

Helping Attitude among NSS Volunteers and Non-Volunteer Adolescent Students

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the differences in the helping attitudes of adolescent students. Samples were selected through purposive sampling. The samples were adolescent students. The primary aim is to know about the effect of volunteerism on helping attitudes. The secondary aim is to know about gender differences in helping attitudes. Samples of volunteering students were taken from NSS volunteers of different higher secondary schools in the Thrissur district of Kerala, non-volunteering students were also taken from the same institutes. Samples consist of 200 higher secondary school students 100 from the male and female population, also 100 each from volunteering and non-volunteering students. The prediction was adolescent male students and adolescent female students show a significant difference in helping attitudes. And also, volunteering and non-volunteering adolescent shows deference in helping attitude. The scale used to measure helping attitude is Gary S. Nickell Helping Attitude scale (HAS). The data were subjected to Mean and ANOVA. The study revealed that female adolescents possess a better helping attitude than male adolescents. It was also found that volunteering adolescent students and non-volunteering adolescent students do not differ significantly on helping attitude. Also found that volunteering and non-volunteering female adolescent students have better helping attitudes as compared to volunteering/non-volunteering male counterparts. NSS volunteers are expected to have more positive attitudes, thus results show no difference between common students and volunteers, so implementing pieces of training for NSS volunteers for making them more prosocial is needed.

Keywords: *Helping attitude, NSS volunteers, Male, Female, Adolescent*

Human life is a mixture of both negative and positive aspects and traits. Positive aspects include a positive attitude, love, happiness, courage, joy, etc. these positive traits may determine our role in our lives. Because it helps us to cope more easily with lifestyle and makes it easier to avoid worry and negative thinking. With a positive attitude, one can see the brilliant side of life, become optimistic, and expect the simplest to happen. Positive emotions, strengths, and virtues provide us a guide for building a good life. But thing is that the image of early research work on psychology is reflected a really poor

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picture. Because, it has been seen that the study of positive emotions, strengths, and virtues are avoided in comparison to stress, frustration, depression, etc. So the studies in the field of psychology has lost its balance. But though studies have been conducted on the helping attitude or altruism of students thus providing scope for studying the thought process of the Keralite students. There was a study prompted how gender affects helping attitude O' Bryant and Brophy (1976) reported that 11 years old girls helped a younger child with a task significantly more than 11 years old boys did. S. Karin & Moely,(1976) found the effect of gender on altruistic behavior of 192 males and females and found that females generally obtained higher altruism scores than males. Later studies were Nadler et. al. (1979) assessed attitudes of social responsibility and prosocial behavior and found that females had higher social responsibility scores and gave more help than males. Girls tend to be viewed as more altruistic than boys by peers and teachers Block, 1973; Berman, 1980; Hartmann, & Gelfand, 1981; Eisenberg & Lennon, 1983). There were studies done based on socio-economic status done by Vandana Sharma in 1990. A study was conducted Helping attitude of professional and non-professional college students Hafsah Jan Research Scholar, School of Education & Behavioral Sciences, University of Kashmir, Jammu & Kashmir, India. Its results reveal that females pose high helping attitude than men in both sectors From such studies and conclusion, the current study aims to how male and female students differ in helping attitudes, also based on whether the adolescent student is an NSS volunteer or not.

Therefore, it is predicted that females pose a high helping attitude, also NSS volunteers are expected to have a high helping attitude as they are more volunteering for the betterment of society.

So the questions that arise are, is there is any difference between helping attitudes of NSS volunteers and non-NSS volunteers of adolescent students. The second question is that is there is any difference in helping attitudes of male and female adolescent students.

Objectives

1. To find and compare helping attitudes of NSS-volunteers and non-NSS volunteers of adolescent students
2. To find and compare helping attitudes of male and female adolescent students

Hypothesis

1. NSS volunteers and non-NSS volunteers differ significantly concerning helping attitude
2. Male and female adolescent students differ significantly concerning helping attitude

METHODOLOGY

Participants

Participants include 200 adolescent students from different schools of the Thrissur district. 50 of them were male NSS volunteers, 50 of them were female NSS volunteers, 50 were common female students, and the rest 50 were common male students.

