



ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

Education

FRIENDSHIP AND STUDY HABITS AMONG HIGHER SECONDARY STUDENTS

KEY WORDS: Friendship, Study Habits, Higher Secondary students.

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ABSTRACT

Friends play an important role in the intellectual development of children in schools. If a student has good friends with good academic achievement, then in association with such friends an average student can also raise his/her performance. Good performance presupposes a sound study habits. The purpose of this paper is to find out the relationship between friendship and study habits among higher secondary students. For this 900 students were taken as sample from Ranchi, Khunti and Gumla district of Jharkhand. The researcher has adapted Friendship Scale by Chandna and Chadha (1986) and Study Habit Inventory by Mukhopadhyaya and Sansanwal (1983). The researcher established the reliability and validity of the tools. The findings of the study showed that there is significant relationship between friendship and study habits among higher secondary students.

Introduction

Learning in the school depends on both classroom teachings and the study habits of the students. One has to plan, organize and execute the learning process well in order to learn better. Students mostly depend on teachers for their learning but friends also play a vital role in the learning process. Friendship is a relationship of mutual affection between people. Friendship exists for three reasons - virtue, usefulness and pleasure (Ravichandran, 1999). Among the students, friendship is based mostly on its utilitarian value. Through this their emotional, financial and educational needs are taken care of. Friendship helps the friends, to study together and their good relationship enhances their performance in all spheres of life. A good and intelligent friend can inspire and motivate his friends to raise their level of performance. According to Gelat (1997) study habit means the ways of studying whether systematically or unsystematically, efficiently or inefficiently. It can be interpreted as a planned program of subject mastery. Study habits are regular tendencies and practices in the process of gaining information through learning academic materials or behaviours used when preparing for the tests. Adeyemo (2005) says that study habit is a pattern of activity that goes beyond reading for pleasure. It is a well-planned and deliberate form of consistency on the part of students towards the understanding of academic subjects.

At the higher secondary level students make friends not just for fun only but also for the support in their studies. In fact poor and average students benefit a lot in the company of good friends. They are also helped in getting resource materials, group discussions and preparation for the tests. Today learning has become more interactive and participative and friends can be of great help in the process of learning.

Significance of the Study

Students learn a great deal by explaining their ideas to others and by participating in various activities in which they learn from their peers or friends. While learning along with their friends, they can develop skills such as planning and organizing learning activities, working collaboratively with others, giving and receiving feedback and evaluate their own learning. Friendship can influence learning of each fellow member without any implied authority to any individual. Friendship can promote team spirit and more supportive relationships to greater psychological well-being, social competence, communication skills and self-esteem. It also promotes higher achievement and greater productivity in terms of enhanced learning outcomes. Friendship helps the friends to acquire conflict-management skills, decision-making skills, collaborative learning skills, leadership skills, and clarify concepts. Thus, students' learning extends far beyond the normal classroom teaching and learning activity.

It is true that knowing the information at the end is what matters. And to many, being unorganized, figuring out what to study the day before the class seems to be study habits. Good study habits

are essential and instrumental for the educational process and success. Study habits are all about keeping daily routine and giving all subjects equal treatment. If good friendship and study habits are incorporated then it results in higher achievement.

Definition of the key terms

Friendship

Friendship is a relationship between two or more persons in which they feel comfortable with one another and experience emotional safety. They enjoy the company of one another and have respect, trust, confidence, understanding, mutual assistance and spontaneity.

Study habits

Study habit is a technique a student employs to go about his or her studies which are consistent and have become stereotyped as a result of long application or practice. These are learning tendencies that enable students to work privately.

Higher secondary students

Students those who are studying in XI and XII standard in higher secondary schools from Ranchi, Khunti and Gumla district of Jharkhand.

Objectives the Study

To find out the level of friendship among higher secondary students.

To find out the level of study habits among higher secondary students.

To find out whether there is any significant difference between a) XI and XII standard students, and b) day scholar and hosteller higher secondary students in their friendship.

To find out whether there is any significant difference between a) XI and XII standard students, and b) day scholar and hosteller, higher secondary students in their study habits.

To find out whether there is any significant relationship between friendship and study habits among higher secondary students.

Methodology

The researcher used the descriptive survey method for the study. The sample of the study comprised of 900 higher secondary students from Ranchi, Khunti and Gumla districts of Jharkhand. The sample of the study was drawn by using random sampling method. The investigator used the adapted tools of Friendship Scale by Chandna and Chadha (1986) and Study Habits Inventory by Mukhopadhyaya and Sansanwal (1983). For data analysis investigator used percentage analysis, standard deviation (SD) 't' test and Pearson's Product moment correlations as the statistical techniques.

