



# ATTITUDE OF B.ED STUDENT TEACHERS TOWARDS TEACHING PROFESSION\*

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## ABSTRACT

Attitudes are considered important predictors of behaviors. It is, therefore, essential to understand student teachers' attitudes and the factors influencing them in order to provide opportunities for desired behaviors in the classroom. Teaching being a dynamic activity requires a favourable attitude and certain specific competencies from its practitioners. Teachers' proficiency depends on the attitude he/she possesses for the profession. The positive attitude helps teacher to develop a conducive learner friendly environment in the classroom. This also casts a fruitful effect on learning of the students. Attitude being a social construct is influenced by many factors like gender social strata, age, stream of education and previous experience of the job. What bearing the gender and stream of education has on the attitude of student teachers towards teaching profession to throw light on this a study was conducted using a readymade tool. Study of different categories like male and female science stream, male and female social science stream. In a sample of 100 students ninety-five students responded. The mean scores were considered and 't' value was calculated to find the difference in the attitude of different categories towards teaching profession.

**Keywords: Attitude, Behavior, teaching proficiency, student teachers.**

## **INTRODUCTION:**

People's attitude towards profession has an effect on their performances. This holds true for the teaching profession also. Attitude is a dynamic entity which is subject to change. Interaction with the immediate environment or experience gained through social settings help in formation or modification of the attitude. Allport (1935) defined attitude as a "mental and neural state-of readiness, organized through experience, exerting a directive and dynamic influence upon individual's response to all the objects with which it is related." Attitude is a

multidimensional predisposition. Intensity, direction, extensity and duration are the dimensions influencing attitude. Direction of attitude determines whether individual is for or against any object/event while intensity depicts the strength of feelings or emotions. Duration implies the time period for which an individual displays a particular attitude towards an object/event. Individual's observable behavior defines attitude,

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:**

- To determine the attitude of male and female science stream student teachers towards teaching profession.
- To find out the attitude of male and female social science stream student teachers towards teaching profession.

### **HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY:**

- There is no difference in the attitude of male and female science stream student teachers towards teaching profession.
- There is no difference in the attitude of male and female social science stream student teachers towards teaching profession.

### **METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY:**

To assess the attitude of student teachers towards teaching profession the teacher attitude inventory developed by Dr. S. P. Ahluwalia has been used as a tool.

#### **POPULATION:**

All student teachers of B.Ed. programmes Nutana college of education, Davangere.

#### **SAMPLE SIZE:**

For the present study the sample size remains restricted to one hundred. Four students were absent, so only ninety-six students responded. All student teachers belonged to the same college purposive stratified sampling is done by the researcher. Sample categorized for the study is as science stream (male & female), social science stream (male and female).

#### **TOOL USED:**

The teacher attitude inventory is a ninety item likert instrument consisting of six subscales. Each subscale has fifteen statements that pertain to a particular aspect of prospective and practicing teacher's professional attitudes. The six aspects dealt with in the inventory are attitude towards teaching profession, class room teaching, child centered practices, educational process, pupils and teachers. Out of ninety items fifty-six are in positive

declarative form and thirty-four of them are in negative form. Forty-three items are meant to assess attitude in favourable direction and forty-six in unfavorable direction. Likert continuum strongly, agree, undecided, disagree and strongly disagree has been provided for each item. The subjects responded by putting tick mark in the chosen alternative against the serial number of the attitude statement in the answer sheet. Though no time limit was assigned for recording responses on the answering Performa, yet student teachers were asked to complete it as soon as possible. Once the exercise was over the different categories were sorted out like male/female and science/social science.

### **ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA:**

- **HYPOTHESES: There is no difference in the attitude of male and female science stream student teachers towards teaching profession.**

**Table: 1**

#### **Aggregate score of student teachers Science stream**

	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>263.00</b>	<b>272.57</b>
<b>Variance</b>	<b>203.143</b>	<b>380.53</b>
<b>SD</b>	<b>14.64</b>	<b>21.07</b>
<b>Observations</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>07</b>
<b>'t'</b>	<b>-1.196 (NS)</b>	
<b>NS: Non significant</b>		

**Analysis: The Set 1 shows the scores of science group. In this group twenty-one female and seven males are present. Attitude of both the groups towards teaching profession was analyzed using t test to study significant difference between both the groups. The results show no significant difference between both the groups.**

**HYPOTHESES: There is no difference in the attitude of male and female social science stream student teachers towards teaching profession.**

**Table: 2**

#### **Aggregate score of student teachers Social Science stream**

	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>278.74</b>	<b>270</b>
<b>Variance</b>	<b>131.878</b>	<b>347</b>
<b>SD</b>	<b>11.80</b>	<b>20.41</b>
<b>Observations</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>06</b>
<b>'t'</b>	<b>-1.0856 (NS)</b>	

**NS: Non-Significant**

**Analysis: t score is non-significant at 5% level. It shows that no difference in attitude towards teaching profession is present between Male & Female in Social Science group.**

**DISCUSSION:**

Studies reviewed on attitude towards teaching profession reveal that attitude towards teaching profession are a significant predictor of teaching efficiency. Some studies indicate that female teachers possess a high degree of attitude than male teachers and teachers with positive attitudes tend to encourage their students. The analysis of data of present study depicts that attitude towards teaching profession of student teachers of science (male & female) as well as social science stream do not show significant difference (Table: 1&2). However, studies conducted by Rawat and Sreevastava (1984) found Significant difference between male and female teacher trainees' attitude towards teaching profession. While Balan (1996) reported no significant gender difference in the attitude towards teaching of student teachers.

Hypotheses i, ii, are accepted as no difference of attitude towards teaching profession was observed in student teachers of science (male & female) and social science stream(male&female).

**CONCLUSION:**

Attitude being a dynamic entity gets influenced by variables like age, previous experience, beliefs, gender and stream of education. New teachers enter the teacher training program with already established beliefs but Pre-service teacher training programmers help in shaping the attitude of teacher trainees by providing a series of experiences incorporated in their curriculum. A positive attitude towards teaching profession can bring the desired quality in the education sector by developing sense of duty, professional competence and by giving them an insight of the student's needs and problems. This area can be further explored by the researchers.

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