

# Research maGma

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### EFFECT OF PREDICTOR VARIABLES ON SOCIAL MATURITY AMONG POST-GRADUATION STUDENTS

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#### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to analyze the effect of important predictor variables on Social Maturity. In the present study, descriptive method of research was used by the researcher. The design adopted in the study was survey design. Female Students enrolled for postgraduate courses in Kuvempu University were selected as the sample for this study in order to analyse the Social maturity, Social Adjustment, Social Freedom and Socio-Economic Status, Standardized questionnaires was used. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyze the data in the study using SPSS. The statistical techniques used were Descriptive Statistics, Pearson Product Moment Correlation (r) and Multiple Linear Regression. Findings revealed a significant positive correlation exists between Social maturity with Social Adjustment, Social Freedom and Socio-Economic Status. Social Adjustment is the first predicting variable followed by Socio-Economic Status and Social Freedom.

#### INTRODUCTION:

Education is a lifelong process. It is comprehensive term. The modern aim of education is the wholesome, balanced or harmonious development of the personality. It means moral, social, spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical development. All these aspects are equally important for personality development. Personality does not exist in vacuum but to large extent depends upon social environment. Man has attained refinement by the process of education. It contributes to the growth and development of society. Education develops the individual like a flower which distributes its fragrance all over. Education provides mature person to this society. Mature person means a person who is adjusted to environment easily or a person who makes adjustment with environment easily. Maturity implies a satisfactory fulfillment of one's potentialities. This means developing and issuing

one's physical and mental abilities to the fullest extent. Maturity requires adjusting to and participating creatively in one's environment requires adjusting to and participating creatively in one's environment in order to participate creatively in this world. It is the complete change in an individual which assist him to reach at the stage of functional readiness. Today's citizen must be literate in the political, social, economic, scientific and artistic field. If he is taking an active and cooperative part in his social group than he is mature. If for some reasons he is not ready to act, feel and think in way appropriate according to his stage of physical and mental development, then he is an immature person

Social maturity is a term commonly used in two ways, with reference to the behavior that conforms to the standards and expectations of the adults and secondly, with reference to the behavior that is appropriate to the age of the individual under observation. Thus, the social maturation permits more detailed perception of the social environment which helps adolescents to influence the social circumstances and develop stable patterns of social behaviour (Bretsch, 1952). Social Maturity is a personal commitment each individual must make as the attitude that will influence his/her daily lives. Individuals can opt for the socially immature attitude of self-centeredness or they can opt for the socially mature attitude of genuine concern for the total wellbeing of each other. The very informal atmosphere of self-help groups where the individuals discuss and share their problems and their achievements with each other within the framework of caring and sharing without the fear of being exploited (Dilts,1982). Ryff (1998) proposes that some factors of well-being in particular self-acceptance, environmental mastery, and purpose in life are highly correlated with self-esteem. According to Major, Cooper, Richards and Zubek (1998) self-esteem may be thought of as a core resource that contributes to resilient personality, and a person with a resilient personality has a positive view of him or her, a sense of control and an optimistic outlook on the future. Levi (1987) defined well-being as a dynamic state of mind characterized by a reasonable amount of harmony between an individual's abilities, needs, expectations and environmental demands.

### **SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY:**

Social maturity is evidence by an individual's capacity for making and keeping friends. To be effective in his social relations, a person needs to acquire the social skills that enable him to deal with people tactfully and with understanding. He must be conscious of the interest of others, appreciative of their goals and supportive of their feelings of personal worth. Thus, social maturity is needed for the following reasons:

- ✦ For the socialization of the individual: A human being gradually evolves from the extreme individualism of the infant and accompanying dependency on a few persons, chiefly the mother and father, the outgoing membership in an adult social group and dependency on its many members. So in the process of growing up, we become more and more social, for which social maturity is needed.
- ✦ To decline egocentricity: As a person matures socially, he becomes less and less egocentric or self-centered – his interests, thoughts and expressions are increasingly centered less on self
- ✦ and more on others and the whole world outside himself. This change is moreover, a necessary inner complement of the increasing outer activity that leads to social maturity.
- ✦ To develop self-confidence: This includes acceptance of self, emotional security, freedom from egotism and inferiority complex.
- ✦ To develop social feeling: This includes trust, democratic, character structure, warm relating to others, empathy accurately, perceptive and response to other intimacy.
- ✦ Productivity: Ability to work, industry task orientation, competence, skills for solving, objective

problems, deepening of interest and generatively in work.

- ✦ To develop social and human values: This includes ethical certainty, integrity, autonomous
- ✦ conscious and humanistic values.
- ✦ To live life fully: It enables a person to live the life to the fullest, he shares his feelings, attitudes and interest with others. For the successful sharing, he needs to be getting mixed with people, which is only possible if he is socially mature.

