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ARTICLE

A Study of the Effect of Gender on Orphan Children's Scholastic Achievement

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Abstract

The present study was conducted on the sample of orphan children to know how their education level and achievement was. The main objective of this study was to study the impact of gender on scholastic achievement of orphan children. Researcher has taken 369 orphan boys and 431 orphan girls for data collection. Thus, researcher has selected total 800 orphan children from orphan homes as sample for the present study. The area of research was education and special education. Survey method was used in this research and research was limited to Gujarat state only. This study discovered that there was no significant difference between orphan boys and girls with scholastic achievement. Researcher found that both the groups had average lower scholastic achievement. Thus, we can say that the Gender dose does not affect the Scholastic Achievement of Orphan Boys and Girls.

INTRODUCTION

Orphan is a **Greek** word. An Orphan is a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them permanently. In common usage, only a child who has lost both parents is called an orphan. When referring to animals, only the mother's condition is usually relevant. If she has gone, the offspring is an orphan, regardless of the father's condition.

Adults can also be referred to as orphan or adult orphans. However, survivors who reached adulthood before their parents died are normally not called orphans. It is a term generally reserved for children whose parents have died while they are too young to support themselves.

Orphaned characters are extremely common as literary protagonists, especially in children's and fantasy literature. The lack of parents leaves the characters to pursue more interesting

and adventurous lives, by feeling them from familial obligations and contrails and depriving them of more prosaic lives. It creates characters that are self-contained and introspective and who strive for affection. Orphans and metaphorically search for self-understanding through attempting to know their roots. Parents can also be allies and serves as aid for children. If one parents-child relationship is important, removing the other parent prevents complicating the necessary relationship. All these characteristics make orphan attractive characters for researcher. Orphans are common in fairy tales, such as most variants of Cinderella.

Wars and great epidemics, such as AIDS, have created many orphans. World war two with its massive number of deaths and population movements created large number of orphans with estimates for Europe ranging from 10,00,000 to 1,30,00,000 estimates there from 9,000 orphaned children in Czechoslovakia, 60,000 in the Netherlands, 30,000 in Poland and 2,00,000 in Yugoslavia, plus many more in Soviet Union, Germany, Italy and Elsewhere.

UNICEF and Global partner define "An orphan as a child who has lost one or both parents. According to the report of **UNICEF (2010)**, 17.8 million children worldwide have lost both parents (double orphan), where as 153 million children worldwide have lost either one parent (single orphan) or both parents. 7.6% orphan children of total population are in the world. Highest numbers of orphan children are in African continent and there are 16.5% of total populations of this continent. America has 7.4% orphan children.

People believe that Orphan children are curse for the society. Some people of the society still are not ready to accept orphan children yet. But some have partial attitude toward them. India is a progressing country; in which for every class, every caste and every community have equal opportunity for development. Here orphan children face a lot of problems and needs too. They are like.. (1) Sufficient clothes and food not provided to orphan children. (2) Very few orphanages are available for orphan children. (3) Insufficient health and hygiene facilities are provided to them. (4) There is no financial facilities for studying in school and get higher education to orphan children. Many of them are deprived of education.

According to **the Webster (2011)**,

"A child deprived by death of one or usually both parents"

According to **D. Skinner & N. Tshoko (2004)**,

"Loss of parents through desertion or if the parents are unable or unwilling to provide care"

In the present research, researcher kept in view the problems of orphan children. The researcher wanted to know that what expectations the orphan children possessed? Which problems they faced in the school environment and scholastic achievement? To find the answers of these questions, the researcher selected this research. The researcher also tried to know about the scholastic achievement of orphan children.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A study relating Gender-effect on Orphan Children's Scholastic Achievement

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To study the impact of gender on scholastic achievement of orphan children

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of Scholastic achievement of Orphan Boys and Orphan Girls.

AREA OF RESEARCH

The present study is based on Orphan Children's Scholastic Achievement. Thus, the area of the study is education and special education.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The limitations of this study were as under:

- The present research was limited to the Gujarat state only.
- In the present study, orphan children were included from all types of orphan homes.
- The orphans (children) only who stayed in the orphan homes were included in the present study.
- In the present study, only Gujarati medium students of standard 8th, 9th, & 10th were selected.

POPULATION AND SAMPLE

The orphan children of the Gujarat state was the population of the present study. There are around 36 orphan homes in the Gujarat state. All these orphan homes run by Gujarat government, Semi-Government, Private, NGO or independent trust. Thus in the present study, researcher selected orphan children of class- 8th, 9th & 10th within the age group of 12 to 15 year.