Materials

Helping Attitude scale (HAS) developed by Gary S. Nickell, Minnesota State University Moorhead. The scale has both positive and negative statements. Items at serial no.1,5,8,11,18,19 are negative, others are positive (14). the positive statements are scored as 1,2,3,4,5 & for negative statements it is reversed as 5,4,3,2,1. Next, sum up all the scores to obtain the total HAS score. The range of score on this scale extended from 20 to 100 with 60

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as the neutral score. The reliability coefficient of the original scale were 0.85 that was calculated by test re-test method.

Sample

The sample for the present study consists of 200 adolescent students from different schools of the Thrissur district. 50 of them were male NSS volunteers, 50 of them were female NSS volunteers, 50 were common female students, and the rest 50 were common male students.

Procedure

To achieve the objectives of the present study, The investigator visited the various school students of Thrissur District and collected the data. After the establishing proper rapport, the investigator had handed over the Helping Attitude Scales was administered to students to access their Helping Attitude scores. They were requested to read the instructions carefully. After the completion of the task, the investigator collected the response sheets from the responders.

Statistical techniques

The data collected were subjected to the following statistical treatment

- Mean, S.D., ANOVA

RESULTS

Table 1: comparison of the helping attitudes of NSS volunteers and non-NSS volunteers of adolescent students

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
NSS VOLUNTEERS	100	85.94	8.368
COMMON STUDENTS	100	86.33	8.067
Total	200	86.14	8.200

ANOVA

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	7.605	1	7.605	.113	.738
Within Groups	13373.750		198		
Total	13381.355		199		

Table 1 shows that mean of helping attitudes of NSS volunteers is 85.94 and S.D. of 8.368, same of common students (non-NSS volunteer adolescent) was 86.33 and S.D. of 8.067. Here the F-value is .113 and significance is .738, So it is not significant in 0.05 level of significance. So there is not much difference is not there in terms of helping attitudes of NSS volunteers and non-volunteer students.

Thus the hypothesis 1: “NSS volunteers and non-NSS volunteers differ significantly concerning helping attitude” is rejected.

Table 2: comparison of helping attitudes among male and female adolescent students

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
MALE	100	81.97	8.146
FEMALE	100	90.30	5.811
Total	200	86.14	8.200

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ANOVA

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	69.445	1	69.445	69.306	.000
Within Groups	9911.910		198		
Total	13381.355		199		

Table 2 shows that mean of helping attitudes of male adolescent was 81.97 and S.D. of 8.146, same of female adolescent students are 90.30 and S.D. of 5.811.

Here the F-value is 69.306 and significance is .000, So it is significant in 0.05 level of significance. So, there is a difference is there in terms of helping attitudes of male and female adolescent students.

Thus hypothesis 2: "Male and female adolescent students differ significantly concerning helping attitude" is accepted.

DISCUSSION

The present study is concerned to undertake an evaluation of NSS volunteering/non-volunteer and male and female adolescent students helping attitude. one of the studies conducted on the same variable is done by Hafsa Jan of the university of Kashmir (2017) which was done on basis of gender and nature of course they are, professional/nonprofessional courses. Results have shown that professional females have better-helping attitudes. Also, it concludes that type, of course, does not affect positive or altruistic qualities, but gender does. The findings of the current study agree with the findings of Hafsa Jan that male and female adolescents do differ in terms of helping attitudes, but being an NSS volunteer or common student does not have much effect on the helping attitude.

The results show that NSS volunteers and non-volunteers show not many differences in terms of helping attitudes. Volunteers of the community that works for the betterment of society expected to have more altruistic behavior but results, don't prove so.

CONCLUSION

Gender plays a role in positive emotions like a helping attitude. We can say females are more positive than males. Volunteerism does not affect such emotions, as the results say NSS volunteers and non-volunteering students differ too little in terms of helping attitudes.

Limitations

The sample size was small. The geographical area selected was not appropriate for representation, As NSS is a platform where students from different parts of India are working for a common goal, the selected sample can not be generalized

Recommendations

The sample size to be increased A wide geographical area is to be considered for data collection.

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Conflict of Interest

The author(s) declared no conflict of interest.

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