The purpose of this study is to analyze the effect of important predictor variables on Students Social Maturity.

#### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE:**

✦ Ram Prakash Gupta (2014), Conducted a study on Study of Social Maturity Among Male and Female M.Ed. Students, the present study examined Social Maturity among Male and Female M.Ed. Students. The study was confined to 100 male and female students of Science and Arts students of M.Ed. of Himachal Pradesh. Comprehensive scale of Social Maturity prepared by Roma Pal was used. The reliability was calculated which were 0.834 and 0.793 respectively; validity was 0.831. After the analysis of the result, it was found that all M.Ed. students are social mature whether they belong to science and humanity groups, there is no significant difference in the social maturity level among female arts and science students. There is no significant difference in the social maturity level among male arts and science students; among male and female science students; among male and female arts students. It was observed that there is no significant difference in the social maturity level among male and female students.

✦ Vipinder Nagra and Maninder Kaur (2013). Conducted a study on Social Maturity among Student Teachers, the present study aims to identify the social maturity of a sample of 200 teacher educators in relation to locality and subject stream. Results of the study reveal that teacher educators have high level of social maturity while no significant difference was observed in social maturity of teacher educators in relation to locality and subject streams. The analysis of variance results was also insignificant highlighting that there was no interaction effect of locality and subject stream on social maturity of teacher educators.

✦ Anand A.K., Kunwar N. and Kumar A. (2014), Conducted a study on Impact of different Factors on Social Maturity of Adolescents of Coed-School, the sample consists of 220 students of IXth, Xth, XIth and XIIth class selected from the coeducational English medium schools of Kanpur district. Out of which 110 were boys and 110 were girls. The sample was collected by using multistage random sampling technique. Self-designed socio-demographic questionnaire was used to study the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents. Social maturity of the respondents was assessed by using Rao's Social Maturity scale developed by Dr Nalini Rao. Factors affecting social maturity of adolescents of co-ed schools were affected by family and peer group in social maturity whereas co-ed school respondents were affected by personality. The boys and girls were affected by inferiority complex while 50.9% boys and 40.0% of girls were affected in social maturity by neighbourhood and school. Co-ed school adolescents were given recreation as a factor in social maturity.

✦ Poonam Choudhary (2014), Conducted a study on Social Maturity of Adolescents in Relation to Their Gender and Locality: A Comparative Analysis, Social Maturity is the ability to function in an appropriate responsible manner. As adolescence is the age for an individual to express mature behavior. Social Maturity is an essential aspect for the individual as well as society. The present research study was undertaken to assess and compare the Social Maturity of Adolescents in relation to their

Gender and Locality. The sample consisted of 500 adolescent students studying with 11th and 12th standards from rural, 250(125 females and 125 male) and from Urban, 250 (125 females and 125 male) were included in this sample. Rao's Social Maturity scale was used to assess the social maturity. Thus obtained data was analysed using means, S. D's, 't'-test. The result revealed significant gender difference on the basis of social maturity and also reported that adolescent students belonging to rural area possess higher social maturity than those belonging to urban area. The study has implications for the parents, teachers and policy makers.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- ✦ To study the Relationship between Social Maturity with Associated Factors.
- ✦ To study the contribution of predictor variables (Social Freedom, Social Adjustment and Social Economic Status) in predicating the criterion variable (Social Maturity) among Postgraduate Female students.

#### **HYPOTHESES:**

- ✦ There is no significant relationship between Social Maturity and Social Freedom among Postgraduate Female students.
- ✦ There is no significant relationship between Social Maturity and Social Adjustment among Postgraduate Female students.
- ✦ There is no significant relationship between Social Maturity and Socio-Economic Status among Postgraduate Female students.
- ✦ There exists no contribution of predictor variables (Social Freedom, Social Adjustment and Social Economic Status) in predicating the criterion variable (Social Maturity) among Postgraduate Female students.

#### **VARIABLES:**

Independent variables are the cause and the dependent variable is the effect. In the present investigation three independent variables were taken up with one dependent variable. The independent variables in respect of the present study are Social Freedom, Social Adjustment and Socio Economic Status and the dependent variable is Social Maturity.

#### **RESEARCH METHOD:**

In the present study, descriptive method of research was used by the researcher.

#### **SAMPLING:**

For this study the Researcher was used Random sampling method. The Researcher was selected a sample of four hundred and sixty (N=400) Postgraduate Female students were drawn from four faculties. Students are enrolled in Postgraduate courses of Kuvempu University main campus in the academic year 2015-16.

