A STUDY ON ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS AT UNDER GRADUATE LEVEL IN VELLORE DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the relationship between environmental awareness among college students at under graduate level in vellore district. This study adopted survey method of research. Participants were 296 college students randomly selected from different colleges in Vellore District. The research instruments used for data collection was environmental awareness scale developed and standardized by S.Vincent De Paul and T.K.Swatantra Devi (2000). Tested at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance. The study reveals that the environmental awareness of male students is slightly better than the female mean score. The result indicate that the environmental awareness of English medium students is more than the Tamil medium students mean score. The study reveals that the mean score of science group students is more than the arts group students. The study reveals that the environmental awareness of urban students is more than the students from rural areas mean score. The study reveals that the mean score of the students of Private College are more than the Government college students. The study reveals that the environmental awareness of the students whose parents are Graduates is more than the Non-graduates mean score.

Keywords: Environmental awareness, Undergraduate students, Survey, Random Technique.

INTRODUCTION

The term ‘environment’ describes the sum total of physical and biotic conditions influencing the responses of organism. It is considered to be the whole set of natural and social systems in which man and other organism live and from which they draw their substances. Unlimited exploitation of nature by man disturbed the delicate ecological balance between living and non-living components of the biosphere. Environment included a complex of natural, built and social components in the life of humanity and that the social components constitute a set of cultural, moral, personal values and interrelations’ (Tbilisi, 1997). Human modified the natural system into an artificial and highly productive system to get more sources that are nutrient and it resulted in the production of more by-products and waste. This leads to enormous exploitation of natural resources and gigantic and unmanageable amount of by-products and wastes, has resulted in today’s environmental crisis, which has endangered not only human existence but also the earth (Sharma, 1986).

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

While environment awareness may, at first glance, seem more connected with the science curriculum, it has implications for other disciplines. The issues associated with environmental awareness are connected with values, ethics and attitude towards the natural world, social consciousness and aesthetic awareness. Furthermore, exploration through environmental awareness requires the use of language process. It is a broad series of topics that lend themselves to trans disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to instructions.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Formally the problem can be stated as follow
A Study on Environmental Awareness among College Students at Under Graduate Level in Vellore District.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The following are the objectives of the study.

1. To find out the environmental awareness among college students in Vellore District.
2. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of male and female students.
3. To find out whether there is any significant different between the mean scores of environmental awareness of Tamil medium and English medium students.
4. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of arts and science students.
5. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of first year, second year and final year students.
6. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of rural and urban students.
7. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness among boys, girls and co-education students.
students.

8. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of Government and Private Students.

9. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of students with respect to Parent’s educational qualification.

10. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of nuclear and joint family Students.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

The following are the hypothesis of the present study.

1. Environmental awareness among College students is not adequate.

2. There is no significant difference between mean score of environmental awareness of male and female students.

3. There is no significant difference between mean score of environmental awareness of Tamil medium and English medium students.

4. There is no significant difference between mean score of environmental awareness of arts and science group students.

5. There is no any significant difference between mean score of environmental awareness among first year, second year and third year students.

6. There is no significant difference between mean score of environmental awareness of rural and urban students.

7. There is no any significant difference between mean score of environmental awareness among boys, girls and co-education students.

8. There is no significant difference between mean score of environmental awareness of government and Private school students.

9. There is no significant difference between mean score of environmental awareness of students with respect to Parent’s educational qualification.

10. There is no significant difference between mean score of environmental awareness of nuclear and joint family students.

RESEARCH DESIGN

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted through survey method of research and it is most suitable for the present study.

SAMPLE

A random sampling technique was adopted for the selection of sample 296 under graduate college students were taken for the study.

RESEARCH TOOLS

➢ To verify the hypothesis formulate in the study, the following tool have been used Environmental awareness scale developed and standardized by S.Vincent De Paul and T.K.Swatantra Devi (2000).

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES

A research should be familiar with principles, procedure, merits and demerits of the statistical techniques to be adopted. In the present study the following statistical techniques were used.

