

# ALTRUISM OF SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS IN RELATION TO THEIR GENDER

Dr. Sajan, K. S.,  
Asst Professor,

N S S Training College, Ottapalam , Kerala , India

Jayasree, M  
M Ed. Student

**Abstract:** These are the challenging times for education, because of its changing vision. The teachers hold the most important place in the process of education. In this modern period, a teacher's role involves more than simply standing in front of a classroom and lecturing. In fact, even though a teacher spends the majority of the day in the classroom. Hence, the concept of altruism plays a very significant role in today's life. Majority were ready to disappoint others for their achievements. So, altruistic personality is essential for establishing strong relationships. Altruism and its motives seem to permeate the teaching profession than any other area. It therefore led the researcher to find out altruism in gender difference among secondary school teachers. The present study has the main objective of comparing the level of altruism of secondary school teachers in relation to their gender. Accordingly, 300 teachers from secondary schools in Palakkad district were selected as the sample. An altruism assessment scale was used to find out the difference.

**Index Terms:** Altruism, Secondary School Teachers, Gender Difference

The Indian tradition accords the highest place of respect and status to the teachers, who is considered to be the remover of darkness and enlightens the individual and society. Teaching profession is a noble mission. 'Good education requires good teachers'. The changes that took place in the society have changed the roles of teachers. Teacher is not only a person but also a symbol of god, of truth, of love, of purity and of beauty. Altruism plays a very significant role in today's life because people in this modern world are more selfish. They are ready to disappoint others for their achievements. So, altruistic personality is essential for establishing strong relationships.

By motivating cooperation rather than conflicts, it promotes harmony within communities. Altruism and its motives seem to permeate the teaching profession than any other area. The character or behaviour of the teachers is very crucial not only for their life but for the life of the students. It affects the whole educative process. Concerning the teachers professional behaviour, it head influences the all fields of education. Moreover, it is true that the students try to imitate the acts of the teacher. If they show some personality traits, which are bad, their students will imitate on what they have done.

## Review of Literature

Isac A. Friedman (2016) conducted a study on being a teacher: altruistic and narcissistic expectations of pre-service teachers. The study suggested that altruism and narcissism conjointly may be regarded as factors motivating people to opt for teaching as a career, and that altruistic and narcissistic expectations can predict teachers' classroom behaviour.

Nail Yildirim (2016) conducted a qualitative analysis of altruism (selflessness): views of Headmasters in Turkey. The findings showed that the Headmasters demonstrated altruistic behaviour because of personal reasons, the desire to solve problems, ideals, the fear of failure, the image of the school and valor.

## Operational Definitions

**Altruism:** is a desire within one organism to increase the welfare of another organism as an end state goal.

**Secondary school teachers:** for the present study secondary school teachers implies the teachers of class vii, viii, and x of secondary schools.

## Objectives

- To find out the level of altruism among secondary school teachers
- To find out the significant difference in altruism among secondary school teachers classified on the basis of gender

## Hypotheses

- There exist different levels of altruism among secondary school teachers
- There exist significant difference in altruism among secondary school teachers classified on the basis of gender

## Methodology

### Method

In the present study, the investigator has used survey method, which seemed to be most appropriate for find out the level of Altruism of Secondary school teachers in relation to their Gender

### Sample

The present study has conducted on 300 secondary school teachers in Palakkad district of Kerala. The sample selected by using simple random sampling giving due representation to gender.

### Tool used

An Altruism scale was used for the assessment of teachers' altruism. The tool was developed by the investigator with the help of the supervising teacher.

### Data collection

For this study, the investigator personally contacted the secondary school authorities and managements. The scope of the study was explained to them and their permission was sought for administering the test. With the permission of school/management authorities, the test was administered in secondary school teachers. They were introduced with main objectives of the study and requested to give responses truthfully assuring that their responses would be kept confidentially.

### Analysis and Interpretation

- The first objective of the study was connected with the different levels of altruism among secondary school teachers. Accordingly 300 secondary school teachers were taken in to account and the statistical analysis was done. (Table 1)

**Table 1**

Number and Percentage of Secondary School Teachers with respect to the Levels of Altruism

Catagories	Norms	<i>N</i>	%
Altruism	<i>M+ SD</i> and above	36	12
Average Altruism	<i>M+ SD</i> to <i>M- SD</i>	212	70.7
Low Altruism	<i>M- SD</i> and below	52	17.3
Total		300	100

From the Table 1 it is clear that 70.7% of secondary school teachers have average Altruism, 12% have substantial or marked Altruism and 17.3% have low Altruism. It indicates that majority of secondary school teachers have average Altruism and it is graphically represented as pie diagram in Figure 3.

The percentage analysis reveals that there exist high, average and low levels of Altruism among secondary school teachers. Therefore the hypotheses that states there exist different levels of Altruism, is accepted.

- The gender difference mentioned as objective two was also taken in to account. 251 female and 49 male teachers were taken for administering the test and the following statistical analysis was computed. (Table 2)

**Table 2**

Data and Result of Test of Significant Difference in the Mean Scores of Altruism of Secondary School Teachers with Respect to Gender

Variable	Gender	<i>N</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>p</i>
Altruism	Female	251	142.44	17.58	1.55	.12
	Male	49	138.22	16.52		

From the Table Two it is found that the mean and standard deviation of Altruism in female teachers is 142.44 and 17.58. The mean and standard deviation of Altruism in male teachers is 138.22 and 16.52. The *t* value obtained for Altruism is 1.55 and *p* value is .12 which is greater than .05. It indicates that the mean scores of altruism among female and male teachers do not differ significantly.

Hence the hypothesis stating that there exists a significant difference between female and male teachers in their Altruism is rejected.

### Findings

- There exists different level of altruism among secondary school teachers
- From the result it has been found that there exists no significant difference between female and male secondary school teachers in their Altruism.

## References

- Agarwal, J.C (2010). *Education for values, environment and human rights*, Delhi: Shiprampublications.
- ASA (2015). Altruism, morality and social solidarity. Retrieved from <http://www.asanet.org/sections/altruism.cfm>.
- Batson, C.D. (1987). *prosocialmotivation: is it even truly altruistic?* In Berkowitz (Ed.), *Advances in Experimental social psychology* (vol.20), Newyork: academic press, 873-884.
- Berkowitz, L. (1970). *The self, selfishness and altruism in J.behaviour*. New York: academic press.
- Isaac A. Friedman, Being a Teacher: Altruistic and Narcissistic Expectations of Pre-Service Teachers, *Teachers and Teaching: Theory and Practice*, v22 n5 p625-648, 2016
- Yıldırım Nail, A Qualitative Analysis of Altruism (Selflessness): Views of Headmasters in Turkey, *Journal of Education and Training Studies*, Vol. 4, No. 7; July 2016

