

ATTITUDE OF ADOLESCENTS TOWARDS MODERNIZATION

Omshree.N¹., and Dr. K. S. Roopa ²

¹Research Scholar, ²Guide, Associate Professor and HOD,

Department of Human Development and Research Centre, Smt. VHD. Central Institute of Home Science (Autonomous), Seshadri Road, Bangalore 560 001, Karnataka, India.

Abstract: The main objective of the study was to assess and compare the attitude of adolescent boys and girls towards modernization with respect to seven dimensions. The sample consisted of 120 adolescents, of which 60 were girls and 60 were boys in the age group of 16-17 years studying in first and second year pre-university course. The samples were drawn from two colleges from north zone of Bengaluru city. A standardized questionnaire—Comprehensive Modernization Inventory (CMI-AK) developed by Dr.S.P.Ahluwalia and Dr.A.K.Kalia was used for the purpose of studying attitude of adolescents towards modernization. The data was tabulated and analyzed by applying percentage, mean, standard deviation, Chi-square, F-test and t-test. The findings revealed that, majority of both boys and girls belonged to the age group of 17 years and were from nuclear family background. Majority of respondents had extremely modernized attitude towards modernization and gender was not associated significantly with the level of attitude towards modernization among boy and girl respondents. However, there exists a significant difference in modernization among boy and girl respondents on the seven dimensions classified for the study. Further, the study revealed that there is a positive and significant difference found between boy and girl respondents with regard to politics, status of women and religion aspects. Whereas, there is not much variation in the mean score obtained from boy and girl respondents in the dimension of education, parent – child relationship, marriage and socio – cultural factors classified for the study and the test found to be not significant.

Key words: Modernization, Adolescents, Dimensions, Attitude.

I. INTRODUCTION

Modernization is the process of changes towards those of development in social, economic and political systems. 'Modernizing' means simply giving, up old ways and traditions to recent or most recent ones. The general features of a developed society are abstracted as an ideal type and so a society is called 'Modern' to the extent it exhibits modern attributes. The general configuration to highly modernized societies may be judged from the high column of indicators of economic development and social mobilization. In some respects, these advanced societies may appear to have completed the process of change. In other words, these advanced societies are characterized by various indicators of modernization such as nationalist ideology, democratic associations, increasing literacy, high level to industrialization, urbanization and spread of mass media of communication.

Modernization is the transformation from a traditional, rural, agrarian society to a secular, urban, industrial society. It is a continuous and open-ended process. It refers to the people change in man's way of thinking and feelings, change in his whole attitude to life's problems, the society and the universe. As such comma modernization appears to be a complex phenomenon involving the development of the rational outlook and acceptance of the realities and facts in the context of scientific value. It implies and inherent change in the mode of life in a particular direction of attending modernity. Hence, man's attitude, idea comma outlook and approach are oriented towards change in that direction. The term modernization is used not only to describe the changes in the material culture of a nation but also in its belief system comma values and way of life on the whole. It is a process which brings desired types of changes in the social structure, value orientation, motivations and norms. It is a process of transformation of a society from its backward framework to a forward looking, progressing and prospering structural build up.

The factors which facilitated and accelerated the process of modernization are: the achievements in the field of science and technology, rapid growth of industrialization and urbanization, the rationalization of social life, the emergence of a rational outlook in every walk of life comma rapid development of mass phenomena like mass production, mass communication, mass education and participation, democratization of political structure and growth of large heterogeneous complex societies.

Adolescence is the stage in which the rapid changes take place. The individual's holistic development in terms of physical, mental, social, moral and spiritual context which takes place and they undergo revolutionary changes also, such changes during adolescence are more rapid than during childhood years. As these changes take place, human personality develops into different dimensions. Adolescence is very important stage in the process of development, as they face internal crisis because of cognitive social and biological changes. In the present day adolescence in the family are brought up in the society in the modernization situations and they are more prone to accept this and change their lifestyle. It reflects in their social transition use of new technology, adoption of new values in all aspects of change and modernization.

