



A STUDY OF SOCIAL COMPETENCE OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS OF MAHENDERGARH DISTRICT OF HARYANA

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Abstract

A child's social competence depends upon a number of factors including the child's social skills, social awareness, and self-confidence. Social competence is the broader term used to describe a child's social effectiveness. It defines a child's ability to establish and maintain high quality and mutually satisfying relationships and to avoid negative treatment or victimization from others. In addition to social skills and emotional intelligence, factors such as the child's self-confidence or social anxiety can affect his or her social competence.

The main concern of this paper is to study the social competence of elementary school students. For this purpose the sample was selected from two private schools of Mahendergarh district. A number of 100 students (50 boys and 50 girls) were participated in the study. Random sampling was used in the study. Social Competence Scale (SCS) by Sharma, Shukla and Shukla (1992), to measure the pro-social attitude, social competition, social leadership, social tolerance and social maturity of the children. The results revealed that there is no significant relationship between the social competence of elementary school students.

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Key words: *Social Competence, elementary students, private school, boys, girls*

SOCIAL COMPETENCE

Social competence is a complex, multidimensional concept consisting of social, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral (skills, as well as motivational and expectancy sets (e.g., moral development, self-efficacy) needed for successful social adaptation. Social competence also reflects having an ability to take another's perspective concerning a situation, learn from past experiences, and apply that learning to the changes in social interactions. The ability to establish friendships seems to be key to social competence, which again appears to influence the degree of psychological problems throughout life (Hay, Payne, and Chadwick 2004). Social competency is characterized by the potency dimension of social measurement. As one of the components of the social behavior it is acquired through social integration in different socio-cultural settings. For a successful interpersonal interaction a high order social competence is an essential disposition of an individual. Gold friend and D "Zurilla (1969) considered social competency as the effectiveness or adequacy which an individual is capable of responding to the various problematic situations which confront him. Eisler (1976) defined social competence as the social ability and interpersonal skill of an individual in effectively meeting a person-situation interactions" or successfully dealing with an individual environmental factors"



REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Singh & Kaur (2015) examined the academic achievement among adolescents in relation to social competence and emotional intelligence. The study was conducted on a sample of 110 students drawn from the 10th grade secondary school students of Ludhiana District. The study showed that there was a significant difference between academic achievement and emotional intelligence among adolescents.

Kataria (2014) examined the relationship between social competence and self-confidence of government senior secondary school students. The sample consists of 200 students of various government senior secondary schools selected randomly from Ludhiana District of Punjab, India. The results showed that there exists a significant relationship between self-confidence and social competence of Govt. Sr. Secondary School Students. Result also showed that self-confidence affects the social competence of govt. sr. secondary school students.

Sanwal (2013) investigated social competence of adolescents' age group 13 to 15 years. A sample of 120 students was selected. The findings revealed that the percentages of 120 adolescents that falls in low and very low category (93.33%) of social competence level.

Mittal (2012) studied the obedience- disorder tendency of adolescents in relation to their self-expressions, social competence and gender with descriptive survey method on 1000 adolescents of government and private schools of Mansa and Ludhiana. Result revealed that there exists positive and significant relationship between obedience-disorder tendency and social competence of male and female adolescents.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A study of Social Competence of Elementary school students of Mahendergarh district of Haryana State

Operational Definitions

- **Social Competence:** Social Competence defined as the social ability and interpersonal skill of an individual in effectively meeting a person-situation interaction or successful dealing with individual environmental factors. In this present study, social competence is measured through five factors- pro-social attitude, social competition, social leadership, social tolerance and social maturity.
- **Elementary School Students:** Here, the elementary school students mean the students studying in VIII class of Private schools of Mahendergarh district.

Objectives

1. To assess the social competence of elementary school students of Mahendergarh district.



2. To assess the social competence of boys of elementary schools of Mahendergarh district.
3. To assess the social competence of girls of elementary schools of Mahendergarh district.
4. To compare the social competence of elementary school students of Mahendergarh district.

Hypotheses

1. There exists no significant difference between the social competence of elementary school students of Mahendergarh district.

Methodology

Population: In this study, the population comprises of the students studying in elementary classes of the private schools of Mahendergarh district.

Sample

The sample of the present investigation was drawn from 8th class students studying in private schools Mahendergarh District of Haryana state. A sample of 100 students was taken which included 50 girls and 50 boys.

Tool Used

In the present study the investigator used **Social Competence Scale (SCS) by Sharma, Shukla and Shukla (1992)**, to measure the pro-social attitude, social competition, social leadership, social tolerance and social maturity of the children.

Statistical Techniques Used

Statistical techniques used for analyzing data were Mean, S.D. and t-test was used to study the significant difference of social competence between boys and girls.

Results

Objective-1 To assess the social competence of elementary school students of Mahendergarh district.

