



PROBLEMS OF ADOLESCENTS AT SECONDARY SCHOOL STAGE IN RELATION TO THEIR GENDER AND HOME ENVIRONMENT

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ABSTRACT

The present study was undertaken to find the problems of adolescents at secondary school stage in relation to their gender and home environment. Sample of 300 students (boys and girls) studying in 11th standard from 07 Government Senior Secondary Schools of Gurugram district were selected on simple random basis and Youth Problem Inventory(1979) and Home Environment Inventory(1971) were used for data collection. After analysis and interpretation of data by using different statistical techniques, it was found that 31% adolescents were having high level of personal problems, 39% adolescents were having socio-emotional emotional problems, 48.33% adolescents were having average level of family problems, 43% adolescents were having average home environment, 26% adolescents were having favorable home environment while 31% adolescents were average home environment. There was no significant relationship between personal problems and home environment. It was also found that there was significant effect of gender on Home environment and boys have better home environment in comparison of girls.

Keywords: Problems of adolescents, and Home Environment.

INTRODUCTION

Adolescence is the most important and critical period of individual's development with which the teacher has to deal. Adolescents have to face various difficult situations and education should be organized to enable them to face all these problems of life. The adolescents have to be so educated that they should also build up their life in a way that they may successfully bring about the welfare of the society. Parents, teachers and educationists have a vital role to play in the life of the adolescents. They can build their life in a successful manner. Hence, they should have the knowledge of the general characteristics, needs and problems of the adolescents.

Adolescence is the most important period of human life. The term adolescence is used to denote a period during which the growing individual makes the transition from childhood to adulthood. Adolescence may be viewed as beginning when the young people begin to show the sign of purity and continuing until most of them are not sexually mature but also have reached to their maximum growth.

Home environment is the best place for education and the first school of the child. Social, physical and emotional activities of the family combined together constitute the family environment.

Bloom (1986) hypothesized that the home environment has significant effect on level of student's learning. The home environment exerts direct and indirect effect on child's achievement.

Thus, home environment plays a very important role in determining cognitive, emotional and social environment of children. Behavioral problems and mal-adjustment among children is largely a consequence of unfavorable home environment conditions. Factors pertaining to



heredity cannot be changed but environment can be manipulated and modified. Therefore, it is necessary for parents as well as teachers to know the home environment which is likely to foster the consequent psychological development of children.

NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Adolescence is often a very challenging time for children. Therefore, the study of the transition from childhood to adulthood has become an area of interest for understanding the emotional, physical and psychological changes which takes place at this important stage of an individual's development.

A numbers of research studies had been conducted on problems faced by urban adolescents during last four decades in India as well in aboard i.e. Choudhary (1965), Spencer (1967), Mehta (1970), Vidyarthi (1972), Sukla (1972), Sarkar (1974), Garg and Pareekh (1976), Mehra (1977), Sharma (1985) etc. Theses research studies indicated that various problems like personal, families, socio-emotional and educational problems faced by adolescents and various factors are responsible for these problems.

Home environment is another variable which plays an important role in the development of adolescents' personality. Further it was found that no research has been conducted on problems of adolescents at secondary school stage in relation to their gender and home environment in rural areas. Therefore, the present study is genuine attempt to study the problems of adolescents. The study also provides suitable suggestions for the betterment of the student and the well-being of the student.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In the light of the above facts, the investigator selected the statement of the problem entitled **“Problems of Adolescents at Secondary School Stage in relation to their Gender and Home Environment”**.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF THE TERMS USED

- **Problems:** In the present study, problems mean personal, families, socio-emotional and educational problems faced by adolescents.
- **Adolescents:** In the present study, adolescents refer to the secondary school students studying at standard 11th in Government Senior Secondary Schools of Gurugram District of Haryana.
- **Gender:** In the present study, gender refers to the male and female students studying at standard 11th in Government Senior Secondary Schools of Gurugram District.
- **Home Environment:** In the present study, home environment means psycho-social climate of home of adolescents.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the personal, families, socio emotional, and educational problems faced by adolescents at senior secondary school stage.
2. To study the Home environment of the adolescents at senior secondary school stage.
3. To study the effect of gender on the home environment of adolescents.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

1. Adolescents are having various types of personal, families, socio emotional, and educational problems at secondary school stage.



2. There is significant relationship between problems faced by adolescents and home environment.
3. There is no significant effect of gender on the home environment of adolescents.

DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

- i. The study was delimited to problems faced by Adolescents at Secondary School Stage in relation to their Gender and Home Environment only.
- ii. The study was delimited to 07 Governments Senior Secondary schools of rural areas of Gurugram District only.
- iii. The study was delimited to the sample of only 300 students studying at 11th Standard of Government Senior Secondary schools of Gurugram District.