Data analysis

Table - 1 Level of friendship and study habits among higher secondary students

Variable	Low		Moderate		High	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Friendship	148	16.5	597	66.35	155	17.15
Study habits	136	15.0	636	70.75	128	14.25

It is inferred from the above table that 16.5% of the students have low, 66.35% of them have moderate and 17.15% of them have high level of friendship among higher secondary students.

Further, it is inferred that 15.0% of the students have low, 70.75% of them have moderate and 14.25% of them have high level of study habits among higher secondary students.

Null hypothesis 1

There is no significant difference between XI and XII standard higher secondary students in their friendship.

Table - 2 Difference between XI and XII standard higher secondary students in their friendship

Standard	N	Mean	SD	Calculated 't' value	Remarks
XI	519	140.82	9.23	0.99	NS
XII	381	141.48	10.13		

(At 5% level of significance the table value of 't' is 1.96)

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated value of 't' is less than the table value 1.96 at 5% level of significance. So there is no significant difference between XI and XII standard students in their friendship.

Null hypothesis 2

There is no significant difference between day scholar and hosteller higher secondary students in their friendship.

Table - 3 Difference between day scholar and hosteller higher secondary students in their friendship

Mode of stay	N	Mean	SD	Calculated 't' value	Remarks
Days scholar	629	140.26	9.45	3.99	S
Hosteller	271	143.05	9.67		

(At 5% level of significance the table value of 't' is 1.96)

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated value of 't' is greater than the table value 1.96 at 5% level of significance. So there is significant difference between day scholar and hosteller higher secondary students in their friendship. While comparing the mean score hosteller higher secondary students are better than day scholar students in their friendship.

Null hypothesis 3

There is no significant difference between XI and XII standard higher secondary students in their study habits.

Table - 4 Difference between XI and XII standard higher secondary students in their study habits

Standard	N	Mean	SD	Calculated 't' value	Remarks
XI	519	126.92	9.60	1.94	NS
XII	381	128.12	8.81		

(At 5% level of significance the table value of 't' is 1.96)

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated value of 't' is less than the table value 1.96 at 5% level of significance. So there is no significant difference between XI and XII standard higher secondary students in their study habits.

Null hypothesis 4

There is no significant difference between day scholar and hosteller higher secondary students in their study habits.

Table - 5 Difference between day scholar and hosteller higher secondary students in their study habits

Mode of stay	N	Mean	SD	Calculated 't' value	Remarks
Day scholar	629	127.36	9.56	0.31	NS
Hosteller	271	127.57	8.64		

(At 5% level of significance the table value of 't' is 1.96)

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated value of 't' is less than the table value 1.96 at 5% level of significance. So there is no significant difference between day scholar and hosteller higher secondary students in their study habits.

Null hypothesis 5

There is no significant relationship between friendship and study habits among higher secondary students.

Table -6 Relationship between friendship and study habits among higher secondary students

Variable	N	df	Calculated 't' Value	Table value at 5% level	Remarks
Friendship vs. Study habits	900	898	0.179	0.062	S

It is inferred from the above table that there is a strong positive relationship between friendship and study habits among higher secondary students. It means friendship and study habits are directly proportionate to the sample. So friendship influences study habits among higher secondary students.

Discussion

From the above study it is concluded that most of the students have moderate level of friendship and study habits among higher secondary students. The findings of the study showed that, no significant difference was found between XI and XII standard higher secondary students in their friendship and study habits. As regards study habits, this is in contradiction with the findings of Anantha (2004), Kulandai Sami (2007) where XII standard students are better than XI standard students in their study habits.

There is significant difference between day scholar and hosteller higher secondary students in their friendship. But there is no significant difference between day scholar and hosteller higher secondary students in their study habits. This is in contradiction with the findings of Doss (2012), where the hostellers are better than day scholars in their study habits.

The study revealed that there is a strong positive significant relationship between friendship and study habits. This study is similar to the study of Ariel Judilla and Raymund Gemora (2015) where significant relationship was found between social networks and the status of the study habits.

Conclusion

Today education has become more systematic and competitive. The new innovations in the area of education have opened the door for better learning and performance. Due to the arrival of information technology, networking and connectivity through internet the world has become a village. The education has also been affected due to recent technological developments. The latest technology has made the sharing of knowledge easier than before. The sharing of insights and knowledge helps friends in learning various things. They can influence and motivate one another through sharing of educational materials. Cooperative learning and group study of friends can be a greater help for better learning and performance.

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