People live in a changing world and change is inevitable. The use of new technology, tools, adoption of new values and practices in organizations are all aspects of change and modernization. There is however, a paradox in the attitudes of various generations towards change. The generally urban-ward movement, particularly among the young, has spelled greater independence for them with diminishing parental control and influence on their lives which may pose many undesirable

consequences on their behavior. Such changes along with the rapid development in information technology and the spread of mass media play an important role in shaping their behavior.

In the light of the above discussion an attempt was made to study the attitude of adolescents towards modernization.

II. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Objectives:

1. To study the attitude of adolescents towards modernization.
2. To assess and compare the attitude of adolescent between girls and boys towards modernization.
3. To assess and compare the attitude of adolescent girls and boys towards modernization with respect to 7 dimensions viz., education, parent-child relationship, politics, status of women, marriage, religion and socio-cultural factors.

2.2 Hypothesis:

1. Attitude of adolescents are in favor with modernization.
2. There is a significant difference between attitude of adolescent girls and boys towards modernization.
3. There is a significant difference between attitude of adolescent girls and boys towards modernization in the 7 dimensions viz., education, parent-child relationship, politics, status of women, marriage, religion and socio-cultural factors.

2.3 Selection of sample and sampling technique:

Purposive random sampling technique was adopted for the study. A total number of 120 adolescents of which 60 were girls and 60 were boys in the age group of 16-17 years studying in first and second year pre-university course constituted the total sample of the study.

The samples were drawn from two college's from west zone of Bengaluru city.

(i) Seshadripuram Pre-University College, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru -560 020.

(ii) Government PU College for Girls, 13th cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru -560 003.

2.4 Tool:

A standardized questionnaire-Comprehensive Modernization Inventory (CMI-AK) developed by Dr. S.P.Ahluwalia and Dr. A.K.Kalia was used for the purpose of studying the attitude of adolescents towards modernization with respect to 7 dimensions viz., education, parent-child relationship, politics, status of women, marriage, religion and socio-cultural factors.

The questionnaire consisted of two parts: Part-A and Part-B. Part-A consisted of basic data developed by the investigator related to demographic details viz., type of family, religion, education qualification of parents, occupation of parents and family income. Part-B consisted of specific data as per the standardized scale measuring the changes in attitude of adolescents with respect to modernization in seven areas in Indian conditions. The scoring procedure of the statements was fully agree, agree, undecided, disagree and fully disagree which includes both positive as well as negative statements. The maximum score for a positive item is 5 and least is 1.

Procedure:

The investigator surveyed different institutions in north zone of Bengaluru city. Two colleges offering Pre-University course were selected. Request letter was given to the principal's of colleges to grant permission to collect the data from the students explaining the significance of the study. After obtaining the permission from administrators of the college the specific date and time was given to the investigator to collect the data from adolescents.

The investigator built a rapport with the students and briefed about the significance of the study. The instructions were given to the respondents regarding how to fill the questionnaire then it was administered to 60 boys and 60 girls with a request to fill the questionnaire giving sufficient time. The respondents took 15 to 20 minutes to fill the questionnaire then it was collected back after providing sufficient time for the completion.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data was tabulated and analyzed by applying percentage, mean, standard deviation, Chi-square, t- test and F test. Figure - 1 shows the classification of respondents by age group.

