



ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND ATTITUDE AMONG B.ED TEACHER TRAINEES OF MYSORE CITY – A STUDY

Dr. Venkatesha. H. S.

Guest Faculty in Education

Department of Studies in Education

University of Mysore, Manasagangothri,

Mysuru – 570006, Karnataka, India

Cell No. 09036290784 / 09036345670

Email ID: drvenkateshahsv500@gmail.com

Abstract

It is recognized to all that environment theaters the most vital role in healthy living. But nowadays the environment is under hazard due to rapid industrialization, unnecessary use of non-environment friendly materials, urbanization and over misuse of natural resources. All human being living on this ground should be concerned about this condition. For this numerous campaigns are going on universally to create awareness amongst individuals to save our mother nature from obliteration. B.Ed. teacher trainees are the upcoming makers of coming generations. So B.Ed. teacher trainees should be appropriately aware about environment and environmental matters. They should have appropriate knowledge about environmental education only then they can instruct environmental awareness amongst their trainees. The present study aims to measure the variance between male and female of B.Ed teacher trainees with respect to their Environmental awareness and attitude towards environment. The researcher selected 240 samples of B.Ed. teacher trainees giving representation to gender (Female/Male). The result revealed that there is a significant difference between male and female B.Ed teacher trainees towards both environmental awareness and attitude; male teacher trainee's shows more awareness than female teacher trainees; there is a highly significant difference between science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees towards environmental attitude and environmental awareness.

Keywords: Environmental awareness, environmental education, environmental attitude

Introduction

Environment under treat locally, nationally and globally has become a concern of all the academicians intellectuals, scientists and government across the continent environmental education is the education about environment in which the relevant details regarding construction of various aspects of environment and their inter-relationship become a content of the study.

Teacher trainees are the future teachers they play major role in providing environmental education so in order to develop awareness among student teacher. Environmental education is a compulsory subject for all the students to know the effective implementation of the environmental concepts of B.Ed curriculum to make the teacher trainees aware of environmental pollution and its courses to make the teacher trainees to develop eco-friendly approach and attitude to develop skill attitude and good values for environmental awareness among B.Ed teacher trainees, this study is essential.

Significance of the study

Environmental education states to prearranged efforts to teach how usual environments function and particularly how human beings can accomplish behavior and ecosystems to live sustainably. The UNESCO states that environmental education is energetic in communicating an inherent respect for nature between society and in changing public environmental awareness; according to UNESCO, "Environmental education is a technique of implementing the goals of environmental fortification."

The role of teacher is very significant in nation creation. They play a vital role in forming, challenging and creating attitudes and values. A teacher is the friend, philosopher, and guide of the pupil; educating their students especially upcoming teachers about environments which is likely only when the teacher themselves have the essential level of environmental education awareness.

The results of the previous research related to the current study are presented here under.

Mercy Abraham and N. K. Arjunan (2003) according to this study only a minor proportion of high school students have high level of attention in environmental nature. Boys are more attentive in environmental substances compare to girls; Ekambaram G. and Nagaraja, B. (2010) in their study 'an analysis of level of environmental awareness: The case of forthcoming teachers', and found that: (a) the level of awareness varies in Science and Non-Science teachers. Science teachers were found with advanced level of environmental awareness associated to Non-Science teachers. (b) Gender variance also was originated in the level of awareness. The consequences of the analysis show that level of environmental awareness was advanced among female sample teachers associated to male sample teachers; Ajay Kumar, (2010) revealed that the environmental awareness of future teachers of Himachal Pradesh leftovers between same. While they remained studying Education for Human Value, Environment, and Human Rights as necessary subject during their B.Ed. course. Wongchantra and Nuangchalerm (2011) exposed that female students had advanced score of environmental knowledge, and environmental beliefs than those of male pupils; Suhane (2012) observed an important difference in environmental ethics between male in-service teachers, and female in-service teachers. Anjali Suhane (2012) observed an insignificant difference in environmental ethics between male teacher instructors and female teacher instructors; Hadi and Sakari, (2013) difference between Awareness, Knowledge, and Attitudes towards Environmental Education among high School Students in Malaysia. The consequence of environmental education is well known worldwide among societies; Deb Dutta Pal Chowdhury (2022) in his study revealed that, there is no significant difference in environmental awareness between female and male B.Ed students of Kolkata.