Table -1

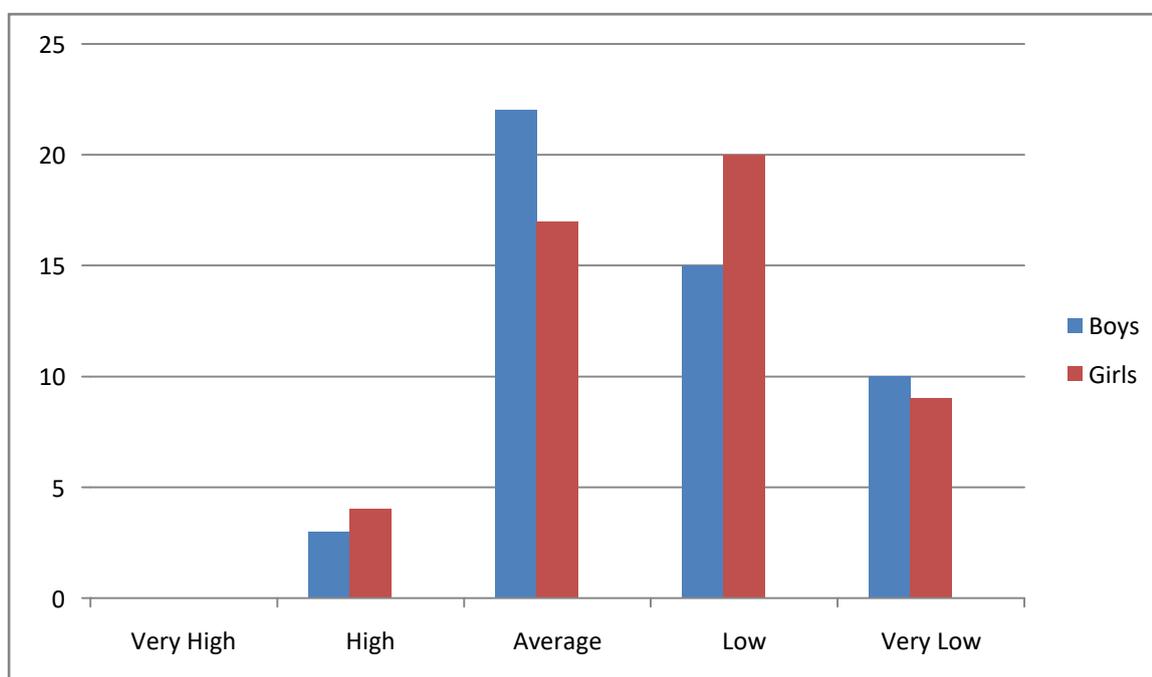
Variable	N	Z score Range	No. of Boys	No. of Girls	Level of Social Competence
Social Competence	100	205 & Above	00	00	Very High
		190 - 204	03	04	High
		175 - 189	22	17	Average
		160 - 174	15	20	Low



145 – 159	10	09	Very Low
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Table- 1 shows that 03 boys are at high level, 22 at average, 15 at low level, 10 at very low level and none are at very high level of social competence. It also shows that 04 girls are at high level, 17 at average, 20 at low level, 09 at very low level and none are at very high level of social competence.

Figure- 1



Objective -4To compare the social competence of elementary school students of Mahendergarh district.

Table -2

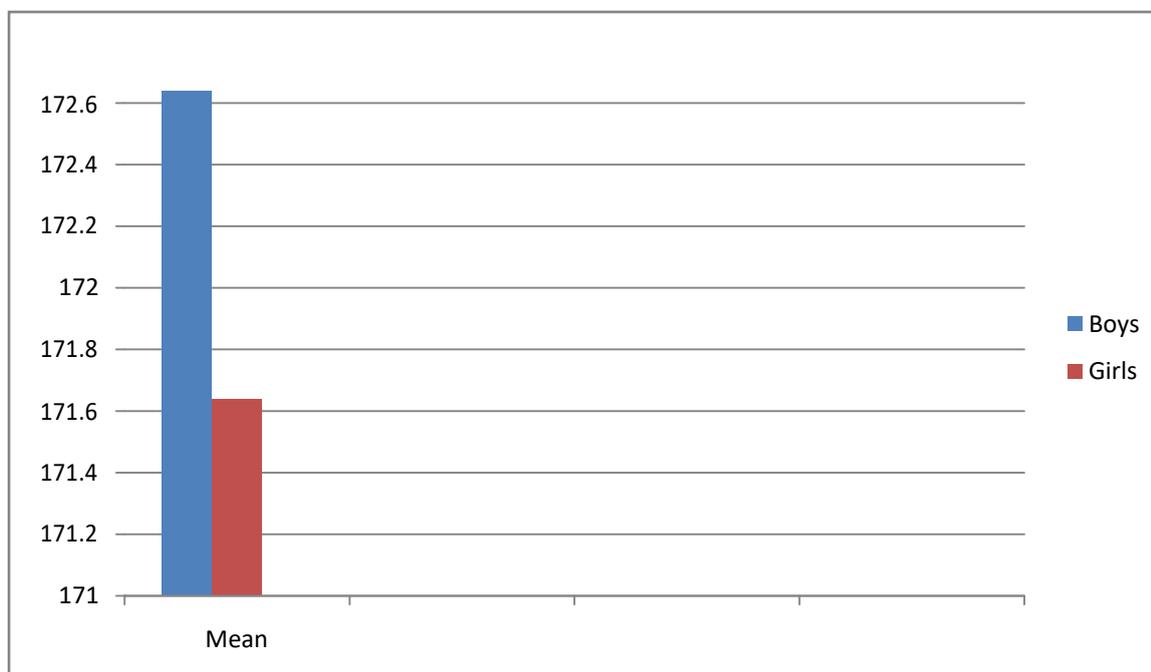
Group	No.	Mean	SD	df	t' value	Level of significance
Boys	50	172.64	12.59	98	0.688	Not significant
Girls	50	171.64	12.41			

Table 2 shows the mean, SD and t value of boys and girls. t' value indicates no difference between the social competence of boys and girls. Thus the null hypotheses which indicate there exists no significant difference between the social competence of elementary school



students of Mahendergarh district was accepted.

Figure- 2



Conclusions

The study conclude that 03 boys are at high level, 22 at average, 15 at low level, 10 at very low level and none are at very high level of social competence. It also shows that 04 girls are at high level, 17 at average, 20 at low level, 09 at very low level and none are at very high level of social competence. There exists no significant difference between the social competence of elementary school students of Mahendergarh district.

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