Environmental Dispositions and Gender

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Abstract

Environmental ethics is the code of behavior for guiding and controlling human actions towards environment. This code of behavior does not depend on the presence or absence of environmental laws for the understanding, protection and improvement of the environment. It was found that the mean scores of Tribal Boys and Tribal Girls were 141.24 and 151.43 with Standard Deviations 42.13 and 44.37 respectively. The obtained '*t*' value between the two groups came out to be 2.02 which is more than the table value i.e., 1.646 at 0.05 level and less than 2.581 at 0.01 level of significance. It revealed that there is significant difference in both the groups. It also revealed that tribal girls secondary school students have more dispositions about the environment than the tribal boys secondary school students. Hence, the null hypothesis of the present study "There is no significant difference between secondary school boys and girls students with respect to environmental disposition" is rejected. It means that the girls at secondary school level have more environmental disposition than the boys.

Key Words: Environmental Ethics, Gender, Secondary School.

Introduction

In the world, India has the largest population of tribal people numbering more than 104 million (census report 2011) make up 8.61% of the total population of India. In 1975 Morton in his study under the title, "The Notion of the Tribe" stated that tribes are characterized by fluid boundaries and heterogeneity. According to Majumdar (1983), "A tribe is a collection of families bearing a common name, members of which occupy the same territory, speak the same language and observe certain taboos regarding marriage, profession and occupation have developed a well assessed system of reciprocity and mutability of obligation." The very nature of the tribe has undergone changes significantly over the course of time, but certain uniqueness has remained.

Number of studies have been conducted on different parameters on tribal sections of

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India and compared to that of the non-tribal section. There are a number of studies which shows the differences between the two groups and the necessary factors that create this difference. Most of them have focused education and other allied aspects (Lone & Khan, 2017: 2018: 2019, Lone, 2019, Bhat & Khan, 2021: 2021: 2022 a, b). Only few have focused on environmental issues (Bhat, Husain & Khan, 2018). For sustainable development environmental awareness is one of the most important components. Harvey (1995), Young (2000), and Ziadat (2009) indicated that sustainable development is possible only through education. Fien (2002) affirmed that environmental opinion is commonly more shared among the younger age group worldwide. In 2003, Makki, Abd-El-Khalick and Boujoude affirmed that the largest contributor to the environmental degradation are human beings. In 1993, Gore accredited that there is a terrible need to give stern consideration for defending life on this planet. As educators and educationists, it is one of our duties to take remedial measures for solving this problem at an earliest. Now-a-days seminars, Conferences, debates, symposiums, and essay writing competitions are held at all levels of education viz. elementary, secondary and higher; so as to sensitize the students regarding environment and the problems faced by it. Industrialization, urbanization and adopting modern tools and techniques in every walk of life is responsible for giving rise to many Environmental problems.

Most of the advanced nations of the world have given place to the issues of environmental protection in their political agenda. Eco-ethics is the indispensable basis for sustainable use of the earth. Such a basis must consist of a chain of worth judgment to which human race is devoted. In 2002, Cairns, Jr, “Eco-ethics International Union (EEIU) and its declaration is a certain endeavor to provide some instructive examples”. In 2001, Wenz Peter S. defines environmental ethics as, “a reasoned account of how people should live their lives”. It instills valuable regulations in the persons and social groups. Environmental moral code has to be developed in each person to control him / her as strength from within to make decision and act on the diverse aspect of the environment which is not detrimental to the neighborhood, nationwide and worldwide society. Environmental ethics has to hone the verdict of a human being not to put risk the business and safety of other human beings and the entire creation for the sake of material as well as political gains for example, if any drug, pesticide, fungicide etc. is found to be harmful for life in any part of the globe; exporting the same to other country goes against ethics which shall be condemned with full might. Any person / agency found fiddling in such activities shall be treated involved in heinous crime.

The term Environment comprises of Physical or natural and social or cultural**.** In the present work undertaken by the investigators under the title “Environmental Dispositions and Gender”. The demand of the research work is towards the physical or

natural aspect of the environment. Few decades before we were witnessing lush green forests, crystal clear water, health boosting breezes, pleasant weathers as if the UT of Jammu and Kashmir was a land of attraction for the citizens of the entire globe. Man's unlimited greed fell squarely on nature resulted great loss to environment; Mohan Das Karam Chand Gandhi has rightly said, "There is enough for every one's need but not for greed". Present human generation is acting adversely as has been advised by saints, leaders, religions etc. They are taught by the creator that they are the crown of creation; the same was to be manifested by them in their deeds but unfortunately, Humans turned inhuman the consequences of which are before everyone. In the entire world the first and foremost issue before mankind is environmental degradation. Environment is now considered as a commodity- underdeveloped countries are stressing hard on developed countries revenue for degradation of environment as it has no boundaries. When environment becomes a commodity the programmes and policies adopted from time to time seems to remain a mere slogan. Keeping all this in view, the investigator has shown keen interest in investigating the environment related problems so as to put his effort in this direction for making the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir well aware about the causes, consequences and immediate remedial measures to environmental problems.

