

PARENTAL ATTITUDE TOWARDS GIRLS' EDUCATION: IN RELATION TO COMMUNITY AND GENDER

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Abstract

The present study was conducted to parental attitude towards girls' education based on community (scheduled castes and scheduled tribes) and gender. Main objectives of the study are to compare the attitude of scheduled castes and scheduled tribesparents towards girls' education and to compare the attitude of scheduled castes and scheduled tribesparents towards girls' education belonging to different gender. There are different barriers regarding the conditions of girls' education, such as economic condition, gender biasness and social outlook and family condition etc. The researcher presupposes that one of the main reasons for this condition is the parental attitude. Keeping this in view this study was conducted. The sample comprised of 864 parents of West Bengal state. 58-items questionnaire used for collecting data. The 't' test was used to analysis to significance of difference between scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and gender with regard to their attitude towards girls' education. The findings showed that scheduled castes parents are having more favorable attitude than Scheduled Tribes parents toward girls' education and attitude of parents belonging male and female towards girls' education do not differ significantly.

Keywords:

Parental attitude;
Girls' education

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1. Introduction

World conference on Education For All in Jomtien, Thailand in 1990 and then at the 2000 World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal. Here, girls' education was afforded first attention: "The most urgent priority is to ensure access to, and improve the quality of education for girls and women and to remove every obstacle that hampers their active participation. All gender stereotyping in education should be eliminated." Right to education act, the parliament of India enacted on 4th August 2009, which describe free and compulsory education for children between 6 to 14 ages in 21A article of the Indian constitution. United Nations Girls' Education Initiative in the EFA spirit to mount a "sustained campaign to improve the quality and availability of girls' education that works at both the global and country levels".

Indian society has been the most classified society. It has been classified on the basis of various castes. The caste is defined as a hereditary occupational group limited to a region with certain constraints of community.

The very nature of motionlessness and lack of interaction has made the caste system very strict and nourished inequality permanently. Scheduled caste and scheduled tribe are mostly backwards in our country. They are backwards in education system.

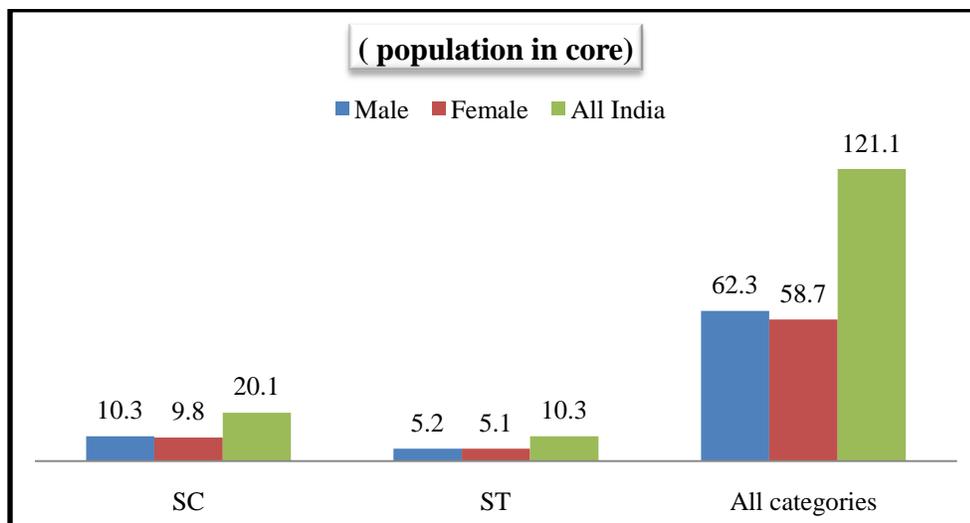


Fig 1. Showing the Bar graph of population of scheduled caste, scheduled tribe & all Categories in India, 2011

Table 1. Comparison of male and female population of scheduled caste, scheduled tribe categories in West Bengal, 2011

POPULATION	WEST BENGAL	SCHEDULED CASTE		WEST BENGAL	SCHEDULED TRIBE	
		MALE	FEMALE		MALE	FEMALE
TOTAL	21463270	11003304	10459966	52996953	2649974	2646979
IN RURAL	17095107	8764294	8330813	4855115	2428057	2427058
IN URBAN	4368163	2239010	2129153	441838	221917	219921

Parental attitude is a measure of parental involvement. The parental attitude very importance especially education on their children. “Turnbull (1983) has identified four basic parental roles- parents as educational decision makers; parents as parents; parents as teachers and parents as advocates.” The Warnock report (1978) “stresses the importance of parents being partners in the education of their children”. Favorable attitude towards good manner and involvement in children’s education enhances the present and future studies of students.