In the present study, the researcher divided the Gujarat state into five zones (North, South, Central, Saurashtra, and Kutch) for data collection. The researcher selected only two orphan homes randomly from urban and rural area of each five zones. The researcher used purposive sampling method for selection of orphan homes and cluster sampling method for selection of orphan children. Thus, the researcher selected 20 orphan homes through random sampling for data collection from all the five zone of Gujarat state. The researcher took all the orphan children from these 20 orphan homes through cluster sampling method. The researcher has taken 369 orphan boys and 431 orphan girls for data collection. Thus, the researcher selected 800 orphan children in total from orphan homes as the sample for the present study.

METHODOLOGY

The Survey method was used in the present study.

DATA COLLECTION

In the present study, the researcher collected the data of scholastic achievement of orphan children's researcher annual exam marks for previous standard.

TECHNIQUES OF ANALYSISs

The researcher used Mean, S.D. and t-test as statistical technique for the analyzing the collected data in this study.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

Comparison of Mean scores of Scholastic Achievement of orphan boys and girls

Orphan students' last year's total obtained marks were considered as their scholastic achievement. The higher mean score shows good scholastic achievement and the lower mean score shows bad scholastic achievement. Hence, students' marks obtained during the previous year were converted into Standardized score.

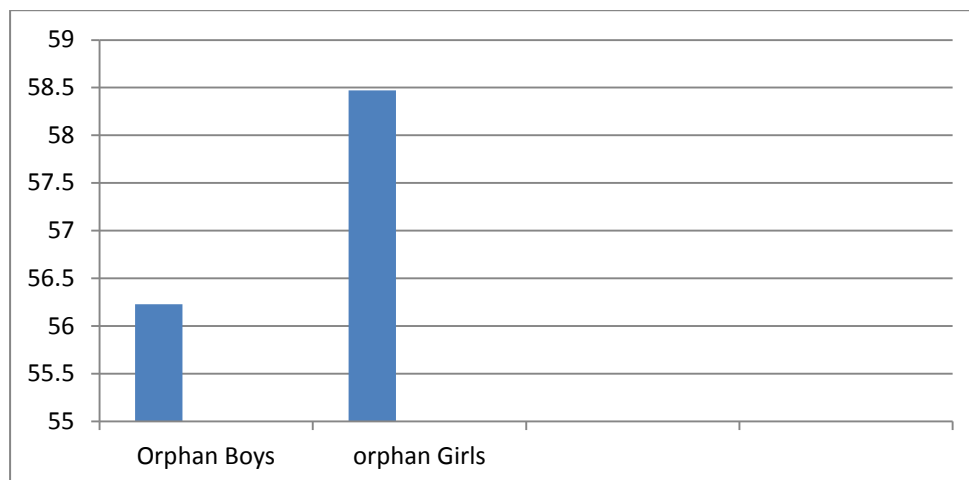
Table No. - 1

Analysis of Scholastic Achievement of orphan boys and girls

Orphan Children	N	Mean	SD	SE _D	t-Value	S/N.S.
Orphan Boys	369	56.23	13.13	1.62	1.39	N.S.
Orphan Girls	431	58.47	12.88			

Graph No.-1

Comparison of Mean scores of Scholastic Achievement of orphan Boys and Girls



Looking at the Table No.-1 & Graph No.- 1, it can be said that the mean score of scholastic achievement of Orphan Boys is 56.23 while the mean score of Orphan Girls for the same is 58.47. The t-value of the mean difference is 1.39, which is not significant. The null hypothesis "There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of Scholastic achievement of Orphan Boys and Orphan Girls" is accepted. The orphan boys and girls both are significantly have less scholastic achievement. The orphan boys and girls have similar scholastic achievement problems. Thus, gender does not affect Orphan Children Scholastic Achievements.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

According to the scores of scholastic achievement, there is no significant differences in the result of orphan boys and girls. Both the groups have average lower scholastic achievement. Thus, we can says that the Gender does not effect the Scholastic Achievement of Orphan Boys and Girls.

SUGGESTIONS

- (1) To get progress in educational success of Orphan students, expert teachers must be used to develop simple technique according to syllabus.
- (2) People should not criticize the orphan children anywhere.
- (3) Teachers should co-operate to participating and encouraging orphan children in different games, curricular activates, in celebrating festivals and other social activities.

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