Objective of the study

To find the significant difference among tribal boys and tribal girls secondary school students with respect to environmental dispositions.

Hypothesis

There will be no significant difference between tribal boys and tribal girls secondary schools students with respect to environmental dispositions.

Methods and Procedure

The researcher used descriptive method in the present study. The researchers selected two districts of Jammu and Kashmir namely Punch and Leh through purposive sampling method and 302 were randomly selected out of which 179 were Tribal boys and 123 were Tribal girls. Environmental Disposition Inventory (EDI) developed by Bhat T.A, et al in 2016 was administered on the sampled students. The collected data was statistically analyzed through Mean, Standard Deviation and t-test for testing the Significance of Mean differences between the groups with the help of SPSS 21 Software.

Result and discussions

Difference among Tribal Boys and Tribal Girls Secondary School Students with respect to Environmental Dispositions:

Table 1. showing the Mean score comparison between Tribal Boys and Tribal Girls with respect to Environmental Dispositions

Testing Variable	Group	N	Mean	Std. D	df	t	Sig.
Environmental Dispositions	***Tribal Boys***	179	141.24	42.13	300	2.02	0.044*
	Tribal Girls	123	151.43	44.37			

*Significant at 0.05 level

From the table; it is evident that the mean scores of Tribal Boys and Tribal Girls are found to be 141.24 and 151.43 with Standard Deviations 42.13 and 44.37 respectively. The obtained‘ t’ value between the two groups comes out to be 2.02 which is more than the table value i.e. 1.646 at 0.05 level of significance. The results are in line with the findings of the study undertaken by Nikunja (1990) entitled “The attitude of secondary school students towards environment”. The findings of the study revealed that all the students had a positive attitude towards environment but the girls show more positive attitude towards environment than the boys.

Hence the null hypothesis, “There will be no significant difference between Tribal Boys and Tribal Girls Secondary Schools Students with respect to Environmental Dispositions” is rejected. It means that there is significant difference in both the groups. It also revealed that Tribal Girls Secondary School Students have more Dispositions about the environment than the Tribal Boys Secondary School Students.

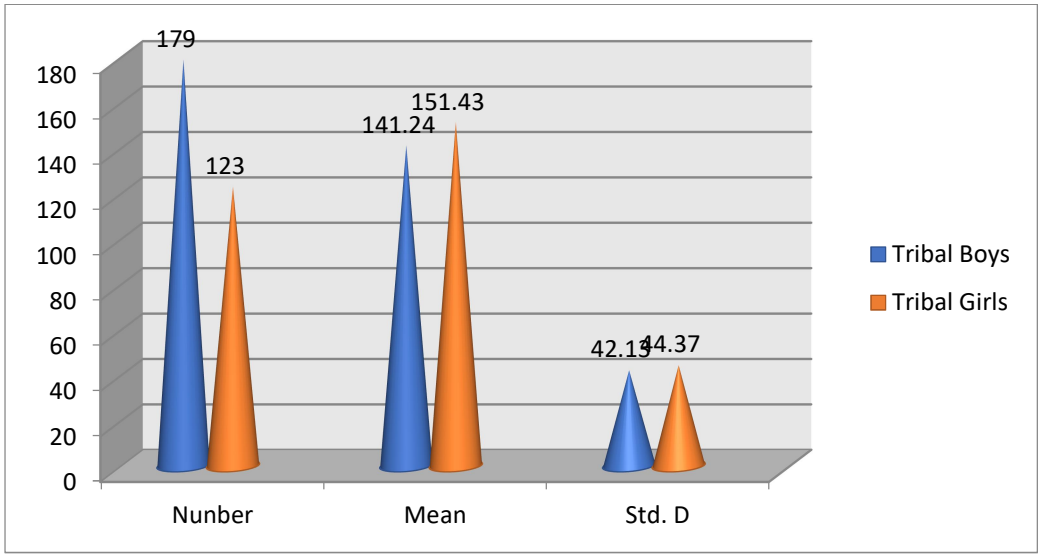

Figure 1. showing the Environmental Dispositions among Tribal Boys and Tribal Girls.

Conclusion

It was found that the mean scores of tribal boys and tribal girls were 141.24 and 151.43 with Standard Deviations 42.13 and 44.37 respectively. The obtained '*t*' value between the two groups comes out to be 2.02 which is more than the table value i.e., 1.646 at 0.05 level and less than 2.581 at 0.01 level of significance. It reveals that there is significant difference in both the groups. It also revealed that tribal girls secondary school students have more dispositions about the environment than the tribal boys secondary school students.

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