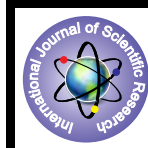


## Attitude of Pupil Teachers Towards Environmental Pollution



### Education

KEYWORDS :

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### INTRODUCTION

One of the greatest problems that the world is facing today is that of environmental pollution, increasing with every passing year and causing grave and irreparable damage to the earth. In order to protect and conserve the environment enabling people to lead quality life, emphasis has been given to environmental education in both formal and non-formal system of education. In formal system of education, teaching of environmental education depends not only on curriculum and other facilities provided to the students, but also the quality of teachers in terms of knowledge, awareness, attitude and skills relating to environmental education. Pupil Teachers plays a very significant role in developing desirable attitude towards awareness about environment among students. Pupil Teachers are nation builders. Chinese perception regarding this:

“IF YOU PLAN FOR ONE YEAR; PLANT RICE,  
IF YOU PLAN FOR TEN YEARS; PLANT TREE,  
IF YOU PLAN FOR HUNDRED YEARS; EDUCATE THE PEOPLE.”  
**Guney** (2004) states the area that was affected by living things in various ways and influence them is called environment.

### ATTITUDE TOWARDS ENVIRONMENT

**Attitude towards Environment is fundamentally important, widely discussed frequently measured and poorly understood**

Attitude towards environment are generally accepted as responses from respondent for given environmental issues. Environmental issues might be environmental degradation, environmental pollution, the relationship between society and environment, environmental policies etc. Attitude is learned, it is predisposed action, such action or behavior is generally consistent. Thus, an environmental attitude is a learned predisposition to respond in a consistently favorable or unfavorable manner with respect to environment.

**Pelstring** (1997) defined attitude towards environmental as “Learned tendencies in the form of consistent behaviours against environment either positive or negative”

**Uzun** (2007) stated environmental attitude as; all the positive or negative opinions towards the useful behaviours of people such as fears, angriness, disorders, self conscious and being ready for the solutions of environmental problems.

### EMERGENCE OF STUDY

Environment plays an important role in the growth and development of an individual. As we know science and technology has made our life convenient, comfortable and easy going but no doubt it is destroying our environment. Increased pollution, Ozone depletion, global warming etc. are the foreseen results. It is observed that degradation of environment mostly occur due to destruction of natural environment. Now there is a cry all over for protection and preservation of nature. Awareness is the first step of solution. But despite of awareness, still environmental problems are on the rise. People have awareness, knowledge about environmental issues

but still they do not bother about these issues. This can be checked only if people have right type of attitude towards such environmental issues. It is the youth who has to take the initiative to develop positive environmental attitude as **Mr. Nelson Mandela**, in Durban summit said, “without youth the future is not secure”. So students can play crucial role in checking environmental problems. In India the study of right attitude towards environment is more essential. The diverse Geographical features of India make it prone to a variety of disasters, ranging from earthquake to tsunamis. This compels the young generation of India to comprehend the need of living in harmony with nature. India is a developing country where rocketing population growth has resulted in over-urbanization. Growth of slums, lowering water level, shortage of power, traffic jams and poor living conditions demand an immediate solution to these problems. Government is taking several steps, but is not successful everywhere, participation of people and their right type of attitude towards environment is of utmost importance in planning and management of the environment.

Taking this into consideration the importance of positive attitudes of students towards environment should not be ignored. The present study is selected to study the attitude towards environment among senior secondary school students and also to compare whether the educational streams of these students affect their attitude towards environment.

### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The Problem under study is entitled as “**ATTITUDE OF PUPIL TEACHERS TOWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION**”

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study difference in the attitude of urban male and female Pupil Teachers towards environmental pollution.
- To study the difference in the attitude of rural male and female Pupil Teachers towards environmental pollution.
- To study the difference in the attitude of urban and rural Pupil Teachers towards environmental pollution.

### HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

- There exists no significant difference in the attitude of urban male and female Pupil Teachers towards environmental pollution.
- There exists no significant difference in the attitude of rural male and female Pupil Teachers towards environmental pollution.
- There exists no significant difference in the attitude of urban and rural Pupil Teachers towards environmental pollution.

