



Social Maturity Among Higher Secondary Students In Relation To Their Academic Achievement

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ABSTRACT

Education is a way of increasing attractive behavior, skills and attitudes, which make help, build the personality character, and the performance of the adolescent to attain aims and goals of national life. Social Maturity is the process of developing appropriate attitudes for personal, relational, and social adequacies of a different, which are important for functioning effectively in the Society. Achievement refers to a degree or level of success that ability attained in some specific area concerning academic work. Higher the achievement more is the openings for the students and they can go for better lines and better jobs in all fields thereby bringing achievement in one's life. This study involves to Normative Survey Method. In this study 950 higher secondary school students from Government, Government Aided, and Private schools in Dharmapuri district were selected through random sampling technique was adopted for the study. The Social Maturity scale was constructed and validated by the Investigator and the Research Guide (2019) containing fifty items. Its reliability value was 0.86. The Academic Achievement in Chemistry Prepared by Researcher and the Research Guide (2019) containing forty-five items. Its reliability value was 0.89. The data collected were subjected to statistical technique like percentage analysis, correlation and regression analysis. The results of the study revealed that the social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students was moderate. The results also revealed that there is significant positive correlation between social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students.

Keywords: : social maturity, academic achievement, higher secondary students

1. Introduction

Education has a significant role in making the individual mentally strong, so that he can adjust himself to the world around him exhibiting competence, developing satisfaction and socially considerable performance required for his life. Student has the need to think for active learning, which varies with the quality of his mental health. The positive or negative dimension of personality makes a big difference in student's activities and delights. Mentally healthy students are considered to be productive, as they enjoy learning and good at self-expression, feel knowledgeable and feel esteemed, sustain their efficiency under stress, and find fulfillment in complementary efforts aim towards goals. In contrast, maladjusted students tend to achieve less rather, make incessant affinitive demands, feel inferior and guilty, break down under stress, and withdraw from the group determination. To avoid the loss of esteem, they fear and the anxiety they feel, they acquire various self-defeating and socially oblivious, self-defensive adjustments. Effective academic learning requires high and sustained intellectual efficiency, which requires high mental health. These difficulties can lead to academic backwardness in specific school subject areas. Students facing such problems in learning science are referred as learning difficulties in science. An attempt is made in this research work to identify the learning difficulties in science among the secondary school students.

Social maturity means knowing what to do and determined for it by following role models to reach the coveted level of satisfactory social behavior. Social maturity is a complex procedure. The students can try to reach the expectations of the social system, parents, teachers, siblings, and peers who matter to them. Social maturity deals with learning to correctly relate to associates, friends, and intimate relationships. It also involves understanding as to how to honor and respect those in authority; civil, parent, employer. Social Maturity is the process of developing suitable attitudes for personal, interpersonal, and social adequacies of an individual, which are important for functioning effectively in the society. Hurlock says that a socially mature individual follows not so much because he approves of existing patterns of behavior or because of fear of others but to comprehend that each individual must be willing to fit his requirements into the design approved by the group as a whole. Achievement refers to a degree of success or that of skill attained in some specific area concerning scholastic or academic work. Higher the achievement more is the starts for the students and they can go for better lines and better jobs in all grounds thereby bringing success in one's life. Kumar (2001) defined academic achievement as the sum total of information increased after completing a course of instruction in a particular evaluation that he has obtained on an achievement test. This success is equally related with science so study of science is one of the important aspects. One of the major scientific disciplines that deals with chemicals and reactions is chemistry. Here Achievement in chemistry is considered as scores found by the students in the achievement test in chemistry.

2. Review of Related Literature

Felehi, et. al (2023) analyzed effect of active play on motor proficiency and social maturity of children. The results revealed that at the end of the intervention, the active play group showed improvement regarding outcome variables and had higher social maturity and motor proficiency, compared to the control group. Shanmuganathi (2022) studied social maturity among B.Ed. student-teachers in colleges of education. The findings of the study level of social maturity among B.Ed. student- teachers in colleges of education are average, both male and female B.Ed. student teachers are having a similar level of social maturity, both rural and urban B.Ed. student teachers are having a similar level of social maturity and both arts and science B.Ed. student teachers are having a similar level of social maturity. Priya, Johnsi; Lawrence and Arul (2020) compared social maturity of prospective teachers in relation to their risk-taking behavior. Finding showed that, there was a significant and positive correlation between social maturity and risk-taking behavior of the prospective teachers. Puar and Surjit Singh (2021) studied academic achievement of high school students in relation to their anxiety, emotional maturity and social maturity. The results reported that there exists a significant relationship between social maturity and academic achievement as well as between anxiety and academic achievement, there is no significant relationship is observed between Emotional maturity and academic achievement, rural and Urban high school students differ significantly in their level of anxiety whereas no significant difference was found between them on the variables of emotional and social maturity. Lawrence, Arul and Jesudoss (2019) compared social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary school students. Finding showed that there is no correlation between academic achievement and social maturity among higher secondary students.