Figure - 1
Classification of Respondents by Age group

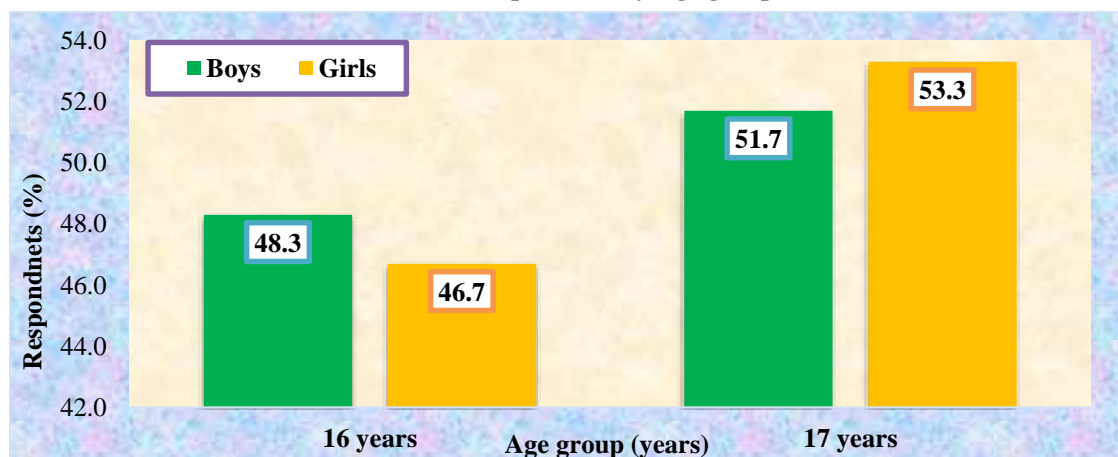


Figure-1 indicates the classification of respondents by age group. It is inferred that among boys 51.7 percent of them belong to 17 years of age group and 48.3 percentage of them were from 16 years of age group. Among girls majority (53.3%) of them belongs to 17 years of age group followed by 46.7 percent belongs to 16 years of age group.

Figure-2 shows the classification of respondents by type of family. A higher percentage of boys (73.3%) were from nuclear family whereas 26.7 percent were from joint family. In case of girls majority of them (88.3%) were from nuclear family and only 11.7 percent were from joint family background.

Figure – 2
Classification of Respondents by Type of Family

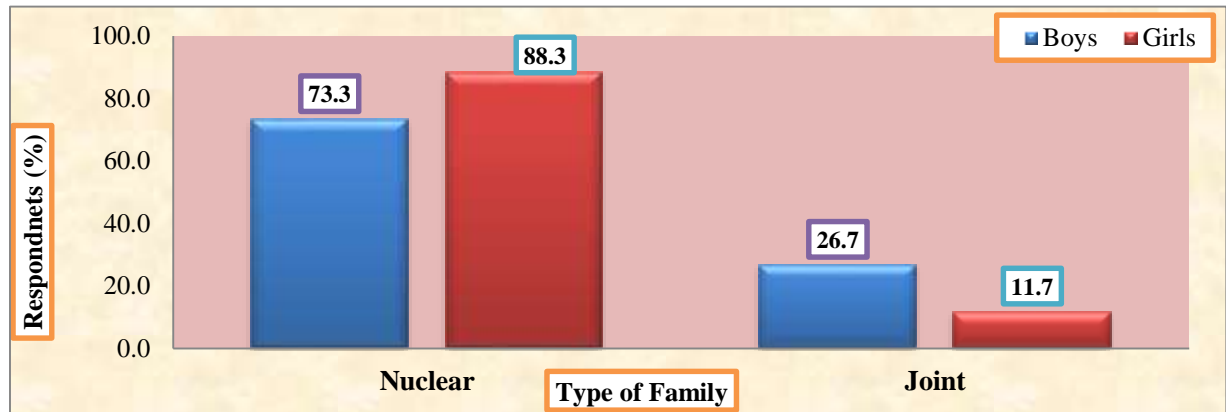


Table-1 shows the attitude level towards modernization among boy and girl respondents.

TABLE - 1
Respondents Attitude level towards modernization by Gender

Modernization Status Level	Respondents					
	Boys (n=60)		Girls (n=60)		Combined (n=120)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Extremely Modernized	38	63.30	46	76.70	84	70.00
Highly Modernized	22	36.70	14	23.30	36	30.00
Total	60	100.0	60	100.0	120	100.0
χ^2 Test	2.54 ^{NS}					

NS: Non-significant, $\chi^2 (0.05, 1df) = 3.841$

It is clear from the table that, a higher percentage of boy respondents (63.30%) had extremely modernized attitude and 36.70 percent of them had highly modernized attitude towards modernization.

