

A Comparative Study of Self-Concept of Male and Female Secondary Students of Panipat District

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ABSTRACT

Man is considered to be superior to other living beings. The context of self and identity relates to the environment around us. As man comes out of his childhood, that is, grows up, his self develops. He becomes aware of the environment around him. The context of human self-concept is always related to his parents, guardians, teachers, friends etc. He reacts, interacts etc., he experiences and these experiences give him meaning and these experiences become the basis of his self, due to which his self-reflecting images are formed. The present study aimed to compare the self-concept of the difference between male and female secondary students of Panipat district. For the present study, descriptive survey method was used. Fifty secondary students were selected randomly from various secondary schools of Panipat District. The number of male and female secondary students kept the same. For measurement of self-concept, Self-Concept Questionnaire (SCQ) by Dr. Raj Kumar Saraswat was administered to all fifty students. After the analysis, the result showed a high level of self-concept in both groups and no significant difference in self-concept of male and female secondary students of Panipat district. Thus, the study found the same level of self-concept in male and female secondary students.

Keywords: *Secondary Students, Self-concept, Male and female etc.*

In this materialistic world, there are many living beings. Every living being has its own existence. Keeps it moving towards the climax of its development process of evolution. Each living being keeps moving according to its own particularity. Man is considered the highest and best in terms of development in life. It is believed that the powers of thought and wisdom are prevalent in the human beings which makes them superior and superior to others. Like others in the continuous stream of development, human beings are also constantly moving in the continuous process of development, self or atman is at the centre point.

The word self-concept is made up of two words – self + concept in which the meaning of self is – whatever one is. Self is a 'complex totality' that develops as a result of social interactions. Self-concept simply means a perception or idea about oneself. It is a person's

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view or perception of himself. In fact, self-concept is the sum total of all that he can call his own. "All of them" refers to the perceptions, beliefs and values that one sees as part of one's own characteristics.

There are three components of self-concept:

- **Perception Factor**
- **Predictive Component**
- **Attitude Factor**

1. Perceptual component – It is the mental image of a person about his appearance, body and his effect on others. It is also often referred to as the physical self.

2. Perceptual Factor- It is the perception of the individual about his/her unique characteristics, his/her abilities, and disqualifications. It is made up of honesty, self-confidence, self-reliance, courage and their opposing qualities. It is also called psychological self-concept.

3. Attitude Factor- It is the person's feelings about himself, his attitude towards his present situation and possibilities. Simultaneously, it is the feeling of his importance and attitude towards his self-respect, humiliation, pride and shame, beliefs, values, ideals, aspirations and commitments that form his philosophy of life.

Modern studies have revealed that there can be four classes of self-concept:-

- i. Basic self-concept** – It is the concept of the individual about himself as he is. This includes concepts about his appearance, thoughts about his abilities and disqualifications, his roles and positions in life, situations, his values, beliefs and aspirations, etc.
- ii. Temporary self-concept** – These are temporary perceptions of a person about himself.
- iii. Social self-concept** – It is the perception of other persons towards an individual. A person becomes what people think of him.
- iv. Ideal-self-concept** – This is the self-concept of the person one wants to be. Thinking and perception about what he wants to become in future comes under this.

Statement of the Problem

A Comparative Study of Self Concept of Male and Female Secondary Students of Panipat District.

REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

- **Bala, Indu et al. (2021)** studied relationship between self-concept and life style of adolescents. The study revealed positive relationship between self-concept and life style. It means those who were at high level of self-concept were also at moderate above average life style.
- **Gayen and Behera (2018)** conducted empirical study on self-concept of post-graduation students and found that there is no significant difference exists between male and female, Rural and Urban with reference to self-concept. The study also revealed that there is significant difference exists on the basis of social class, religion and Stream with regards to self-concept.
- **Maheswari, K.K. & Singh, J.G.P. (2014)** conducted a research study on self-concept among rural girl students. The research study attempted to know perceived level of self-concept among the rural girl students in Pennagaram Block of Dharmapuri District. The study revealed that more than half (56.5%) of the respondents had high

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self-concept. As per the findings it is assumed that no socio-demographic variable has stimulated over the respondent's self-concept except the course of study.

- **Adebule (2014)** conducted study and found out if location of school influenced self-concept of students. The findings exposed that self-concept did not influence academic performance of students. It was recommended that parents, teachers and school counsellors should not rate academic performance of students based on their self-concept.
- **Kumari & Chamundeswari (2013)** have found positive relationship between academic achievement and self-concept of students at the higher secondary level.
- **Loona, Archana & Indu (2012)** studied relationship between self-concept and intelligence of secondary school students and found that there was no significant relationship between self-concept and intelligence of urban and rural secondary school students
- **Rath & Nanda (2012)** found that academically proficient adolescents have greater physical, moral, personal, domestic, social and overall self-concept than less-proficient ones.

Justification of the Study

Secondary students are at a journey to adulthood. This is the age when along with physical a lot of psychological changes are also taking place. These changes help in forming the future personality of them. This is considered as a crucial period for an individual to discover his or her identity, i.e., who am I and who I will become. From the review of the related literature, it is clear that not so many studies have been conducted in India especially with secondary school students. There is need to conduct more research on self-concept to add to the pool of knowledge and to strengthen and provide clarity in this regard. Although studies have been conducted to find the difference with respect to government and private schools, none of the studies have included secondary students. There is very less agreement on the findings and hence the investigator has decided to conduct investigation with this topic.

Objectives of the Study

To compare the self-concept of male and female secondary students of Panipat district.

Hypothesis of the Study

There is no significant difference between self-concept of male and female secondary students of Panipat district.

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

Descriptive survey method was used for the present study

Sample of the Study

The researcher selected 50 secondary students from Panipat District.

Tool of the Study

Self-Concept Questionnaire (SCQ) by Dr. Raj Kumar Saraswat

Statistical Techniques Used

For the present study, the following statistical techniques were used:

- Mean
- Standard Deviation
- Significance of difference between means (t-test)

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Delimitations of the Study

- The study was delimited to 50 secondary students of Panipat district only.
- The study was delimited to tool used only.

Analysis and Interpretation

Table- 1 Mean, Standard Deviation and t-value of self-concept of male and female secondary students

Gender	N	Mean	S.D.	t-value
Male	25	130.65	15.96	0.312*
Female	25	129.15	21.96	

*Not significant

The objective of the study was to compare the self-concept of male and female secondary students of Panipat district. And the t-value indicated that there was no significant difference between self-concept of male and female secondary students as the t value was **0.312** which was not significant at any level of significance.

CONCLUSION OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this study is to compare the self-concept of male and female secondary students of Panipat district. A total of 50 secondary students were taken randomly. The present study shows that there is an insignificant difference between self-concept of male and female secondary students. It means the level of self-concept between male and female secondary students is the same with a high level of self-concept.

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Conflict of Interest

The author(s) declared no conflict of interest.

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