

Effect of Gender and Residential Area Upon Cyber Crime Awareness

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ABSTRACT

Cybercrime is a crime in which computer and network are necessary. Finding any computer at a criminal place or commitment of any crime through computer is called cyber crime. Network is involved in computer crime. Obtaining and misusing someone's personal information. Taking away or stealing someone's personal information from the computer is also a cyber crime. The present study aims to find out the effect of types of gender and types of residential area upon cyber crime awareness of adolescents. The study sample comprised of 100 adolescents, who have been selected with the help of randomized sampling technique from various villages and cities of Almora district of Uttarakhand. Out of 100 adolescents 50 were boys (25 rural and 25 urban) and 50 adolescents were girls (25 rural and 25 urban). The age range of the sample was between 13 to 20 years of age. For the collection of data on Cyber crime awareness "Cybercrime awareness scale" constructed and validated by Rajasekar S. (2011) has been used. The finding of the study shows that (i) there is no significant effect of gender upon cyber crime awareness of adolescent. Both girls and boys have shown almost equal level of cyber crime awareness. (ii) There is a significant effect of type of residential area (urban and rural) upon cyber crime awareness of adolescents. In the study cyber crime awareness level of urban adolescents was found higher than the rural adolescents. (iii) The interaction effect of types of gender and residential area upon cyber crime awareness of adolescents was not found significant. Both groups' adolescents (gender and residential area) have shown almost equal level of cyber crime awareness levels.

Keywords: *Cyber Crime, Residential Area, Awareness*

Cybercrime is a crime in which computer and network are necessary. Finding any computer at a criminal place or commitment any crime through computer is called cyber crime. Network is involved in computer crime. Obtaining and misusing someone's personal information. Taking away or stealing someone's personal information from the computer is also a cyber crime. In 2018, a study by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), in partnership with McAfee, concludes that nearly one percent of global GDP, close to \$600 billion, is lost to cybercrime each year. The World Economic Forum 2020 Global Risk report confirmed that organized cybercrimes bodies are joining forces to perpetrate criminal activities online while estimating the likelihood of their detection and prosecution to be less than 1 percent in the US.

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Types of Cyber Crime –

There are many types of cyber crimes committed by individuals. Some of the main ones are as follows -

- **Spam email** - There are many types of emails on the person's email, including such emails which only harm the computer. Those emails cause the whole computer to malfunction.
- **Hacking** - Hacking into someone's personal information, such as extracting or altering username or password and other personal information.
- **Virus spreading** - Cybercriminals send some software to a person's computer in which viruses can be hidden, these include viruses, worms, trojan horses, logic horses, etc.
- **Software piracy** - Copying software and selling it at cheap prices also comes under cybercrime, due to which software companies have to suffer heavy losses as well as the valuable equipment of the people also does not work properly.
- **Fake Bank Calls** - People receive fake emails, messages or phone calls that look like a genuine call from their respective bank. In which people are told that your ATM number and password are required and if you do not give this information, then your account will be closed.
- **Cyber Bullying** - Making indecent comments on social networking like Facebook, making threats on the Internet, making fun of someone to such a level that it becomes annoying, embarrassing in front of others on the Internet, it is called cyber bullying. Mainly children and women are its victims. This adversely affects their physical and mental health.

REVIEW OF RELATED STUDIES

Studies related to the effect of types of gender and residential area on cyber crime awareness of adolescent-

Firdous A. (2019) conducted a research on cyber crime awareness among adolescent in district Kupwara of North Kashmir. Results revealed significant difference between male and female adolescents on their level of cybercrime awareness. Male adolescents were observed with high level of cybercrime awareness as compared to female adolescents. Jazeel (2018) conducted a research to compare awareness of cybercrime among teacher trainees in Addalaichenai Government teachers college. The results revealed a significant difference between Cyber-crime Awareness of male and female students and rural and urban students as well. In the research cyber crime awareness level of girls has found to be higher than boys and the cyber crime awareness level of urban have found to be higher than rural students. Joshi A and Kandpal S. (2020) aimed to explore the cyber crime awareness among adolescents with respect to their gender and locality. Results revealed that there is no significant difference towards cybercrime awareness among adolescents with respect to their gender and locality.