3. Need and Significance of the Study

Our society's most valuable resource is its youth. They are also the future generation and backbone of our society, and to become good human beings and responsible citizens, their overall development is important. However, among those, some children live without their families for many reasons and grow up in Child Care Institutions. Children may be institutionalized for various reasons, including parental neglect, abandonment, orphanhood, ethnic conflict, extreme poverty, and domestic abuse. Children in institutions live with 81 other children from various social backgrounds, and they must adhere to certain rules and laws and conform to their environments. nation's purpose is based upon its people and children. So, the wholesome development of children is the need of the hour but in spite of all the efforts made in schools to raise the abilities, dimensions and other personality traits of the children, it has not been thinkable for us to attain the optimum level of educational goal. Normally children feel problematic in science particularly in chemistry portion. The present study to study the social maturity among higher secondary students in relation to their academic achievement

4. Title of the Study

The title of the study has been stated as "Social maturity among higher secondary students in relation to their academic achievement".

5. Operational Definitions of the Terms

Social Maturity

Social maturity means knowing what to do and determined for it by following role models to reach the desired level of satisfactory social behavior. According to Hurlock (2001), a socially mature individual conforms not so much because he approves of recognized patterns of performance or is afraid of others but because he understands that each specific must be willing to fit his desires into the society's pattern as a

whole has appropriate. Being socially mature requires a long process. Students should be visible to those people who are socially mature, so they can pattern his behavior accordingly.

Academic Achievement

Achievement signifies accomplishment a presentation carried out successfully by an individual or group or the completion of a task whether it is theoretical, personal or social. Thus, achievement means all those behavioural deviations, which take place in the individual as an outcome of learning experience of various kinds.

Higher Secondary Students

It refers to the school students who are studying eleventh and twelfth standard. The schools which deliver education up to these classes are known as higher secondary schools.

6. Objectives of the Study

- ❖ To assess the level of social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students
- ❖ To find out the significant relationship between social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students

7. Hypotheses of the Study

- ❖ The level of social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students is moderate
- ❖ There is no relationship between social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students

8. Methodology

The present study aims at studying social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students. Survey Method was found suitable. The data collection for present study was carried out in higher secondary schools of Dharmapuri district were taken as the sample and the size of the sample is 950 higher secondary students. This location was purposely selected as a locale as it was convenient to the researcher and need of the study. Higher secondary students studying higher secondary schools who follow state of Tamil Nadu were selected as the population for the present study. For the investigation, a method of random sampling was used.

9. Tools Used for the Study

- ❖ The social maturity scale was constructed and validated by the investigator and the research guide (2019) containing fifty items.
- ❖ The academic achievement prepared by researcher and the research guide (2019) containing forty-five items.

10. Data Analysis

[a]The level of social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students

Table – 1 Showing the Level of Social Maturity and Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Students

Variable	Low		Moderate		High	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Social Maturity	132	13.89	651	68.52	167	17.57
Academic Achievement	128	13.47	667	70.21	155	16.31

The above table it is revealed that,

- ❖ 132 (13.89%) higher secondary students have low level, 651 (68.52%) higher secondary students have moderate level while 167 (17.57%) have high level of social maturity.
- ❖ 155 (16.31%) higher secondary students have high level, 667 (70.21%) higher secondary students have moderate level while 128 (13.47%) have low level of academic achievement

Conclusion

- ❖ The level of awareness is higher in moderate students than in low and high-achieving students in their social maturity of higher secondary students.
- ❖ The level of awareness is higher in moderate students than in low and high-achieving students in their academic achievement of higher secondary students.

[b]There is no significant relationship between social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students

Table: 2 Showing the Significance of relationship between social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students

Variables	N	'r' value	Remarks
Social Maturity	950	0.068*	S
Academic Achievement			

It is seen from table – 2 that the correlation coefficient among the social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students is positive and significant at 0.05 level. It is inferred from the above table that social maturity and academic achievement is significant and positively correlated. It means if the social maturity is high, the higher secondary students academic achievement is high.

Conclusion

- ❖ There is significant positive correlation between social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students

11. Findings of the Study

- ❖ The level of social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students was moderate.
- ❖ There is significant positive correlation between social maturity and academic achievement of higher secondary students.

12. Educational Implications of the Study

Socially mature students often have better emotional regulation and coping strategies. This ability helps them manage stress, frustration, and setbacks, leading to more consistent academic performance. Schools can benefit from incorporating social-emotional learning (SEL) programs to help students develop these skills. Teaching strategies that promote emotional intelligence can enhance students' focus and perseverance. Educators should create opportunities for collaborative learning and peer interaction, fostering environments where social skills are practiced and valued alongside academic skills. Schools might implement strategies to encourage self-regulation and organizational skills, such as goal-setting exercises, time management workshops, and reflection activities. Schools should focus on preparing students for life beyond academics by integrating career readiness programs and life skills training into the curriculum.

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