In case of girl respondents 76.70 percent of them were extremely modernized, followed by 23.30 percent of them had highly modernized attitude.

Combined result showed that majority of both boy and girl respondents (70.00%) were extremely modernized. On statistical analysis the results found to be non-significant association with the Chi-square value 2.54. Hence, it can be concluded that none of the respondent's attitude were either average modernized nor below average modernized and the level of attitude towards modernization among boy and girl respondents did not have any significant association therefore hypothesis set for the study is rejected.

The scores on different dimensions of modernization among boy and girl respondents is shown in table 2 and 3.

TABLE - 2
Dimension wise Mean Attitude score of Adolescent Boys towards Modernization

Dimensions	Statements	Max. Score	Attitude Scores			
			Mean	SD	Mean (%)	SD (%)
Education	07	35	24.75	3.5	70.70	10.0
Parent-child relationship	07	35	23.15	2.7	66.10	7.8
Politics	07	35	26.02	3.7	74.30	10.5
Status of women	07	35	24.95	3.3	71.30	9.3
Marriage	07	35	24.80	3.6	70.90	10.2
Religion	07	35	24.35	4.3	69.60	12.3
Socio-cultural factors	07	35	22.07	3.2	63.00	9.2
Combined	49	245	170.08	15.2	69.40	6.2
F- Test	8.27*					

* Significant at 5% level

The results obtained for boys as shown in table 2, it was hypothesized that, there exist a significant difference in modernization among respondents in seven dimensions. It revealed that a higher mean score percentage was found in the aspect of politics (74.30), status for women (71.30), marriage (70.90), education (70.70), followed by in the dimension of religion (69.60), parent-child relationship (66.10) and socio-cultural factors (63.00).

There exists a significant difference in modernization among boy respondents on the seven dimensions of modernization leading to an acceptance of the hypothesis set for the study. The F-test value is found to be 8.27 which is significant at 5% level ($p < 0.05$).

TABLE -3
Dimension wise Mean Attitude score of Adolescent Girls towards Modernization

N=60

Dimensions	Statements	Max. Score	Attitude Scores			
			Mean	SD	Mean (%)	SD (%)
Education	07	35	25.62	2.9	73.20	8.3
Parent-child relationship	07	35	22.88	2.0	65.40	5.8
Politics	07	35	28.63	3.2	81.80	9.3
Status of women	07	35	27.13	3.4	77.50	9.7
Marriage	07	35	24.10	3.1	68.90	8.9
Religion	07	35	22.95	3.2	65.60	9.3
Socio-cultural factors	07	35	22.22	2.6	63.50	7.6
Combined	49	245	173.53	13.8	70.80	5.6
F - Test	39.61*					

* Significant at 5% level

Dimension wise mean score on attitude of adolescent girls towards modernization was observed from table 3. It is noted from the above table that, the higher mean score percentage was found in the aspect of politics (81.80), followed by status of women (77.50), education (73.20), marriage (68.90), religion (65.60), parent-child relationship (65.40) and social-cultural factors (63.50).

There exists a significant difference in modernization among girl respondents on the seven dimensions therefore hypothesis is accepted. The F-test value is found to be 39.61 which is significant beyond 5% level.

