AGGRESSION IN RELATION TO SELF-CONCEPT OF MALE AND FEMALE ADOLESCENTS

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Abstract:

The present study was conducted with the objective to find relationship between aggression and self-concept of males and female adolescents. A stratified cluster sample of 800 adolescents (400 males, 400 females) was taken from senior secondary schools of four districts of Punjab. Study revealed significant positive correlation between aggression and self-concept. Adolescents with high self-concept were more aggressive than adolescents with average and low self-concept. Further male were found to be more aggressive than female adolescents.

Keywords

Aggression, adolescents, 10th class students, Self-concept, gender difference

Introduction

With the past two decades, interest in human aggression has prompted a number of studies from social psychologists, psychiatrists, criminologists. The age of 21st century is the age of anxiety, struggle, frustration, hate, chaos. This is the age of mental, social and personality disintegration. Aggression has always been an important concern on mankind. Present education system is also defective and in the absence of some values in life, the students generally behave in an undisciplined way. The indiscipline among students especially in the schools is due to aggression among adolescents.

The word ‘aggression’ means ‘to move against’ or ‘to move with intent to harm or hurt’. Psychologists describe aggression in terms of behaviour (Johnson, 1972). Aggression is physical or verbal behaviour that is intended to hurt someone or cause harm or pain. Aggression is the outcome of ‘anger’ which very often results
in to hostility and destruction. Aggression, irrespective of whether it is biologically determined or socially
induced is a potential threat to the structure and goals of society and its members.

Aggression are of two types (Baron, 1977). First is hostile whose goal is to harm another person whereas the
second is instrumental aggression (Buss, 1966), in which the individual uses aggression as a way to satisfying
some other motives. For example, a person may force another person to comply with his/her wishes.
Aggression can be physical or verbal, active or passive, direct or indirect (Buss, 1961).

Geen (1983) studied the aggressive behaviour among children and revealed moderately enhanced aggression
especially among boys.

Studies on aggression among adolescents have shown that they suffer from multiplicity of problems. These
problems may be intellectual difficulty due to low level of education in the family, problem associated with
poverty, poor parenting behaviour or small quantity of available resources.

According to Udey Shanker, when needs are suppressed, adolescents become frustrated and this leads to
frustration and hence aggression, as aggression in most of the time is the outcome of frustration.

Self-concept is the nature and organization of belief about one-self. For example, people have different beliefs
about physical, emotional, social and many other aspects of themselves; the level of aggression among
different people is bound to differ.

**Review of Related Studies**

Srivastava (1988) conducted a study on 564 males and females students of XI and XII to find the relationship
between self-concept and aggression. Study revealed no significant correlation between self-concept and
aggression. Boys were higher on aggression scores than girls.

Garaigordobil and Perez (2003) found that aggression was significantly related with self-concept.

Laramie et al (2007) studied the relationship between self-concept and aggression of students at school level.
Results revealed that students with low self-concept were more aggressive than those with high self-concept.
Rakshanda et al. (2016) examined the self-concept and aggression among adolescents orphans of Kashmir. Results revealed that adolescents with moderate level of self-concept have moderate to high level of aggression. However no significant difference was found in the aggression level of male and female adolescents.

**Need of the Study**

In recent times aggression in school setting is increasing in great proportions. Every now and then we hear of incidences in schools and colleges where in children engage in a number of fights and disputes, the cause of which is primarily aggression. Adolescents show greater tendency for aggression. The focus on aggression among adolescents has thus emerged as a key area of researches in psychology, education, guidance and counselling.

As most of the work on aggression has been done in foreign countries and little in India, therefore researcher has tried to explore this field further.

**Objectives of the Study**

1. To ascertain the relationship between aggression and self-concept of adolescents.
2. To find the difference in the aggression due to high, average and low level of self-concept among adolescents.
3. To find the difference in the aggression due to gender difference among adolescents.

**Hypotheses**

1. There will be no significant relationship between aggression and self-concept of adolescents.
2. There will be significant difference in the aggression due to high, average and low level of self-concept among adolescents.
3. There will be significant difference in the level of aggression due to gender difference among adolescents.
Method

In the present study, descriptive survey method of research was employed

Sample

The present study was conducted on a sample of 800 students (400 boys and 400 girls) studying in 10th class in the senior secondary schools of four districts i.e. Barnala, Sri Muktsar Sahib, Bhatinda and Sangrur of Punjab state.

Tools

Following tools were used in the present study.

1. Aggression Scale (Mathur & Bhatnagar, 2004)
2. Self-Concept Scale (Saraswat, 2010)

Analysis of Data, Interpretation and Discussion of Results

Table 1: Relationship of Aggression with Self-Concept

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aggression</th>
<th>Self-Concept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>.238</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results of table 1 revealed significant positive correlation between self-concept and aggression as r-value (= .238) was significant at .01 level. Thus both the variables are positively associated with each other. Thus hypothesis 1 is rejected.
Table 2: Level of Aggression due to high, average and low level of self-concept

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>SE_D</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>t-ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-Concept</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>194.40</td>
<td>19.62</td>
<td>I &amp; II = 1.80</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>16.089**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>165.37</td>
<td>19.09</td>
<td>II &amp; III = 1.78</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>9.790**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>147.97</td>
<td>18.32</td>
<td>I &amp; III = 2.22</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>20.890**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the results of table 2, it was found that there were significant difference in the aggression of adolescents due to high & average, average & low, High & low level of self-concept as t-values were found to be significant at .01 level. Level of aggression among high self-concept adolescents was higher followed by average and low self-concept adolescents. Therefore hypothesis 3 is also rejected.

Table 3: Level of Aggression among male and female adolescents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>SE_D</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>t-ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Males</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>177.17</td>
<td>24.24</td>
<td>1.54</td>
<td>798</td>
<td>12.575**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>difference</td>
<td>Females</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>157.82</td>
<td>18.97</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As per the results of table 3, significant difference was found in the level of aggression between male and female adolescents due to significant t-value (t=12.575) at .01 level. Males were found to be more aggressive (mean = 177.17) as compared to female (mean = 157.82). Thus hypothesis 4 was also rejected.

References


