

A Comparative Study of Environmental Awareness and Scientific Attitude of Rural and Urban under Graduate Students

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Abstract

Environmental education, or Environmental studies or Environmental Science, all are collectively same, as a systematic study about our environment. Environmental education has been introduced as a compulsory subject in the curriculum of undergraduate level students of all streams like, art, science and commerce etc. The main objective of environmental education is to provide a wide exposure to students' different serious aspects of the environment. The present study aimed to assessing the awareness and responsibilities about environment, among our educated communities. It is important to know our environment and its scientific aspects closely. The present study has been done by survey method on male and female undergraduate level students. The present study also promotes the scientific attitude of undergraduate students which are not from science background, like art and commerce.

Keywords: Environment, Environmental Awareness, Scientific Attitude, Rural and Urban, Undergraduate.

Introduction

According to M.K.Gandhi "Education means the all-round drawing of the best in child and man body, Mind and Soul." Education refers to the transfer of communication of information, knowledge and skills from the sender to the receiver. Education is called systematic because it has a well- defined pattern of study. It is applied because educational ideas have to be practiced before they could gain proper acceptance and accuracy. It increases living standers of the human beings and the society as a whole. Education widens the mental horizon of the human beings.

Environment

Nature provides only a limited freedom to man for conducting his exploitation activities. Human beings are a part of nature and therefore, human beings cannot exercise control over nature on the basis of his face-will. If they try to break the natural laws of nature they are bound to face serious consequences. In the present day world, the healthy existence of human society is highly endangered. This is possible due to the unimaginably great amount of environmental maladies or problems which are pushing our planet almost to the brink of mass scale disaster of living beings or species on this good habitable earth.

The term environment is quite wide in nature. It includes not only physical or material aspects but psychological, social and cultural aspects as well. Thus, environment consists of material and nonmaterial surroundings of human beings.

Environmental Awareness

It refers to the awareness about physical, biological, social and cultural aspects of environment. Environment Awareness may be defined as to help the social group and individuals to gain variety of experiences and acquire a basic understanding of environmental and its associated problems. This awareness can be disseminated among young children through formal system of education by introducing various programs and including the content of environment in their curriculum. Environmental Awareness has now become a worldwide slogan and a serious concern is felt in the whole world regarding degradation of environment and that's why, environmental problems are being discussed at different international forums.



Vijay Pratap Singh

Assistant Professor,
Dept. of Education,
B.V.M. College of Management
Education,
Gwalior, M.P, India

Scientific Attitude

Scientific attitude refers a state of mind and a way of life. It is difficult to make a distinction between attitude and other effective attributes of personality like interest, appreciations, likes, dislikes, opinions, values, ideas and character traits. A person having scientific attitude is never superstitious. His mind is like a sea with open mouth, ready to gulp down new facts and has power or concrete and accurate observation and interpretation. There is no short cut or hard method to develop or change attitude of an individual.

Scientific attitude is an opinion taken with respect to a psychological object in the field of science. In the scientific attitude the purpose of this measure would be to find out whether or not the students have developed favorable attitudes towards science as a discipline. This has to be measured on the basis of the underlying assumptions being that one of the outcomes of science education is the development of positive attitude towards the science.

Review of Literature

Severin, Sabrina, (2020) "A Study of Environmental Attitudes between Rural and Urban Students" Environmental Studies Undergraduate Student Theses. 276.

Anandarasu, R. (2016) "B.Ed Students attitude towards environmental education. EDU Tracks Educational Journal, vol.15-No. 11, PP14-18

Jha, P. (2009) Environmental Awareness Ability Measure. National psychological corporation, Agra.

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Statement of The Problem

A comparative study of Environmental Awareness and Scientific Attitude of Rural and Urban under graduate students.

Objectives of Study

The present research is on the topic is being conducted within the following objectives;

1. To compare the environmental awareness of rural and urban under graduate students.
2. To compare the scientific attitude of rural and urban under graduate students.

Hypothesis

The null hypothesis of the study includes the followings-

1. There is no significant difference between environmental awareness of rural and urban under graduate students.
2. There is no significant difference between scientific attitude of rural and urban under graduate students.

Research Methodology of the Study

The research methodology of present study is Descriptive Survey method.