In opinion of above observation it is found that few studies are made in the area of environmental education and had contradictions. Hence present study is a great consequence for preparation of state policies with regard to environmental education at pre-service teacher education levels. Further, it would be obliging to teachers and instructions designers. Hence, from above numerous points of view the current researched study seems to be significant and is value full for an in-dept. investigation.

Objectives

1. To study the difference between male and female of B.Ed teacher trainees with respect to their Environmental awareness in Mysore city.
2. To study the difference between male and female of B.Ed teacher trainees with respect to attitude towards environment in Mysore city.
3. To study the difference between science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees with respect to their Environmental awareness in Mysore city.
4. To study the difference between science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees with respect to attitude towards environment in Mysore city.

Hypothesis

1. There is no significant difference in environmental awareness among male and female B.Ed teacher trainees in Mysore city.
2. There is no significant difference in environmental attitude among B.Ed male and female teacher trainees in Mysore city.
3. There is no significant difference in environmental awareness among science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees in Mysore city.
4. There is no significant difference in environmental attitude among science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees in Mysore city.

Operational definitions of the key terms

- **Environmental attitude** – attitude is the mental set of an individual towards an object, event idea, or person. In the present study attitude towards environment is the mental disposition of a person towards environment.
- **Environmental awareness** – it is a process to acquire and understanding knowledge of inter-relationship, interactions and interdependent fancies existing between both the biological and physical aspects of the total environment.
- **B.Ed teacher trainees** – B.Ed (bachelor of education) teacher trainees are called as becoming teachers. So in order to develop awareness and eco-friendly nature of environmental among the students teacher first should process the attitude and awareness.

Methodology

➤ Variables

Dependent Variables

- Attitude towards environment
- Awareness towards environment

Independent Variables

- Gender
- Subjects were studied

➤ Design of the study

The present study is descriptive in nature. It is survey method as the investigator aims at studying 'Environmental awareness and attitude among B.Ed Teacher Trainees in Mysore city'.

➤ Sampling procedure

There were 9 B.Ed colleges in Mysore city. It was decided to select only 6 colleges purposively, out of which 3 Grant-in-aid colleges and 3 Private colleges. And all the B.Ed colleges of Mysore city constitute the population of this study, and the size of the sample was 240 B.Ed teacher trainees were selected by using stratified random sampling technique.

➤ Tools used

To study environmental awareness of B.Ed college teacher trainees, the investigator adopted **Environmental Awareness scale (EAS)** by Dr. Haseenthaj. This tool consists of 117 items divided in to 3 sections. First 66 items were multiple choice with four alternatives and second 35 items were true or false types. And last 16 items were fill-up the blanks by choosing from the key provided. The scoring procedure is very simple the correct answer was awarded '1' score and incorrect answer was scored as zero.

Taj **environmental attitude scale (EAS)** was used for environmental attitude tests following the likert's method rating procedure. This EAS was developed with 61 items consists of 6 areas they are population explosion, health and hygiene, pollutants, wild life, forest, environmental concern. Each item alternative is assigned of weightage ranging from 4-1 for favorable items. 4 for strongly agree and 1 for strongly disagree. In case of unfavorable items the scoring was reversed that is from 1-4.

➤ Statistical Techniques to analysis the data

In order to find out the significance of mean difference Mean, Standard deviation, t-test was employed.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

The data obtained through administration of the questionnaire on environmental awareness and attitude of B.Ed teacher trainees.

H1: There is no significant difference in environmental awareness among male and female B.Ed teacher trainees in Mysore city.

