



## **A STUDY OF SOCIAL MATURITY OF SCHOOL STUDENTS**

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### **Abstract:**

*Social Maturity is the ability to function in an appropriate responsible manner. As adolescence is the age for an individual to express mature behavior. Social Maturity is an essential aspect for the individual as well as society. The present study was designed to investigate the social maturity of school students. For this purpose a total sample of 240 secondary and higher secondary students studying in 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> standard was taken on purposive basis from the schools in Tamilnadu. Out of which 91 were male and 149 were female. In order to collect the data Social Maturity scale by Nalini Rao's were administered on the participants. The coded data were entered in to Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) version 20 for analysis. Thus obtained data was analyzed using means, S.D', 't'-test and F test. The result revealed that there is significance difference towards social maturity of parental occupation of school students and there is no significance difference of social maturity of school students towards gender, location of school, mode of management, level of student, medium of instruction, parental qualification and no of siblings.*

### **Introduction:**

The social maturity has various aspects of social abilities as self-sufficiency, occupational activities, communication, self- direction and social participation. Raj, M. defines social maturity as the level of social skills and awareness that an individual has achieved relative to particular norms related to an age group. It is a measure of the development competence of an individual with regard to interpersonal relations, behavior appropriateness, social problem solving and judgment. Every child is unique in itself and has its own pace of growth and development. As the child grows up, his emotions and social functioning changes and continuous till adolescence. Adolescence is that critical period of human development during which rapid biological, psychological and social changes takes place. This period marks the end of childhood and sets the foundation of maturity.

### **Social Maturity:**

Social Maturity is a personal commitment each individual must make as the attitude that will influence his/her daily lives. Individuals can opt for the socially immature attitude of self-centeredness or they can opt for the socially mature attitude of genuine concern for the total well-being of each other. The very informal atmosphere of self-help groups where the individuals discuss and share their problems and their achievements with each other within the framework of caring and sharing without the fear of being exploited (Dilts, 1982). Ryff (1998) proposes that some factors of well-being in particular self-acceptance, environmental mastery, and purpose in life are highly correlated with self-esteem. According to Major, Cooper, Richards and Zubek (1998) self-esteem may be thought of as a core resource that contributes to resilient personality, and a person with a resilient personality has a positive view of him or her, a sense of control and an optimistic outlook on the future. Levi (1987) defined well-being as a dynamic state of mind characterized by a reasonable amount of harmony between an individual's abilities, needs, expectations and environmental demands.

Social maturity is a term commonly used in two ways, with reference to the behavior that conforms to the standards and expectations of the adults and secondly, with reference to the behavior that is appropriate to the age of the individual under observation. Thus, the social maturation permits more detailed perception of the social environment which helps adolescents to influence the social circumstances and develop stable patterns of social behaviour (Bretsch, 1952).

**Operational Definitions of Key Term Used:**

Social maturity means acceptance of a person or how a person is accepted in the society. It is characterized by the individual's ability to establish social relations independently with different social groups of the society. Social maturity in this study has been taken as an aggregated countenance involving self-confidence, self-direction, social-feeling, productivity and social and human values. A composite score on human adequacy-personal, interpersonal and social- constitute a construct called social maturity

**Method of the Study:**

Here the investigator attempts to a study of social maturity of school Students by using normative survey method. It involves describing, recording, analysis and interpreting the data which are all directed towards a better understanding of the present. Therefore simple random sampling method was found to be suitable for the collection of data. As it was very difficult to cover different districts later stratified random method was followed. In random sampling equal chance is given to every element being included in the sample to draw the samples in relation method of drawing lots can be used.

**Sample of the Study:**

The sample consists of 240 secondary and higher secondary students from different school are selected for the present study. The samples were selected by using simple random sampling technique.

**Statement of the Problem:**

The problem chosen for the study may be stated as "A Study of Social Matutiry of School Students".

**Statistical Techniques Used:**

The investigator used the statistical techniques, Mean, Standard Deviation 't' test and 'F' test to accept or reject hypotheses.

**Data Analysis:**

The data collected from the sample population were systematically coded, tabulated and organized for analysis. The coded data were entered in to Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) version 20 for analysis. Mean and standard deviation were used to describe the data. In addition, t-test was used to see if there is statistically significant difference between students actual and desired level of participation in social maturity.

