
A STUDY OF COLLEGE STUDENTS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL

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Abstract

The deterioration of the environment caused by the depletion of resources such as air and soil is known as environmental degradation. The extinction of wildlife and the ruin of ecosystems. Environmental degradation is defined as "the reduction of the environment's capacity to meet social and ecological objectives and demands" by the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. Environmental deterioration and preservation are now key topics in globalization research. Our environment deteriorates on a regular basis as a result of various factors such as population explosion, uncontrolled and lavish consumption of precious environmental resources, industrialization, urbanization, and exploitation of abiotic and biotic components of the environment, which has led to the current state of environmental crisis. For our own reasons, we have a strong emotional need to be associated with the national world. Man has achieved numerous revolutions in various fields as a result of advances in science and technology. Man has achieved great strides in every field thanks to science and technology, but the abuse and misuse of natural resources is ruining the environment's balance. Unfortunately, human activity is at the root of environmental degradation, including the desire to reduce inequity in life. The environment has its own recovery mechanism, but the depletion of enormous amounts of resources due to human activity has caused the ecosystem's self-healing system to fail in many regions. As a result, there have been numerous negative environmental consequences. As a result, the purpose of this article is to determine the level of environmental awareness among college students, as well as the relationship between environmental awareness and economic status.

Introduction

Environmental education has recently received a lot of attention as a result of the environmental degradation and dangerous situation on the planet. Since the dawn of time, the environment has influenced and shaped human lives. Since the beginning of human history, there has been interaction between man and the "environment." Interaction like this is a necessary part of human development. Man's ability to change his connection with nature and the man-made (i.e. social and cultural) environment, as well as to change the environment itself, has gone through several stages. Because the environment plays such an essential part in our lives and influences us in so many ways, preserving it has been a big concern for everyone. As a result, environmental research has become a key issue for everyone because our environment is being degraded as a result of a variety of things, one of which is human activity. However, environmental degradation is occurring at an alarming rate as a result of human activity, resulting in a variety of environmental challenges such as global warming, ozone layer depletion, greenhouse effects, sea level rise, incorrect monsoon, and acid rain. The consequences of environmental degradation would be life threatening. Technology based civilization has led to sophisticated world whereas a large number of environmental problems has also appeared due to misuse and over use of natural resources. Today environment has become the concerns of all ; the academician, intellectuals, scientists, policymaker & government across the continents (Kant and Sharma, 2013). Environmental education should lead for gathering mass awareness which should bring environmentally wiser policies. It is in this backdrop the present study, "A Study of college students and their environmental awareness" in relation to environmental awareness and socio-economic status, environmental awareness of college students in citizen of socio-economic status was undertaken.

Key words: Environment, culture, social, college, education Objectives

- 1 To find the level of environmental awareness of college students.
- 2 To find the level of environmental awareness of students on the criteria of socio-economic status.
- 3 To find the environmental awareness with regard to their gender.

Hypothesis

There will be no significant difference in environmental awareness between undergraduate students regarding gender and socio-economic status.

Method

The investigator adopted survey method and random sampling technique' to collect data. The sample has been taken from Govt. Colleges situated in Patiala and Bathinda district. The population consists 100 girls from Govt. College for Girls Patiala and 100 boys from Baba Siri Chand Ji Govt College Sardargarh Bathinda

The investigator studied the tools available in market. Since there is no standard tool available for assessing the environmental awareness. The investigator worked out strategy to prepare and validate his own research tools studying the environmental awareness .Reliability was established by test-retest method.

The data collected were statistically analyzed and conclusions were drawn. Statistical techniques like differentiate analysis mean, standard deviation and t- value were used.

