A STUDY OF SELF ESTEEM OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

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Abstract:

The purpose of the paper is to determine the self esteem of elementary school teachers in Vellore district of Tamilnadu. The sample comprised 160 elementary school teachers out of these 90 male and 70 female. Self Esteem Inventory by M.S.Prasad and G.P. Thakur Psychology Department, University of Bihar, Muzaffarpur. The investigator used the statistical techniques, Mean, SD and "t" test The results reveal that respect to the gender, locality of school, age and type of family have average level of self esteem towards elementary school teachers and further it shows that there is no significant difference between the gender, locality of school, age and type of family towards self esteem of elementary school teachers.

Introduction:

Education is the main tool in the hands of man through which he enables himself to meet the various challenges of the life. It is a unique feature of human society which enables the human beings, not only to distinguish between the civilized and uncivilized, but also help them to achieve what otherwise remains unachieved. India has witnessed phenomenal development in education since independence. The overall literacy rate has gone up significantly during this period. It is the teacher with sufficient degree of mental health who can maintain the twin requisites of teaching-learning situations, healthy interactions in the classroom and healthy participation by students in lessons.

Education is the key to all processes of development especially human development. Catalytic action of education in this complex and dynamic growth process needs to be planned meticulously and executed with great sensitivity. Education is fundamental to all-round development of human potential-material and spiritual. It refines sensitivities and perceptions that contribute to national cohesion, a scientific temper and independence of mind and spirit thus furthering to goal of socialism, secularism and democracy enshrined in our contribution.

Self Esteem:

Self esteem or self concept is a concept that a person has regarding his own self which consists of any evaluation that he makes of himself. In fact, what a person thinks about himself comprises the attitudes and feelings that he has about himself. An individual's personality development involves three basic determinants – genetic inheritance, socio-cultural inheritance, and self-structure. This influence is most noticeable in physical features, such as eyes, colour, hair, health etc. that directly influence our self-concept and self-esteem. Self-esteem means a favourable opinion of oneself. Developing good self-esteem involves encouraging a positive (of course realistic) attitude towards ourselves and the world around us and appreciates our worth.

Self-esteem is the way one feels about one-self including the degree to which one possesses self respect and self-acceptance. Self-esteem, in very general term, means the value ascribed by the individual to himself, the way he views or evaluates himself. Like the other aspects of the self it is learnt and builds up by interacting with the others significant factors.

Statement of the Problem: The problem chosen for the study may be stated as "A Study of Self Esteem of Elementary School Teachers.

Sample of the Study:

The sample of the present study consisted of 160 elementary school teachers. These teachers are employed in Vellore district at Tamilnadu. Among these teachers 90 are male and 70 female teachers were selected by Random sampling techniques were used to draw the sample form the elementary school teachers.

Statistical Techniques Used:

The investigator used the statistical techniques, Mean, SD and "t" test to accept or reject hypotheses

Operational Definitions of Key Term Used:

Self-esteem is the way one feels about one-self including the degree to which one possesses self respect and self-acceptance. Self-esteem, in very general term, means the value ascribed by the individual to himself, the way he views or evaluates himself.

Tool Used In the Present Study:

Self Esteem Inventory by M.S.Prasad and G.P. Thakur Psychology Department, University of Bihar, Muzaffarpur.

Description of the Tool:

There are thirty statements in the inventory. Each statement has seven point answer scale. The self esteem is socially perceived self was to be determined by the basis of the same set of statements. Out of thirty

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items seventeen are socially desirable and thirteen items are socially undesirable. The items which are socially desirable would get 7 scores if answered completely true and 1 if answered completely false. The socially undesirable items would be scored in the opposite manner i.e. the completely false point would get 7 scores and completely true would get 1 score.

Objectives of the Study:
- ✓ To find out the level of self esteem elementary school teachers.
- ✓ To find out the difference if any between the following elementary school teachers in respect of their self esteem
  - Gender   : Male/ Female
  - Locality of School   : Rural / Urban
  - Age   : Below 30 / Above 30
  - Type of Family   : Nuclear / Joint

Hypotheses of the Study:
- ✓ The self esteem of elementary school teachers is high.
- ✓ There is no significant difference between the following sub-samples with respect to the emotional intelligence of Elementary school teachers
  - Gender   : Male/ Female
  - Locality of School   : Rural / Urban
  - Age   : Below 30 / Above 30
  - Type of Family   : Nuclear / Joint

Differential Analysis:

Table 1: Self Esteem Scores of Elementary School Teachers based on Gender

Sub Samples	N	Mean	SD	Level
Male	90	111.35	44.69	Avg
Female	70	119.91	41.93	Avg

The table 1 shows the self esteem mean scores of male and female elementary school teachers are found to be 111.35 and 119.91 respectively. The self esteem mean scores of both male and female elementary school teachers are in between normal curve value of 71.39 and 158.81. Therefore, it is found that both male and female elementary school teachers have average level of self esteem.