**Objectives of the Study:**

- ✓ To find out if there exists any significant difference between Male and Female school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ To find out if there exists any significant difference between Rural and Urban school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ To find out if there exists any significant difference between the sub samples of mode of management of school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ To find out if there exists any significant difference between secondary and higher secondary school students with respect to their social maturity.

- ✓ To find out if there exists any significant difference between medium of English and Tamil of school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ To find out if there exists any significant difference between the sub samples of parental qualification of school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ To find out if there exists any significant difference between the sub samples of parental occupation of school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ To find out if there exists any significant difference between the sub samples of no of siblings of school students with respect to their social maturity.

**Hypotheses of the Study:**

- ✓ There is no significant difference between Male and Female school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ There is no significant difference between Rural and Urban school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ There is no significant difference between the sub samples of mode of management of school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ There is no significant difference between secondary and higher secondary school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ There is no significant difference between medium of English and Tamil of school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ There is no significant difference between the sub samples of parental qualification of school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ There is no significant difference between the sub samples of parental occupation of school students with respect to their social maturity.
- ✓ There is no significant difference between the sub samples of no of siblings of school students with respect to their social maturity.

**Tool Used In the Present Study:**

- ✓ Social Maturity Scale by constructed and standardized by Dr. Nalini Roa's.

**Description of the Tool:**

**Social Maturity:**

The items were scored by a five point scale. Namely strongly agree, a score of 5 is given, for agree a score of 4 is given, for neutral a score of 3 is given, for disagree a score of 2 is given and for strongly disagree a score of 1 is awarded. Higher score represent the high social maturity. The maximum social maturity score is  $90 \times 5 = 450$  marks, and minimum social maturity score is  $90 \times 1 = 90$  marks.

**Data Analysis:**

**Differential Analysis Social Maturity:**

**Gender and Social Maturity:**

Table 1: 't' test between Mean Scores of Gender of School Student towards Social Maturity

| Gender | N   | Mean   | SD    | 't' Value | Level of Significance |
|--------|-----|--------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Male   | 91  | 267.92 | 18.43 | 0.411     | NS                    |
| Female | 149 | 266.87 | 19.46 |           |                       |

It is evident from the Table: 1; the calculated 't' value is 0.411, which is not significant at 0.05 level. Hence, the framed null hypothesis is accepted and research hypothesis is rejected. It is inferred that there is no significant difference found out between male and female school students with respect to their Social Maturity.

**Location of school and Social Maturity:**

Table 2: 't' test between Mean Scores of Location of school of school Student towards Social Maturity

| Location of School | N   | Mean   | SD    | 't' Value | Level of Significance |
|--------------------|-----|--------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Rural              | 104 | 267.81 | 20.07 | 0.385     | NS                    |
| Urban              | 136 | 266.86 | 18.29 |           |                       |

It is evident from the Table: 2; the calculated 't' value is 0.385, which is not significant at 0.05 level. Hence, the framed null hypothesis is accepted and research hypothesis is rejected. It is inferred that there is no significant difference found out between rural and urban school students with respect to their Social Maturity.

**Mode of Management and Social Maturity:**

Table 3: 'F' test among the Sub- samples of Mode of management with Respect to Their Social Maturity

| Mode of Management | Sum of Squares | Mean Squares | df  | 'F' Value | LOS |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|-----|-----------|-----|
| Between Groups     | 2142.616       | 1071.308     | 2   | 3.001     | NS  |
| Within Groups      | 84609.234      | 357.001      | 237 |           |     |
| Total              | 86751.850      |              | 239 |           |     |

It is evident from the Table: 3; the calculated 'F' value is 3.001, which is not significant at 0.05 level. Hence, the framed null hypothesis is accepted and research hypothesis is rejected. It is inferred that there is no significant difference among sub samples of mode of management with respect to their Social Maturity of school students.

**Level of student and Social Maturity:**

Table 4: 't' test between Mean Scores of Level of student of school Student towards Social Maturity

| Level of student | N   | Mean   | SD    | 't' Value | Level of Significance |
|------------------|-----|--------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Secondary        | 89  | 268.04 | 18.88 | 0.480     | NS                    |
| Higher secondary | 151 | 266.82 | 19.19 |           |                       |

It is evident from the Table: 4. the calculated 't' value is 0.480, which is not significant at 0.05 level. Hence, the framed null hypothesis is accepted and research hypothesis is rejected. It is inferred that there is no significant difference found out between secondary and higher secondary school students with respect to their Social Maturity.

