



COMPARISON OF STUDENTS OF DIFFERENT SYSTEMS OF SCHOOL EDUCATION WITH RESPECT TO THE ATTITUDE TOWARDS PHYSICAL EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

'The purpose of this study was to analyze the attitude of the school children towards physical education. A total of two hundred boys and girls were selected equally from boys and girls sections from two different schools. Their attitude was measured by a questionnaire consisting of 66 questions having six options. The questionnaire was prepared on the basis of Edgington's attitude scale. According to that, there was a possibility of having maximum score of 396 and minimum of 66. Any score above 264, would have been considered as a positive attitude. So using this questionnaire, the attitude of all the selected subjects was collected. After that the scores were analyzed on the basis of statistical technique. The attitude options were converted into scores and adding the scores of 66 questions total score is calculated for each subject. From this value the mean and standard deviation was calculated. It had been seen that the boys and girls from class XI to XII those who had physical education as optional subject, exhibited a positive attitude with the mean score more than 264.'

KEYWORDS : physical education; school children; attitude;

INTRODUCTION:

In modern concept of education physical education has been considered as an integral part of it. Physical education helps to achieve the all round development of a personality, and it helps education to be a part of society. For these reasons the school curriculums of different developed countries, have included physical education as a compulsory subject. However, in our country, the situation is different. Physical education is one of the highly ignored areas in the context of education of a child.

The state and status of the subject of physical education in Secondary Level have been periodically assessed by different researchers. For example De Vries(2003) conducted a survey to analyze the state and status of school physical education in Asian countries. Similarly, Hardman(2005) conducted a worldwide survey study for the state and status of physical education.

In India, Deshmukh committee was appointed by UGC, in 1965 to survey about the status of physical education in Colleges and Universities. The committee submitted its report in 1967. Thereafter, physical education was considered as a compulsory subject in 1974 in West Bengal. But after a period of about 20 years, due to some changes of policies of education, physical education has been taken off as a compulsory subject from class IX and X. At present, it has been a compulsory subject up to class VIII and for class IX and X, it is an optional subject. This situation has posed questions like whether the decision of eliminating physical education from curricular status to the optional status, was right? And Whether the school children possess positive attitude towards physical education?

Present study was planned to get the answer of the later question. The basic purpose was to analyze the attitude of school children from class XI to Class XII.

METHODOLOGY:

For getting information about the attitudes of school children towards physical education as a compulsory subject, subjects were selected from classes XI and XII. From each class hundred subjects including fifty girls and fifty boys were selected. They had the curriculum with physical education as an optional subject. The attitudes of boys and girls subjects have been analyzed separately to get accurate ratings.

A questionnaire constructed on the basis of Edgington's attitude scale with 66 questions related to the relevance of physical education as a curricular subject was used to collect data. Each question had six options out of which the subject had to select the most appropriate one on the basis of his/her decision. The maximum possible score was 396 and the minimum possible score was 66. Any score more than 264 was considered as the favorable attitude.

Collected information with respect to each question was analyzed using appropriate method of statistics. Mean and standard deviation were calculated as the measures of central tendency and variability respectively.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Data were collected from two different schools. One was under ICSE board and another was under West Bengal Board. Table-1 represents the data the subjects from school-1 (G.D. Birla centre for Education) regarding attitude towards physical education.

Table-1
(Attitude score of school children from classes XI to XII)
(With Physical Education as optional subject)

Class	Mean score	Mean score	Remark
	Boys	girls	
XI	304.66 ±33.48	306.72 ±30.26	Favourable
XII	288.48 ±33.56	298.24 ±29.30	Favourable
Total	296.57	302.47	Favourable

Table-1 shows the mean attitude scores of boys and girls subjects of the 'G.D.Birla Centre For Education' towards physical education. It is clearly seen from the table values that the results indicate that the mean attitude scores were greater than 264 with respect to the attitude for the subjects from classes XI and XII in both boys and girls section. The subjects of different classes separately and combining possessed positive attitude towards physical education as a curricular subject. It is to be noted that the mean score for girls were more than that of the boys.

Table-2 represents the data the subjects from school 2 (Moyna S.S.Y.K. Vidyapith and IsmailiChak Moyna Y. S. B. Vidyalaya) regarding attitude towards physical education. It is to be noted that the mean

attitude scores of subjects of classes from XI to XII separately and as a whole were greater than 264, the required value for considering the attitude to be positive for both boys and girls sections. Hence, it is understood that the children of classes XI to XII possessed favourable and positive attitude toward compulsory physical education. It is also seen that the attitude score for girls was slightly higher than that of the boys.

Table-2
Attitude score of school children from classes XI and XII
(With Physical Education as optional subject)

Class	Mean score	Mean score	Remark
	Boys	girls	
XI	271.50 ±28.86	323.56 ±28.49	Favourable
XII	259.36 ±33.44	351.14 ±12.38	Favourable
Total	265.43	337.25	Favourable

CONCLUSION:

On the basis of the study, the following conclusions were drawn---

- i) The boys and girls (ICSE board) from class XI to XII exhibited positive attitude towards physical education.
- ii) The boys and girls (Govt. Aided) of class XI and XII also expressed positive attitude towards physical education, though they (both Govt. Aided and ICSE) did not have the subject as a compulsory one.

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