



EMPOWERMENT AND SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS

Dr. Paras Jain, Director

Silicobyte Katni Degree College, Dikshabhumi Campus

Adharkap, Katni (M.P)

KEYWORDS: Empowerment, Adolescents, Socio Economic

ABSTRACT:

Girl's empowerment is a process by which they may be identified by their own potential and perform better in the society. It is a process of gaining inside and to use it for the adjustment of life. Knowing own potential and feeling it helps to carve shape of performance. Education is important factor to make better socio economic status which is helpful for empowerment. Present study emphasizes correlation of socio economic status and empowerment in case of adolescent girls.

INTRODUCTION:

Adolescent girls are important section of our society as they are responsible for future citizens. India has adolescent girls 10% of total population. By their empowerment they can get control over their destiny. It is creation of social environment in which one can make decisions and choice for social transformation. Empowerment generates autonomy and capability to take responsibility. The empowerment girls will be agent of their own development, able to follow their own agenda. Adolescent girls are victims of discrimination. Gender inequality is present in education. Only 2/3 of girls between the age of 6 and 17 are sent to school, compared to ¾ of boys of same age. 25% of girls marry before the age of 15 and very often they marry against their will.

Girls of today have a sense of individuality and an urge of self-respect also. She is desirous of liberalization and autonomy, trying to establish her identity in man dominating society. Adolescent girls are successful agents of change. When they are powered, educated and healthy, a range of issues such as maternal mortality, child survival and gender biased violence can be resolved and the cycle of poverty broken.

In modern India, women are posted on reputed higher posts as president, prime minister, chief minister, lok sabha speaker, minister, governor etc. Girls are going in space shuttles, flying plane, fighting as army men, administering society. Women rights are secured under the constitution of India. Girls need life skill education to build their self-esteem, promote formal education and skills.

OBJECTIVE OF STUDY:

- To find socio economic status of adolescent girls of govt. and private schools
- To find empowerment way of adolescent girls of govt. and private schools
- To establish relation between economic status and empowerment of adolescent girls

HYPOTHESIS:

There is no significant difference between socio economic status of adolescent girls of govt. and private school.

There exist significant relationship between empowerment of adolescent girls and their socio economic status.

METHODOLOGY:

A descriptive survey method was used for study. 300 girls from govt. and private schools having age 12-19 years were selected randomly for study. A self-prepared questionnaire was used to test girls for finding of socio economic status. Result was classified into grade as high, medium and low. These girls again tested for finding of empowerment status. Empowerment is measured in the form of freedom of study, freedom of outing, freedom of decision making, freedom of recreation and freedom of view expression. Collected data was converted into percentage and comparatively analysed.

FINDING & ANALYSIS:

Table-1: Socio Economic Status of Govt. and Private School Adolescent Girl Students

Age Group	No. of Adolescent Girls %					
	High Socio Eco Status		Medium Socio Eco Status		Low Socio Eco Status	
	Govt. School Girls	Private School Girls	Govt. School Girls	Private School Girls	Govt. School Girls	Private School Girls
11-13 year	31	37	36	40	26	30
14-16 year	29	36	32	38	31	35
17-19 year	28	32	31	36	33	41

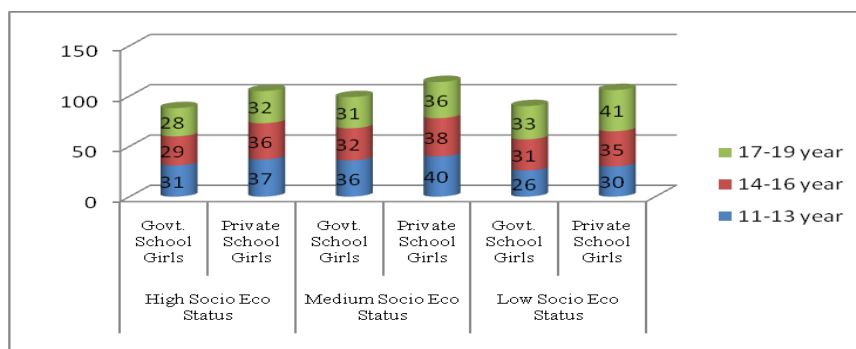


Chart-1: Socio Economic Status of Govt. and Private School Adolescent Girl Students

Table-2: Relationship between Empowerment and Socio Economic Status of Adolescent Girls

Age Group	No. of Adolescent Girls %														
	Freedom of Study			Freedom of Outing			Freedom of Decision			Freedom of Recreation			Freedom of View Expression		
	High Socio Eco Status	Med Socio Eco Status	Low Socio Eco Status	High Socio Eco Status	Med Socio Eco Status	Low Socio Eco Status	High Socio Eco Status	Med Socio Eco Status	Low Socio Eco Status	High Socio Eco Status	Med Socio Eco Status	Low Socio Eco Status	High Socio Eco Status	Med Socio Eco Status	Low Socio Eco Status
11-13 year	72	19	9	46	18	12	23	17	4	66	27	5	34	24	11
14-16 year	69	16	15	42	16	8	24	17	5	68	28	4	38	29	18
17-19 year	64	13	23	37	13	5	26	18	3	69	25	3	42	36	22

