

## Effect of Gender and Medium on Educational Aspiration of Secondary Level School Students

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### ABSTRACT

The present study is an attempt to assess the level of Educational Aspiration among secondary school students of Porbandar district. The level of educational aspiration is considered as an indicator of the success of students. 400 students from private and government schools were drawn by employing simple random techniques. To assess the level of Educational Aspirations, Educational Aspiration Scale (Form P) developed by Dr V.P. Sharma and Dr Anuradha Gupta was used to know the educational aspiration level of the students. The obtained data were analyzed by using mean, SD and F test. The finding of the study revealed that boys and girls differ significantly on overall educational aspiration similarly; Gujarati medium students have a greater level of educational aspiration. These findings will be useful for a range of stakeholders such as educationists, policy makers, teachers, parents, etc.

**Keywords:** *Educational Aspirations, Secondary School Students*

It has widely been accepted that there is an enormous potential of education in the development of the society as well as to an individual also. As compared to an illiterate person an educated person has been a vast difference, an educated person will be more sensible in his intellectual ability; will be more accomplished in economic, social, political and even in cultural functions too. This would help in improving his quality of life. Education has to become a major device which every individual uses to pave the way to the process of progress and development towards their desired goals. Even in the term of Nation building to education plays a dynamic role. To bring a meaningful development in a country in terms of multiple fields, education is being emphasized and the country becomes ready to invest in the field of education, which the intellectuals believe that it will accelerate the pace of development.

The stage of education following primary education is secondary education. "Secondary education means education suitable to the requirements of all pupils who have completed primary education and include general, ethical, industrial, agricultural and commercial education" stated the Bengal Secondary Education Act, 1960. This level of education become a turning point for every student between the age group of 14 to 18 years and prepares to

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enter into the world of higher education and a world of work. The Secondary stage comprised of 9th and 10th class. It is characterized by a transition from the typically compulsory, comprehensive primary education for minors to the optional, selective tertiary, post-secondary or higher education for adults. In the period of Childs' development, there are various schemes of education which would help in developing a country and it mainly deals with the adolescence. It is an important period where a healthy development occurs which requires very keenly supervised care. According to the National Policy on Education, 1979 the entire educational system has to be seen as on chain but for most of the student's sections, they ended their education journey at secondary level only.

Education itself is related to the process and kind of activity in relation to human beings. It is an uninterrupted attempt to develop all capacities of the students to control in fulfilling their needs and adapt to the neighbouring environment. Even though education is a part of human life, it cannot help the pursuers unless they have the required amount of educational aspirations. The term level of aspiration is best explained as a frame of reference involving self-esteem. Aspiration levels of different individuals are obviously different and are not the same for all goals i.e. for there is a difference in the goal there must be different levels of aspirations. Those goals which he considers desirable are aimed at by a person. His evaluation of any situation directs his goal, endeavouring for self-satisfaction and the highest of his goals in such areas as the home, the school and the community, varies greatly from person to person. The difference in sex also affects the level of aspiration.

In order to achieve something in life by learning students need to attend college. To make learning and achievement effective it is the teacher who has to appeal to the preceding needs, longings, interests and purposes of students. Psychologists generally agree that teachers cannot neglect them as physiological requirements do motivate performance, learning and achievement. Based on pre-existing needs, interests and motives can create, induce and build up new needs, interests and motives to enhance the performances of the students. Generally schools and colleges, curricular requirements and teaching loads are so heavy that the teacher sets the goals and pressurizes the students to achieve them within a time frame. It is the teacher who motivates students by expectations, demands or other types of coercive. Without any considerations, students complete their daily tasks as they are expected to, without seeing the significance and persistence, importance and value of what they have done.

The significant influence of gender factor on educational aspiration of children was found by Wolfgang et al (1972); Mao and Bikas (2000); Goel (2004); Vaidya (2006); Singh (2011); Mishra (2013); Rajesh and Chandrasekaran (2014); while Strand and Winston (2005) found that there is no significant difference in aspiration by gender. Wolfgang (1972); Shouping (2002); Vaidya (2006); Katherine (2010) ; Makkar (2010); Keith (2011) ;Josen(2011); and Kumar and Gupta (2014).Influence of medium was found by Singh (2011), and Doddasiddaih et al (2013). Educational aspiration of students does not differ significantly with respect to their parental educational status (Josen (2014).

Hooda, M. and Devi, R. (2018) revealed that female students having high educational aspiration as compared to male students. It was further revealed that students were belonging to rural area and private school students having high educational aspiration than their counterparts.

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### Statement of Problem

The focal objective of the present study has been to compare the scores of educational aspiration among male and female secondary level school students. The exact problem of the present research is “*Effect of Gender and Medium on Educational Aspiration of Secondary Level School Students*”

### Operational Definition

**Educational Aspiration:** Educational Aspiration is a concept referring orientation towards educational goal, spaced in the continuum of difficulty and social prestige and arranged an educational hierarchy.

**Secondary School:** A secondary school is a school which provides secondary education between the age of 11 and 16 or 11 and 18, after school and before higher education.

### Objectives

1. To assess and compare the level of educational aspiration among boys and girls of secondary level school students.
2. To assess and compare the level of educational aspiration among English and Gujarati medium secondary level school students.

### Hypotheses

**H<sub>01</sub>** There will be no significant difference in the scores of educational aspiration between boys and girls of secondary level school students.