### TOOL USED

The environmental attitude scale (2001) by Haseen Taj.

### STATISTICAL TECHNIQUE

Descriptive statistics used-  
Mean, Median, Standard deviation, t-test.

**TESTING OF HYPOTHESES**

**Hypothesis-1**

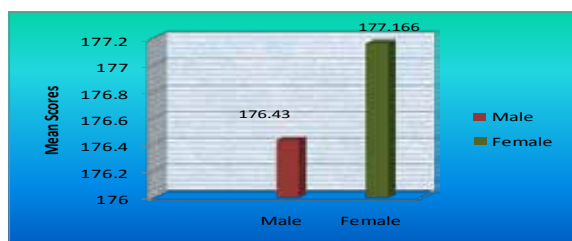
Hypothesis 1 states,” There exists no significant difference in the attitude of urban male and female Pupil Teachers towards environmental pollution.

**Results**

**Table 1 Mean differentials between urban male and urban female pupil teachers towards environmental pollution.**

	Gender	Sample	Mean	S.D.	t-Value	Level of Significance
Urban	Male	30	176.43	13.44	0.181	Not significant
	Female	30	177.166	17.47		

For the verification of the above mentioned hypothesis, their mean, S.D.t-ratio were calculated. While looking at the table 4.1, it is clear that mean score of attitude of urban male & female pupil teachers are 176.43 male and 177.166 female respectively. S.D.13.44 and 17.47 respectively. The t- ratio turns out to be 0.181 which is not significant at both the levels, which means that attitude of urban male & female pupil teachers do not differ in their attitude. Fig. 1



**MEAN SCORES OF URBAN MALE & FEMALE PUPIL TEACHERS**

**DISCUSSION OF RESULTS:**

Entries made in table 1 show that the calculated t-value with regard to urban male and female towards environmental pollution are statistically insignificant. Attitude of urban male and female towards environmental pollution is equal. Thus Hypothesis 1 namely,” There exists no significant difference in the attitude of urban male and female Pupil Teachers towards environmental pollution” has been accepted.

**Hypothesis-2**

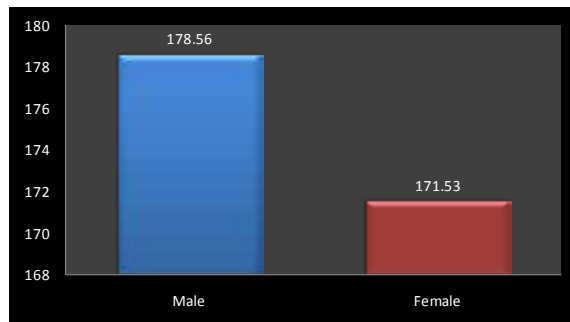
Hypothesis 2 states,” There exists no significant difference in the attitude of rural male and female pupil teachers.

**Results**

**Table 2 Mean differentials between rural male and female pupil teachers towards environmental pollution.**

	Gender	Sample	Mean	S.D.	t-Value	Level of Significance
Rural	Male	30	178.56	17.96	1.59	Not significant
	Female	30	171.53	16.11		

For the verification of the above mentioned hypothesis, their mean, S.D., t-ratio were calculated. While looking at the table 2, it is clear that mean score of attitude of urban male & female pupil teachers are 178.56 male and 171.53 female respectively. S.D.17.96 and 16.11 respectively. The t- ratio turns out to be 1.59 which is not significant at both the levels, which means that attitude of urban male & female pupil teachers do not differ in their attitude.



