



IMPACT OF LOCUS OF CONTROL AND GENDER ON SELF-ESTEEM OF ELDERS

Kalyani Ajit Kharat
(NET, SET) Research Student.

Dr. Quadri Syed Javeed
HOD of Psychology Dept. , Associate Professor , A. T. college Jalna.

ABSTRACT :

In this study I attempted to study impact of locus of control and gender on self-esteem in elders. Aim of study was to study self-esteem of internal locus of control and external locus of control individuals and on gender basis. For this study 60 elders are taken from Aurangabad districts on basis of test administration of rotters locus of control scale and 30 of internal locus of control and 30 of external locus of control and of each gender.



KEYWORDS : *elders, internal locus of control, external locus of control, self-esteem.*

INTRODUCTION

Aging is natural process which occurs in every living thing. This process is multidimensional in which interaction of many factors such as biological, social and psychological factors occurs. Aging has been defined as those changes occurring in an individual, as result of passage of time. The process of aging leads some consequences such as loss of mental and physical capacity, gradual loss or abrupt retirement from gainful activities and socio psychological disturbances.

Elderly population was a problem in the west but it is now becoming to east due to large scale socio economic transformation in the society. The elders become vulnerable, infirm and sick due to stress and strains of modernization, financial constraints, migration of peoples to place of employment, inadequate housing decline of joint family system and many other such problems. Aging can be viewed as a slow and gradual process of weakening of body function and decline of mental power. The peoples may have sometimes lost concentration of attention, acuity of sensation, memory of recent experiences especially, but retain intellectual power. They may suffer from feeling of inferiority, loneliness and emotional disturbances. In such a condition feeling of insecurity and depression may developed in old age. In old age person have to adjust with these entire problem. The person adjusts with different problem with social and family support.

Locus of control style is important variable which affect psychological characteristic of elders. The concept is formulated within the framework of social learning theory (Rotter 1966) it is related to the measurements of the extent to which an individual is self motivated, directed or controlled and the extent to which his behavior is influence by environments.

External locus of control refer to the belief that rewards or outcomes are not controlled by the individual rather fate, luck and significant other are viewed as responsible for the outcomes of the events. Internal controlled person is one who believes that outcomes are result of his or her ability and efforts.

SELF-ESTEEM

Self-esteem is personal respect or fate one has for one's self which include ability to control or influence other, the sense that one can succeed in meeting demands of others to achieve ,the sense of being accepted by others and sense of one is able to adhere to standard values and rules of conduct of society,

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Noel,Forsyth, and Kelley (1987) in their study found that students failing in their college course improved performance when they shifted to internal causal attributions.

Geist and Borecki(1982) found that there is strong relationship among locus of control, self-esteem and social interest in college students. Students who had external locus of control showed low level of self-esteem and exhibited high level of social avoidance and students who had internal locus of control showed high level of self-esteem and social interest.

OBJECTIVE OF STUDY

To study self-esteem internal locus of control and external locus of control individuals.
To study self-esteem in elders on basis of gender.

HYPOTHESIS

There would be significant difference in self-esteem of internal locus of control elders and external locus of control elders.

There would be significant difference in self-esteem in males and females.

RESEARCH DESIGN

Sample of study

For the study first 40 sample of elders of both gender taken after administrations of Rotters locus of control scale. 20 selected males and females equally as internal locus of control groups and 20 selected males and females equally as external locus of control groups. Sample was taken from Aurangabad district. The age groups 40 to 60 years.

RESEARCH DESIGN

For this study multiple randomize factorial design 2x2 was used.

Independent variable:

- Locus of control : internal locus of control internal locus of control
- Gender : girls boys

Dependent variable

- Self-esteem
- Life satisfaction

Control variable: socioeconomic status, married status,urban.

Tools

Rotters locus of control scale

Rosenberg self-esteem scale

Procedure

Sample is selected randomly and Rotter's locus of control scale was given to adolescents and they were divided into external and internal locus of control group. After that Data was collected individually. Proper instructions were given to them. They had been assured regarding confidentiality of data. After instruction self-esteem was given to subjects and they were asked to fill up scale

according to instruction. Subject took some time to complete scale. The scale was recollected and data were tabulated and analyzed with ANOVAs.

**Result
mean for locus of control**

Locus of control	male	female	mean
Internal locus of control	23.86	21.8	22.83
External locus of control	15.2	14.8	15

From ANOVAs

Source of variance	Sum of square	df	Mean square variance	f-value	Level of sig	Table value
Between group	953.244	3	317.748	52.44	sig	5%=2.79 0.01%=4.20
Ss between level of locus of control	920	1	920	151.84	sig	5%=4.03 1%=7.17
Ss between level of gender	23.23	1	23.23	3.83	Non-sig	5%=4.03 1%=7.17
Interaction within locus of control and gender	10.014	1	10.014	1.6527	Non-sig	5%=4.03 1%=7.17

Result from table indicated that f-ratio of main effect of locus of control on self esteem was 52.55 which was significant at both the level. The mean of internally control group 23.83 and externally control group was 15. Thus it is evident that internally control group have high self-esteem. The value of F test was significant at both levels. It indicted that groups had significant difference.

Second finding indicated internal and external locus of control group having significant difference in self-esteem. As mean of internal control group was more indicating self-esteem was high in that group.

Third finding indicated no significant difference at both levels in gender.

Fourth finding indicated no interacted effects seen.

DISCUSSION

Locus of control style is important one because affect psychological characteristic of elders. From the result it is indicated that internally control elders having high self-esteem than externally control group. Internally control person belief that result or output is due to own effort or ability. Output or consequences have internal cause. That person attributes his or her success to his or her efforts and motivated to do effort which increased self-esteem. Externally control elders attribute his or her success to luck or fates and self-esteem depend on others.

CONCLUSION

From above study it is indicated that internally control individual having high self-esteem than external locus of control. There is no significant difference in male and female.

LIMITATION OF STUDY

The finding of study is based on small sample.

The sample is restricted to Aurangabad city only.

The finding is based on elders sample only.

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