**Medium of Instruction and Social Maturity:**

Table 5: 't' test between Mean Scores of Medium of instruction of school Student towards Social Maturity

| Medium of Instruction | N   | Mean   | SD    | 't' Value | Level of Significance |
|-----------------------|-----|--------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| English               | 141 | 266.56 | 19.52 | 0.686     | NS                    |
| Tamil                 | 99  | 268.28 | 18.41 |           |                       |

It is evident from the Table: 5; the calculated 't' value is 0.686, which is not significant at 0.05 level. Hence, the framed null hypothesis is accepted and research hypothesis is rejected. It is inferred that there is no significant difference found out

between English and Tamil medium of school students with respect to their Social Maturity.

**Parental Qualification and Social Maturity:**

Table 6: ‘t’ test between Mean Scores of parental qualification towards Social Maturity

| Parental Qualification | N   | Mean   | SD    | ‘t’ Value | Level of Significance |
|------------------------|-----|--------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| School Education       | 92  | 268.35 | 18.61 | 0.694     | NS                    |
| College Education      | 148 | 266.60 | 19.35 |           |                       |

It is evident from the Table: 6; the calculated ‘t’ value is 0.694, which is not significant at 0.05 level. Hence, the framed null hypothesis is accepted and research hypothesis is rejected. It is inferred that there is no significant difference found out between school education and college education of school students with respect to their Social Maturity.

**Parental Occupation and Social Maturity:**

Table 7: ‘t’ test between Mean Scores of parental Occupation towards Social Maturity

| Parental Occupation | N   | Mean   | SD    | ‘t’ Value | Level of Significance |
|---------------------|-----|--------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Self Employ         | 129 | 270.08 | 20.93 | 2.490     | S                     |
| Government Employ   | 111 | 264.00 | 16.08 |           |                       |

It is evident from the Table 7; the calculated ‘t’ value is 2.490, which is significant at 0.05 level. Hence, the framed null hypothesis is rejected and research hypothesis is accepted. It is inferred that there is significant difference found out between self employ and government employ of school students with respect to their Social Maturity.

**No siblings and Social Maturity:**

Table 8: ‘F’ test among the Sub- samples of No of siblings with Respect to Their Social Maturity

| No of Siblings | Sum of Squares | Mean Squares | df  | ‘F’ Value | LOS |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----|-----------|-----|
| Between Groups | 91.519         | 45.760       | 2   | 0.125     | NS  |
| Within Groups  | 86660.331      | 365.655      | 237 |           |     |
| Total          | 86751.850      |              | 239 |           |     |

It is evident from the Table: 8; the calculated ‘F’ value is 0.125, which is not significant at 0.05 level. Hence, the framed null hypothesis is accepted and research hypothesis is rejected. It is inferred that there is no significant difference among sub samples of no of siblings with respect to their Social Maturity of school students.

**Findings of the Study:**

- ✓ It is inferred that there is no significant difference found out between male and female school students with respect to their Social Maturity.
- ✓ It is inferred that there is no significant difference found out between rural and urban school students with respect to their Social Maturity.
- ✓ It is inferred that there is no significant difference among sub samples of mode of management with respect to their Social Maturity of school students.
- ✓ It is inferred that there is no significant difference found out between secondary and higher secondary school students with respect to their Social Maturity.
- ✓ It is inferred that there is no significant difference found out between English and Tamil medium of school students with respect to their Social Maturity.

- ✓ It is inferred that there is no significant difference found out between school education and college education of school students with respect to their Social Maturity.
- ✓ It is inferred that there is significant difference found out between self employ and government employ of school students with respect to their Social Maturity.
- ✓ It is inferred that there is no significant difference among sub samples of no of siblings with respect to their Social Maturity of school students.

**Suggestions for the Further Study:**

The further study of present investigation under mentioned might be educationally beneficial.

- ✓ The present study was restricted to Secondary and higher secondary students it may be extended to study the social maturity of arts, medical, engineering and Agriculture College.
- ✓ The same study may be attempted with a large sample of different areas.
- ✓ The study can be replicated with another city, district and state of different age group pupils.
- ✓ The social maturity may be studied in relation to Various different variables

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