#### **TOOLS USED FOR THE STUDY:**

Researcher used following standardized tools for collecting the data,

- ✦ Social Maturity Scale (RSMS) by Nalini Rao: Social Maturity Scale is a 90 items scale which can be administered to the respondents in groups in the regular class-room situation following the instructions given in the manual. The scale consists of three components viz., personal adequacy (work orientation,

self-direction and ability to take stress), interpersonal adequacy (communication, enlightened trust and cooperation) and social adequacy (social commitment, social tolerance and openness to change). It is a four-point scale: Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree and Strongly Disagree with respective scores 4,3,2,1. The reliability of the sub scales ranges from 0.91 to 0.63. The test- retest reliability of the scale is found to be 0.79 and has been validated against the external criterion.

✦ The Women Social Freedom Scale (WSFS) prepared by L.I. Bhushan (2011). The test consists total 24 items out of which 16 items are Positive and 8 items are Negative. The subject is supposed to mark his response to each item in 'agreement or disagreement' and if to put a " "mark in the appropriate cell provided against each item. The test-retest reliability was 0.83.

✦ Social Adjustment inventory was developed by Roma Pal is used. The reliability coefficient was 0.82 and correlation coefficient was 0.87. The validity of the inventory had come out to be 0.77 and 0.80 respectively. For this study 60 items were considered in the light of the description of the variable. Though the inventory has no time limit but usually a subject had taken 30 – 45 minutes to fill it up. 60 items were followed by „Yes or No“ responses.

✦ Socio-Economic Status Scale developed by Dr.Meenakshi (2011) was used.

### **STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES USED**

The hypotheses were tested by analysing data by applying appropriate descriptive and inferential statistics.

✦ Descriptive statistics, Mean and standard Deviation were used for the different variables in the study.

✦ Co-efficient of Correlation: This statistical technique has been employed to verify hypotheses pertaining to correlational studies. It has been used to estimate the significance of the relationship between the two variables.

✦ Regression: A statistical procedure in which more than one predictor variable is correlated with a target variable as well as with the other predictor variables in order to form a linear model using a weighted sum of the predictor variables to predict values of the target variable. Multiple regression analysis is performed to see how much the independent variables can predict Social Maturity.

### **TREATMENT OF THE DATA:**

The Statistical Package of the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 23.0 was used to analyse the data. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used to describe and summarize results.

### **MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:**

✦ Positive good correlation ( $r=0.71$ ,  $p<0.01$ ) exists between Social Maturity and Social Adjustment of Post-Graduate Female Students. It is evident that Social Adjustment influences the Social Maturity. It means that, high level social adjustment holds high level social maturity or poor level social adjustment holds low level of social maturity.

✦ Positive low correlation ( $r=0.33$ ,  $p<0.01$ ) exists between Social Maturity and Social Freedom of Post-Graduate Female Students. It is evident that Social freedom influences the Social Maturity. It means that, high level social freedom holds high level social maturity or poor level social freedom holds low level social maturity.

✦ Positive low correlation ( $r=0.38$ ,  $p<0.01$ ) exists between Social Maturity and Socio-economic Status of Post-Graduate Female Students. It is evident that family Socio-economic Status influences the Social Maturity. It means that, high Socio-economic Status holds high level social maturity or poor Socio-economic Status holds low level social maturity.

- ✦ Social Freedom(X1), Social Adjustment(X2) and Socio Economic Status(X3) are the significant Predictors of Social Maturity of Postgraduate Female Students. (F=102.14, p<0.01).
- ✦ 62.20 percent of the variation in Social Maturity accounted for whatever is measured by Social Freedom(X1), Social Adjustment(X2) and Socio Economic Status(X3) taken together.
- ✦ Social Adjustment(X2) is the First Contributor/predictor followed by Socio Economic Status(X3) and Social Freedom(X1).

### IMPLICATIONS:

Both male and female students share equal status in the society. No discrimination is made between them. They both enjoy equal rights and opportunities which enables them to adjust to the society with maturity. So, the present study showed that both male and female students are able to adjust in the society with the maturity. The present scenario of society is characterized as being full of anger, hatred, distrust, disharmony, confrontation and above all degradation of human values. At this point of time, the colleges of education are considered more conducive place for the cultivation of certain desirable social skills among future teachers. They have to be trained to develop self-confidence, self-direction, social feeling, productivity, social and human values. Teachers and parents have to adopt the skills of social development to make their children socially concerned and aware along with inculcating in them social behaviour. There is a dire need to bring stringent changes in the curriculum by introducing content and curricular activities that directly or indirectly enhances the social aspects of the individual. Students should be given an opportunity to express their ideas and discuss their problems with school/college/university authorities. It develops self-confidence and mental satisfaction among the students. Play hobbies, excursions, discussions etc. provide excellent opportunities to explore and express their feelings. These should be organised for developing good mental health of students and their healthy adjustment. Parents and teachers should provide intellectual, social and emotional support to children at the time of stress and tension. In this way students will be enabling to recognise their strong and weak characteristics to avoid unnecessary aspirations.

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