

School Environment of high school students with respect to certain selected variables – A Study

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Abstract:

The present study focuses on the School Environment of high school students with respect to some selected variables. The high school students studying in various institution from Thiruvannamalai district of Tamil Nadu, constituted the population for the present study. From the population, the investigator selected 937 samples based on the simple random sampling technique. Descriptive survey method was used for this study and descriptive and differential analyses are applied for in this study. Findings of the study show that there is a significant difference between the mean scores of male and female high school students with respect to School Environment. It was also found out that there is a significant difference between the high school students based on study mode with respect to School Environment. There is a significant difference between the mean scores of high school students in the economic status with respect to School Environment...

Keywords: School Environment, High school students, Education

INTRODUCTION

Education is an important process in man's life. It begins from birth and continues till death, and thus it is never ending process. It is through education that a child develops his thinking and reasoning, problem solving and creativity, intelligence and aptitude, positive sentiment and skills, good values and attitudes. Therefore, education should impart skills and qualities to empower one for the future. The sum of the values, cultures, safety practices, organizational structures within a school, teaching practices, diversity, leader-teacher relationships, teacher-teacher relationships, parent-teacher relationships, and student-teacher relationships, is the concept of school environment. Educational system of improvement takes place in physical, social, cultural and psychological environment. According to Mick Zais (2011), School environment means the extent to which school settings promotes students safety and student health, which may include topics such as the physical plant, the academic environment, available physical and mental health supports and services, and the fairness and adequacy of disciplinary procedures, as supported by relevant research and an assessment of validity.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

School environment consist of either favorable or unfavorable resources in the school. It includes the teachers, peers, cohesiveness, the subjects and method of teaching. A healthy and attractive school environment makes for conducive learning and promotes students pride in their schools and their interest to stay in school on writing on the importance of learning environment states that people's educational life histories are influenced not only by environment where they live or learn. The school environment is of paramount importance in shaping and reshaping intellectual ability of the students. However, supportive and favorable school environment enriched with enough learning facilities and favorable climate make students more comfortable, more concentrated on their academic activities and developed the thinking and problem solving ability. So, the investigator intended to study the School Environment of high school students with respect to some selected variables...

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

School Environment is the sum complete of all the physical, social, emotional and intellectual elements that contributes to the whole educating mastering situation. Human beings are always immersed in social environment, which not only changes the very structure of the individual or just compels him to recognize facts but also provide with him a ready-made system of things. Two environments home and school share an influential space in child's life and there exists a unique juxtapositions between the two (Tisher, R.P. 1985). Next to family, the school is the most important experience in the process of child development. When the child enters the school arena he or she is presented with new opportunities in terms of socialization and cognitive development. These opportunities are provided in different measures, in different schools and may have a direct impact on the cognitive and effective behaviours of students. This study investigated the High School students School Environment in relation to certain demographic variables. So, the title of the present study is "School Environment of High School Student with respect to certain selected variables – A Study".

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To find out the significance of difference between the mean scores of the male and female high school students with respect to School Environment.

To find out the significance of difference between the mean scores of the high school students based study mode (Self-study and Group study) with respect to School Environment.

To find out the significance of difference among the mean scores of the high school students parental monthly income (Below Rs.20,000 In-between Rs.25,000 to 25,000 and Above Rs.25,000) with respect to school environment.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

There is no significant difference between the mean scores of the male and female high school students with respect to school environment.

There is no significant difference between the mean scores of the high school students based on study mode (self-study and group study) with respect to school environment.

There is no significant difference among the mean scores of the high school students with parental monthly income status are Below 20,000, in between 20,000 -25,000 and above 25,000 with respect to school environment.

METHOD

The investigator selected descriptive survey method for carrying out the present study. The investigator selected 937 samples based on the simple random sampling technique from high school students in Thiruvannamalai district. The respondents belong to nine high schools out of which three were Government, three were Government-aided and the remaining three were Private schools. School environment scale constructed and validated by the researcher and the supervisor was used. The reliability of School environment has been established by calculating Cronbach's alpha ($\alpha = 0.88$). So it may be inferred that this tool is highly reliable and valid. The statistical techniques Mean, S.D, t-test and 'F' test were employed for analysis and interpretation of data.

ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

HYPOTHESIS – 1

There is no significant difference between the mean scores of the male and female high school students with respect to School environment.

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Table - 1

**Mean, S.D and t-test for significant difference between male and female high school students
with respect to School environment**

Variable	Gender				t Value	L.S
	Male (N=445)		Female (N=492)			
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
School environment	145.90	30.030	145.92	30.292	1.968	0.05*

* denotes significance at 5% level.

