

PERCEPTION OF LIBRARY FACILITIES AND UTILISATION OF HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT

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Abstract

The present study aims at investigate the Perception of library facilities and utilisation among higher secondary school students in Tirunelveli district with respect to gender. The objectives of the study are (1) to find out the difference if any in perception of library utilisation of higher secondary school students based on gender. (2) to find out the difference if any in perception of library facilities of higher secondary school students based on gender. Survey method was used in the present study. The tool is a self made tool. The background variables used in the study are gender. The investigator has used stratified random sampling technique for selecting sample from the population. The sample consists of 300 students from different school at Tirunelveli district. In the present study the researcher found that there is no significant difference between the mean scores of library facilities of higher secondary school students with respect to gender. There is significant difference between the mean scores perception of library utilisation of higher secondary schools students with respect to gender.

Keywords: *Library facilities, Library Utilization, Perception. Higher secondary School students.*

Introduction

Education is the process of development which consists of the passage of the human being from infancy to maturity and the process whereby he adopts himself gradually in various ways to his physical, social and spiritual environment. But even in physical and social process, the child needs support and freedom from an economic pressure and that is why education requires long period of social as well as biological infancy when the young would live off labour of others and be released from self support.

However assistance will be at least partially discounted unless education at the same time encourages wise and discriminating consumption. The child should not become parasite he must pay back by reasling the goals and objectives that education sets for him up to his optimal capacity, sincerely and honesty. Education must focus on total and optimal development of human resources.

Significance of the Study

School is gateway to knowledge and plays an important role in building up a love for reading. The school library is integral to this education process. Encouraged at the right age, the children are sure to develop a love for books. “Catch ‘em Young” is therefore the motto of the school libraries. According to IFLA/UNESCO school library manifesto, “the school library provides information and ideas that are fundamental to functioning successfully in today’s information and knowledge-based society. The school library equips students with life-long learning skills and develops the imagination enabling them to live as responsible citizens”. It plays this role by selecting, acquiring and providing access to appropriate sources of information. The school library offers books and other resources ranging from print and non-printed materials for completion of various schools projects and assignments, for acquisition of knowledge about a topic taught in class, for finding information about a hobby or current events and news, etc. The school librarian helps the students in finding the books/ information on the topics of their interest.

Objectives

1. To find out the difference if any in perception of library facilities of higher secondary school students with respect to gender.
2. To find out the difference if any in perception of library utilisation of higher secondary school students with respect to gender.

Hypothesis

1. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of perception of library facilities of higher secondary school students with respect to gender.
2. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of perception of library utilisation of higher secondary school students with respect to gender.

Methodology

The investigator used survey method for the present study.

Population

The population of the study are all the higher secondary school students in the Tirunelveli district.

Sample

The sample of the present study was 300 and drawn from 10 higher secondary school students of Tirunelveli district. The selection of the schools was made on the basis of convenience and availability.

Tools used

The investigator has prepared the self-made tool for perception of library facilities and utilisation.

Delimitation

The investigator has selected the background variable is male and female of higher secondary school students in Tirunelveli district.

Data Analysis**Hypothesis**

There is no significant difference in the mean scores of perception of library facilities and library utilisation of higher secondary school students with respect to gender.

Table – 1

‘t’ test showing the significant difference in perception of library facilities with respect to gender.

Variables	Gender	Number	Mean	SD	‘t’ value	Remarks at 0.05 level
Library Facilities	Male	174	19.97	4.93	0.47	N.S.
	Female	126	19.71	4.42		

(Level of significant at 0.05% the table value is 1.96).

From the above table (1) shows that the calculated ‘t’ value (0.47) is lesser than the table value (1.96). Hence the null hypothesis “There is no significant difference between the mean scores of perception of library facilities of higher secondary schools students with respect to gender” is accepted.

Table – 2

‘t’ test showing the significant difference in perception of library utilisation with respect to gender.

Variables	Gender	Number	Mean	SD	‘t’ value	Remarks at 0.05 level
Library Utilisation	Male	174	102.32	13.48	2.69	Sig.
	Female	126	97.66	15.6		

(Level of significant at 0.05% the table value is 1.96).

From the above table (2) indicate the calculated ‘t’ value is (2.69) greater than the table value. Hence the null hypothesis “There is no significant difference between the mean scores of perception of library utilisation of higher secondary school students with respect to gender” is rejected.

Findings and Discussions

Based on gender, male and female students do not significant difference in the means scores of perception of library facilities of higher secondary school students.

Based on gender, male and female students significantly differ in the mean scores of perception of library utilisation of higher secondary school students. Library Utilisation of male student mean score is 102.32 and Female student mean score is 97.66. Comparing to male and female students, male students are used more times in library. Because male students are free in much times. So that time they are used in library. Female students are committed the house responsibility. So they are used in less time.

Conclusion

In the present study, the researcher found that there is no significant in the perception of library facilities of higher secondary school students with respect to gender. The researcher found that there is significant in the perception of library utilisation of higher secondary school students with respect to gender. It clearly shows that both the male and female higher secondary schools students have lack in the using library. The mean value of male higher secondary school students is greater than that of female higher secondary school students. It indicates that the male higher secondary schools students have greater library utilisation than the female higher secondary school students.

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