

An Evaluative study of Professional Attitude of Secondary School Teachers

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ABSTRACT

The study aimed to find the difference in attitude of teachers towards teaching on the basis of gender, stream and locality. The sample for the study consisted of 300 secondary school teachers selected through simple random sampling technique from district Srinagar and district Kupwara of Jammu and Kashmir State. The 'Ahluwalia's Teacher Attitude Inventory' was used for the present study. The sample consisting of 300 secondary school teachers. Data analysis is based on the mean score obtained from the respondents. For statistical analysis t-test was used to determine whether there are significant differences in Attitudes of teachers.

Keywords: *difference in attitude of teachers, gender, stream and locality.*

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Introduction

Education in the largest sense is an act or an experience that has a formative effect on the mind, character or physical ability of an individual. In its technical sense, education is the process by which society deliberately transmits its accumulated knowledge, skills

and values from one generation to another of society. Education in real sense is to humanize humanity and to make life progressive cultured and civilized. It is very important for the progress of the individual and society. It is through education that man develops his thinking and reasoning, problem solving and creativity, intelligence and aptitude, positive sentiments and skills, good values and



attitudes. Education is a dialogue between the past, present and the future, so that the coming generations receive the accumulated lessons of the heritage and carry it forward (UNESCO, 1998).

Attitude refers to “a psychological tendency that is expressed by evaluating a particular entity with some degree of favour or disfavour” (Eagly & Chaiken, 1993). Fishbein (1967) defines it as a mental disposition of the human individual to act for or against a definite object. Allport (1935) defines it as a mental and neural state of readiness, organised through experience, exerting a directive or dynamic influence upon the individual’s response to all objects and situations with which it is related. Attitude has been described as a learned predisposition to respond in a favorable or unfavorable manner with respect to a given attitude object (Oskamp and Schultz, 2005). Attitude refers to “a psychological tendency that is expressed by evaluating a particular entity with some degree of favour or disfavour” (Eagly & Chaiken, 1993). Fishbein (1967) defines it as a mental disposition of the human individual to act for or against a definite object. Allport (1935) defines it as a mental and neural state of readiness, organised through experience, exerting a directive or dynamic influence upon the individual’s response to all

objects and situations with which it is related. Attitude has been described as a learned predisposition to respond in a favorable or unfavorable manner with respect to a given attitude object (Oskamp and Schultz, 2005). Education in the largest sense is an act or an experience that has a formative effect on the mind, character or physical ability of an individual. In its technical sense, education is the process by which society deliberately transmits its accumulated knowledge, skills and values from one generation to another of society. Education in real sense is to humanize humanity and to make life progressive cultured and civilized. It is very important for the progress of the individual and society. It is through education that man develops his thinking and reasoning, problem solving and creativity, intelligence and aptitude, positive sentiments and skills, good values and attitudes. Education is a dialogue between the past, present and the future, so that the coming generations receive the accumulated lessons of the heritage and carry it forward (UNESCO, 1998).

Attitude means the individual’s prevailing tendency to respond favorably or unfavorably to an object person or group of people, institutions or events. Attitude can be positive (values) or negative (prejudice). Attitude has



been defined in many different ways over the years. Attitude of the teacher has an impact on the behavior of the student in the class room as well. The teacher spends most of the school day in the close association with his students and as a result of this; his basic attitudes and actions, his tastes and mannerism have great influence on the students. The teachers create the emotional climate in the class room just by being friendly calm or nervous. This directly affects the children because children learn attitudes and behavior mostly by example. The effectiveness of education depends upon quality of teachers working in an institution. The quality of teachers in turn depends upon the quality of training received by them in different training institutions. The teacher spends most of the school day in close associations with his students and as a result of this ,his basic attitudes and actions , his tastes and mannerism have great influence on the students , the teacher creates the emotional climate in the class room just by being friendly , calm and nervous. This directly affects the children because children learn attitudes and behavior mostly by examples , emotion ,tension ,For example , is contagious ; a teacher who is fear full and generally hostile can induce fear ,worry, and insecurity in his students .The effectiveness of teacher mainly

depends upon the character ,ability and his attitude towards his profession teaching . It is true that the attitude of a person towards his profession plays an important role in achieving desirable success. Attitude of a person depends upon his emotions and feelings. Renu and Nand, (1999) conducted a study on the attitude of effective teachers towards teaching profession .The main findings of her study were the effective teachers possess better teaching skills than less effective teachers. Their academic scores are high. They are more cooperative with students (Panday, R and Tripathy, 2006) conducted a study on the attitude of efficient school teachers. The findings indicate that there are good results of education by effective teachers. They have direct influence on the personality of students. The effectiveness of education depends upon quality teachers working in institutions. The quality of teachers in turn depends upon the quality of training received by them in different training institutions. As we know that qualitative and quantitative improvements of elementary and secondary educations has raised problems of solutions of right type of teachers and enriching program of teacher preparation .Thus necessities but also to inculcate in them desirable teacher like qualities .