**MEAN SCORES OF RURAL MALE AND FEMALE PUPIL TEACHERS**

**Figure 2**

**DISCUSSION OF RESULTS:**

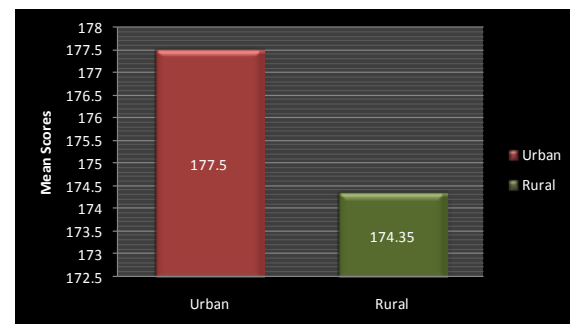
Entries made in table 2 show that the calculated t-value with regard to rural male and female towards environmental pollution are statistically insignificant. Attitude of rural male and female towards environmental pollution is equal. Thus Hypothesis 2 namely,” There exists no significant difference in the attitude of rural male and female Pupil Teachers towards environmental pollution” has been accepted.

**Hypothesis-3 : Hypothesis 3 states,” There exists no significant difference in the attitude of urban and rural pupil teachers. This hypothesis has been tested with the help of Table 3 and figure 3**

**RESULTS: Mean differentials between rural male and urban female pupil teachers towards environmental pollution. Table 3**

Area	Mean		S.D		T-Value	Level of Significance
	Male N=30	Female (N=30)	Male (N= 30)	Female (N=30)		
Urban	177.5		16.90		1.06	Not significant
Rural	174.35		15.77			

For the verification of the above mentioned hypothesis, their mean, S.D., T-ratio were calculated. While looking at the table 3, it is clear that mean score of attitude of urban and rural pupil teachers are 177.5 and 174.35 respectively. S.D.16.90 and 15.77 respectively. The t- ration turns out to be 1.06 which is not significant at both the levels, which means that attitude of urban & rural pupil teachers do not differ in their attitude.



**RURAL AND URBAN MALE & FEMALE PUPIL TEACHERS**

**DISCUSSION OF RESULTS:**

While looking at the mean score it is clear that the urban & rural pupil teachers posses almost the same type of attitude with slight difference in favour of urban pupil teachers towards environmental pollution.

The probable reason for the above stated result may be the closeness of the rural to the nature than their urban counterparts. Now a days , there is not much difference between rural and urban area pupil teachers according to facilities available to them. Therefore, the third hypothesis which stated that: There will be no significant difference in the attitude of urban and rural pupil teachers towards environmental pollution is accepted. It may be concluded on the basis of the above discussion that urban and rural pupil teachers have almost the same type of attitude towards environmental pollution.

#### IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

On the basis of findings of this study it is evident that all sampled pupil teachers showed positive awareness about environment.

So, from above facts it is clear that very few pupil teachers shows extremely favourable attitude towards environmental pollution. So, it is the need of the hour to reorient the attitude of pupil teachers and enlarge the area of commitment towards checking environmental deterioration. We have to re-educate the pupil teachers to treat the environment with great caution and control. It is this realization that has given environmental education a place of prime importance. Environment education is more than acquisition of facts. It requires a change in values, attitudes and interpersonal relations.

The findings of the study reveal that majority of pupil teachers posses an average attitude towards environmental pollution. It means that they feel the existence of this problem but do not take it very seriously. Therefore, environment education should be introduced at all the levels both in formal as well as non-formal. It should be introduce as a separate subject in schools as well as in colleges as Supreme Court has directed (December 19, 2003).

It is further found from the study that there exists insignificant difference between rural and urban as well as between male and female pupil teachers. There may exist sex and locality differences in other parts of the state. So, these difference should be found, properly checked and eliminated. It would also be desirable to bring about changes in the teaching methods so as to highlight the need to improve the quality of environment.

The findings of the piece of the research may be taken as a pointer for the planners. This survey is of a significant educational value because so far we have been talking about the magnitude and different dimensions of environmental problems, but this survey is a step forward in sense that it provides point for indicating programmes for environmental education.

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

- The present study has been conducted only on 120 pupil teachers the same study could be conducted on a larger sample.
- This study is focused on pupil teachers of different B.Ed. Colleges in Moga District, the scope can be extended to all levels of education.
- A study may be undertaken to trace the growth and development of environmental education.
- An effort may be made to develop instructional material for different age groups.

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