

# Awareness of Environment Among Secondary School Students of Mawana Region with Reference to their Residential and Gender Background: A Comparative Study

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**Abstract**—In this study, the investigators have investigated the awareness of environment among the secondary school students with reference to their Residential and Gender background. The sample consists of 1000 secondary school students of Mawana region. A self-made questionnaire was used which consist of topics like environmental pollution, global environmental issues, conservation of wild life, human health and energy conservation. In this study, the tool, environment awareness scale, was developed by the investigator itself. The collected data was treated with statistical technique like Two way ANOVA, t-test etc. The results showed that urban secondary school student have more awareness towards environment than rural secondary school students. However, on significant difference was found among boys and girls towards awareness of environment.

**Keywords:** Environment; Awareness; Residential background; Gender Background.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Now a day's lack of environmental awareness among students is of great concern. Both developing and developed countries are facing serious environmental problem. While some of the problem may be due to global nature i.e global warming, pollution, human health, energy conservation etc. others can be especially local ones. Protection of environment has now become a challenging problem in front of the world. In order to save the environment the student has to be aware of the latest environmental issues and this can be done only by proper education. Earlier some workers have worked on the problem related to environment and its awareness such as Seema (1997), her worked showed that there is no difference among U.G, P.G and research scholar students towards environmental awareness, the work of V.Nagra and J.S.Dhillon (2006) on school teachers awareness towards environment showed that urban school teachers are more aware than their rural counterpart as well as male teachers have high awareness than female counterpart. P.K Astalin work in 2008 showed that general students have high

awareness towards environment than S.C and OBC students and on difference was seen among boys and girls students. This study compares the impact of environmental issues and their awareness towards environment on Secondary school students of Mawana region with reference to their residential and gender background. A self-made questionnaire was used which consist of topics like environmental pollution, global environmental issues, conservation of wild life, human health and energy conservation. In this study, the tool, environment awareness scale, was developed by the investigator itself.

## 2. OBJECTIVE

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To compare the level of awareness towards environment of rural and urban Secondary school students of Mawana region.
2. To compare the level of awareness towards environment between boys and girls Secondary school students of Mawana region.
3. To study the interaction effect between the residential and gender background.

## 3. METHODOLOGY

Descriptive method is used for the study. A self-made questionnaire was used which consist of topics like environmental pollution, global environmental issues, conservation of wild life, human health and energy conservation.

## 4. SAMPLE

1000 Secondary school students of XI and XII grade is used as sample, in which separately 250 Urban boys, 250

Urban girls, 250 Rural boys and 250 Rural girls is used. These students were from Co-ed schools and affiliated school of U.P and CBSE and ICSE board school of Mawana region. These were used to collect the data.

## 5. TOOL

In this study, the tool, environment awareness scale, developed by the investigator itself is used.

## 6. ANALYSIS OF THE STUDY

The present study is to measure the awareness of secondary school students of XI and XII grade of Mawana region towards environment. This study examines the awareness towards environment of secondary school students of XI and XII grade of Mawana region on the basis of gender and their background. In this study two way ANOVA and t-test is applied to find out the difference in the degree of awareness towards environment of secondary school students of XI and XII grade of Mawana region.

## 7. DISCUSSION

On the basis of the collection of data made by the investigator following results are obtained which are discussed below.

Two way factorial ANOVA design (table 1) and t test (table 2) were used for the analysis of data. SD, Mean And Median were also calculated.

**Table I: Summary of two way ANOVA results. a\*\* Significant at 0.01 level**

| Source of variance        | SS       | df  | MS      | F ratio  |
|---------------------------|----------|-----|---------|----------|
| A(Residential background) | 8940.51  | 1   | 8940.51 | 204.51** |
| B (sex)                   | 0.50     | 1   | 0.50    | 0.01     |
| A x B                     | 150.02   | 1   | 150.02  | 3.47     |
| Within group              | 43090.30 | 994 | 42.20   |          |

**Table II: Determination of t-values. \*\* Significant at 0.01 level**

| Pair of comparison | Mean difference | Std. error mean diff | t-value |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| Boys- Girls        | 0.13            | 0.30                 | 0.48    |
| Urban-Rural        | 6.12            | 0.32                 | 18.55** |

**Table III: Determination of Mean and SD of the score.**

|       | Mean  | Std. Dev | Total Sample |
|-------|-------|----------|--------------|
| Boys  | 84.73 | 6.25     | 500          |
| Girls | 84.60 | 5.77     | 500          |
| Urban | 87.75 | 4.37     | 500          |
| Rural | 81.59 | 6.00     | 500          |

**Table IV: Interactions between A and B \*\*significant at 0.01 level**

| Pair of comparison      | Mean difference | Std. error mean difference | t- value |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Rural boys- Rural girls | 0.80            | 0.45                       | 1.65     |
| Urban boys- Urban girls | 1.05            | 0.36                       | 2.84     |
| Urban boys- Rural boys  | 7.05            | 0.43                       | 15.12**  |
| Urban girls-Rural girls | 5.10            | 0.44                       | 11.21**  |

## 8. RESIDENTIAL BACKGROUND

There is a significant difference in the mean value awareness test scores among the students residing either urban or rural places as shown in ANOVA in Table 1. In table 3 it is seen that the mean score of urban students i.e 87.75 is higher than that of rural students i.e 81.59 showing a difference of 6.16. The t- value was found 18.55 which was significant at 0.01 level.

## 9. GENDER

There is a no significant difference in the mean value awareness test scores among the students belonging to different gender i.e boys and girls as shown in ANOVA in Table 1. In table 3 it is seen that the mean score of boys students is 84.73 which is slightly higher than that of girls students i.e 84.60 showing a difference of 0.13. The t- value was found 0.48 which was not significant at 0.01 level.

## 10. INTERACTION EFFECT

The F value for the interaction of variables, gender and residential background of students (A x B) given in table 1 which is not significant at 0.01 level. In the table 4 it is clear that out of four pairs two were found to be significant at 0.01 level. The result showed that urban boys and girls have higher environmental awareness than its rural counterpart i.e t=15.12 and t=11.21.

## 11. CONCLUSION

Based on the surveyed data and analysis of the present study, following conclusion are drawn-

1. Urban secondary students showed significant higher awareness than rural secondary student which suggest that residential background play a vital role.
2. There was very slight difference in awareness among boys and girls towards environment thus it is seen that gender was not a factor affecting environmental awareness among secondary school students.

## 12. IMPLICATIONS

Education is a great tool to educate students but to live in this ever changing world we need a clean environment to sustain.

Educating our young students will improve our culture and environment. Government is now a days emphasizing on the awareness of environment among students mainly at the level of secondary level. So this study implicates that urban secondary school student have more awareness towards environment than rural secondary school students. However, on significant difference was found among boys and girls towards awareness of environment.

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