



# Attitude of Parents towards the inclusion of children with special needs in general school setting.

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## ABSTRACT:

Present paper is designed to study the attitude of parents towards the inclusion of children with special needs in general school setting. A sample of 200 parents from five urban and five rural area of Lakhimpur district of Assam are used to conduct the study. The responses are analysis with the help of SPSS.  $t'$  ratio is calculated to study the differences between the independent variables. The result showed that there is no significance difference between the parents of urban and rural areas and have significance difference in male and female parents in their attitude towards inclusive education.

**Key words:** Attitude of parents, Inclusion in education.

## INTRODUCTION:

The success of inclusive education largely depends on the support from the parents of the children with disabilities. Sometimes it is seen that some parents are reluctant to bring their children with disabilities out into the open. Such types of attitude turns into a barrier in implementing inclusive education. Parents play the most significance role in their children's life, therefore to know their attitude towards inclusion of children with special needs is very important. A parent is child's first teacher and remain the best teacher throughout their life. Parents are the one who mould a child into a good man or woman of future. They play important role in encouraging and motivating their child to learn. Basic role of the parents are take care of their child's biological needs, provide a safe, nurturing and supportive environment, provide guidance, direction, assistance and help them in all round development of their personality(Elkins, Christina 2003).

In inclusive education all children attend and welcomed by their neighborhoods schools in age appropriate regular classes. They are also supported to learn, contribute and participate in all aspects of school life. It brings all students together in one classroom and community regardless of their strength or weaknesses in any area ( Mahanta,Bora, Adhikary).

As parents play the most significance role in their children's life, therefore to know their attitude towards inclusion of children with special needs is very important.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. To study the difference between urban and rural parents attitude toward inclusive education.
2. To study the difference between male and female parents attitude toward inclusive education.

#### **METHOD:-**

##### **Sample:**

A sample of 200 parents are selected from five urban and five rural area of Lakhimpur district of Assam by using simple random sampling technique, having equal representation of male and female.

##### **Measures:**

The study involved a self administrated questionnaire having 30 questions which contains items for demographic data and items regarding inclusive education. The items related to inclusive education provided information regarding the knowledge and attitude towards Inclusive education, differently able children, integrated education, special education, practice of inclusive education etc.

##### **Procedure:**

The data for the present study are collected personally by the investigator from selected areas. The data was calculated, scores, tabulated and then subjected to statistical analysis. The responses of parents are analyzed using SPSS.

#### **RESULT AND DISCUSSION:**

Mean, median and mode of the total sample for the variables are obtained to ascertain the nature of distribution of the scores. Results are given in Table -1

Table -1 Mean, Median ,Mode scores on the variable of parents attitude towards inclusion.

Variable	Mean	Median	Mode
Parents attitude towards inclusion	114	110.50	110.00

Table -1 shows that the values of mean, median, mode for the variable are 114, 110.50, 110.00. The small difference in these value depict that the distribution is nearly normal. The calculated value of the mean is 114. Norms for interpretation of level of attitude towards inclusive education indicate that the level is above average favorable as the value is lies between 110-115.

Table-2 : t' ratio between mean scores of urban and rural parents on the variable of attitude of parents towards inclusive education.

Variable	Area	N	Mean	SD	Std error Mean	DF	T ratio
Attitudes of parents	Urban	100	112.97	12.14	1.21	198	0.374
	Rural	100	112.35	11.40	1.14		

Table -2 shows that the calculated t-ratio is 0.374 which is less than the table value(1.97) at 0.05 level of significance. Hence, it is significant at 0.05 level. Therefore from the table we can able to know that there is no significance difference between rural and urban parents towards inclusion.

Table 3: t' ratio between mean scores of male and female parents towards inclusion.

Variable	Gender	N	Mean	SD	Std error Mean	DF	t ratio
Attitude towards inclusion	Male	100	112.26	10.40	1.040	198	2.932
	Female	100	114.06	12.57	1.257		

Table 3 shows that the calculated t' ratio is 2.932 which is more than the table value of 2.60 at 0.01 level. From this table we know that there is significance difference between male and female parents attitude towards inclusion of children with disability in general school setting.

## CONCLUSION

The present study reported that the parents have a positive attitude towards inclusion of children with disability in general school setting. But it is important to note that, it is slight positive attitude, just above average. Therefore there is a need to spread the awareness regarding inclusive education. Awareness programmed, media, posters, conferences, meetings, training etc should conduct on it.

## REFERENCES

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