**H<sub>02</sub>** There will be no significant difference in the scores of educational aspiration between English and Gujarati medium secondary level school students.

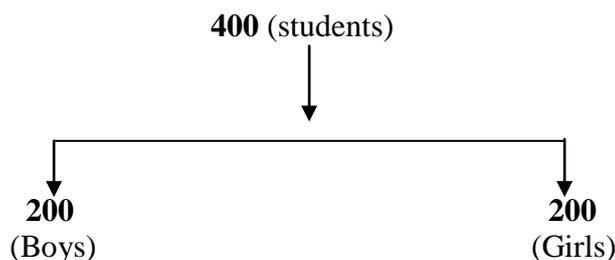
### Research Design

The present study is not possible experimentally because of the nature of the investigation. The researcher adopted quantitative descriptive research for gaining the objectives of the study. It is the survey quantitative research in which the event has already occurred and the effects of the variables were studied by qualitative analysis.

## METHODOLOGY

### Sample

The sample of 450 secondary level school students was screened and selected. Finally, 400 hundred secondary level school students were selected between the age ranges of 15 to 17 years. Further, they were classified into two groups i.e. boys (200) and girls (200). The categorization and detail of sample selection was as under.



### Tools

**Educational Aspiration Scale (E.A.S.)** Educational Aspiration Scale (Form P) developed by Dr V.P. Sharma and Dr Anuradha Gupta was used to know the educational aspiration level of

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the students. The Educational Aspiration Scale Form P has been developed by taking into consideration the variables operating in the past and present, so far as setting the level of educational aspirations in future is concerned. Paired comparison technique has been employed. By resolving these primary variables into different factors which could be effective in the past, present and future, 45 items designed in the paired comparison form have been developed. These items have been refined several times from the point of view of the phraseology, structure and presentation.

### The Reliability

1. The coefficient of stability by Test-Retest method.  $r_{tt} = .98$
2. The coefficient of internal consistency by an odd-even technique using S-B formula.....  $r_{tt} = .803$

### The Validity

1. Against scholastic achievement (Board Exam.)  $r = .692$
2. Predictive validity with E.A.S., Form V.....  $r = .596$

### Scoring

For the present research work, scoring of the obtained data was done with the help of respective manuals available for the test. The data have been arranged in the respective tables according to the statistical test applied.

### Statistical Analysis

In the present study to find out the significant mean difference between various pairs of students for educational aspiration. Statistical tests like one way ANOVA, Mean and SD were conducted.

## RESULT & DISCUSSION

*Table 1:-Table represents Mean, SD & Mean difference between Boys and Girls for dependent variable Educational Aspiration.*

| Gender | N   | Mean  | SD    | F     | Significance level |
|--------|-----|-------|-------|-------|--------------------|
| Boys   | 200 | 27.79 | 9.55  | 10.11 | $p < .01$          |
| Girls  | 200 | 24.73 | 11.36 |       |                    |

When the F test was applied to check the impact of gender on educational aspiration among boys and girls of secondary level school students than significant F value was revealed. The F value was reported  $F(1, 200) = 10.10$ ,  $p < .01$ , which was noticeable. The table also highlighted that mean scores of boys and girls of secondary level school students were 27.79 (SD = 9.55) and 24.73 (SD = 11.36) respectively and the difference between two means was 3.06. Hence, boys of secondary level school students have greater aspiration as compare to girls. Hence,  $H_0$  was rejected.

*Table 2:-Table represents Mean, SD & Mean difference between English and Gujarati medium secondary level school students for dependent variable Educational Aspiration.*

| Medium      | N   | Mean  | SD    | F     | Significance level |
|-------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|--------------------|
| Gujarati B1 | 200 | 29.86 | 8.63  | 56.17 | $p < .01$          |
| English B2  | 200 | 22.66 | 11.15 |       |                    |

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Table no.2 displayed F value and mean score for the medium of instruction in which the mean difference and F ratio was reported significant  $F(1,200) = 56.07, p < .01$ . Mean score obtained by Gujarati medium was 29.86 (SD = 8.63) and for English medium was 22.66 (SD = 11.15), whereas the mean difference of both the group was 7.20. Difference between both the mean value of Gujarati and English medium secondary school students suggested that there was a wide mean difference among both the groups. It can be concluded that Gujarati medium school students have more educational aspirations than the English medium secondary level school students. Hence,  $H_0$  was also rejected.

### CONCLUSION

Educational aspiration is a universal trait. However, its essence differs in relation to the background of the students. The present paper focused on educational aspiration in relation to gender and medium of instructions of the students. It concludes boys have higher education aspiration than girls. Gujarati medium secondary level school students have better educational aspiration as compared to English medium students.

### Implications

1. A teacher can make a simulative environment in the school and classroom so that the students can develop their aspiration. The role of the teacher enables the students to encourage, support and co-operate in directing and controlling his development of career.
2. The government should look after the existing conditions of the schools and giving a grant for making the school infrastructure sound and attractive which could motivate the students. In order to boost the level of aspiration of the students, the teachers in the classroom as well as outside the classroom should provide all possible study material as well as moral boosting to the students.
3. School should organize activities like seminars, workshops and lectures from guest speakers for the students to encourage to increase the level of educational aspiration.

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### **Conflict of Interest**

The authors carefully declare this paper to bear not conflict of interests

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