

# A Study Of Self Concept Among High School Students

Bairister Yadav\*

## ABSTRACT-

The present study was conducted on a sample of 200 students. Among them 100 students were Brahmin and 100 students were Vaishya. All students were from rural and urban areas. The Rosen Berg Self-Esteem Scale was used to measure the level of self – esteem among the students which was developed by Rosen Berg in 1965. The main findings of this study were that community and residential play an important role in developing the attitude towards self concept. Brahmin students were having more favourable attitude towards self concept as compare to Vaishya students and on the other hand urban students hold more favourable attitude towards self concept as compare to rural students.

## INTRODUCTION-

Self-concept is a central theme around which a large number of the major aspects of personality are organized. It has been described differently by different authors.

According to Raimy (1943) self-concept is the map which each person consults in order to understand himself during the moment of crisis or choice. The self includes all that a person embraces in the works I, Me, Mine and Myself. It is within each person, the core and the substances of his experience as human being. Cooley (1964) views that man's ideals about himself are reflections of how other see him. He coined the term social or "looking-glass self" which is comparable to Miller's (1964) subjective public entity. The self is not the same as the human organism; it is a cognitive construct of the organism which is in certain ways identified with the organism itself. The self has also been described as a nucleus of personality. According to Mead (1934) it

is reflexive, it is an object to itself and it can be both object and subject. It is both knower and known, a perceiver and perceived. Wenkart (1950) adds that, as a knower the self can take panoramic view of the total personality. According to Combs and Snyggs (1959) what a person thinks and how he behaves is largely determined by the concept he holds about himself and his abilities. Murphy (1947) describes self as "The individual know to the individual."

Thus, self-concept appears to be a comprehensive and exhaustive area which can represent the personality at large. Recognizing 1<sup>st</sup> st broader coverage than any other trait of personality self-concept has been chosen as one of the possible dimension which gives direction to the whole life.

## OBJECTIVE :-

The objective of this study is to this study is to see whether caste and residential area play an important role in the formation of self-concept or not ?

## HYPOTHESES :-

On the basis of above mentioned objectives, following hypothesis were formulated.

- Caste and residential area play a significant role in the formation of self concept.
- Brahmin students were having more favorable attitude towards self-concept as compare to Vaishya students.
- Urban students were having more favorable attitude towards self concept as compare to rural students in both communities.

## METHODOLOGY :-

Sample:- This study was made on a sample of 200 high school students who were studying in different high schools of Chapra and Patna districts. Out of 200 students, 100 students belong to Brahmin caste and 100 students belong to Vaishya caste. Out of 100 Brahmin students, 35 students were from urban areas and 65 students were from rural areas. On the other hand out of 100 Vaishya students, 35 students were from urban areas and 65 students were from rural areas.

Test used :- The Rosen Berg self-esteem scale was used which was developed by Rosen Berg in 1965. It consists of 10 items each with four points. Strongly agree to strongly disagree choice. The higher score denotes lower self esteem and low score denotes higher self-esteem.

\*Dept. of Psychology S. M. D. Degree college, M. N. J. Gopalganj (Bihar)

Statistical Analysis :- The obtained data has been put to suitable statistical analysis. Mean, S. D and T-ratio have been computed to test the significance of difference between score of groups.

#### **RESULTS AND OBSERVATIONS :-**

#### **SHOWING THE MEAN, S.D AND T-RATIO OF ATTITUDE TOWARDS SELF-CONCEPT**

Group	No	Mean	S.D.	T-ratio	DF	Level of significance
Brahmin	100	85.6	25.686377	4.6793277	198	01
Vaishya	100	100.60	19.177851			
U. Brahim	35	77.07	23.463388	3.2835804	98	01
R. Brahim	65	90.80	10.679848			
U. Vaishya	35	92.78	22.73898	2.6057234	98	01
R. Vaishya	65	104.19	16.913283			

The analysis of data obtained through administration of self-esteem scale revealed that there exists significant difference between Brahmin & Vaishya students on their attitude towards self concept. The mean score of Brahmin students is 85.6 while the mean score of Vaishya students is 100.60. The obtained t-ratio to test the significance of difference between these two means is 4.6793217 which is higher than the required value for significance at .01 level so it can be said that Brahmin students hold more favorable attitude towards self-concept and Vaishya students are having less favorable attitude towards self-concept.

On the other hand the mean score of urban Brahmin is 77.07 while that of rural Brahmin students is 90.80 and the t-ratio to test the significance of difference between these two means is 3.2835804 which is higher than the required value for significance at .01 level. So it can be said that urban Brahmin students are having more favorable attitude towards self-concept as compare to their rural counter parts.

And in the last, the mean score of urban Vaishya students is 92.78 and the mean score of rural Vaishya students is 104.19. The obtained t-ratio to test the significance of difference between these means is 2.60577234 which is higher than the required value for significance at .01 level, so it may be stated that urban Vaishya students hold more favorable attitude towards self-concept than rural Vaishya students.

#### **CONCLUSION :-**

On the basis of above study, following conclusions were formulated

- Community and residential lay their decisive effect in the formation of attitude towards self-concept.
- Brahmin students hold significantly more favorable attitude towards self concept as compare to Vaishya students.
- Urban Brahmin students are having more favorable attitude towards self-concept as compare to their counter parts.
- Urban Vaishya students hold more favorable attitude towards self-concept as compare to their rural Vaishya counter parts.

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