Gender and Attitude Towards Teaching:

Gender and Attitude towards teaching comprises both male and female teachers. It has always been a concern for researchers that whether male teachers have more favourable professional attitude towards teaching or female teachers. Researches (Singh, 1974; Wera, 1982; Patil, 1984; Som, 1984; Srivastav, 1989; Naik & Pandey, 1997; Singh, 1997; Gupta, 2000; Hussain, 2004; Guneyli & Aslan, 2009; Ghos & Bairagya, 2010; Kooce, Aydin & Yildiz 2010; Marry & Samuel, 2011 & Rocked, 2011) found significant difference in Attitude of male and female teachers towards teaching.

Loyalty And Attitude Towards Teaching:

Some of researcher conducted study to compare the attitude with locality context. Teachers with urban origin were observed having more teaching attitude than that of their rural counterparts (Samantaroy, 1971). It was supported by Wera (1982) that professional attitude of urban teachers was more favourable than that of rural teachers. Tripathi (1978) found no significant difference in professional attitudes of teachers belonging college of rural and urban.

Educational Stream And Attitude Towards Teaching:

Educational stream Arts and Science were taken as a variable to see its contribution in teaching attitude in several studies. In some studies like (Üstüner, Demirtas & Comert, 2009; Benjamine et al., 2011; Akbaba, 2013 & Khan, Nadeem and Basu, 2013) it was revealed that stream of study differentiated the teaching attitude. Benjamin et al. (2011) observed science B.Ed. trainees had more favorable attitude towards teachings than that of arts stream. It was supported by Khan, Nadeem and Basu (2013) with sample of female teacher at higher secondary level. Significant differences were observed among students of different type of the department/program they study (Ustüner, Demirtas & Cömert, 2009). Akbaba, (2013) found pre-service teacher of social studies had positive teaching attitude. Conversely, some of studies (Banerjee & Behera, 2014; Chakraborty & Mondal, 2014; Incik & Kilic, 2014; Maheshwari, 2014) revealed no significant difference among stream of study. Banerjee and Behera (2014) added that no significant difference was observed in attitudes towards teaching profession between social science and general science teacher. It was supported by Chakraborty and Mondal (2014) with sample



of arts and science streams.

Objectives For The Study

- The following objectives were formulated for the proposed study
- To assess the professional attitude of secondary school teachers.
- To compare the professional attitude of male and female secondary school teachers.

Delimitation

The present study was confined only to the government secondary school teachers of district Srinagar and district Kupwara. Only those teachers who were teaching Arts and Science subject streams were included in the study. Only those teachers who were teaching class IX and X were included in the study.

The schools imparting general education were taken in the study. The institutions giving special or any other type of education (i.e. sports, technical, professional, religious etc.) were not included in this study

Methodology

This is was a descriptive study which examined the sample consisting of 200 secondary school teachers in Kashmir. Data analysis is based on

the mean score obtained through the respondents. For statistical analysis t-test was used to determine whether there are significant differences in Attitude levels of secondary school teachers according to Gender, Stream and Locality. ‘Ahluwalia’s Teacher Attitude Inventory’ was used to collect the data from sample subjects.

Statistical Analysis

Attitude	N	Mean	SD	t-value	Level of Significance
Male	150	279.23	8.55	1.30	No difference
Female	150	277.65	8.62		



The above table shows the results of analysis of different levels of Attitude according to sex of the respondents. The overall findings of the analysis show that there is no significant difference in the level of attitude of male and female teachers. Thus, the objective of the study that is, “To find out the difference between male and female teachers on attitude” has been accomplished. In view of the above mentioned results the hypothesis that “there is no significant difference between male and female teachers in their attitude” is accepted. The above table shows the results of analysis of different levels of attitude according to locality of the respondents. The overall findings of the analysis show that there is no significant difference in the level of attitude of Rural and Urban teachers. Thus, the objective of the study that is, “To find out the difference between Rural and Urban teachers on attitude” has been accomplished. In view of the above mentioned results the hypothesis that “there is no significant difference between Rural and Urban teachers in their attitude” is accepted.

Male and female secondary school teachers do not differ significantly on attitude towards teaching. There is insignificant difference in the attitude of secondary school teachers with respect to their area of specialization. Rural and urban secondary school teachers do not

differ significantly on attitude towards teaching.

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