Table 1

Details of Mean difference between male and female B.Ed teacher trainees in Environmental awareness

Dependent Variables	Independent Variable	N	Mean	SD	't' test	Sig. level
Environmental awareness	Male	100	88.5	10.36	2.95	0.003
	female	139	54.0	12.69		

Figure 1
Mean difference between male and female in Environmental awareness

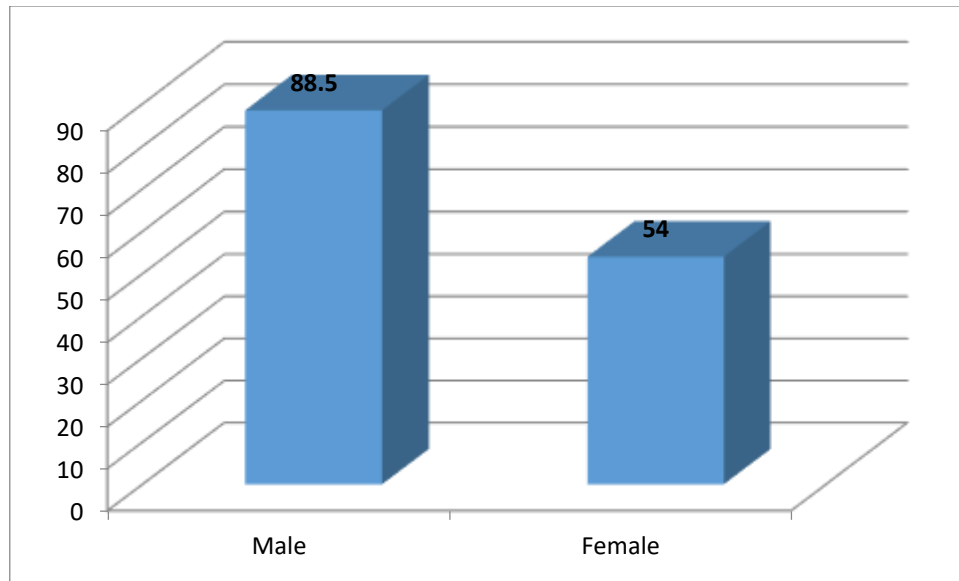


Table 1 and figure 1 clearly shows that, the mean score of male (88.5) and female (84.0) B.Ed teachers trainees towards environmental awareness and 't' values is 2.95 respectively. Supportingly comparing to table value the 't' value is very significant at both 0.05 and 0.01 levels. Henceforth male students have more aware about environment compare to female students. Hence the null hypotheses is rejected and stated that there is a significant difference between male and female B.Ed teacher trainees towards environmental awareness.

H2: There is no significant difference in environmental attitude among B.Ed male and female teacher trainees in Mysore city

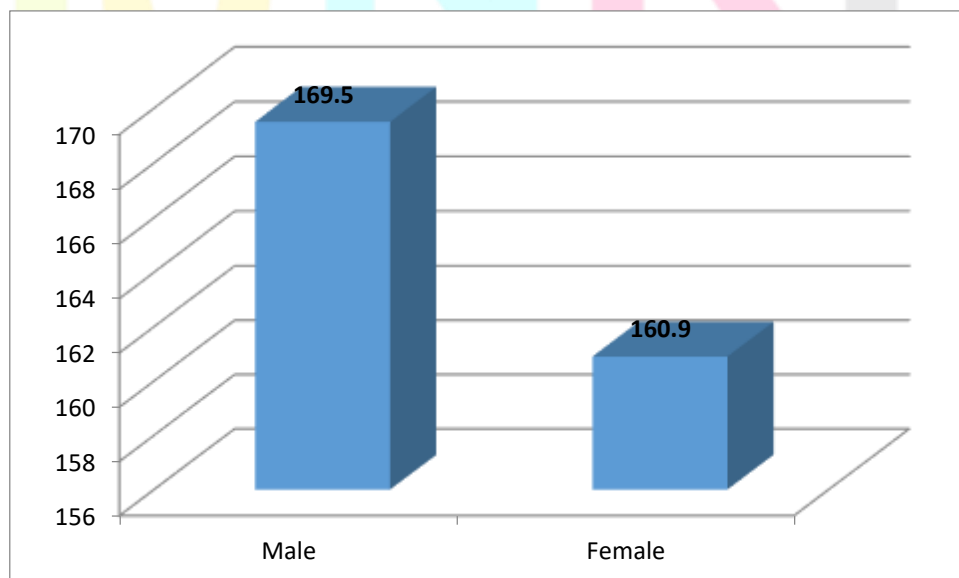
Table 2

Details of Mean difference between male and female B.Ed teacher trainees in Environmental attitude