From the table (1), it is observed that the mean and S.D of School environment of female students are M = 145.92 & S.D = 30.292 and the male high school students are M = 145.90 & S.D = 30.030 respectively. Regarding the calculated t-value (1.968) of School environment of female students, it is found greater than the table value (1.96) with respect to males counterpart at 0.05 level. Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected for School environment with respect to Gender. It can be concluded that there is a significant difference between the mean scores of male and female high school students with respect to School environment undertaken for the study area at 0.05 level.

HYPOTHESIS – 2

There is no significant difference between the mean scores of the high school students based on study mode (Self-study and Group study) with respect to School environment

Table - 2

**Mean, S.D and t-test for significant difference between the high school students based on study
mode (Self-study and Group study) with respect to School environment**

Variables	Study Mode				t Value	L.S
	Self-study (N=443)		Group study (N=494)			
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
School environment	144.84	29.853	146.15	30.440	1.984	0.05*

* denotes significance at 5% level.

In the table (2), it depicts the mean scores of School environment of self-study high school students are M = 144.84 & S.D = 29.853 and group study high school students are M = 146.15 & S.D = 30.440 respectively. The calculated t-value (1.984) of high school students based on study mode, it is higher than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance with respect to school environment. The group study high school students are better due to fact that the group study high school students have better exposure than the self-study students with respect to School environment. Thus, the null hypothesis is rejected for School environment with respect to study mode and therefore there is a significant difference between the mean scores of high school student based on study mode (Self-study and Group study) with respect to School environment.

HYPOTHESIS – 3

There is no significant difference among the mean scores of the high school students with parental monthly income status are Below 20,000, in between 20,000 -25,000 and above 25,000 with respect to school environment.

Table - 3

ANOVA for the impact of the level of parental monthly income status of the high school students on the School environment

Variables	Parental Monthly Income			F ratio	L.S
	Below Rs.20,000 (N=553)	In between Rs.20,000 to 25,000 (N=179)	Above Rs.25,000 (N=205)		
	Mean	Mean	Mean		
School Environment	144.34	142.08	151.76	6.046	0.01**

Note: ** denotes significance at 1% level.

Considering the calculated F - ratio of school environment among high school students with respect to parental monthly income (6.046) which is greater than the table value (4.61) at 0.01 level significant respectively. Further, analysis of the group difference among the variable school environment and parental monthly income of high school students were tested through Duncan Multiple Range Test (DMRT). It is found that the high school students parental monthly income in-between Rs.20,000 to Rs.25,000 (M=142.08) differ significantly with below Rs.20,000 (144.34) and Above Rs.25,000 (151.76) at 0.01 level with respect to school environment.

Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected for school environment with respect to parental monthly income. From the table (3), it can be concluded that there is a significant difference among the mean scores of the high school student's parental monthly income (Below Rs.20,000 In-between Rs.20,000 to 25,000 and Above Rs.25,000) with respect to school environment under the study.

Findings of the study

The mean scores of school environment and Gender indicate that there exist a significant difference between the male (M = 145.90), and female (M = 145.92) high school students at 0.05 level. Comparing the mean scores, female high school students have better school environment than male high school students.

Regarding the school environment of the high school students and the study mode, the results of the study reveal that there exist a significant difference between the self-study high school students (M = 144.84) and group study high school students (M = 1146.15). The group study high school students are better than self-study high school students.

Considering the school environment and parental monthly income status among high school students, the findings of the study indicate that there exists a significance of difference among them. It can be concluded that there is a significant difference among the mean scores of the high school students parental monthly income (Below Rs.20,000 In-between Rs.20,000 to 25,000 and Above Rs.25,000) with respect to school environment. Comparing the mean scores of high school students parental monthly income above Rs.25,000 have better school environment than other levels of parental monthly income.

Conclusion

Findings of the present study show that there exists a significant difference between the mean scores of male and female high school students with respect to school environment. It was also found out that there is a significant difference between the high school students study mode (Self-study and Group study) with respect to school environment. There is a significant difference among the mean scores of the high school students parental monthly income (Below Rs.20,000 In-between Rs.20,000 to 25,000 and Above Rs.25,000) with respect to school environment. Comparing the mean scores of high school students parental monthly income above Rs.25,000 have better school environment than other levels of parental monthly income.

Educational institution such a school should provide proper environment for supporting students to achieve their goal in learning process. Physical environment such as school facilities, building condition and learning tools take important part to support the quality of learning process. School as the educational institution is expected to fulfill all the need of students concerning this issue. Effective school environment

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is the backbone of students all round development. School environment is such a potent determinant for an effective student's outcomes...

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