PERSONALITY TRAITS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS IN RELATION TO SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE

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ABSTRACT

The modern aim of education is wholesome, balanced or harmonious development of student. Educationists and psychologists are busy in building wholesome or harmonious personality of the individual. Thus personality is crux of psychology and education. Personality is the total integration of physical, emotional, social and character makeup of the individual which is expressed in terms of behaviour, experiences, manners, attitudes, values, believes, ambitious, aspiration, interests, habits, sentiments and traits.The Present Study Entitled Personality Traits of College Students in Relation to Social Intelligence has certain objectives. The present study falls under the category of descriptive and the interpretation of data was done by S.D. and significance of means. The study helped to know the personality traits of college students.

INTRODUCTION

Education is an important aspect of life. It is the way in which life attempts to realize the noblest form of existence and a flourishing humanity. Education in real scenes into humanity and to make it life progressive, cultured and civilized. It is through education that man develops his thinking, reasoning, problem solving and creativity, intelligence, aptitude, positive sentiments, skills, good values and attitude. It is the process through which individuals, groups and nations endeavor to achieve their ideals and aspirations. Education is meant to bring up, or manifest the inherent potentials of the student, and is referred to any act or experience that has a formulated effect on the personality of an individual. Present age is the age of knowledge explosion. Nowadays an individual, who gets maximum marks and stands first in the class, is never said to be a complete individual, if he does not possess a balanced personality. Personality does not only relate with the academic aspect of an individual, but has a global significance as it relates to psychological, social, Intellectual and behavioural aspects.

Man is born in the society and he has to develop his personality only in the society and it is education that plays a paramount and significant role in building up the society. Education is an indispensable instrument in life which prepares an individual of today to meet the challenges of tomorrow. It is an important function of Education to make the students socially intelligent so that they may become well adjusted personalities of the society.

The modern aim of education is wholesome, balanced or harmonious development of student. Educationists and psychologists are busy in building wholesome or harmonious personality of the individual. Thus personality is crux of psychology and education. All knowledge of psychology and education is ultimately related to understanding and development of personality. Personality is the total integration of physical, emotional, social and character makeup of the individual which is expressed in terms of behaviour, experiences, manners, attitudes, values, believes, ambitious, aspiration, interests, habits, sentiments and traits.

PERSONALITY TRAITS

What we are and what we hope or aspire to become is our personality. It pervades every aspect of human life. It influences our behaviour. It is said to be the mirror of one's total behaviour. The historical root of the term personality is in the Latin word 'Persona' – The mask worn by the Greek actors was called persona. Personality in that sense means a cover for the real person behind it.

The personality traits are defined as relatively permanent and relatively consistent of behaviour pattern that an individual exhibits in most situations. The definitions of personality must take into account three factors:

(I) Individuals are unique, in the sense that no two people are exactly alike in terms of temperament, behavior or preference.

(II) Individual do not behave in identical ways in all situations.

(III) Although individuals are unique and are not completely consistent across situations, there is considerable commonality in human behavior.

Moynihan And Person (2001), "Personality Traits Are The Key Antecedent Of An Individual's Cognitions And Affective States That May Influence His Or Her Task And Interpersonal Or Socio-Emotional Role Behavior."

Webster (2002), "Personality is an explicit construct which is invoked to explain behavioral consistency within a person and behavioral distinctiveness between persons."

Freeman (2003), "Personality traits is a generalized mode of behavior or a form of readiness to respond with a marked degree of consistency to set of situations that are functionally equivalent for the respondent."

Carver and Schevier (2006), "Personality is a dynamic organization, inside the person, of psychological system that creates a person's Characteristics pattern of behavior, thoughts and feeling."

To conclude, personality traits are the organization inside the person, which enables him or her to respond the situation psychologically, emotionally and socially through feelings and other experiences.

SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE

Man is a social being. He develops according to environment in which he lives and become but he is by socialization and it is by virtue of this that he is believed to be superior to animals.

Social intelligence is "The ability to understand and manage men and women, boys and girls, to act wisely in human relation." Social abilities involves interpersonal behavior and a person is socially intelligent according to the skill he possesses in dealing with others. A person's intelligence is evaluated according to how he deals generally with people, things and ideas. Social intelligence or social tact can be seen in the behavior of political leaders, businessman and religious reformers etc. Social intelligence is found in successful social adjustments and hence it is also a kind of practical intelligence in the field of social relations.

Mathur (1996), "Social intelligence is the ability to adapt with the people. It is the capacity to behave effectively with the people, anyone who has a facility of manners, to get along with others as social intelligence. He further added that usually abstract and social intelligence go side by side."

Marte (2005), "Social intelligence is the ability of people to relate to others, understand them and interact effectively with them."

Goleman's (2006), definition divides social intelligence into two broad categories: social awareness and social facility. He defined social awareness as "what we sense about others" and defined social facility as "what we then do with that awareness."

To conclude, Social intelligence is the ability of a person to understand the society, ability to adjust the social environment, understanding the current social problems etc. The person should have ability to solve social problems through social activities.

JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY

Education is the sheet anchor and the cradle of the personality, ethical profile or social profile and moral life of a nation. The aim of education is not merely imparting bookish knowledge but to teach different charades and facades of life. Its destination is to make youth good citizens by bringing about their physical, mental, intellectual and social development. That's why it is the important function of education to make the learners socially intelligent so that they may become well adapted personalities of the society.

Social intelligence, nowadays, is assumed as 'the science of success'. No child is born social. He must learned to make adaptation with others and this ability can be acquired only has a result of opportunities being with all types of individuals, especially during the years when socialization is an important part of development. Keeping in view the importance of social intelligence and its consequent effect on personality traits, this study has been undertaken. This study will be of immense help to the individuals because it will enable them to understand the relationship that exists between personality traits and social intelligence.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Personality Traits Of College Students In Relation To Social Intelligence.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1) To investigate the significance of relationship between personality traits and social intelligence of college students.

2) To investigate the significance of difference in personality traits of college students having high and low level of social intelligence.

3) To investigate the significance of difference in social intelligence of college students in relation to their gender.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

1) There was no significant correlation between personality traits and social intelligence of college students.

2) There was no significant difference in personality traits of college students having high and low level of social intelligence.

3) There was no significant difference in social intelligence of college students in relation to gender.

METHOD OF THE STUDY

Descriptive survey method was employed in the present study. Descriptive method it aims to describe the nature and present status of the phenomenon with the intent of employing data to justify current conditions and practices or to make more intelligent plans for improving them. Best (2008), "A descriptive study describes and interprets what is, describing, recording, analyzing and interpreting conditions that exist. It involves some kind of comparison or contrast and attempts to discover relationship between existing non-manipulated variables. It is concerned with opinions that are held, processes that are going on, effects that are evident or trends that are developing. It is primarily concerned with present, although it often considers past events and influences as they relate to current conditions. It also deals with testing of hypotheses and elements of generalization."

DESIGN OF THE STUDY

It is not possible to collect data from all the members of a population and the investigation resorted to sampling technique. Sampling implies any portion of a population or universe taken as representative of that population or universe. Sample of the present study was consisted of 100 college students (50 males and 50 females) of colleges of district Fazilka.

TOOLS USED

1) Multidimensional Personality Inventory (MPI) by Manju Aggarwal(1985).

2) Social Intelligence Scale (SIS) by Dr. N.K. Chadda and Ms. Usha Ganesan (2004).

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Hypothesis-I

There will be no relationship between personality traits and social intelligence of college students

Table 1

Variables	N	r	df	Significance level
Social intelligence	100	0.123	98	Not significant at 0.05 level and 0.01 level
Personality	100			

Table No. 1 reveals that coefficient of correlation between social intelligence and Personality is 0.123 which is less than the table value at 0.05 level and 0.01 level. So it is not significant at any level.

So the hypothesis that "There will be no significant correlation between personality traits and social intelligence" is retained.

Hypothesis-II

There will be no significant difference in personality traits of college students having high social intelligence and low level of social intelligence

Table 2

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	SED	df	t-ratio	Significance level
High social intelligence	27	75.54	5.28	1.59	52	12.18	Significant at 0.05 level and 0.01 level
Low social intelligence	27	56.16	3.02				

Table No. 2 reveals that mean score of personality traits of high social intelligence and low social intelligence students is 75.54 and 56.16. Further 't' value is 12.18 which is greater than table value at 0.05 level and 0.01 level, so it is significant.

So the hypothesis that " There will be no significant difference in personality traits of college students having high social intelligence and low level of social intelligence" is not retained.

Table 2

Hypothesis-III

There will be no significance difference in social intelligence of college students in relation to gender

Variable	Groups	N	Mean	S.D	SED	t-ratio	Significance level
Social intelligence	Male	50	92.34	7.96	1.40	1.01	Significance at 0.05 level and 0.01 level
	Female	50	90.86	9.94			

Table No. 3 reveals that mean scores of male is 92.34 and female is 90.86. Further 't' value is 0.01, which is greater than the table value at 0.05 level and 0.01 level, so it is significant at any level.

So the hypothesis that "There will no significance difference in social intelligence of college students in relation to gender" is not retained.

DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The study was restricted to Fazilka District only.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES USED

1. Mean, Standard Deviation and t-ratio were used.

2. Correlation was used to find the relation between Personality traits and Social Intelligence of college students.

CONCLUSIONS

1. No significant correlation exist between personality traits and social intelligence of college students.

2. Significant difference exist in personality traits of college students having high social intelligence and low social intelligence.

3. Significant difference exist in social intelligence of college students in relation to gender.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

1. It is desirable to develop habits of self directional learning among students in teaching process to enable students to be socially more mature.

2. The teacher should not show any discrimination. He must ensure a safe and healthy social environment in which the children may imbibe desirable values of freedom, equality, intergrity, honesty etc.

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