➢ Mean

➢ Standard Deviation

➢ “t”-test

➢ “F” test

MAJOR FINDINGS

1. Environmental awareness among college students is adequate.

2. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of male and female students.

3. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of Tamil medium and English medium students.

4. There is a significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of Arts and Science students.

5. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness among college students with reference to year of study.

6. There is a significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of Rural and Urban students.

7. There is a no significant different between the mean scores of environmental awareness of Rural and Urban students with reference to nature of college.

8. There is a significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness among college students with reference to nature of college.

9. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of Government and Private school students.

10. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of environmental awareness of nuclear and joint family students.
TABLE - 1
TABLE SHOWS THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TAMIL MEDIUM AND ENGLISH MEDIUM UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS BASED ON THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS USING MEAN SCORES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>S.D</th>
<th>'t' Value</th>
<th>Level of significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Tamil</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>94.82</td>
<td>8.104</td>
<td>3.59</td>
<td>Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>98.44</td>
<td>9.212</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GRAPH SHOWS THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TAMIL MEDIUM AND ENGLISH MEDIUM UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS BASED ON THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS USING MEAN SCORES.

TABLE - 2
TABLE SHOWS THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE AMONG THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS OF RURAL AND URBAN AREA BASED ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS USING MEAN SCORES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>S.D</th>
<th>'t' Value</th>
<th>Level of significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>92.71</td>
<td>8.26</td>
<td>6.95</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>99.44</td>
<td>8.18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GRAPH SHOWS THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE AMONG THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS OF RURAL AND URBAN AREA BASED ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS USING MEAN SCORES.

TABLE - 3
TABLE SHOWS THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE MEAN SCORE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS OF STUDENTS OF GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE COLLEGES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Type of Management</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>S.D</th>
<th>'t' Value</th>
<th>Level of significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Government</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>94.56</td>
<td>7.95</td>
<td>4.075</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>98.64</td>
<td>9.24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GRAPH SHOWS THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE MEAN SCORE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS OF STUDENTS OF GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE COLLEGES.

DISCUSSION
The study reveals that the environmental awareness of English medium students is slightly better than the Tamil medium students mean score. It clearly shows that English medium are from self financing colleges and they must have some extracurricular activities in their colleges and hence that show some better awareness towards environment than the Tamil medium students. It is due to goal setting habits of the school changed the vision of students to concentrate only in result oriented schools. In order to acquire with the knowledge of environmental...
suitable well organized curriculum need to be organized at all level of education more specifically at the higher secondary level. A special programme on environmental education need to made compulsory at all levels of education. Series of workshops, seminars, conferences, exhibitions, field visit may be organized to create an awareness among the students just knowledge on environmental issues alone is no use but they should be informed of how to uphold the values to maintain the environment without disturbing its equilibrium, educational institutions can organize environmental clubs/association to involve the student community to practice all the skill they have learnt in relation to environment awareness programme. Programmes may be organized intensively for the student community and a new teaching-learning technique in the form of programmed instruction for the fun of knowledge of college students can be developed for environmental awareness and academic achievement, this study will help to produce talent and caliber of college students who will be environmental literate citizens in preserving the global environmental for a sustainable community such sustained efforts should be made to improve the coverage of adult education.

CONCLUSION

Environment is a global concept today. Environmental education is an approach to learning. It makes the pupil’s education problem related to understanding the environment and hazards of its pollution. It helps us as how unchecked and unplanned development pollutes air, water and soil and thereby threatening our subsistence and existence. As the problem is one, of the people, for the people, a proper understanding and support of the people will go a long way in carrying out antipollution measures. A number of environmental problems related to use of water, electricity, detergents, chemicals, plastic, wood, sanitation etc. have just a local dimension both in rural and urban areas people. They should be made aware of these. People should be encouraged in tree plantation and maintenance, social forestry, environment education, extension programmes etc. In industrial towns the problems of industrial wastes and effluents on the one hand and growth of slums and related urbanization problems on the other, assume impo

REFERENCES


