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A STUDY ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS AMONG STUDENT TEACHERS

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Abstract: Environmental pollution and climate change have become a burning issue presently in the globe. The present study was conducted to evaluate the environmental awareness and environmental ethics among student teachers in Shimoga district. The present study belongs to the category of descriptive field survey type of research. For selecting the sample stratified random technique was used. In the present study following standardized research tools were used. 1. Environmental Awareness Opinionnaire constructed by Vipinder Nagra. 2. Environmental Ethics Scale constructed by Haseen Taj. The collected data were analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics that is Mean, Standard Derivation, t-test and correlation co-efficient.

Key words: Environmental Awareness, Environmental Ethics, Student Teachers.

Introduction: Education is the base for moulding a human being into a knowledgeable, insightful, ethical, and well mannered personality. Environmental awareness is recognized as an essential ingredient for survival in the present scenario. Environmental awareness is having an understanding of the environment, the impacts of human behaviors on it, and the importance of its protection. Environmental awareness involves the gradual understanding of environmental issues, and the recognition of the connections among human actions, development, sustainability and human responsibility in these processes. Environmental awareness involves the realization that humans and ecosystems co-exist in a shared environment, which is ultimately the biosphere. Environmental awareness is an integral part of the movement's success. By spreading awareness to others that the physical environment is fragile and indispensable, we can begin fixing the issues that threaten it.

Environmental ethics is a field of study that seeks to understand humans' moral obligations to protect and preserve the environment. Environmental ethics is a branch of ethical thought that focuses on the relationship between humans and their natural environment. It is a holistic approach of understanding and evaluating our moral obligations to protect and preserve the environment. Environmental ethics seeks to bring together the interests of both humans and the environment, recognizing that both are interdependent. Environmental ethics also draws upon the fields of philosophy, economics, ecology, and law, providing a comprehensive approach to understanding and evaluating the moral implications of human actions. Environmental ethics can be defined as the study that examines the ethical relationship of humans and the environment. Environmental Education become an essential zone to be enhanced and there are lots of research are conducted to emphasis on different dimensions of Environmental Education.

Review of Related Literature: The findings of the previous research related to the present study are presented here under. Ajay Kumar, (2010) revealed that the environmental awareness of prospective teachers of Himachal Pradesh remains between same. while they were studying Education for Human Value, Environment, and Human Rights as compulsory subject during their B.Ed. course. Wongchantra, and Nuangchalerm (2011) revealed that female students had higher score of environmental knowledge, and environmental ethics than those of male students. Suhane (2012) observed a significant difference in environmental ethics between male in service teachers, and female inservice teachers. Anjuli Suhane (2012) observed a significant difference in environmental ethics between male teacher educators and female teacher educators. Marcela Espinosa Pike, and Edurne Aldazabal (2012) revealed that gender was not significant variable in terms of sensitivity towards the inclusion of ethics in graduate studies. 8931 Journal of Positive School Psychology Hadi and Sakari, (2013) Relationship between Awareness, Knowledge, and Attitudes towards Environmental Education among Secondary School Students in Malaysia. The significance of environmental education is well known globally among societies.

Need for the Study: The content and processes of teacher education programme will have to equip student teachers with a proper understanding about the nature or environment and the skill of inculcating these among them. The teacher education programme play a significant roll in developing environmental ethics among student teachers. The present study aims to find out the relationship between environmental awareness and environmental ethics among student teachers.

Statement of the Problem: A Study on the relationship between Environmental Awareness and Environmental Ethics among Student Teachers.

Objectives of the Study:

1. To find out the difference in environmental awareness among student teachers with respect to gender, location and stream.
2. To find out the difference in environmental ethics among student teachers with respect to gender, location and stream.
3. To find out the relationship between environmental awareness and environmental ethics among student teachers.

Hypotheses of the Study:

1. There is no significant difference between male and female student teachers in their environmental awareness.
2. There is no significant difference between urban and rural student teachers in their environmental awareness.
3. There is no significant difference between science and arts student teachers in their environmental awareness.
4. There is no significant difference between male and female student teachers in their environmental ethics.
5. There is no significant difference between rural and urban student teachers in their environmental ethics.
6. There is no significant difference between science and arts student teachers in their environmental ethics.
7. There is no significant relationship between environmental awareness and environmental ethics among student teachers.

Research Methodology:

The present study belongs to the category of descriptive field survey type of research designed to understand environmental awareness and environmental ethics among student teachers. It distinguishes itself by gathering data from a relatively large population in the form of representation.

Population of the Study: A total population of 358 student teachers was taken up for present study. It consists of students studying B.Ed degree course in Colleges of Education in Shimoga District.

Sample and Sampling Procedure: The sample of the study has been comprised of student teachers are studying in Colleges of Education in Shimoga District. For selecting the sample stratified random technique has been used. Due care was taken in selecting the sample to give proper representation to male, female, rural, urban, science and arts stream student teachers.

Tools used: The present study used the following standardized research tools.

1. Environmental Awareness Opinionnaire constructed by Vipinder Nagra.
2. Environmental Ethics Scale constructed by Haseen Taj.

