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A STUDY ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PRO ENVIRONMENTAL BEHAVIOUR AND ENVIRONMENTAL ATTITUDE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS OF KOLKATA

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Abstract: In this study an attempt has been made to investigate the relationship between pro-environmental behaviour and environmental attitude of secondary school students. For this study the sample consisted of 105 secondary school students from the W.B.S.E board of Kolkata. The investigators selected P.E.B.S developed by A. Suhane a tool to study the pro-environmental behaviour and E.A.S developed by Hassen Taj as a tool to study the environmental attitude among the students. The study revealed that there are no significant differences among male and female students regarding level of pro-environmental behaviour and environmental attitude and also there is a significant relationship between pro-environmental behaviour and environmental attitude.

Keywords:, Environmental Attitude, Pro Environmental Behaviour, Secondary School Students.

Introduction: The environment as always been a great factor of concern for the people in general. Through technological and economical progress, mankind realized that environment has a lot more to give us. In the quest for more development man constantly exploited and utilized every possible resources of nature for their comfortable and luxurious lives. Constant quest for power and growth has resulted in a great risk for environment and mankind also. Every single day the environment is being threatened by man's activities.We need to realize that environmental restoration can only be achieved when each and every member of the society cooperates and collaborates to save the Earth.

Pro Environmental Behaviour and Environmental Attitude: The word environment is derived from a French word "environ" which means "encircle" and comprises within it the land, water, flora, fauna, living creatures, forests and everything on the earth. Etymologically, environment refers to "surroundings". Every element in the environment is all interconnected, interdependent and interrelated to one another. Environment is a combination of all external forces that influence the lifespan, character and behaviour of all living organisms. All living organisms alternatively influence the environment through their consumption and actions. The environment in turns interacts with every element on its surface. Environment mainly consists of atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere and biosphere. The atmosphere implies the protective blanket of gases, surrounding the earth. The hydrosphere comprises all types of water resources oceans, seas, lakes, rivers streams, ground water etc. Lithosphere is the outer mantle of the solid earth. Biosphere indicates the realm of living organisms and their interactions with environment. It can also be divided as:

Physical Environment: It refers to all abiotic factors or conditions like temperature, light, rainfall, soil, minerals etc. It comprises of atmosphere, lithosphere and hydrosphere.

Biotic Environment: It includes all biotic factors or living forms like plants, animals, micro- o rganisms.

Environmental Attitude involves adopting attitudes and behaviours aiming to minimize any adverse effects on natural environment. It might be better described as having preservation and utilization perspectives and Pro Environmental Behaviour is subsequently extended to minimize the harm to the environment and even benefit it paying attention to decreasing negative impacts on the environment. Both are consciously protects the environment and improves its sustainability. It has three factors that are most important.

- **Natural Factors:** The components that are available naturally and bear most important context in the physical environment.
- **Personality Factors:** People should maintain their personality that is not selfish and greedy in every disposition but to change themselves to be more environment friendly and sustainable without compromising with nature.
- **Condition Factors:** Various environmental programmes have been taken which help in reducing and controlling environmental degradation and a number of legislature confirming protection and conservation of environment.

Review of Related Literature:

Some of the important and recent related studies, which have been conducted in the field of Environmental Attitude and Pro Environmental Behaviour have been given below.

Vinothkumar, M. (2021), relied on the application of Theory of Planned Behaviour(TPB) to identify the individual's beliefs that influence pro-environmental behaviour which mitigate the environmental degradation. The 630 respondents from three major cities in Karnataka completed a questionnaire and SEM analysis revealed an excellent fit for the proposed TPB model, that attitude, subjective norm and perceived behavioural control together caused 72.6 percent of variance in the individual's intention to engage in PEB.

Haloi, Sangita. (2020), conducted a study on Pro-environmental Behaviour of High School Students. Results of the present study have shown that gender and economic conditions were not significant predictors of pro-environmental behaviour.

Fu, Zhang, Xiong and Bai. (2018), conducted a study on pro-environmental awareness and behaviours on campus. The findings of the study revealed that proenvironmental behaviour was more common than pro-environmental awareness for all three types of campus stakeholders (students, faculty members and administrators).

Levy S. and Michel N.(2018), conducted a study titled the "Pro-environmental attitudes and behaviours in higher education: Investigating the role of formal and informal factors". It was found that more than half of the sample expressed a high level of care for the environment.

Hidayah and Agustin. (2017), conducted a study assessing high school student's pro-environmental behaviour. The study found that science students had higher level of pro-environmental behaviour as compared to language and social class students. The study pointed out that the high school students academic achievement has no significant effect on their pro-environmental behaviour and that students involvement in extracurricular activity has a significant effect on their pro-environmental behaviour.

Palupi, Tyas and Sawitri. (2017), aimed to study the importance of Pro-environmental Behaviour in Adolescents. Young people with critical thinking and good environmental education are expected to behave more environmentally friendly for creating a sustainable future.

Aun, Damianus and Agout, Fredrick. (2016),measured Environmental Attitude and Environmental Behaviour of Senior High School Students of Divide Word Colleges in Region I, Philippines. The study revealed that anthropocentric attitude and eco-centric attitude were found to be dominant among students.