Sample of the Study

In the present study, the investigator selected 12 institutions for random sampling in Lucknow district. He selected 600 under graduate students, 300 Urban and 300 Rural students, as sample.

Table No. 1

S. No.	Institutions Name	Total	Urban	Rural
1	Shri Jay Narayan P.G. college ,Lucknow	60	35	25
2	Bappa Shri Narayan Vocational P.G. College, Lucknow	60	40	20
3	Mumtaz Degree College ,Lucknow	60	47	13
4	Kali Charan degree college, Lucknow	40	25	15
5	National P.G. College, Lucknow	40	35	05
6	Eram Girls Degree College, Lucknow	40	35	05
7	G.S.R.M. Degree College, Lucknow	60	15	45
8	Kuwar Ashif Miya Degree College, Lucknow	60	17	43
9	G.C.R.G. Group of Institutions, Lucknow	30	10	20
10	Lala Mahadev Prasad Verma Balika Mahavidyalaya	40	13	27
11	Mahesh Prasad Degree College, Lucknow	60	16	44
12	Charak Degree College, Lucknow	50	12	38

Research tools

The investigator had used two standardized research tools for the study.

1. EAAM-[Environmental Awareness Ability Measure]-Dr. Praveen Kumar Jha (Madhaupur, Bihar)
2. SAS-[Science Attitude Scale]- Dr. Avinash Grewal (Bhopal)

Statistical Techniques Used

Following statistical measures were used for analyzing the data-

1. Mean
2. Standard Deviation (S.D.)
3. t-test

Analysis and Interpretation of Data:

1. There is no significant difference between environmental awareness of rural and urban under graduate students.
 - 1.1. Area wise comparison of the environmental awareness of rural and urban under graduate students.

Table No.2

Area EA.	N	Mean	S.D.	SEM	t-test	Significant
Urban	300	36.36	6.29	0.491	2.01	Significant at 0.05 level
Rural	300	37.18	5.73			

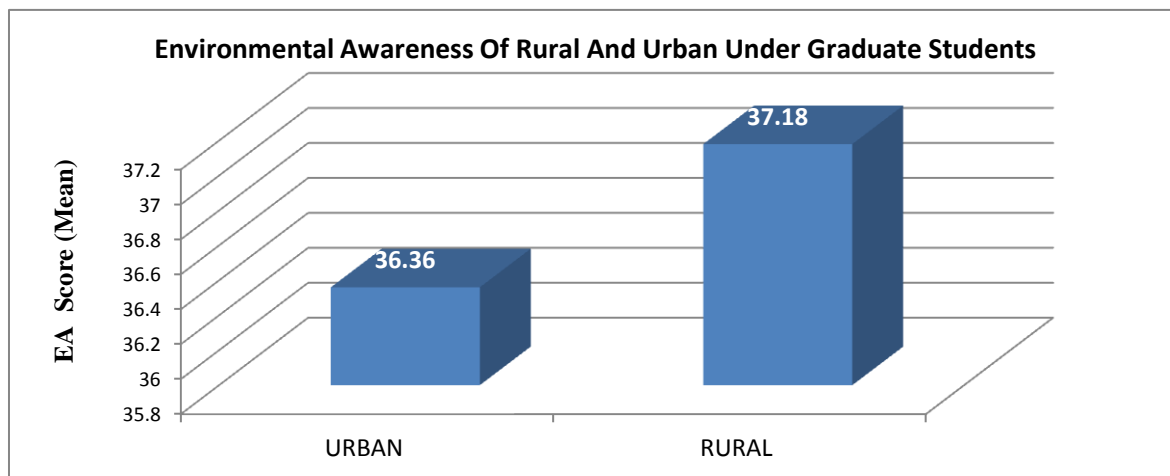


Fig 1: Graphical Presentation of Environmental Awareness of Rural and Urban under graduate students.

