

ATTITUDE OF STUDENTS TOWARDS INVOLVING THEMSELVES IN ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMME

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Abstract

This study refers the attitude of the students in involving themselves in adult education programme. By reviewing review of literature researcher found that, the scope of the study is very limited because of limited time, and the resources at the disposal of the researcher to study the attitude of all the students. Hence this investigation is confined to study the junior colleges, degree college and post-graduate students only. In this study the investigator has taken the students of different age groups and of both sexes with two localities namely urban and rural as variables. A few more important variables considered for the present study are the father's employment, mother's employment.

Introduction

The main purpose of education is to provide to all citizen the widest opportunity to develop his/her potentiality to the maximum extent possible. This education should be made available and accessible to all the citizens. Universalization of education does not end with school or college but it includes non-formal and informal education also. "Education", according to Coombs, is obviously a continuous process, spanning the years from the earliest infancy through adulthood and necessarily involving a great variety of methods and resources". It will be analytically useful to distinguish between three types of education namely (a) Formal education, (b) Non-formal education and (c) Informal education.

Formal education as every body knows, is 'highly institutionalized, chronologically, graded and hierarchically structured' education system, spanning lower primary school and upper teachers of the university. It is necessarily organized and vast bulk of formal education either receives state support or is organized by the state itself.

Non-formal education, as already mentioned, is any organized systematic educational activity carried outside the frame work of the formal system to provide selected types of learning to particular groups of population adults as well as children. Non-formal channels of education covers both liberal and vocational education: they are traditional as well as modern. It covers all the three educational objectives of imparting knowledge, teaching skills and promoting values.

Informal education is the life long process by which every person acquires and accumulates knowledge, skills, attitudes and insights from daily experiences and exposure - at home, at work, at play, from the environment the family and friends, from travel, reading dailies and books, or by listening to the radio or watching films or televisions. In this way informal education is unorganized and often unsystematic, yet it accounts for the life-time, learning, great bulk at any person's total including that of even a highly educated person.

Need for the Study

The successful implementation of any programme depends on the personnel involved in that programme. They should have positive attitude over that. Otherwise, the time, money, labour, etc., and other resources allotted for money, labour, the implementation will be of totally a waste, so there is a need even to study the attitude of the personnel involved at different levels in Adult Education Programmes. The present trend in this field is to involve the students, youth particularly the college students are really interested or not, that doesn't matter. There is no remunerative benefit for the students. There are no even proper transportation facilities in majority of the colleges. As college students have to spare more time for their studies, it is an additional burden to them. In this way involving the students in this programme is troublesome and laborious task on the part of the students. More over to an illiterate adult into a literate is not least 50 to 60 hours an easy task and if requires at the students. So, it is necessary to study the attitude of the students involving themselves in this programme.

Objectives

1. To study the Attitude of different levels students towards adult education programme with respect to Age (Upto 20 Years and Above 20 Years).
2. To study the Attitude of different levels students towards adult education programme with respect to Locality (Rural and Urban).

Hypothesis

1. There is no significant difference between the attitude of students with respect to Locality rural and urban areas.
2. There is no significant difference between the attitude of students with respect to Age (Upto 20 Years and Above 20 Years).

Pilot Study

Pilot study was intended to study whether the statements given in the instrument are clear or not. To the respondents it will also be useful to standardize the constructed tool on a representative sample before actual conduct of the study. Thus the validity of the tool was obtained. The attitude scale prepared in the above manner was used to carryout the pilot study of this investigation. The sample of students considered for the pilot study is 45. The students studying in higher educational institutions belonging to both the sexes are included in the study.

Sample Selection for the Study

A group of three hundred students studying in various colleges of Chittoor and Kadapa districts comprised the sample for this study. The sample of students for this study were selected from three levels of colleges, i.e., junior colleges, degree colleges and university colleges. Each level, 100 students were taken out of which 50 male and 50 female students. From junior college level both arts and science student shave taken. At degree level also B.Sc., B.A., and B.Com students were taken. At the University level M.Sc and M.A were taken. But in this study the professional course students were not included.

Tools used for the Study

There are different kinds of research tools. Among those, for this study an attitude scale specially meant for this purpose was prepared and used as a tool to investigate the attitude of the students.

The preliminary form of the attitude scale consists of 100 items. Out of these 100 items included in the attitude scale used for conducting pilot study, only 70 items were retained after finding the discriminatory values and other standardization procedure. In this way the final tool used for collection of the data consists of only 70 items.

Analysis and Interpretation

Difference between the mean values of the total score of the students who are studying in rural and urban areas

Here it is studied whether the areas has any relationship with the attitude of the students in involving themselves in adult education programme. For this purpose a sample of 105 students studying in rural areas and 195 students studying in urban areas have taken into account.

S.No.	Area	Sample Size	Mean	Standard Deviation	't' value
1	Rural	105	234.07	18.23	3.38**
2	Urban	196	241.53	18.16	

The mean value of the students who are studying in rural areas is 234.07 whereas the mean value of the students studying in urban areas is 241.53. after observing the difference between the mean value it can be said that the students studying in urban areas have positive attitude towards adult education programme than the students studying in rural areas.

The 't' value calculated is 3.382 which is significant at 0.01 level. Therefore it can be concluded that there is significant difference between the mean scores of students studying in rural areas and urban areas.

Difference between the mean values of the total scores of the students having upto 20 Years of age and above 20 years of age.

S.No.	Age	Sample Size	Mean	Standard Deviation	't' value
1	Upto 20 years	174	238.87	18.67	0.073@
2	Above 20 years	126	23.02	17.85	

Here it is studied whether there is any significant difference in the attitude of students having the age upto 20 years and above 20 years regarding their attitude towards involving them in adult education programme. For this purpose a sample of 174 students having upto 20 years of age and 126 students having above 20 years age has taken into account.

The mean value of students having upto 20 years age is 238.87, whereas the mean value of students having above 20 years of age is 239.02. That means both the students having upto 20 years age and above 20 years age have almost the same attitude towards adult education programme. But to see whether it is statistically significant or not 't' value is calculated.

The 't' value calculated is 0.073 which is not significant at 0.01 level. Therefore it can be concluded that there is no significant difference between the mean scores of these two groups of students having age upto 20 years and above 20 years age.

Conclusion

In the light of the above findings of the investigation the following conclusions can be drawn. The attitude of students vary depending on the locality. It is assumed that the students studying in urban areas are more favourable attitude than the students studying in rural areas. It is also found that there is no significant difference in the attitude of the students between the age groups upto 20 years and above 20 years. The findings are also conclude the influence of age and locality if seen the age is not only one variable which is not at all affecting the attitude but the locality to which the students belonged that urban students have positive attitude where as rural students tending towards negative attitude.

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