Study On The Relationship Between Socio-Economic Status And Academic Achievement Of Students

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ABSTRACT

In this present article, the researchers present a study on the relationship between socio-economic status and academic achievement of secondary school students. The researchers used descriptive survey research method for the present study and recruited 85 secondary school students from four secondary schools using simple random sampling technique. The Socio-Economic Status Scale (SESS) developed by Sahu (2012) was used to collect data on the socio-economic status of the students and the previous year marks of the students which were considered as the academic achievement of the students. The researchers analyzed the data by applying Pearson's correlation coefficient and t-test as statistical techniques with the help of IBM SPSS 20.0. The findings of the study showed that there is a positive relationship between socio-economic status and academic achievement of secondary school students.

Keywords: Academic Achievement, socio-economic status, students

INTRODUCTION

Education is the most important weapon to make people intelligent and rational. Education is the most important tool to make the people of a state or country skillful and civilized and leads the development of the nation through the personal development of its citizens. Without educated citizens, no country can make progress in science and technology which are important for the development of the nation. The entire process of education is focused on the academic performance or achievement of the students, which is the final product of education (teaching-learning process). The academic performance or achievement of the students is influenced by the socio-economic status of the parents, the residential area of the students, gender, age, school and classroom environment and many more factors. Education determines the occupation, income, status or position of the individual in the society. On the other hand, the socio-economic status of the family or parents of the student has a great impact on the academic success of the students, they are interrelated but socio-economic status is a major contributing factor in the academic achievement of the student.

The term socio-economic status is the combination of the social status and economic status of an individual or family in relation to others in the society based on income, education, profession and possessions etc. Broadly, socio-economic status includes socio-cultural factors, financial, educational and the acquisition of goods and services available in the family. Researchers have previously conducted a lot

of studies to examine and analyze socio-economic status as a contributing factor in academic achievement and their studies have shown different results.

Solanke and Narayanaswamy (2015) conducted a study with the aim of finding out the effect of SES on academic achievement. The result showed that there is a significant positive relationship between SES and academic achievement. The t-test showed a significant difference in the academic achievement of students with different levels of SES. The study further revealed that there is a significant difference in the academic achievement and SES of boys and girls.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this present article is to examine whether there is a relationship (how and to what extent) between the socio-economic status of secondary school students and their academic achievement of Dharwad district.

As we know, there are many factors or predictors that influence academic achievement, i.e. cognitive, non-cognitive, psychological, social and environmental etc. Among the social and environmental factors, socio-economic status is very important as it has a major impact on the academic achievement of students. The present study can help parents, teachers and educational administrators to understand the importance of SES in determining the academic achievement of students and in the process of development of the country.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS

According to Parson et al. (2001), "Socio-economic Status (SES) is the term used to distinguish between people's relative position in the society in terms of family income, political power, educational background and occupational prestige".

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Academic Achievement is the outcome of the instruction provided to the children in schools which is determined by the grades, or marks secured by the students in the examination. It generally indicates the learning outcomes of pupil which requires a series of planned and organized experiences.

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Schools which imparted knowledge to the students of XI and XII grades who have completed Secondary level of education in India is known as Secondary or Higher Secondary school.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Faaz and Khan (2020) conducted a study of Academic Achievement of upper primary school students in relation to their Socio-economic Status. They selected 121 students from AMU school by using Simple Random Sampling Technique and Socio-economic Status scale developed by Bhardwaj (2014). The score obtained by the students in the last examination was considered as Academic Achievement of the students collected from the school office record book. Pearson's coefficient of correlation and t- test as statistical

techniques used for the analysis. It was noticed that there exists a positive significant correlation between SES and Academic Achievement.

Rather and Sharma (2020) examined the impact of Socio-economic Status on Achievement grades. Data were collected from 200 Secondary school students of Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh. The study showed that there was an intimate relationship between SES and Academic grades of the students. It also revealed that male students perform better and got better marks in comparison to their female counterpart. It further highlighted that there was no significant difference between urban and rural students in their Academic performance.