TABLE - 4

Dimension wise Mean attitude score of Adolescent boys and girls towards Modernization

N = 120

Dimensions	Attitude (%)						‘t’ Test
	Boys (n=60)		Girls (n=60)		Combined		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Education	70.70	10.0	73.20	8.3	72.00	9.2	1.48 ^{NS}
Parent-child relationship	66.10	7.8	65.40	5.8	65.80	6.8	0.61 ^{NS}
Politics	74.30	10.5	81.80	9.3	78.10	10.6	4.13*
Status of women	71.30	9.3	77.50	9.7	74.40	10.0	3.59*
Marriage	70.90	10.2	68.90	8.9	69.90	9.6	1.14 ^{NS}
Religion	69.60	12.3	65.60	9.3	67.60	11.1	2.01*
Socio-cultural factors	63.00	9.2	63.50	7.6	63.30	8.4	0.28 ^{NS}
Combined	69.40	6.2	70.80	5.6	70.10	5.9	1.30 ^{NS}

* Significant at 5% level, NS: Non-significant, t (0.05, 118df) = 1.96

Table-4 shows dimension wise mean scores of adolescents towards modernization among boy and girl respondents. It is clear from the table that, the mean score of girl respondents (73.20) found to be slightly higher when compared to boy respondents (70.70) in the area of education. However, the aspect of education was not associated with gender among the respondents (with t-value being 1.48^{NS}). The study conducted by Kavitha, M., et.al., (2014) supports the findings of the study.

On statistical analysis it was found in the area of parent-child relationship had non-significant association with gender among respondents. Boy respondents (66.10) found to be slightly higher mean score percent when compared to girl respondents (65.40). The t-test value found to be 0.61 which is non-significant.

A higher mean score obtained by girl respondents (81.80) as compared to boy respondents (74.30) in the politics category. However, politics aspect was significantly associated with both the gender of the respondents with t-value being 4.13 significant at 5% level.

There is a positive and significant association found between boy and girl respondents in the area of status of women. Girl respondents showed higher mean score (77.50) towards status of women aspect when compared to boy respondents (71.30). The t-value found to be 3.59 which is significant at 5% level.

In the aspect of marriage mean score obtained by boy respondents (70.90) was higher as compared to girl respondents (68.90). On statistical analysis it was found with regard to marriage aspect found to be non-significant with t-value being (t-1.14).

Boy respondents showed higher mean score (69.60) towards religion aspect when compared to girl respondents (65.60). On statistical analysis it was found with regard to religion aspect among boy and girl respondents found to be positive and significant with the t-value being (t-2.01).

Almost similar mean score was obtained between boy and girl respondents (63.50 and 63.00) respectively towards socio-cultural factors. The statistical results showed the non-significant result with t-value being 0.28.

The combined results showed that the higher mean score percentage was found in the dimension of politics (78.10) followed by status of women (74.40), education (72.00), marriage (69.90), religion (67.60), parent-child relationship (65.80) and socio-cultural factors (63.30). The overall mean score attitude towards modernization obtained by adolescents is 70.10 percent. This shows that adolescents irrespective of their gender had positive favorable attitude towards modernization.

With regard to the dimension on education the results revealed that, majority of both boy and girl respondents fully agreed by responding that education plays very important role and women also equally need higher education like men. It was also observed that boy respondents agreed to the statement that men generally possess more knowledge and intelligence than women do. Boy and girl respondents fully agreed that introducing sex education during adolescent period is necessary as they agreed that it should be part of syllabus of the education system which is essential in terms of giving awareness at early age as it is beneficial for their future life. Most of the boy and girl respondents disagreed to the statement that there should be separate educational institutions for boys and girls as they think that, coeducation flourishes the personality of students.

In case of parent-child relationship dimension, majority of the respondents irrespective to their gender agreed that parents should be respected even if they become unreasonable, also agreed to the statement that the benefits are protected when they act according to parental advice which give more importance to the opinion of their parents than to their own choice. They also agreed that parents usually intervene unnecessarily into freedom of their children and also responded that parents should not interfere with the matters of their offspring's when they grow up.

In the dimension of politics majority of boy respondents fully agreed to the statement that husband should share housekeeping if wife is also doing job and higher status should be given to women of the country as they understand the home problems better as they consider both men and women are capable of doing jobs which are irrespective to their gender. Most of the adolescent respondents agreed that it is a matter of pleasure that more and more women are coming into politics. Whereas both boys and girls fully disagreed that woman should be concerned only with housekeeping and it is a responsibility of men to think about the country. They also disagreed that women should work unitedly so that they can attain social and political rights. They also disagreed that doing political work by a women is a waste and are generally less competent in running a government than men.