Table 2: Self Esteem Scores of Elementary School Teachers based on Locality of School

Sub Samples	N	Mean	SD	Level
Rural	77	118.92	45.44	Avg
Urban	83	111.56	42.01	Avg

The table 2 shows the self esteem mean scores of rural and urban elementary school teachers are found to be 118.92 and 111.55 respectively. The self esteem mean scores of both rural and urban elementary school teachers are in between normal curve value of 71.39 and 158.81. Therefore, it is found that both rural and urban elementary school teachers have average level of self esteem.

Table 3: Self Esteem Scores of Elementary School Teachers based on Age

Sub Samples	N	Mean	SD	Level
Below 30	75	120.18	43.74	Avg
Above 30	85	110.61	43.45	Avg

The table 3 shows the self esteem mean scores of age below 30 and age above 30 of elementary school teachers are found to be 120.18 and 110.61 respectively. The self esteem mean scores of both age below 30 and age above 30 of elementary school teachers are in between normal curve value of 71.39 and 158.81. Therefore, it is found that both age below 30 and age above 30 of elementary school teachers have average level of self esteem.

Table 4: Self Esteem Scores of Elementary School Teachers based on Type of Family

Sub Samples	N	Mean	SD	Level
Nuclear	92	111.01	44.37	Avg
Joint	68	120.53	42.50	Avg

The table 4 shows the self esteem mean scores of nuclear and joint family of elementary school teachers are found to be 111.01 and 120.63 respectively. The self esteem mean scores of both nuclear and joint family of elementary school teachers are in between normal curve value of 71.39 and 158.81. Therefore, it is found that both nuclear and joint family of elementary school teachers have average level of self esteem.

Differential Analysis for Self esteem – Elementary School Teachers:

Table 5: 't' Test Values Based on Gender

Sub Samples	N	Mean	SD	't' Value
Male	90	111.35	44.69	1.23[NS]
Female	70	119.91	41.93	

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Table 5 further reveals the mean, standard deviation and 't' values of male and female elementary school teachers on self esteem. The calculated 't' value is 1.23, which is lower than the table value of 1.97 to be significant at 0.05 level. Therefore, the research hypothesis is rejected and null hypothesis is accepted. Further it is found that the male and female elementary school teachers do not differ significantly in their self esteem.

Table 6: 't' Test Values Based on Locality of School

Sub Samples	N	Mean	SD	't' Value
Rural	77	118.92	45.44	1.06[NS]
Urban	83	111.56	42.01	

Table 6 further reveals the mean, standard deviation and 't' values of rural and urban elementary school teachers on self esteem. The calculated 't' value is 1.06, which is higher than the table value of 1.97 to be significant at 0.05 level. Therefore, the research hypothesis is accepted and null hypothesis is rejected. Further it is found that the rural and urban elementary school teachers differ significantly in their self esteem.

Table 7: 't' Test Values Based on Age

Sub Samples	N	Mean	SD	't' Value
Below 30	75	120.18	43.74	1.38[NS]
Above 30	85	110.61	43.45	

Table 7 further reveals the mean, standard deviation and 't' values of age below 30 and age above 30 of elementary school teachers on self esteem. The calculated 't' value is 1.38 ,which is lower than the table value of 1.97 to be significant at 0.05 level. Therefore, the research hypothesis is rejected and null hypothesis is accepted. Further it is found that the age of elementary school teachers do not differ significantly in their self esteem.

Table 8: 't' Test Values Based on Type of Family

Sub Samples	N	Mean	SD	't' Value
Nuclear	92	111.01	44.37	1.38[NS]
Joint	68	120.53	42.50	

Table 8 further reveals the mean, standard deviation and 't' values of nuclear and joint family of elementary school teachers on self esteem. The calculated 't' value is 1.38, which is lower than the table value of 1.97 to be significant at 0.05 level. Therefore, the research hypothesis is rejected and null hypothesis is accepted. Further it is found that the nuclear and joint family of elementary school teachers do not differ significantly in their self esteem.

Major Findings of the Study:
- ✓ It is found that both male and female elementary school teachers have average level of self esteem.
- ✓ It is found that both rural and urban elementary school teachers have average level of self esteem.
- ✓ It is found that both age below 30 and age above 30 of elementary school teachers have average level of self esteem.
- ✓ It is found that both nuclear and joint family of elementary school teachers has average level of self esteem.
- ✓ It is found that the gender of elementary school teacher do not differ significantly in their self esteem.
- ✓ Further it is found that the rural and urban elementary school teachers differ significantly in their self esteem.
- ✓ It is found that the age of elementary school teachers do not differ significantly in their self esteem.
- ✓ It is found that the nuclear and joint family of elementary school teachers do not differ significantly in their self esteem.

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