1. That the table no. 2 shows that the mean scores of environment awareness of rural and urban under graduate students are 36.36 and 37.18 respectively.
2. The standard deviations (SD) on the scores of rural and urban under graduate students are 6.29 and 5.73 respectively.
3. The calculated t-test value is 2.01 which is higher than tabulated t-value i.e. 1.96 at the level of 0.05 significant.
4. The Graphical Presentation of mean environmental awareness of rural and urban under graduate students is given in fig 1. The bar diagram shows that the environmental awareness of rural under graduate students is higher than the urban under graduate students.
5. With the use of t-test we found that the first null hypothesis related to environmental awareness on comparison of Area basis, is rejected, on level of 0.05 significant. This shows that the environmental awareness of under graduate students differs on Area basis.
2. There is no significant difference between scientific attitude of rural and urban under graduate students.
- 2.1 Area wise comparison of the Scientific Attitude of rural and urban under graduate students.

Table No.3

Area S.A.	N	Mean	S.D.	SEM	t-test	Significant
Urban	300	49.95	11.22	0.912	1.99	Significant at 0.05 level
Rural	300	50.98	11.14			

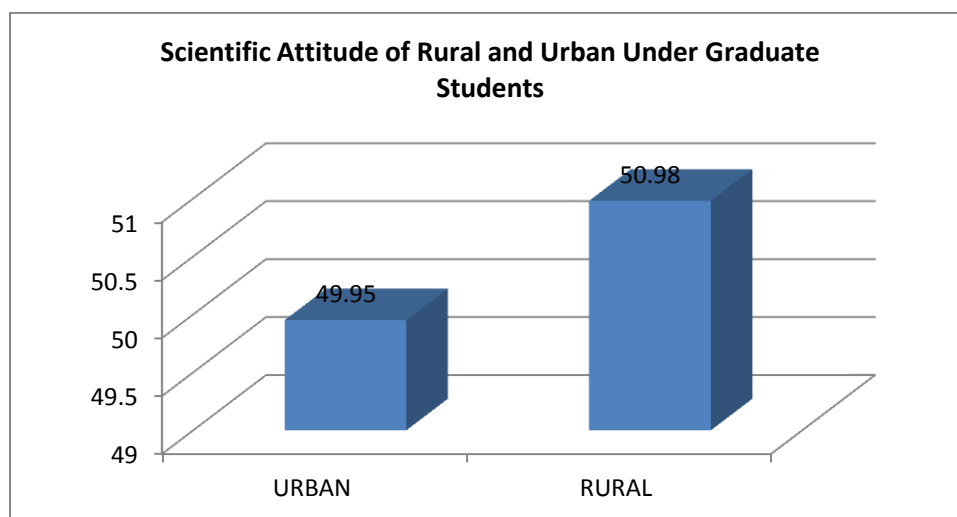


Fig 2: Graphical Presentation of Scientific Attitude of Rural and Urban under graduate students.

1. The table no.3 shows that the mean scores of scientific attitude of rural and urban under graduate students are 49.95 and 50.98 respectively.
2. The standard deviations (SD) on the scores of rural and urban UG students are 11.22 and 11.14 respectively.

3. The calculated t-test value is 1.99 which is higher than tabulated t-value i.e. 1.96 at the level of 0.05 significant.
4. The Graphical Presentation of mean scientific attitude of rural and urban under graduate students is given in fig 2. The bar diagram also shows that the scientific attitude of rural under graduate students is higher than the urban under graduate students.
5. With the use of t-test we found that the second null hypothesis related to scientific attitude on comparison of Area basis, is rejected, on level of 0.05 significant. This shows that the scientific attitude of under graduate students differs on Area basis.

Conclusion

The findings, as the results of investigator, are listed as following-

1. The result clearly indicates that the environmental awareness of rural students is higher than the urban students. It is clear that the rural students are more exposure to environment as compared to urban students.
2. The result clearly indicates that the scientific attitude of rural students is higher than the urban students. This shows that the rural undergraduate students have more exposure to the scientific attitude as compared to urban students.

Education Implication of the Study

1. Educationists, educational administrators, and teachers must acquaint their pupil about pros and cons of environmental pollutions.
2. The concept of environment and its protection should be published and popularized through newspaper, radio, TV, Film and other measures.
3. It would be more beneficial and effective if special programs are launch to develop environmental

awareness and scientific attitude among the students. This is possible only through inclusion of special courses on environment education and scientific attitude in school curriculum.

4. Value oriented education in the light of environmental pollution and environment awareness should be provided.
5. The government should provide books related to science and environment for students.

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