Result

The data has been collected randomly based on the stratification given below

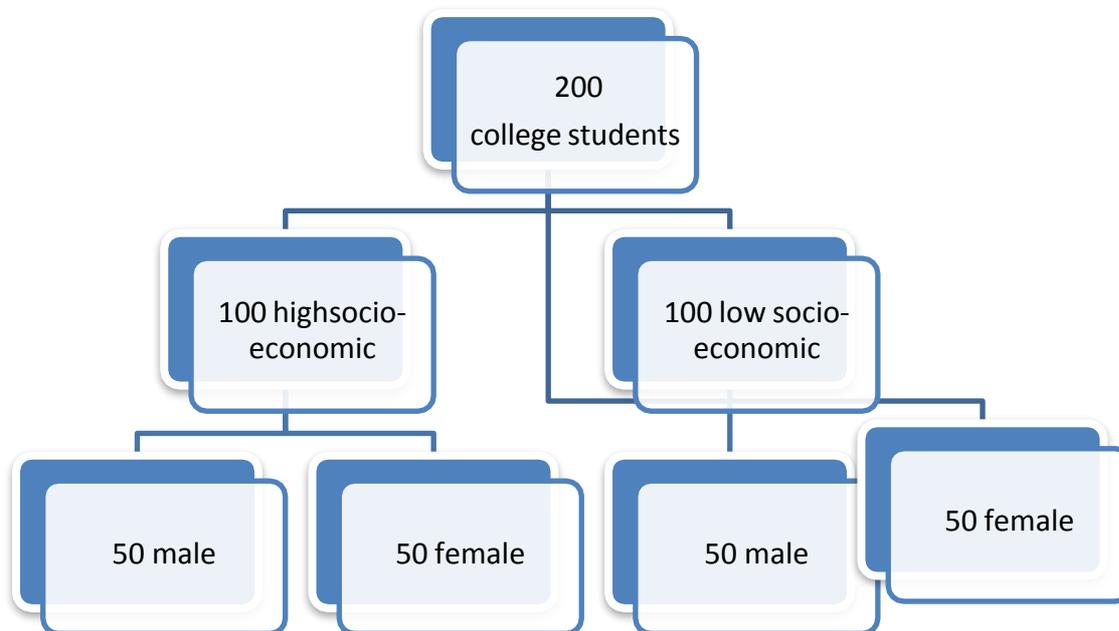


Table 1

Mean and SD of girls and boys students of high and low socio-economic status of college students in regarding environmental awareness.

	Student	Mean	SD
High Socio Economic	50 Boys	83.79	9.01
	50 Girls	84.89	10.11
Low Socio Economic	50 Boys	78.84	8.69
	50 Girls	74.43	8.21

Table 1 shows that mean score in environmental awareness of boys is 83.79 and that of girls is 84.89. This shows that there is little difference in means scores between boys and girls. Again the mean score in low socio-economic status of boys is 78.84 and that of girls is 74.43. This interprets that comparatively the boys are better aware than that of girls of low socio-economic status.

Level Of Environmental Awareness Among College Student

There were 110 items in EAS and each item was given a credit of 1 point and zero for wrong answer. The observed mean score of the entire sample of college student of Patiala and Bathinda was 84.34 from high socio-economic of both districts which is very high and mean score of low socio-economic group was 76.63.

Difference between boys and girls regarding Environmental Awareness

Variables	N	Mean	SD	T Value
Boys	100	81.31	8.89	0.412
Girls	100	79.66	10.01	

Mean (m) environmental awareness score of boys was 81.31 and that of girls 79.66 and t value was 0.412. Therefore, the hypothesis that no significant difference exists between male and female college students' environmental awareness was retained at 0.05 level. It is concluded that gender is not a factor for affecting environmental awareness of college students. The main reason for almost equal environmental awareness of boys (m 81.31) and girls (m 79.66) is that they are studying in the same class that is undergraduate course of first year of Arts in the Govt. College.

Significance for further research

The investigator would like to suggest that similar study can be conducted at the under graduate students of second and final year of Arts level.

Studies may be done to find out the attitude of environmental awareness in college student in relation with rural and urban areas.

Conclusion- the following conclusion can be drawn from the study:

The environmental awareness differ with socio economic status for total students and it is also found that the environmental awareness between boys and girls does not differ more.

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