With regard to status of women dimension, both boy and girl respondents fully agreed to the statement that men and women are eligible for equal wages for equal jobs and all the amenities given to men should also be given to women this might be due to the influence of modernization and the present generation are of the opinion that men and women are equal. Whereas most of the boy respondents fully disagreed that for a woman, to do a job is to spoil her life. Majority of the both boys and girls disagreed that women are engaged in vocation, yet their real place is house, also men should not refuse to work under a women in a profession and if mother of a child undertakes some vocation, it is harmful to the development of child. They also disagreed to the statement that there is a possibility of indulging in many bad habits in co-education institutions.

In the dimension of marriage, majority of the adolescent respondents fully agreed that boys and girls should have full freedom in selecting and getting married to their life partner. Majority of them feel that inter-caste marriage should be increased because it enhances national unity. Whereas most of them neither agrees nor disagree to these statements that marriage is an obstruction in the progress of women, the date of marriage should be determined through the help of a priest and there should not be any extravaganza in marriage ceremony because it is a social crime. Most of them disagree that if a women wants to progress, she should not give more importance to the upbringing of her child and most of the boy respondents fully disagreed to the statement that life of a women without marriage is incomplete.

With regard to religion dimension, majority of both boy and girl respondents agreed that love of god gives tranquility to mind and heart, god beholds our actions and punishes for our blunders and we attain mental strength and solace through god's worship this might be due to the respondents believe and culture irrespective to their religion which was taught to them right from their childhood. Whereas most of them were undecided that the religion makes a man lazy and coward, intelligent and bright persons do not believe in religion and god is omnipresent for which they neither agreed nor disagreed to the statement, all the cries of god's worship are fraudulent was disagreed by the respondents.

In the dimension of socio-cultural factors, majority of the respondents agreed that modern technology is the main cause of mental illness, India can very rapidly progress only through application of science and technology and they also agreed that scientist and doctors are able to make life long lasting and can make life of people healthy this is due to the new research done in the field of science and technology which is like a boon to mankind. They also agreed to the statement that technology progress is leading the life away from simplicity and increasing the tension. Regarding to the statement that collapse of obsolete society and conventional ideas in India is a symbol of prosperity and a period of transition respondents neither agreed nor disagreed. Most of them disagreed that only machines can improve the economic status of people because only modern technologies cannot improve or increase economic status by themselves but using them work can be done much faster and quicker. They also disagreed that modern technical progress is a curse.

There is not much variation in the mean score obtained from boy and girl respondents in the dimension of education, parent-child relationship, marriage and socio-cultural factors classified for the study and the test found to be not significant. Therefore the hypothesis postulated for the study in these four areas was rejected. Further the study revealed that there is a

positive and significant differences found between boy and girl respondents with regard to politics, status of women and religion aspects therefore in these three areas the hypothesis postulated for the study is accepted.

The similar results were in line with the study conducted by Parveen., et.al., (2017) stated that, girls were more modernized than boys in the dimension of education and parent-child relationship.

IV. CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that, majority of respondents had extremely modernized attitude towards modernization and gender was not associated significantly with level of attitude towards modernization among boy and girl respondents. However, there exists a significant difference in modernization among boy and girl respondents on the seven dimensions classified for the study. Further, the study revealed that there is a positive and significant difference found between boy and girl respondents with regard to politics, status of women and religion dimensions whereas, there is not much variation in the mean score obtained from boy and girl respondents in the dimension of education, parent – child relationship, marriage and socio – cultural factors classified for the study and the test found to be not significant.

There is a vast influence of modernization among adolescents in the urban sector. The pattern of living style of them has been totally changed due to increased variations in the technologies. Hence, the findings of the study recommends to develop a module of an intervention program which helps to educate adolescents and especially for youths who are residing in rural areas for better adjustments in the modern world.

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