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A Study of Attitude towards Inclusive Education of teachers in context of gender

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Abstract

Inclusive Education (IE) is a new approach towards educating the children with disability and learning difficulties with that of normal ones within the same roof. It brings all students together in one classroom and community, regardless of their strengths or weaknesses in any area, and seeks to maximize the potential of all students. It is one of the most effective ways in which to promote an inclusive and tolerant society. **Objective:** 1) To determine the level of attitude towards inclusive education of teachers. 2) To study the attitude towards inclusive education of teachers in context of gender. **Population and Sample:** Gandhinagar city has been selected as population for the present study and 141 teachers were selected in sample by simple random sampling technique. **Tool:** In the present study, Attitude Scale was constructed for data collection. **Data Analysis:** Q1 and Q3 were found to determine the level of speed and accuracy and t-test was applied to test the hypotheses. **Findings:** 1) There was no significant effect of gender on attitude towards inclusive education.

Key-Words: Attitude, Inclusive Education, Gender

• INTRODUCTION

Inclusive Education (IE) is a new approach towards educating the children with disability and learning difficulties with that of normal ones within the same roof. It brings all students together in one classroom and community, regardless of their strengths or weaknesses in any area, and seeks to maximize the potential of all students. It is one of the most effective ways in which to promote an inclusive and tolerant society. Today, what are the needs and challenges for achieving the goal of inclusive education? How will an inclusive environment meet the needs of children with disabilities? How quality education can be effectively and efficiently delivered for all children? Therefore, inclusive schools have to address the needs of all children in every community and the central and state governments have to manage inclusive classrooms. Keeping in view these questions, this article discusses in detail the concept of inclusive education, including importance, challenges and measures to implement inclusive education in India.

• STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The title is...

A Study of Attitude towards Inclusive Education of teachers in context of gender

• OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

Objectives are the corner stone of research. Research always starts with an absolute goal. The objectives must be set prior in order to achieve the set goal. Pre-determined objectives help researcher in sense of direction and also in research work.

Objectives of the present study are as follows.

- 1) To determine the level of attitude towards inclusive education of teachers.
- 2) To study the attitude towards inclusive education of teachers in context of gender.

● **HYPOTHESES OF STUDY**

The following null hypothesis had been formed for the present study.

Ho₁: There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of attitude towards inclusive education score of male and female teachers.

● **DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY:**

Present study was delimited to the following points.

- Present study was delimited to Gandhinagar city Gujarati medium schools only.
- Present study was delimited to Primary Teachers only.

● **DEFINITIONS OF THE KEYWORDS**

Terminology is very important for a researcher for his research to be understood properly. Some of the keywords are presented as below, mentioned in present study.

i. Inclusive Education

Inclusive education means that all students attend and are welcomed by their neighbourhood schools in age-appropriate, regular classes and are supported to learn, contribute and participate in all aspects of the life of the school.

ii. Attitude

A predisposition or a tendency to respond positively or negatively towards a certain idea, object, person, or situation. Attitude influences an individual's choice of action, and responses to challenges, incentives, and rewards (together called stimuli).

● **VARIABLES OF THE STUDY**

Various type of variables are included in the present study are as follows.

● **Independent variable**

No.	Variable	Level
1.	Gender	Girls Boys

● **Dependent Variable:**

In this study, Teachers' attitude towards inclusive education score obtained on attitude scale were the dependent variables.

● **Controlled variable**

- ✓ Gandhinagar city
- ✓ Primary Schools
- ✓ Gujarati Medium

● **POPULATION**

Gandhinagar city has been selected as population for the present study. Hence, the 141 teachers of Gujarati medium Primary schools was the population for the present study.

• **SAMPLE SELECTION**

In this study, a list of schools in Gandhinagar city was created and from that seven schools were selected randomly using chit selection method. All teachers teaching in selected schools were selected in sample. So, the schools were selected randomly while the teachers were selected using clustering method. Total 141 teachers were selected as sample which is shown in the table below.

Table A
Variable of the study

Sr. No.	Variable	Level of variable	Number of Teachers	Total Number of Teachers
1.	Gender	Male	66	141
		Female	75	

• **RESEARCH METHOD**

Among the various methods of research, which method can be used in what situation is based on the nature of the problem? To know the status of teachers' attitude towards inclusive education researcher had to collect information from a large group of sample, and so he thought of selecting the survey method.

• **TOOL FOR DATA COLLECTION**

Construction of Tool is a scientific process, which follow the logical order. For present study, researcher made self-constructed Attitude Scale to know the attitude towards inclusive education of teachers, for which following steps were followed:

In depth study of components of Inclusive Education

For present study, Researcher selected components for knowing attitudes towards inclusive education. To construct tool, in depth study of these components were used.

Writing of Statements for Attitude Scale

After studying components in depth, statements for these components were framed.

Primary form of Attitude Scale

After writing statements for these components, Primary Form of Attitude Scale was prepared.