Dependent Variables	Independent Variable	N	Mean	SD	't' test	Sig. level
Environmental attitude	Male	100	169.5	19.87	2.95	0.003
	female	139	160.9	23.83		

Figure 2

Mean difference between male and female in Environmental attitude



From the analysis of table 2 and figure 2, it was found that mean scores of those male (88.5) and female (84.0) B.Ed teacher trainees respectively. And the 't' value of environmental attitude is 2.95 which is greater than table value at both 0.05 and 0.01 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected and concluded that there is a significant difference between male and female in environmental attitudes of B.Ed teacher trainees.

H3: There is no significant difference in environmental awareness among science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees in Mysore city.

Table 3

Details of Mean difference between science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees in Environmental awareness

Dependent Variables	Independent Variable	N	Mean	SD	't' test	Sig. level
Environmental awareness	Science	111	92.20	32.20	8.98	0.000
	Arts	116	79.72	12.90		

Figure 3

Mean difference between science and arts in Environmental awareness

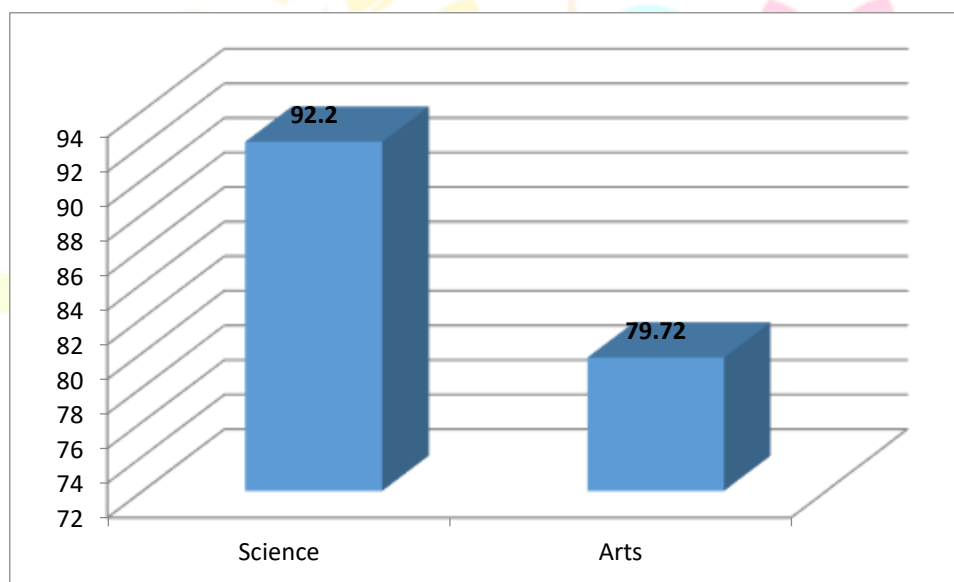


Table 3 and figure 3 shows that, the mean scores of arts (79.72) and science (92.20) students of B.Ed teacher trainees respectively. And the 't' value is 8.98 which is greater than table value at both 0.05 and 0.01 level. Hence compared to Arts students science students are high aware towards environment. So reject the hypotheses and concluded that there is a highly significant difference between science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees towards environmental awareness.

H4: There is no significant difference in environmental attitude among science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees in Mysore city.

