

A Study On Environmental Awareness Among College Students

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DOI: 10.29322/IJSRP.9.11.2019.p9550
<http://dx.doi.org/10.29322/IJSRP.9.11.2019.p9550>

Abstract- Environmental degradation is the deterioration of the environment through depletion of resources such as air, soil. The destruction of ecosystems and the extinction of wildlife. The United Nation International Strategy for Disaster Reduction defines environmental degradation as “The reduction of the capacity of the environment to meet social and ecological objectives and needs”. Today environmental degradation and preservation have emerged as major issues in globalization studies. Our environment is being deteriorated every now and then due to various factors like population explosion, uncontrolled and lavish consumption of precious environmental resources, industrialization, urbanization and exploitation of abiotic and biotic components of environment have resulted in the present day environment crisis condition. We have a deep emotional need to affiliate with the national world for our own happens. With the progress in science and technology man has made a lot of revolution in various field. Man has made a lot of progress in every field through science and technology but at the same time overuse and misuse of environmental resources is destroying the equilibrium of environment. Unfortunately it is human activity including the deserve to improve inequality of life, that lies at the core of environmental degradation. The environment has its own system of recovery but depletion of large amount of resources due to the activities of man has failed the self-recovery system of environment in many areas. So it has led to many adverse impacts on the environment. So this paper is an attempt to find the awareness level regarding environment and its relation with economic status among college students.

Index Terms- Environment, degradation, destruction, human development, life threatening

I. INTRODUCTION

Recently due to environmental degradation and hazardous situation in planet earth environmental education has gained drastic attention. Environment has influenced and shaped our lives since the time immemorial. Interaction on between man and the ‘environment’ has existed since human first appeared on earth. Such interaction is an intrinsic aspect of human development. Man’s capacity to adjust his relationship with nature and man-made (i.e. social and cultural) environment and to transform the environment itself has passed through various phases. Environment plays a very important role and influences us in many ways so keeping in to consideration on its preservation on had been the major concern for all. So today the study of the

environment have emerged as major concern for all because our environment is being destructed due to various factors, and one of the major cause of environment destruction is human activities. However due to man’s activities, environmental degradation is in an alarming rate and it results in various environmental issues such as global warming, ozone layer, depletion, greenhouse effects, raise in sea level, improper 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 on environmental awareness among college students in relation to environmental awareness and socio-economic status, environmental awareness of college students in citizen of socio-economic status was undertaken.

II. 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.

III. HYPOTHESIS

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

IV. 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 differentiat analysis mean, standard deviation, and t- value were used.

V. RESULT

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

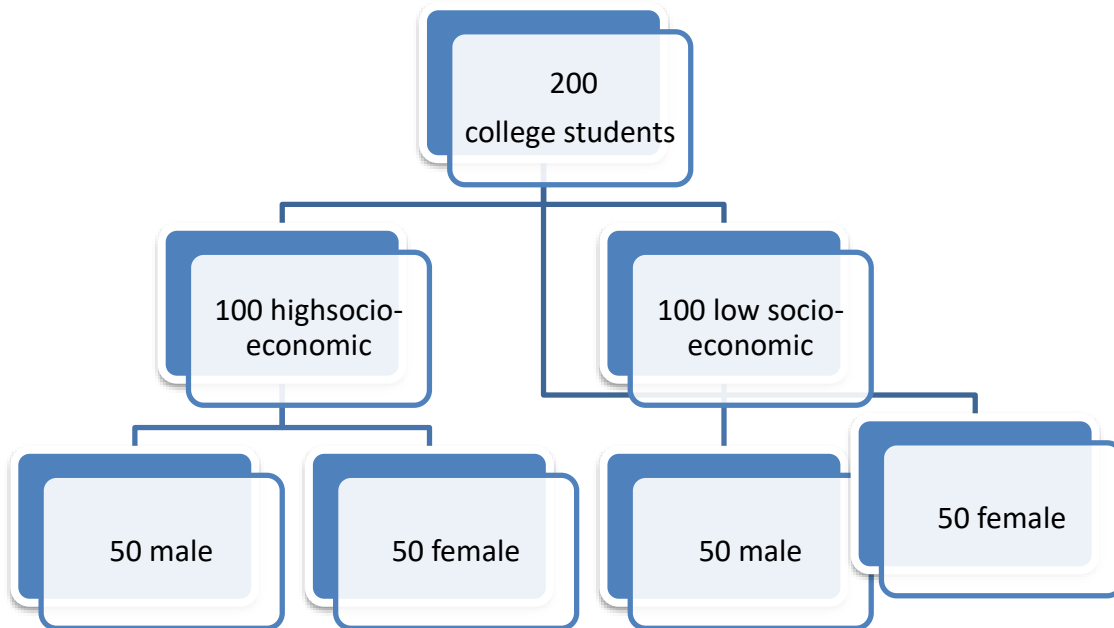


Table 1

Mean and SD of girls and boys students of high and low socio-economic status of college students in regarding environment al 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 district 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 significance difference exist 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 student. The main reason for almost equal environment awareness of boys (m 81.31) and girls (m 79.66) is that are studying in the same class that is undergraduate course of first year of Arts in the Govt .College.

VI. 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.

VII. 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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