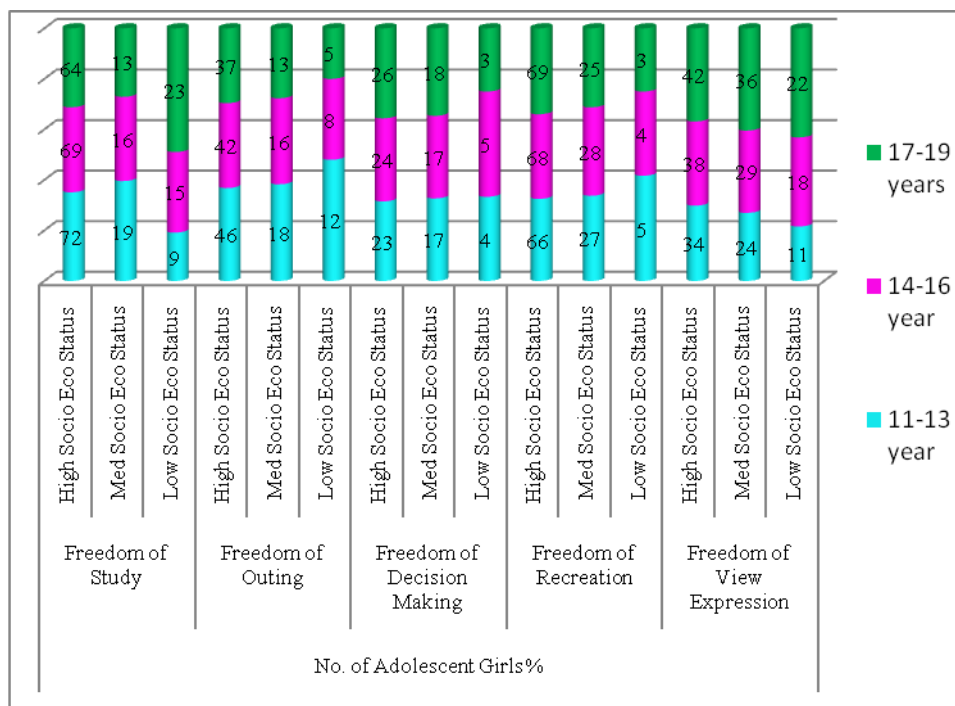


Chart-2: Relationship between Empowerment and Socio Economic Status of Adolescent Girls

Data shows that in the age group 11-13 years, 31% govt. school girls and 37% private school girls belongs high economic status while 36% govt. 40% private school girls are from medium socio economic status. Low socio economic status girls are 26% from govt. schools and 30% from private schools. In the age group 14-16 year, 29% govt. and 36% private school girls have high socio economic status, 32% govt. and 38% private possess medium socio economic status. 31% govt. and 35% private school girls are from low socio economic status. For the age group 17-19 years, 28%

govt. 32% private school girls possess high socio economic status while 31% govt. and 36% private school girls have medium socio economic status. 33% govt. and 41% private school girls are from low socio economic status. Thus socio economic status of private school girls is greater than govt. school girls. Hence hypothesis, there is no significant difference between socio economic status of adolescent girls of govt. and private school is rejected.

Empowerment data shows that in age group 11-13 year, freedom for study has high value i.e., 72% of high economic status and freedom of outing is expressed highest by 46%, freedom of decision making is 23%, freedom of recreation is 66% and freedom of view expression is 34% for high socio economic status. In the age group 14-16 years, freedom of study % become less i.e., 69% for high socio economic status, 42% for freedom of outing, 24% for freedom of decision making, 68% for freedom of recreation and 38% for freedom of view expression found. In age group 17-19 years, 64% for freedom of study, 37% for freedom of outing, 26% for freedom of decision making 69% for freedom of recreation and 42% for freedom of view expression. In each age group highest % obtained for high socio economic status and for medium socio economic status is relatively less and for low socio economic status is lowest. Hence hypothesis, there exist significant relationship between empowerment of adolescent girls and their socio economic status is accepted.

CONCLUSION:

Adolescent girls' empowerment is directly related to socio economic status of family. High socio economic status of families provides more freedom to girls than medium and low socio economic status families. High socio economic status families are moving towards advancements on the other hand low socio economic status families are not accepting changes frequently. Thus girls of low socio economic status are not empowered.

REFERENCES:

1. Khurana, V., Gohlan, N., Empowerment of adolescent girls in relation to their socio economic status, *Psycho Lingua*, 43 (2), 2013.
2. Biswas, T.K., & Kabir, M., Measuring women empowerment: Indicators and measurement techniques, *Social Change*, 34(3), 2004
3. Singh, A.K., *Tests, Measurements and Research Methodologies*, Behavioral Sciences, Tata Mc Graw Hill Pub., New Delhi.