Kumaravelu (2018) aimed at exploring the awareness of cyber crime among B.Ed. teacher trainees in puducherry region. Results revealed a significant difference in Cyber-crime Awareness of male and female students. Boys were found to be at higher level of cyber crime awareness than girls. In the research a significant difference between cyber crime awareness of rural and urban students have been found. The cyber crime awareness level of urban students was found to be higher than rural students. Suvera P. and Tailor P. R. (2020) conducted a research cyber-crime awareness: a comparative study of male and female B.Ed. trainees. The results revealed a significant difference between cyber-crime awareness of

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male and female B.Ed. Trainees. There is significant difference between cyber-crime awareness of rural and urban B.Ed. Trainees. Swamy D. (2018) aimed at exploring the awareness of cyber crime among teenagers. The result indicated that teenagers using internet has less knowledge about cyber crime. Even they are doing some type of cyber crime without knowledge. Thakur, Anchal and Tejpreet Kaur T. (2018) conducted a study gender and locale differences in cyber crime awareness among adolescents. Results revealed that in cyber crime awareness gender differences were found to be significant among rural boys and girls whereas non-significant differences were seen among urban boys and girls. Significant locale differences existed between rural and urban adolescents.

Objectives

Following objects have been framed for the study-

- To find out the effect of gender upon cyber crime awareness of adolescents.
- To find out the effect of residential area upon cyber crime awareness of adolescents.
- To find out the interaction effect of types of gender and residential area upon cyber crime awareness of adolescents.

Hypothesis

Following hypotheses have been framed for the study-

- There will be no significant effect of gender upon cyber crime awareness of adolescent.
- There will be no significant effect of residential area upon cyber crime awareness of adolescents.
- There would be no significant interaction effect of types of gender and residential area upon cyber crime awareness of adolescents.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

In this research 2x2 factorial design has been adopted with 2 types of gender (girls and boys) and 2 types of residential area (rural and urban).

Sample

The total sample comprised of 100 adolescents. Who have been selected with the help of randomized sampling technique from various villages and cities of Almora district of Uttarakhand. Out of 100 adolescences 50 were boys (25 rural and 25 urban) and 50 adolescences were girls (25 rural and 25 urban). The age range of the sample was between 13 to 20 years of age.

Sources of the data

For the study, only primary data was used. The data required for the study was collected using questionnaires that were distributed among the sample chosen from the population of adolescent school students in Almora District of Uttarakhand.

Tools used

For the collection of data "Cybercrime awareness scale" constructed and validated by Rajasekar S. (2011) has been used. The scale has total 36 items. 21 are positive and 15 are negative items. Each statement have five options, namely "Strongly Agree", "Agree", "Undecided", "Disagree", "Strongly Disagree". The responses of the subjects were scored by assigning numerical values or arbitrary weights to the two set of items as the statements

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showing positive and the statements showing negative. The positive statements having the scoring as 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1 and for the responses from “strongly agree” to “strongly disagree” and it has been reversed for the negative statements i.e., 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 for the responses “strongly agree” to “strongly disagree”. Also, there are 21 positive statements and 15 are negative statements. The construct validity of the scale was found to be 0.87 and reliability was determined by using the Spearman-Brown prophecy formula, was found to be 0.76.

Statistical Treatment

After collection of data, Mean and two way ANOVA have been calculated to identify the significant difference between means of the groups.

RESULT

Findings have been summarized in the table-1. Table shows the F-value of type of gender and residing area on cyber crime awareness.

Table: 1– Level of Cyber Crime Awareness of adolescences:

Source	Sum of Squares	d.f.	Mean Square	F
Types of gender (Girls / Boys)	136.894	1	136.894	1.44 (NS)
Types of residential area (rural and urban)	937.288	1	937.288	9.89** (S)
Types of gender × Types of residential area	53.770	1	53.770	.56 (NS)
Within group	9093.931	96	94.728	
Total	1651725.449	100		

**significant at the 0.01 Level

Table- 1

A close perusal of the table-1 shows that (i) The difference between types of gender (Girl and boys) was not found significant even at 0.05 level of confidence, ($F = 1.44, P > .05$). The hypothesis that there will be no significant effect of gender upon cyber crime awareness of adolescent is accepted. (ii) The difference between types of residential area (urban and rural) was also found significant even at 0.01 level of confidence, ($F = 9.89, P > .01$). The hypothesis that there will be no significant effect of residential area upon cyber crime awareness of adolescents is rejected. (iii) The interaction effect of types of gender (girls and boys) and residential area (urban and rural) was also not found significant even at 0.05 level of confidence, ($F = .56, P > .05$). The hypothesis that there would be no significant interaction effect of types of gender and residential area upon cyber crime awareness of adolescents is accepted.