Showkeen and Rehman (2020) investigated about the impact of Socio-economic Status of Science stream students and their Academic Achievement at Secondary level. The study showed significant positive correlation between SES and Academic performance of science stream students at Secondary level.

Gupta and Katoch (2020) studied the relationship between Socio-economic Status and Academic Achievement of 10th grade students of Kangra. Data were collected from 160 students selected randomly. The result revealed that there was no significant relationship between SES and Academic Achievement.

Khan (2021) introduced different factors which relates the Socio-economics Status of the Students at Higher Secondary level and their Academic Achievement.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To investigate the relationship between socio-economic status and academic achievement of secondary school students.

2. To find out the relationship between socio-economic status and academic achievement among secondary school students.

NULL HYPOTHESES

H0-1: There is no significant relationship between socio-economic status and academic achievement of secondary school students.

(b) There is no significant difference in academic achievement between middle-class SES and low-class SES students.

(a) There is no significant difference in academic achievement between high-class SES and middle-class SES students.

METHODOLOGY AND RESEARCH DESIGN

Sample of the study

The sample for this study was taken from government and private secondary schools in Dharwad district, Karnataka state. The sample population was 85 secondary school students selected using simple random sampling technique.

Tools of the study

In the present study, the investigator used the Socioeconomic Status Scale (SESS) developed and validated by Shudhir (2012) as a predictor. The marks obtained by the students in the annual examination are considered as the academic achievement.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES

The researchers analyzed the data using t-test and Pearson's correlation coefficient as statistical techniques with the help of SPSS 20.0.

DATA ANALYSIS

Table 1: Difference in Academic Achievement between Higher and Lower class of Social economic status

Variables	N	Mean	SD	r	Sig
Socio-economic Status	255	25.191	08.174	0.173	.000*
Academic Achievement	255	29.161	05.354		

*Significance at 0.01 level

The Table 2 shows that the t-value is 14.830 (p=.000<0.01) which revealed that there is significant difference in Academic Achievement between Higher class SES and Middle-class SES of Secondary School students. Hence, null hypothesis is rejected.

