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INFERIORITY COMPLEX IN RELATION TO THEIR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

AMONG HIGHER SECONDARY STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

Inferiority Complex is considered to be a feeling, rather psychological feeling where a person may consider him or her inferior than others in some or the other way. These feeling which make a person consider himself inferior are actually imaginary and may not even exist. Inferiority complex if persists may actually discourage a person from gaining his objective, thus failing to achieve success in life. In a way a person with Inferiority complex may actually prefer living alone other than living with others. This made the Researcher curious to analyse the relationship between inferiority complex and Academic Achievement among Higher secondary students.

Introduction

Inferiority complex is the conscious or unconscious feeling that one is not as good as others. Along with concepts such as traits, the unconsciousness and self-actualization, in psychology the concept of Inferiority complex is used to explain personality. First developed by Alfred Adler in the 1920s, the concept played an important role in Adler's theory of individual psychology. All people, Adler proposed, seek feelings of achievement and superiority. However, as children, people feel inferior to adults, who are stronger and provide security. People with a primary Inferiority complex never overcome these childhood feelings of inferiority, which are persistent and excessive. A secondary Inferiority complex results from an adult's feeling that it is impossible to be successful.

Need and Significance of the Study

When an Inferiority Complex is in full effect, it may impact the performance of an individual as well as impact an individual self-esteem. It also affects the personality of a child. Children who develop Inferiority Complex try to stay away from all the children who they consider to be far above superior to them. Hence those children try avoiding everyone and become lonely. This hinders their talents and potentials unexposed. This even lowers the academic achievement because of their hesitation to ask doubts. Thus a child may never be able

Categories	Range	Frequency	Percentage		
Low	25-46	79	26.33 %		
Moderate	47-59	142	47.33 %		
High	60-80	79	26.33 %		
Total		300	100%		

to succeed and then the child may actually never come out of these imaginary feelings and close himself in the shell. When Inferiority Complex is not treated properly, it may end in psychological problems like schizophrenia, mood disorders and personality disorders.

Objectives of the Study

- To find out the level of Inferiority Complex of Higher Secondary Students.
- To find out the level of Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Students.
- To find out whether there is a significant difference in the Inferiority Complex of Higher Secondary Students based on Gender, Medium and Locality.
- To find out whether there is a significant difference in the Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Students based on Gender, Medium and Locality.

Hypotheses of the Study

- The level of Inferiority Complex among Higher Secondary Students is moderate.
- The level of Academic Achievement among Higher Secondary Students is moderate.

- There is no significant difference in the Inferiority Complex of Higher Secondary Students based on Gender, Medium and Locality.
- There is no significant difference in the Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Students based on Gender, Medium and Locality.

Tools: To test the hypotheses, the following standardized tools have

Categories	Range	Frequency	Percentage
Low	0-13	97	32.33 %
Moderate	14-16	109	36.33 %
High	17-30	94	31.33%
Total		300	100%

been used. Inferiority Complex by G.C. Pati and the tool was modified by the investigator. Averages of Quarterly and Half-yearly examination marks are considered as the score for Academic Achievement.

Descriptive Analysis

Hypothesis 1: The level of Inferiority Complex of Higher Secondary students is Moderate.

Table 1: Frequency and Percentage of students in each category of Inferiority Complex

Inference: It is observed that more number of students lie in the moderate category showing that the Inferiority Complex of the Higher Secondary students is moderate as hypothesised.

Hypothesis 2: The level of Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary students is Moderate.

Table 2: Frequency and Percentage of students in three categories of Academic Achievement

Inference: It is observed that Academic Achievement among Higher Secondary Students is moderate as hypothesized as maximum number of Students lie in this category.

Differential Analysis

Hypothesis 3: There is no significant difference in the Inferiority Complex of Higher Secondary students based on Gender, Medium and Locality.