Expert review of primary form of Attitude Scale

Primary Form of Attitude Scale along with letter showing Objectives of study and Primary Information was given to experts to review.

Final form of Attitude Scale

After getting review from expert, Final Form of Attitude Scale was prepared.

• **DATA COLLECTION TECHNIQUE**

First of all, the principal of the school which was selected as the sample was contacted for his pre-approval for data collection by the researcher. After getting the approval, the researcher visited the school personally on pre-decided and approved time and date and teachers were given the necessary instructions and rapport was being established with them. They were assured that their responses will be limited

for research purpose only and their trust was acquired on the same. Then they were told to give responses on the test after reading the important notice for filling scale. Whether all the details on the scale have been filled properly by the teachers or not according to the given notice was being verified. Then the filled tests were collected back from the teachers after the work being completed on proper time. At the end, the principal was thanked for giving permission for data collection and co-operation of teachers.

• **DATA ANALYSIS**

Data analysis and interpretation is a time consuming process that needs patience and perseverance. Research method and tool are selected in correspondence with the research objectives and hypotheses. It is necessary to properly categories the information collected with the help of research tool to test hypotheses. The research can make specific decisions, interpretations, findings and conclusions from the interpretations only if the information is categorized in proper sections.

The main objective of using the statistical method which is used to concisely format the relevant information, to remove the inconsequential information and to fully differentiate the relevant information from the gained information. Various statistical techniques were used for analyze data which was gained from data collection. Marking of the teachers’ responses of the scale was done according given below table:

No.	Type of Statement	Disagree	Neutral	Agree
1	Positive Statements	1	2	3
2	Negative Statements	3	2	1

Teachers’ total scores were entered in the computer excel program and then Q_1 and Q_3 were calculated. Using this, level of attitude was decided with respect to the independent variables. Statistical descriptive calculations like average and standard deviation were done with the help of computer. Illative statistical method like critical ratio was used to check significance between the differences.

• **LEVEL OF ATTITUDE TOWARDS INCLUSIVE EDUCATION**

Values were used and the total scores were classified into various levels. The details of number and percentage of all the teachers that falls in different levels in context with the whole group is shown in below table:

Table B
Level wise teachers’ Number and Percentage for attitude towards inclusive education

Level of Speed and Accuracy	Norms	Number of Teachers	Percentage
High level	Q3 or more than that	33	23.40
Medium level	Between Q1 and Q3	72	51.06
Low level	Q1 or less than that	36	25.53
Total		141	100%

Table C
Level wise Number and Percentage of Teachers for attitude towards inclusive education in context with Gender

Level of attitude towards inclusive education	Gender				Total
	Male		Female		
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	
High level	13	19.70	20	26.67	33
Medium level	35	53.03	37	49.33	72
Low level	18	27.27	18	24.00	36
Total	66	100%	75	100%	141

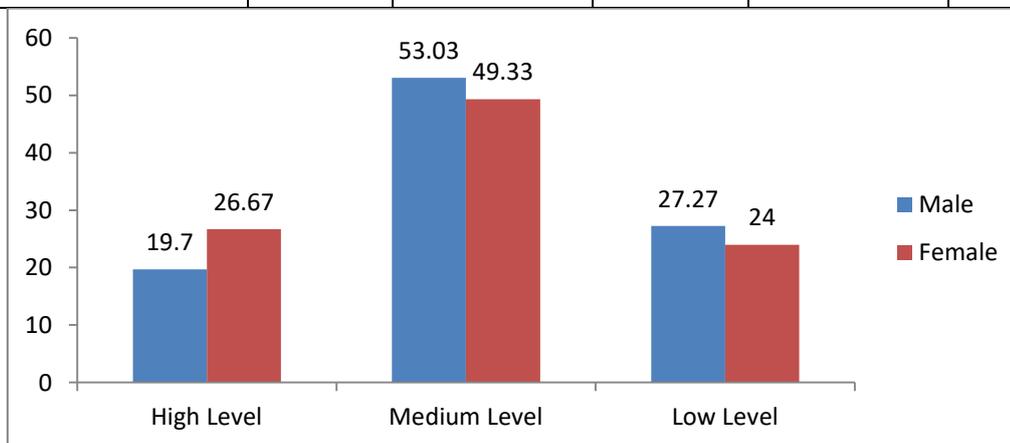


Table No. D
Hypothesis Testing

Hypothesis	Variable	N	M	SD	SE _D	C.R.	Remarks
Ho₁	Male	66	59.97	16.52	2.85	0.25	Not significant
	Female	75	60.68	17.24			

❖ **FINDINGS**

- 1) In Medium and Low level of attitude towards inclusive education male teachers are more than female teachers.
- 2) There was no significant effect of gender on attitude towards inclusive education.

❖ **CONCLUSION :**

Present study was conducted on limited area for limited time but the researcher has tried to study in completely scientific manner by taking in mind all the possible details of the educational research.

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