

INFLUENCE OF SELECTED FACTORS IN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AMONG WOMEN IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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Abstract

Education is becoming a predominant factor for success in everyone's life. But it is a critical area for women regarding empowerment at all levels. This is not only because, education is an entry point to opportunity but women's educational achievements have ripple effects within the family and across generations at times till now. This study is aimed to study those problems in pursuing higher education among B.Ed women students. The population of this study consists only 200 B.Ed women students in Salem districts of TamilNadu, India. The researcher made questionnaire was used to collect data from the sample. Descriptive and differential analyses were used to analyses the collected data. The outcomes of this study will help to identify and eradicate the problems of women students in Higher education and to improve their enrolment in various educational institutions and to improve literacy rate of women learners that lead to enhance the status of women in the society. The results showed that there exists significance in locality of college, father and mothers educational qualification and also in the parental occupation at various levels. The remains showed no signification.

Keywords: *predominant, empowerment, problems, eradicate and enrolment etc*

Introduction

Women constitute almost half of the population in the world. But the hegemonic masculine ideology made them suffer a lot as they were denied with equal opportunities in different parts of the world. The rise of feminist ideas had however led to the tremendous improvement of women's condition throughout the world in recent times. Access to education has been one of the most pressing demands of these women and even rights considerably. Women education in India has also been a major preoccupation of both the government and civil society as educated women can play a very important role in the development of the country.

Importance of women higher education in India

Higher Education is one of the most important means of empowering women with the knowledge, skills and self-confidence necessary to participate completely in the development process. Educational opportunities can alone bring progress for women development and certainly this will lead them to achieve many this in personal as well as for the welfare of their family. When educational opportunities are provided, they can be self sustained and can bring confidence towards their life and family maintenances.

- Higher Education is important for everyone, but it is especially significant for girls and women. This is true not only because Higher education is an entry point to

other opportunities. Investing in girls' education is one of the most effective way in reducing poverty.

- Girls those have Higher education are likely to marry later and to have smaller and healthier families. Educated women can recognize the importance of health care and know the ways to seek it for themselves and to their children.
- Women's literacy rates are significantly lower than men's in most developing countries. Higher Education will help them to know their rights and to gain confidence in claiming them and to achieve better position in the society.
- The Higher education of parents is linked to their children's educational attainment, and the mother's education is usually more influential than the father. An educated mother's greater influence in household negotiations may allow their female child to secure more resources.
- India is a developing country and facing a problem of high population, family planning is becoming a very important concept, educated mothers, averaging fewer children, can concentrate more attention on each child.

Objectives

- To find out the significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women

educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to locality of college.

- To find out the significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to locality of student.
- To find out the significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to stream of study.
- To find out the significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to educational qualification of father.
- To find out the significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to educational qualification of mother.
- To find out the significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to educational qualification of mother.
- To find out the significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to parental occupation.
- To find out the significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to marital status.

Hypotheses

- There may be no significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to locality of college.
- There may be no significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to locality of student.
- There may be no significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to stream of study.
- There may be no significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women

educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to educational qualification of father.

- There may be no significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to educational qualification of mother.
- There may be no significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to educational qualification of mother.
- There may be no significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to parental occupation.
- There may be no significant difference in problems of educational and social influences on women educational opportunities among B.Ed women students with respect to marital status.

Analysis and Interpretation

Mean score difference in problems between the selected demographic

Variables among B.Ed women student

Variable	N	Mean	SD	t value	
Locality of the College	Urban	109	63.03	13.68	3.02*
	Rural	92	68.51	11.98	
Locality of the student	Urban	107	64.68	12.45	0.98
	Rural	94	66.52	13.98	
Stream of the study	Arts	95	64.36	13.01	1.19
	Science	106	66.59	13.32	
Fathers Education Qualification	Illiterate	97	68.56	11.99	3.22*
	Literate	104	62.72	13.67	
Mothers Education Qualification	Illiterate	104	68.03	12.19	2.81*
	Literate	97	62.86	13.74	
Marital status	Married	83	63.83	13.95	1.51
	Un Married	118	66.74	12.54	

* = Significant at the 0.05 level. ($p < 0.01$)

Table (1) reveals that, the mean value of women rural students is 68.51 and urban is 63.03. It shows that students studying in colleges located in rural area have more problem than urban area. The calculated 't' value 3.02, is greater than the table value at 0.05 level of

significance. Hence the null hypothesis is not accepted. It is concluded that there is significant difference exist between the rural and urban women students based on locality of college.

Analysis based on the locality of student revealed that the mean value of rural women students is 66.52 and urban is 64.68, this shows that rural students have more problem than urban student. The calculated 't' value is 0.98 is lesser than the table value at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. It is concluded that there is no significant difference exist between the rural and urban women students based on locality of student.

Among the analysis, the mean value of arts major students is 64.36 and science students is 66.59. It shows that science students have more problem than the arts student. The calculated 't' value is 1.19, is less than the table value at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. It is concluded that there is no significant difference exist between the arts major and science major women students based on stream of the study.

Analysis based on the educational qualification of father revealed that the mean value of student with illiterate father is 68.56 and literate father is 62.72, proved that students with their illiterate father have more problem than students with literate father. The calculated 't' value is 3.22, is greater than the table value at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is not accepted. It is concluded that there is significant difference exist between the illiterate father and literate fathers women students based on educational qualification of father.

Analysis based on the educational qualification of mother revealed that the mean value of student with illiterate mother is 68.03 and literate mother is 62.86, proved that students with their illiterate mother have more problem than students with literate mother. The calculated 't' value is 2.81 is greater than the table value at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is not accepted. It is concluded that there is significant difference exist between the illiterate mother and literate mothers women students based on educational qualification of mother.

Analysis based on the marital status, the mean value of married students is 63.83 and unmarried student is 66.74. It shows that unmarried students have more problem than the married students. The calculated 't' value is 1.51 is less than the table value at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. It is concluded that there is no significant difference exist

between the married and unmarried women students based on marital status.

Table-2: Mean score difference in problem among B.Ed women learners with respect to their parental occupation at various levels

Variables		N	Mean	SD
Parental occupation	Self	89	67.17	13.28
	Private	57	68.73	12.91
	Government	55	59.58	11.50

Source of Variation	Sum of squares	Df	Mean square	F Value	'p' Value
Between Groups	2774.333	2	1387.166	8.57*	0.05
Within Groups	32027.56	198	161.7553		
Total	34801.89	200			

From the table, the mean value of student with their parents working as self employee is 67.17, private sector is 68.73 and government sector is 59.58. The differences in mean scores showed with their parent those are private employee have more problem followed by parents working in self and government sectors. Since the calculated 'F' value is greater than table value at 0.05 level of significance, it is concluded that there is significance difference existed in the problems among women students with respect to their parental occupation revealing the economic status may contribute on students educational problems.

Conclusion

The results from the statistical analysis showed that difference existed between and among the groups in selected variables like locality of college, educational qualification of father, educational qualification of mother and parental occupation. The distance of institution, economic statuses of family have signifying impact on female students education. Most of the students stated major problem faced by them in educational and social. They require those facilities for their development in higher education. It is suggested that the higher officials of the private management, government and parents should take necessary remedial measure to fulfill the requirement of students and to improve status of women learners.

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