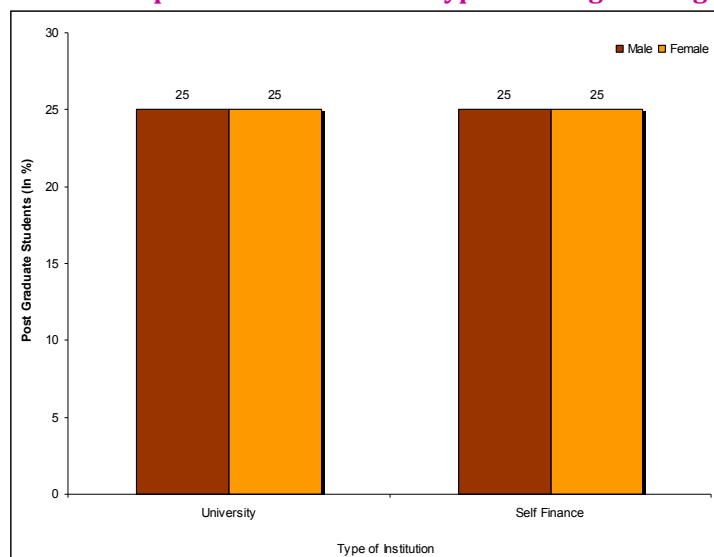
TOOLS
- Attitude Scale towards Research by Dr. Vishal Soodand & Prof. Y.K. Sharma (2012).
- Research Anxiety Scale by Higgins & Kotrlik (2006).

VARIABLES OF THE STUDY
- **Dependent Variable:** Attitude towards Research.
- ➤ **Components**
- ✓ General aspects of Research and Research Process
- ✓ Usefulness of Research in Professional Career
- ✓ Relevance of Research in Personal Social life
- ✓ Difficulties in Research and Research Anxiety
- ✓ **Independent Variable:** Research Anxiety.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION
Table 1: Relationship between Attitude towards Research and Research Anxiety of Post Graduate Students

Dependent Variable	Independent Variable	N	df	'r' value	Sig. level
General Aspects of Research & Research Process	Research Anxiety	240	238	-0.400	**
Usefulness of Research in Professional Career		240	238	-0.265	**
Relevance of Research in Personal & Social Life		240	238	-0.149	*
Difficulties in Research & Research Anxiety		240	238	-0.321	**
Attitude towards Research (Total)		240	238	-0.408	**

**Significant at 0.01 level (Table Value: 0.181); *Significant at 0.05 level (Table Value: 0.138).

Table-1 indicates that the obtained 'r' values are -0.400,-0.265, -0.321 and -0.408 are higher than the table value 0.181 at 0.01 level of significance. Thus there is a significant relationship between

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general aspects of research and research process, usefulness of research in professional career, difficulties in research and research anxiety.

Table-1 also depicts that the obtained 'r' value -0.149 is higher than the table value (0.138) at 0.05 level of significance. Thus there is a significant relationship between relevance of research in personal and social life and research anxiety attitude towards research and research anxiety (total) of post graduate students and research anxiety.

CONCLUSION

The findings revealed that there is a significant positive correlation between total attitude towards research and the dimensions self-efficacy namely General Aspects of Research and Research Process, Usefulness of Research in Professional Career, Relevance of Research in Personal Social Life, Difficulties in Research and Research Anxiety. This result implies that Post-Graduate students who have better self-efficacy have favourable attitude towards research. In this regard, its importance to include programs considering to develop their research course offerings to expose students more extensively to research and how to apply research skills to data driven accountability expectations that occur in the workplace.

The findings also revealed that there is a significant negative correlation between total attitude towards research and the dimensions Research Anxiety namely General Aspects of Research and Research Process, Usefulness of Research in Professional Career, Relevance of Research in Personal Social Life, Difficulties in Research and Research Anxiety. This result implies that students with higher research anxiety have less favourable attitude towards research. In this regard orientation programs must be held for Post-graduate students.

Acquainting them with desirable traits required. Essential qualifications and the responsibilities associated in research field. Along with this, professional development programs related to research writing skill to should be made to practice to reduce their anxiety level. There should also have co-operative efforts on the part of Chairman, Deans and University administration which helps in creating a Positive research environment.

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