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Effect of Socio-Economic Status on Self Esteem of College Going Students

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ABSTRACT

Objectives of the Study: 1. to investigate the self esteem of among high, medium and low socio-economic status college students. **Hypotheses: 1.** there will be no significant difference between high, medium and low socio-economic status college students on dimension self esteem. **Participants:** A total of 90 students were selected for the present study belonging to Jalgaon district. Among them 30 high socio-economic status college students, 30 medium socio-economic status college students and 30 low socio-economic status college students. The age range of students was 18 to 22 years ($M = 20.69$, $SD = 2.78$). Non-probability purposive sampling was used. **Tools:** 1. Self Esteem Inventory This test is developed and standardized by M S Prasad and G P Thakur for measuring self esteem. **Variable:** Independent variable: Socio-Economic Status a) High b) medium c) Low Dependent Variable: 1. Self Esteem **Conclusion:** 1. High socio-economic status college students have significantly high self esteem than the medium and low socio-economic status college students.

Keywords: self esteem, self concept, socio-economic status, college students.

Introduction:

Education is modification of behavior of the individual in a socially desirable way coming through the contact of its environment for adequate adjustment in the society to personify the personality to influence person on the basis of his/her socio-economical status. Socio-economic status (SES) is an economic and sociological combined total measure of a person's work, experience and of an individual or family's economical and social position relative to others. Socioeconomic status is typically broken into three categories high SES, average SES and low SES. To describe the three areas, a family or an individual may fall into one of these categories. Any or all of the three variables (income, education and occupation) can be assessed. A fourth variable wealth may also be examined when determining socio-economic status.

Morris Rosenberg (1978) searched that the Social Class and Self-Esteem Among Children and Adults. The literature on the relationship of social class to self-esteem is riddled with contradictions, showing positive, null, and inverse relationships. Two studies examining this relationship are compare done, a sample of children aged 8-18; the other, a sample of adults aged 18-65. The results indicate virtually no association for younger children, a modest association for adolescents, and a moderate association for adults. Four principles of self-esteem development are advanced to account for these conditional relations-social comparison processes, reflected appraisals, self-perception theory, and psychological centrality. It is suggested that these principles apply equally to adults and children and that the identical principles help to explain why social class should have different effects on the self-esteem of children and adults.

According to Gouc (2007), socio-economic background is relative standing of a family in a society based on its income, power, background and prestige. It can also be the relative position of a family or individual on hierarchical social structure based on access to or control over wealth, prestige and power. Ovute (2009) explained that family socio-economic background includes family income, standard of house occupied or rented, family size, parental education and level of family stability among other factors. From the foregoing, socio-economic background can be categorized into levels such as high, middle and low.

Objectives of the Study:

1. To investigate the self esteem of high, medium and low socio-economic status college students.

Hypotheses:

- 1) There will be no significant difference between high, medium and low socio-economic status college students on dimension self esteem.

Participants:

A total of 60 students were selected for the present study belonging to Jalgaon district. Among them 20 high socio-economic status college students, 20 medium socio-economic status college students and 20 low socio-economic status college students. The age range of students was 18 to 22 years ($M = 20.69$, $SD = 2.78$). Non-probability purposive sampling was used.

Tools:**1) Self Esteem Inventory**

This test was developed and standardized by M S Prasad and G P Thakur for measuring self esteem. The test consisted of 30 Items. The subjects were required to respond to each item in terms of 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. The test split half Reliability Range from .82 to .78 and highly reliable.

Procedures of data collection

The Data was collected from many colleges in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra state. To ensure the sampling representative in Jalgaon district was approached. The teacher was instructed to the college students that their responses were kept confidential. Instruction for each test was also given separately before they were asked to fill the responses. It was also assured that no item would be left blank. After collection the data were tabulated and total score were obtained for each test.

Variable:**Independent variable:**

- 1) Socio-Economic Status a) High b)Medium c) Low

Dependent Variable:

- 1) Self Esteem

Statistical Analysis and Discussion

Mean, SD and SE among high, medium and low socio-economic status dimension on self esteem.

Table no. 01

	High	Medium	Low	Total
<i>Mean</i>	25.7	21.8	15.8	60
<i>SD</i>	2.79	4.09	3.77	
<i>SE</i>	0.62	0.92	0.84	

One Way ANOVAs Summary of Mean, SD and SE among high, medium and low socio-economic status dimension on self esteem.

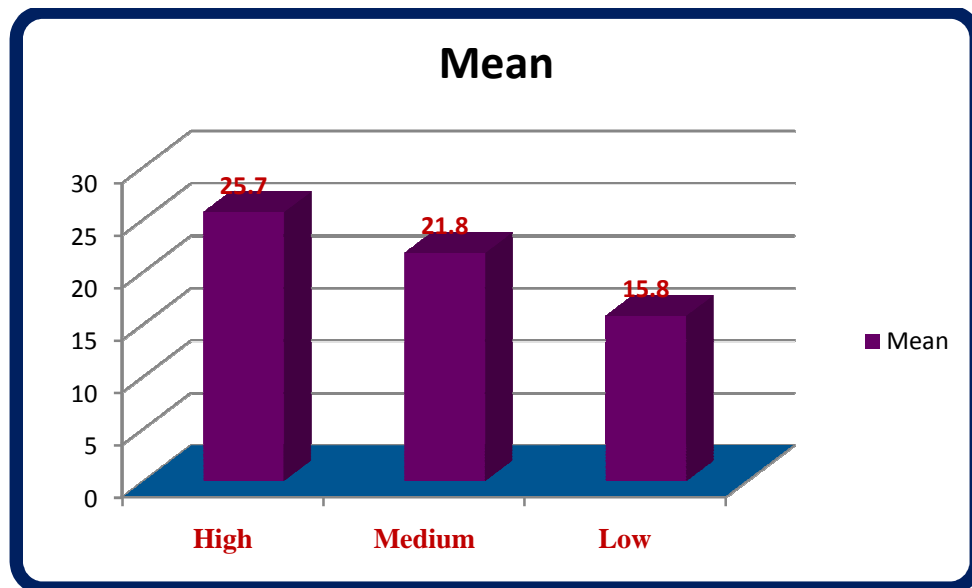


Table no. 02

Sources	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	<i>F</i>	<i>Sig</i>
Between Group	994.8	2	474.4	38.39	.000
Within Group	738.6	57	12.95		
Total	1733.4	59			

An Analysis of variance showed that the effect of socio-economic status on self esteem subject was significant, $F(2, 59) = 38.39, p = 0.01$. Post hoc analyses using the Schaffer post hoc criterion for

Significance indicated that the average number of error was significantly high self esteem of high socio-economic status students ($M = 25.7$, $SD = 2.79$) than medium self esteem of high socio-economic status students ($M = 21.8$, $SD = 4.09$) and low self esteem of high socio-economic status students ($M = 15.8$, $SD = 3.77$). Hypotheses have been accepted high socio-economic status students had significantly high self esteem than the medium and low socio-economic status students.

Conclusion:

- 1) High socio-economic status college students had significantly high self esteem than the medium and low socio-economic status college students.

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