Table 2:- showing the mean values of type of gender and residing area on cyber crime awareness

Cyber Crime Awareness		Residential Area	
		Urban	Rural
Gender	Girls	129.27	124.62
	Boys	133.08	125.49

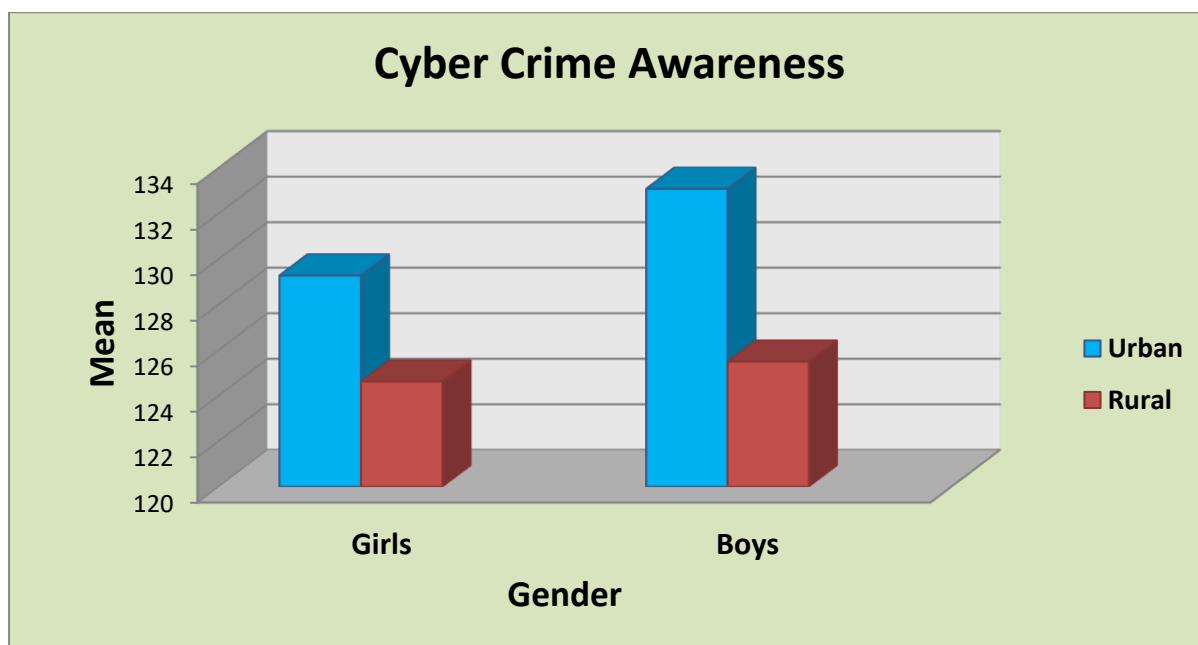


Diagram-1

DISCUSSION

In this research, an attempt has been made to measure the level of cyber crime awareness among adolescents on the basis of gender and residential area. In our study the effect of gender was not found significant. Adolescents of Both genders (girls and boys) have shown almost equal level of cyber crime awareness. Our results are similar with the results of **Singh J. (2013)** who has found no significant role of gender on cyber crime awareness of XII class students. So, in the research the gender was not found significant affecter of cyber crime awareness level of adolescent. In our study the effect of types of residential area (urban and rural) was found significant.

In the study cyber crime awareness level of urban adolescents was found higher than the rural adolescents. Our results are similar with that of **Kumaravelu (2018)** who have found significant difference between cyber-crime awareness of rural and urban students. In the study the cyber crime awareness level of urban students was found to be higher than rural students. In our study the interaction effect of types of gender and residential area upon cyber crime awareness of adolescents was not found significant. Both groups' adolescents (gender and residential area) have shown almost equal level of cyber crime awareness. There can be many reasons for such results, as at present there is no discrimination between boys and girls, both are given the right to education equally. Uniform resources are provided. Both have the same knowledge of modernization and technology. But on the contrary, there is a difference in facilities in rural and urban areas. There is proper arrangement of facilities in urban areas, there are adequate educational institutions, technical facilities and their knowledge is available. On the contrary, there is a lack of facilities in rural areas. There is a sufficient lack of educational institutions and technical knowledge, as a result of which they lack adequate knowledge of technical facilities and necessary awarene ss related to them.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the findings the researcher concluded that there was no significant effect of type of gender (girls and boys) upon cyber crime awareness of adolescent and significant effect of types of residential area (urban and rural) upon cyber crime awareness of

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adolescent. In the study no significant interaction effect of type of gender and residential area upon cyber crime awareness were found among adolescents.

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Conflict of Interest

The author declared no conflict of interests.

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