Table 3: The Mean, S.D and t-value of Inferiority Complex based on Gender, Medium and Locality

Variable	Sub-sample		N	Mea n	S.D	ʻt' Valu e	L.S
Inferiorit y Complex	Gender	Male Female	15 0 15 0	15.26 15.08	2.9 6 2.7 3	0.55	N.S
Inferiorit y Complex	Mediu m	Tamil	15 0	15.13	2.8 7	0.21	N.S

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		Englis	15	15.21	2.8			
		ĥ	0		3			
Inferiorit	Localit	Urban	11	15.58	2.9		0.0	
y Complex	у		9		4	1.99	5	
		Rural	18	14.91	2.7			
			1		6			

Inference:

- It is observed that the Mean score for Male students is 15.26 and that of Female students is 15.08. The t'value (0.55) is less than the table value showing no significant difference between the means. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted.
- It is observed that the Mean score of Tamil medium students 15.13 is less than the English medium students mean score 15.21. The 't' value (0.21) is less than the table value showing no significant difference between the means. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted.
- It is observed that the Mean score for Rural students 14.91 is greater
 than the Urban students mean score 15.58. The 't' value (1.99) is
 greater than the table value at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the
 null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore there is significant difference
 in the Inferiority Complex of Higher Secondary students based on
 Locality.

Hypothesis 4: There is no significant difference in the Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary students based on Gender, Medium and Locality.

Table 4: The Mean, S.D and t-value of Academic Achievement based on Gender, Medium and Locality

Gender, Medium and Locality								
Variable	Sub-sample		N	Mea n	S.D	ʻt' Valu e	L.S	
Academic Achievemen t	Gender	Male	15 0	53.7 5	9.78	1.06	N.S	
		Femal e	15 0	52.4 3	11.7 3			
Academic Achievemen t	Mediu m	Tamil	15 0	46.9 9	7.74	11.9 1	0.0 1	
		Englis h	15 0	59.1 9	9.97			
Academic Achievemen t	Localit y	Urban	11 9	58.0 2	10.1 1	6.8	0.0	
		Rural	18 1	49.8 5	10.0 2			

Inference:

- It is observed that the Mean score of Male students is 53.75 and Female students is 52.43. The 't' value (1.06) is less than the table value indicating no significance. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted.
- It is observed that the Mean score of Tamil medium students 46.99 is less than the English medium students mean score 59.19. The 't' value (11.91) is greater than the table value at 0.01 level showing significant difference between the means. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected concluding that there is significant difference in the Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary students based on medium.

• It is observed that the Mean score for Rural students 49.85 is less than the Urban students mean score 58.02. The 't' value (6.8) is greater than the table value at 0.01 level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. Saying that there is significant difference in the Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary students based on Locality.

Major Findings of the Study

- The level of Inferiority Complex of Higher Secondary Students is moderate.
- The level of Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Students is moderate.
- There is no significant difference in the Inferiority Complex of Higher Secondary Students based on Gender.
- There is no significant difference in the Inferiority Complex of Higher Secondary Students based on Medium.
- There is significant difference in the Inferiority Complex of Higher Secondary Students based on Locality.
- There is no significant difference in the Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Students based on Gender.
- There is significant difference in the Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Students based on Medium.
- There is significant difference in the Academic Achievement of Higher Secondary Students based on Locality.

Educational Implications

In this competitive world, talented people are successful than others. Talent alone never brings victory. They are successful only if those talents are exposed to the world. Talents can be exposed only when a person doesn't feel inferior. Person with Inferiority Complex can never excel in any field. Hence Inferiority Complex affects academic achievement and academic performance. Therefore the following measures can be made to overcome Inferiority Complex.

- 1. Love and Affection of Family members and Teachers
- 2. Continuous Motivation
- 3. Providing Opportunities to all
- 4. Positive Feedbacks in every activity

Conclusion

The purpose of the present study wasanalyzed to study the relationship among the variable like Inferiority Complex and Academic Achievement. The study is sure to find some usefulness in the field of education and findings of the study can serve as a data base for further researches.

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Web Resources

- www.eric.com
- www.sodhganga.ed.
- <u>www.ijcrar.com</u>
- <u>www.education.com</u>