RESEARCH METHOD:

As per the requirement and nature of the study, the Descriptive Survey Method of research was used.

POPULATION

All the adolescents studying in 11th standards in the Government Senior secondary schools of Gurugram district constitute the population for the study.

SAMPLE

For drawing the sample of the present study, 300 students (boys and girls) studying in 11th standard from 07 Government Senior Secondary Schools of Gurugram district were selected on the simple random basis.

TOOLS USED

In the present research, the following tools have been employed for the collection of the requisite data:

(i) Youth Problem Inventory(1979) by Km. Sandhya Sharma

(ii) Home Environment Inventory(1971) by Dr. Karuna Shankar Mishra

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES USED

In the present study, the following statistical techniques were used by employing SPSS:

- Frequencies
- Percentage
- Correlation
- ANNOVA

DISCUSSION OF THE RESULT

Keeping in view the objectives of the study, the discussion of the result are given below in the following Tables.

Table 1

**Levels of Various problems (Personal, Families, Socio-Emotional, and Educational)
faced by adolescents at Secondary School Stage**



Sr. No	Level of Problem	Personal problems	Families problems	Socio-Emotional problems	Educational problems
1	High	93 (31%)	75 (25%)	82 (27.33%)	83 (27.66%)
2	Low	82 (27.33%)	80 (26.67%)	114 (38%)	84 (28%)
3	Average	125 (41.67%)	145 (48.33%)	104 (34.67%)	133 (44.33%)
	Total	300 (100%)	300 (100%)	300 (100%)	300 (100%)

Table 1 reveals that 93(31%) adolescents were having high level of personal problems, 75 (25%) adolescents were having high level of family problems, 82(27.33%) adolescents had socio-emotional problems and 83(27.66%) adolescents were having educational problems. Thus, it may be concluded that majority of adolescents (31%) were having high level of personal problems.

Table 1 reveals that 82(27.33%) adolescents were having low level of personal problems, 80(26.67%) family problems, 114(38%) socio-emotional problems and 84(28%) educational problems. Thus, it may be concluded that majority of adolescents (38%) were having socio-emotional emotional problems.

Table 1 reveals that 125(41.67%) adolescents were having average level of personal problems, 145(48.33%) family problems, 104(34.66%) socio-emotional problems while 133(44.33%) were having average level of educational problems. Thus, it may be concluded that majority of adolescents (48.33%) were having average level of family problems.

Table- 2

Pearson Correlation between Problems Faced by Adolescents and Home Environment (N=300)			
Sr. No.	Variables	'r' value	Level of Significance
1	Problems faced by Adolescents	0.026	Not significant at any level of significance
2	Home Environment		

Table 2 reveals that 'r' value is 0.026 of problems faced by adolescents and home environment, which is not significant at 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance. So, the Hypothesis No. 2 that "There is significant relationship between problems faced by adolescents and home environment" is not accepted. Thus, it may be concluded that there was no significant relationship between problems faced by adolescents and home environment.

Effect of Gender on Home Environment of Adolescents at Secondary School Stage

In order to find out the main effect of gender (male and female) on Home Environment of adolescents at secondary school stage 'analysis of variance' was applied. The summary of the results of main effects of gender (male and female) on Home Environment of adolescents at secondary school stage is given below in Table 3



Sources of Variances	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F-Value	Level of Significance
Between Groups	354099.627	1	354099.627	483.288	Significant at 0.05 level
Within Groups	218341.370	298	732.689		
Total	572440.997	299			

Table 3 reveals that the calculated value of ‘F’ for the main effect of gender on Home environment of adolescents at secondary school stage, came out to be 483.288, which is significant at 0.05 level of significance. Hence, the hypothesis No. 3 that “There is no significant effect of gender on Home environment of adolescents of secondary school stage” is rejected. Thus, it may be concluded that there was significant effect of gender on Home environment of adolescents of secondary school stage.

MAIN FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

- 31% adolescents were having High level of personal problems.
- 39% adolescents were having socio-emotional emotional problems.
- 48.33% adolescents were having average level of family problems.
- 43% adolescents were having average home environment, 26% adolescents were having favorable home environment while 31% adolescents were average home environment.
- There was no significant relationship between problems and home environment of adolescents.
- It was found that there was significant effect of gender on Home environment of adolescents of secondary school stage and boys have better home environment in comparison of girls.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

- Academic activities like workshops/seminars/training programmes should be organized for teachers to understand the adolescents’ stage and its problems.
- Counseling services should be provided to teachers who have some problematic children.
- Counseling services should be provided to students who have any types of problems.
- Provisions for yogic exercise should be there in school on regular basis which will be helpful for students.
- Congenial and friendly home atmosphere should be provided to students in the schools.

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