Statistical Techniques used: The following statistical calculations were used for analyzing the collected data. They are Mean, Standard Deviation, t-test, and coefficient of correlation. The data was statistically and systematically analyzed.

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Hypothesis 1: There is no significant difference between male and female student teachers in their environmental awareness.

Table-1: Difference between Male and Female student teachers in their Environmental awareness.

Gender	N	Mean	SD	't' Value	Level of Significance
Male	230	41.66	9.542	1.312	NS
Female	128	40.55	6.399		

NS=Not Significant

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated 't' value 1.312 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level. Therefore it is stated that there is no significant difference between Male and Female student teachers with respect to their Environmental awareness. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted.

Hypothesis 2: There is no significant difference between urban and rural student teachers in their environmental awareness.

Table-2: Difference between Urban and Rural student teachers in their Environmental awareness.

Gender	N	Mean	SD	't' Value	Level of Significance
Rural	211	40.64	8.498	1.654	NS
Urban	147	42.16	8.586		

NS=Not Significant

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated 't' value 1.654 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level. Therefore it is stated that there is no significant difference between Rural and Urban student teachers with respect to their Environmental awareness. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted.

Hypothesis 3: There is no significant difference between science and arts student teachers in their environmental awareness.

Table-3 : Difference between Science and Arts student teachers in their Environmental awareness.

Gender	N	Mean	SD	't' Value	Level of Significance
Science	153	42.02	5.935	1.599	NS
Arts	205	40.68	10.056		

NS=Not Significant

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated 't' value 1.599 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level. Therefore it is stated that there is no significant difference between Science and Arts student teachers with respect to their Environmental awareness. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted.

Hypothesis 4: There is no significant difference between male and female student teachers in their environmental ethics.

Table -4 : Difference between Male and Female student teachers in their Environmental Ethics.

Gender	N	Mean	SD	't' Value	Level of Significance
Male	230	108.47	17.016	1.54	NS
Female	128	110.95	13.046		

NS=Not Significant

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated 't' value 1.54 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level. Therefore it is stated that there is no significant difference between Male and Female student teachers with respect to their Environmental Ethics. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted.

Hypothesis 5: There is no significant difference between rural and urban student teachers in their environmental ethics.

Table-5: Difference between Rural and Urban student teachers in their Environmental Ethics.

Gender	N	Mean	SD	't' Value	Level of Significance
Rural	211	108.18	15.164	1.679	NS
Urban	137	111.05	16.4098		

NS=Not Significant

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated 't' value 1.679 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level. Therefore it is stated that there is no significant difference between Rural and Urban student teachers with respect to their Environmental Ethics. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted.

Hypothesis 6: There is no significant difference between science and arts student teachers in their environmental ethics.

Table-6 : Difference between Science and Arts student teachers in their Environmental Ethics.

Gender	N	Mean	SD	't' Value	Level of Significance
Science	153	110.97	15.456	1.76	NS
Arts	205	108.16	15.86		

NS=Not Significant

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated 't' value 1.76 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level. Therefore it is stated that there is no significant difference between Science and Arts student teachers with respect to their Environmental Ethics. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted.

Relationship between Environmental awareness and Environmental ethics:

The relationship between Environmental Awareness and Environment Ethics among student teachers was found out by using co relational statistical analysis by finding out 'r' coefficient of correlation. In the present study differential analysis such as 't' test was used to find the mean difference between the group for comparison.

Hypothesis 7: There is no significant relationship between environmental awareness and environmental ethics among student teachers.

Table-7: Relationship between Environmental awareness and Environmental ethics of total sample.

Variable	N	Coefficient of Correlation	'r' value	Level of Significance
Total Sample	358	+0.2843	5.60	S

S=Significant

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated 'r' value 0.2843 is grater than the table value. Therefore it is stated that there is significant positive relationship between Environmental awareness and Environmental ethics among student teachers. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:

1. It is found that there is no significant difference between Male and Female student teachers in respect of their Environmental awareness.
2. It is found that there is no significant difference between Rural and Urban student teachers in respect of their Environmental awareness.
3. It is found that there is no significant difference between Science and Arts student teachers in respect of their Environmental awareness.
4. It is found that there is no significant difference between Male and Female Student Teachers in respect of their Environmental Ethics.
5. It is found that there is no significant difference between Rural and Urban student teachers in respect of their Environmental Ethics.
6. It is found that there is no significant difference between Science and Arts student teachers in respect of their Environmental Ethics.
7. There is significant positive relationship between Environmental Awareness and Environmental Ethics scores of student teachers in Davangere district. It can be decided that the student teachers having environmental ethics have favourable awareness towards environment.

Conclusion:

Environmental awareness and Environmental ethics is a field of study that seeks to understand humans' moral obligations to protect and preserve the environment. The environment is becoming increasingly contaminated by our imagination. Most human activities cause the environment to become contaminated. This will affect both the global and regional levels. This process rests in the hands of educated communities that can train their new generations to becoming responsible environmental citizens. Now a days, majority of the world population is grappled with different challenges related with the nature and attempting to save nature. Therefore, the role of education system is to undertake this responsibility of save the environmental climate and create the awareness. It is better to practice the environmental awareness and environmental ethics from primary level onwards.

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