A Study of Social Freedom of Female B.Ed. Students

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ABSTRACT

Today the role of women in the society is changing and the change in their traditional role is the dire need of time. Women in India have taken up new roles and are working and are economically independent. But, in spite of being highly qualified and highly paid, women are not given freedom to survive in this society. If qualified and working women are not free, then what to say of uneducated housewives. The aim of the study was to examine the impact of locality, type of family and educational qualification on social freedom of female B.Ed. students.

INTRODUCTION

“Social freedom is the desire to be free from social taboos, conventions, ritual and roles, which impose conventional roles and restrictions on girls/women”. Social freedom means the will of women. Obtaining freedom from social customs - tradition, religious ritual which give them a lower status in the society. It may be in any form like financial freedom, political rights, self-reliant, freedom from bonds of cast, freedom from orthodox thoughts, own options for selection of life partner, participation in decision making etc. In past women are believed as maid or goddess which is dependent on men. They don’t provided higher education they are banned from roam around, works or dealing outside. They only have to work inside four walls of house like household and bringing up the children. Traditional family style also was patriarchy.

Today the role of women in the society is changing and the change in their traditional role is great demand of time. The transition in women’s role has rapidly gained momentum since the government of India has declared the year 2001 as ‘Women Empowerment Year’. It is a great challenge for the women of 21st century to face the resistance shown by conservative people of closed society of India. Women have equal rights to enjoy freedom in terms of social, personal and professional life. Women empowerment is meaningless if it is not equated with their social freedom. Undoubtedly women have equal participation in the development of human race.

RATIONALE OF THE STUDY

Women in India have taken up new roles and are working and are economically independent. But, in spite of being highly qualified and highly paid, women are not given freedom to survive in this society. If qualified and working women are not free, then what to say of uneducated housewives. Although women are ahead in every profession, still teaching is a profession preferred by majority of women in our country. A few literatures have been found on the present issue for research purpose. The reviewed undertaken to conduct the study shows that women do not constitute a central position in literature on social inclusion or women social freedom. Narrow and orthodox thinking, religious rules and unavoidable responsibilities are bringing depression, anxiety, guilt and nostalgia. Therefore it is essential to find out the desire existing in women regarding freedom from social boundations, customs and rituals and their desire for participation in decision-making and equal status to men. The present study is a humble attempt to study the social freedom of Indian women. It studies whether locale, type of family and educational qualification has an impact on social freedom of female B.Ed. students.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the social freedom of rural and urban female B.Ed. students
2. To study the social freedom of female B.Ed. students belonging to Nuclear and Joint family
3. To study the social freedom of Graduate and Postgraduate female B.Ed. students

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

There exists no significant difference in the social freedom of rural and urban female B.Ed. students.

There exists no significant difference in the social freedom of female B.Ed. students belonging to Nuclear and Joint family.

There exists no significant difference in social freedom of graduate and postgraduate female B.Ed. students.

DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The study was conducted on the female B.Ed. students of Ludhiana city only.

The study was confined to 100 students only.

TOOLS USED

For collecting data for any problem under study, the use of appropriate and standardized tool is of vital importance. For the present study, Women Social Freedom Scale (1987) by L.I. Bhushan was used to collect the relevant data for measuring Social Freedom. The scale has 24 predicate for measuring Social freedom. The scale has 24 predicate in this questionnaire which measured Social Freedom. This is a 0.2 scale questionnaire. This questionnaire reliability is 0.75 and high validity.

SAMPLE

The sample of 100 female B.Ed. students was selected from the B.Ed. colleges of Ludhiana city. The random sampling technique has been used in the selection of the sample.

STATISTICAL METHOD

Numerical determinant of normality like Mean, Median, Mode and Standard Deviation were used to ascertain, the nature and distribution of scores on the variable of Social freedom. Test of Significance (‘t’ test) was applied to know whether the difference between the means is significant or not at any particular level of significance.

INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

Hypothesis-I There exists no significant difference in social freedom of rural and urban female B.Ed. students.
Table 1.1 Significance of the Difference between Mean Scores of Social freedom of rural and urban female B.Ed. students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>S.D</th>
<th>SE_m</th>
<th>t-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>5.80</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>3.44**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>6.16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**significant at 0.01 level**

Table 1.1 revealed that the mean scores of Social freedom of rural and urban female B.Ed. students is as11.3 and 15.4 respectively and their standard deviation as 5.80 and 6.16 respectively. The t-ratio is 3.44 which is significant at 0.01 level of significance. This revealed that a significant difference exists between mean scores of Social freedom of rural and urban female B.Ed. students. Therefore, the hypothesis I stating that there exists no significant difference in the mean scores of Social freedom of rural and urban female B.Ed. students stands rejected.

As the mean score of urban students is higher than that of rural students, therefore, it may be said that the urban students possess significantly higher Social freedom than rural female B.Ed. students.

**Hypothesis-II** There exists no significant difference in the social freedom among female B.Ed. students belonging to Nuclear and joint family.

Table 1.2 Significance of the Difference between Mean Scores of Social freedom of female B.Ed. students of joint and Nuclear family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>S.D</th>
<th>SE_m</th>
<th>t-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joint</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>6.24</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>3.26**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>16.3</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**significant at 0.01 level**

Table 1.2 revealed that the mean Scores of Social freedom of female B.Ed students of joint and Nuclear family is as12.9 and 16.3 respectively and their standard deviation as 6.24 and 4.00 respectively. The t-ratio is 3.26 which is significant at 0.01 level of significance. This revealed that a significant difference exists between mean scores of Social freedom of female B.Ed students of joint and Nuclear family. Therefore, the hypothesis II stating that there exists no significant difference in the mean scores of Social freedom of female B.Ed. students of joint and Nuclear family stands rejected.

As the mean score of students belongs to nuclear family is higher than that of students belongs to joint family, therefore, it may be said that the nuclear family students possess significantly higher Social freedom than the joint family female B.Ed. students.

**Hypothesis-III** There exists no significant difference in social freedom of graduate and postgraduate female B.Ed students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>S.D</th>
<th>SE_m</th>
<th>t-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>6.21</td>
<td>1.23</td>
<td>1.38**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-graduate</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>6.16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1.3 revealed that the mean Scores of Social freedom of graduate and postgraduate female B.Ed. students is as13.7 and 15.4 respectively and their standard deviation as 6.21 and 6.16 respectively. The t-ratio is 1.38 which is not significant at 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance. This revealed that a non significant difference exists between mean scores of Social freedom of graduate and post graduate female B.Ed. students. Therefore, the hypothesis III stating that there exists no significant difference in the mean scores of Social freedom of graduate and postgraduate female B.Ed. students is accepted.

CONCLUSIONS

There is a significant difference in the social freedom of rural and urban female B.Ed. students. Urban subjects enjoys more social freedom as compared to rural ones. A significant difference is also found in the level of social freedom of female B.Ed. students belongs to Joint and Nuclear family. Female B.Ed. students belonging to nuclear family enjoys better social freedom than students belonging to joint family. There is no difference found in the social freedom of graduate and postgraduate female B.Ed. students.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

The present study deals with the social freedom of female B.Ed. students. It therefore implies that:

This study would help to the extent that Schools and colleges should take initiative to properly educate the young generation in respect of social freedom of females so that they should take a vow that they will respect the women and never be a part of female exploitation.

It would also help social activists, Counselor and NGO’s to adopt new methods for inquiry, hence to facilitate research and to spread the message against the evils of crime against women.

Findings of the present study will help the parents, teachers, social reformers, administrators and guidance workers to spread awareness among the rural masses towards the pathetic situation of the females and their social freedom.

It would help the government and society to make objective plans to give more freedom to women in future.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The present study was confined to only Ludhiana city, it is therefore suggested that comparative study may be conducted on more than one city. The study could be conducted on large sample to reach to very definite conclusions. Variables like socio-economic status, marital status, home environment, school environment may be undertaken for further research.

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