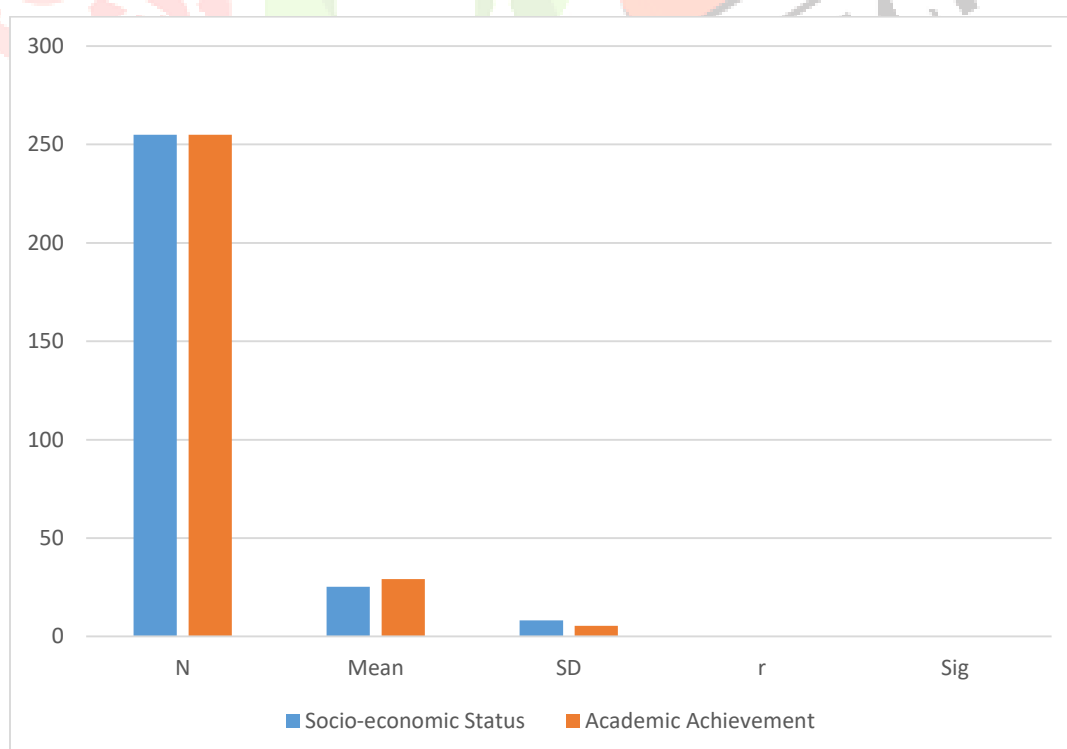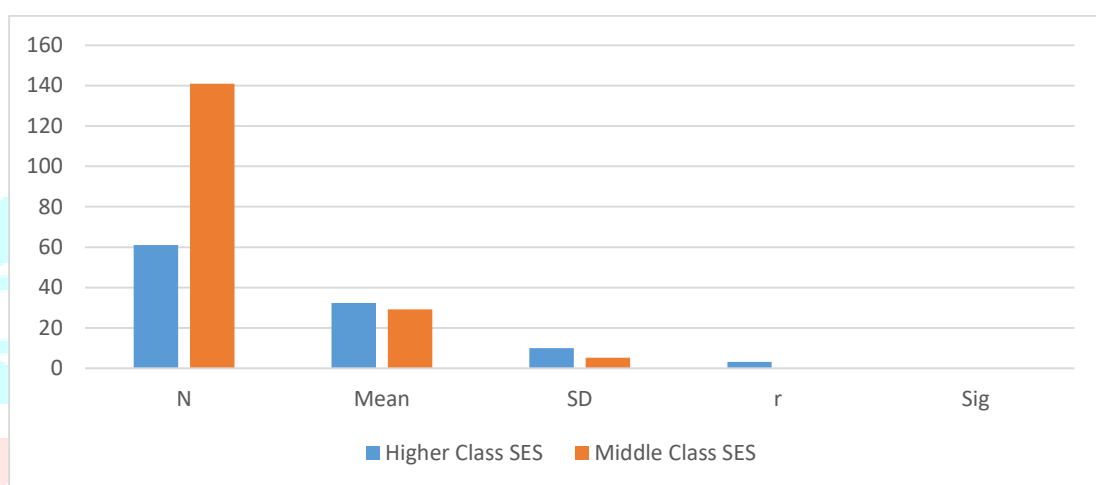**Graph 1:** Difference in Academic Achievement between Higher and Lower class of Social economic status

Table 2: Relationship between Socio-economic Status and Academic Achievement

Variables	N	Mean	SD	r	Sig
Higher Class SES	61	32.39	10.023	03.207	.000*
Middle Class SES	141	29.26	05.21		

*Significance at 0.01 level

In Table 1 the Pearson's coefficient of correlation "r" is found 0.347 (p=.000<.01) which shows that a positive but low or moderate correlation exist between SES and Academic Achievement, hence null hypothesis 1 is not accepted.

Graph 2: Relationship between Socio-economic Status and Academic Achievement

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. 1. The study shows that there is a difference in academic achievement across different socio-economic status groups. The difference in academic achievement between high SES (mean = 25.191) and middle SES (mean = 29.161) students shows a moderate level of difference while the difference between middle SES (mean = 29.161) shows a moderate level of difference in academic achievement

   2. The study shows that there is a positive relationship between the socio-economic status and academic achievement of secondary school students but it is moderately low, suggesting that students' SES contributes to students' academic achievement.

CONCLUSION

The socio-economic status of students in Dharwad district of Karnataka state was found to have a positive relationship with their academic performance at the secondary level. In general, the mean value of academic performance of different SES groups revealed that students from high SES class scored higher marks and students from low SES class scored lower marks and students from middle SES class scored middle marks. The study highlighted the difference in academic performance or performance across different socio-economic status level groups, which further emphasized the importance of socio-economic, cultural and educational factor of the family in the academic performance or academic success of the

students. The present study also found a positive effect of socio-economic status on the academic performance or achievement of the students. In view of these findings, it is recommended that the central or state government should create employment opportunities and help in increasing the socio-economic status of the people which has a positive impact on the academic success of the students.

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