Bharti, Bharat and Shukla, R. K. (2016), investigated the link between environmental awareness and environmentally friendly behaviour in school students. A self- administered questionnaire was completed by 152 students. Results revealed that students have knowledge about environmental issues and green products which they got from green marketing and their school study are very useful in making their behaviour environmental friendly.

Statement of the Problem: "A Study on the Relationship between Pro Environmental Behaviour and Environmental Behaviour of Secondary School Students of Kolkata."

Objectives of the Study: The objectives of the present study are as follows-

- To compare the level of Pro Environmental Behaviour of male and female of Secondary School Students.
- To compare the level of Environmental Attitude of male and female of Secondary School Students.
- To find out the relation between Environmental Attitude and Pro Environmental Behaviour of Secondary School Students.

Hypotheses of the Study:

- **H01-** There is no significant difference between the pro environmental behaviour of male and female of Secondary School Students.
- **H02-**There is no significant difference between the environmental attitude of male and female of Secondary School Students.
- **H03-**There is no significant relation between the environmental attitude and pro environmental behaviour of Secondary School Students.

Methodology of the Study: The methodology adopted in the present study is descriptive in nature. This study used quantitative methods to collect the data on attitude and behaviour of respondents towards environment.

Sample and Sampling Procedure: In the present study the sample consisted of 105 students from four schools of W.B.S.E board, Kolkata. The probability random sampling method had been used for the present study.

Tools Used in the Study: In the present study, the researchers selected one standard tool which is P.E.B.S which consists 40 items developed by A.Suhane that is to measure the pro environmental behaviour of the secondary school students and the other standard tool is E.A.S which consists 61 items developed by Haseen Taj that is to measure the environmental attitude.

Statistical Analysis of the Study: Descriptive statistical technique was used to analyze data from the questionnaire. These descriptive statistical techniques described the entire variable according to tabulation. Independent sample t-test was used as a test of statistical significance. t-test and standard deviation helped to compare means of the two independent groups of variables.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data:

Objective 1:

To compare the level of Pro Environmental Behaviour of male and female of Secondary School Students.

H01: There is no significant difference between the Pro Environmental Behaviour of male and female of Secondary School Students.

Table 1.

Pro Environmental Behaviour Level:

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t value	Level of Sig
Male	**63**	**54.71**	**9.59**	**.275**	**.784**
Female	42	**54.21**	**8.33**		

Not significant at the 0.05 level (2 tailed)

From the above table it is found that the "t" value is .275 and the level of significance is .784. We know that the level of significance is between 0.05-0.01. According to this level null hypothesis is accepted. So we can say that there is no significant difference among male and female students regarding level of pro environmental behaviour.

Objective 2:

To compare the level of Environmental Attitude of male and female of Secondary School Students.

H02: There is no significant difference between the environmental attitude of male and female of Secondary School Students.

Table 2

Environmental Behaviour Level:

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t value	Level of Sig
Male	63	48.63	8.09	-.714	.477
Female	42	49.76	7.65		

Not significant at the 0.05 level (2 tailed)

From the above table it is found that the "t" value is -.714 and the level of significance is .477. We know that the level of significance is between 0.05-0.01. According to this level null hypothesis is accepted. So we can say that there is no significant difference among male and female students regarding level of environmental attitude.

Objective 3:

To find out the relation between Environmental Attitude and Pro Environmental Behaviour of Secondary School Students.

H03: There is no significant relation between the environmental concept and environmental behaviour of Higher Secondary School Students.

Table 3

Correlations

		Environmental Attitude Score	Pro Environmental Behaviour Score
Environmental Attitude Score	Pearson Correlation	1	.811**
	Sig.(2- tailed)		.000
	N	105	105
Pro Environmental Behaviour Score	Pearson Corelation	.811**	1
	Sig.(2- tailed)	.000	
	N	105	105

**** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level(2-tailed).**

The result of the above table shows that co-efficient of correlation between score of environmental attitude and pro environmental behaviour is found to be .811. Thus it can be said that there is a positive relation between environmental attitude and pro environmental behaviour. From the table we can see that the level of significance is less than 0.05. Thus it can be said that there is a significant relationship between environmental attitude and pro environmental behaviour.

Findings of the Study:

- This study reveals that a good section of the students had positive behaviour and attitude towards environment.
- It was also observed that there is no significant difference between male and female higher secondary school students towards environmental attitude and pro environmental behaviour.
- A significant positive correlation was found between environmental attitude and pro environmental behaviour of secondary school students.

Educational Implications:

Education is a very powerful instrument which stimulates awareness in human beings towards the environment.

- Results indicate that a good section of students have an idea about environmental education, however much still needs to be done to enhance and improve the environmental concept of the students.
- Findings showed that there is a significant positive correlation between environmental attitude and pro environmental behaviour so these two are interconnected. More knowledge about environment enhances their behaviour and attitude towards environment.
- It has also been observed that there is no gender difference in terms of environmental attitude and pro environmental behaviour among secondary school students. The implication is that we need to continue to progress and move forward to improve the environmental attitude and pro environmental behaviour among the youth in our society.

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