Table 4

Details of Mean difference between science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees in Environmental attitude

Dependent Variables	Independent Variable	N	Mean	SD	't' test	Sig. level
Environmental attitude	Science	111	176.2	14.79	-8.61	0.000
	Arts	116	153.2	24.06		

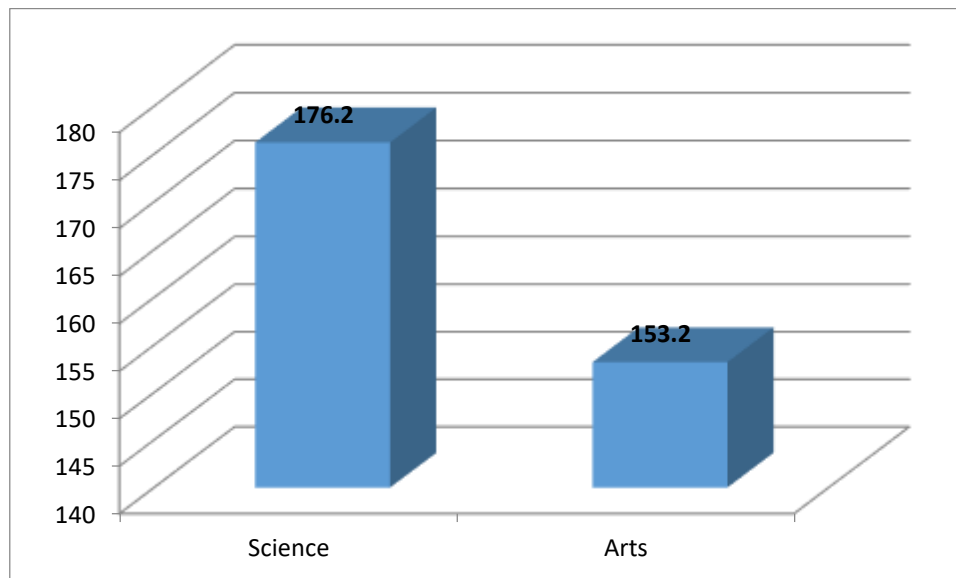
Figure 4**Mean difference between science and arts in Environmental attitude**

Table 4 and figure 4 revealed that, the mean score of science (176.2) and arts (153.2) B.Ed teacher trainees respectively. And the 't' value is -8.61 which is greater than the table value of both 0.05 (1.97) and 0.01(2.60) level. Henceforth the null hypotheses is rejected and concluded that there is a significant difference between science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees towards environmental attitude.

Major findings of the study

- ✚ There is a significant difference between male and female B.Ed teacher trainees towards environmental awareness; male teacher trainee's shows more awareness than female teacher trainees.
- ✚ There is a significant difference in environmental attitudes of both male and female B.Ed teacher trainees, male teacher trainee's shows more positive attitude towards environment than female teacher trainees.
- ✚ There is a highly significant difference between science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees towards environmental awareness, science students are more aware about environment than arts students.
- ✚ There is a highly significant difference between science and arts B.Ed teacher trainees towards environmental attitude.

Educational implications

- The result of the present study facilitates the educational planners to prepare appropriate teaching, learning materials in environmental education and to create environmental consciousness among teacher trainees.
- The curriculum planners may keep in mind the findings of study while developing the curriculum to difference groups of teachers about environment.
- By organizing different activities to promote awareness among pupil teachers and in-service teachers about environment. Some of these illustrative activities of projects are plantation making trees as friend, environmental club visit to slum areas participating in different programs of environmental protections and environmental campaign.
- The results help to improvising different audio visual aids, like charts, models, posters, slogans writing on environmental, environmental poetry, writing and preparation of transparencies.

Conclusion

The study has significant suggestions for teacher education colleges. The teacher education course should inspire teacher trainees to go beyond the school syllabus and establish tasks so that the pupils in school enjoy as they learn. Learning should be empirical almost in its whole. In order to save the atmosphere, everyone should show his/her accountability towards environment. To fulfill this impartial the not only school children but also at university students also should be educated through environmental education.

Therefore, the role of a teacher as an aware teacher trainee about the environment is very significant to build environmental responsibility. Teacher desires to play a great role in alerting students and changing the students' attitude so that they can performance in an Eco-friendly way. So, Environmental awareness development is necessity in the present scenario because the time will come quickly when the world will understand the importance of Environmental awareness for the reason of human wellbeing.

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