In order to progress the study the researcher has consulted the writing of some another and valueable suggestions from various book and articles. Shah (1976) A studies of parental attitude towards Secondary education in Kaira District. To study any sex differences in regard to attitude. Finding of the study rural parents positive attitude then rural attitude. Thakker (1994) A study of parents attitude towards home Science education in Kaira district. Rural parents negative attitude towards intellectual aspect than that of the urban parents. But social aspect and vocational aspect have no effect. Lakshmi (2007) studied on the attitude of rural parents towards girls’ education. The researcher found that the rural parents having high attitude towards girl’s education, male and female rural parents are having most significant attitude girl’s education. Hemamalini (2011) studied on attitude of parents towards girls’ education. Results revealed that the parents have naturel attitudes girls’ education and positive attitude towards girls’ education is very less number of parents. There is no significant difference between male and female parents in the attitude towards girls’ education. Kotwani (2012) in his study Attitude of Parents towards Girl’s Education. Researcher Find out in his study parents have highly attitude towards girl’s education, no significant difference in the attitude of male and female parents towards girl’s education and

not differ significantly literate and illiterate, urban and rural parents towards girl's education. Samal (2012) studied on Parents' Attitude towards Schooling and Education of Children. Results revealed that no significant difference between the tribal and non-tribal parents attitude schooling. And not differ significant difference between male and female parent to their schooling. Bordhan (2014) conducted a Parental Attitude towards Schooling of Their children. The result of the present study indicates no significant difference between non-tribal and tribal parent attitude towards schooling. Also indicates male and female parents attitude not differ significant towards schooling.

1.1 Significance of the study

- i) This study will help to understand the attitude of parents of scheduled caste and scheduled tribecommunity towards girls' education.
- ii) This study will be help in change negative attitudes of parents towards the girls' education.
- iii) This study will help to understand the barriers of girls' education with respect to parental perspectives.

1.2 Rationale of the study

The present research was undertaken to study the conditions of education belonging to girls' scheduled caste and scheduled tribecommunity. As the burning issue is very vital in present social curriculum. Realizing the views of different Commissions, Programme in this field that the conditions of girls especially scheduled caste and scheduled tribecan be improved only if education is prided to them in proper method. Still today the condition has not yet been improved especially for the girls of scheduled caste and scheduled tribecategories. Moreover the census report of 2011 in India prides state wise and districts wise reports which also reveal that the condition of scheduled caste and scheduled tribegirls regarding education is not satisfactory. There are different barriers regarding the conditions of girls' education, such as economic condition, gender biasness and social outlook and family condition etc. The researcher presupposes that one of the main reasons for this condition is the parental attitude. Keeping this in view this study was conducted.

1.3 Objectives of the study

- i) To compare the attitude of scheduled caste and scheduled tribeparents towards girls' education.
- ii) To compare the attitude of scheduled caste and scheduled tribeparents towards girls' education belonging to different gender.

1.4 Hypotheses of the study

H₀1. There will be no significant difference between the attitudes of the parents belonging to scheduled caste and scheduled tribe community towards girls' education.

H₀2. There will be no significant difference between the attitudes of the parents belonging to male and female towards girls' education.

H₀3. There will be no significant difference between the attitudes of the scheduled caste community parents belonging to male and female towards girls' education.

H₀4. There will be no significant difference between the attitudes of the scheduled tribe community parents belonging to male and female towards girls' education.

2. Research Method

2.1 Variables of the Study

In this study, the researcher considered mainly two types of variables. These two types of variables are

Major Variables - Parental attitude towards girls' education and Categorical Variables - Community (scheduled caste and scheduled tribe), Gender (Male and Female),

2.2 Population

Population of the present study includes all the scheduled caste and scheduled tribeparents of West Bengal.

2.3 Sample of the study

Stratified randomly sampling has taken four districts (Birbhum, Burdwan, Pankura, Purulia) in West Bengal in present study. The sample of the present study is 864 (408 scheduled tribes parents and 456 scheduled castes parents).

Table 2. Showing the sample in different categories(in percentage)

Category	Sub Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
COMMUNITY	SCHEDULED TRIBE	408	47
	SCHEDULED CASTE	456	53
TOTAL		864	100
GENDER	MALE	432	50
	FEMALE	432	50
TOTAL		864	100

2.4 Tools of the Study

Present researcher had used attitude scale to measure the parental attitude towards girls' education (PATGE). The tool developed by researcher himself with the help of Dr. Satyajit Kar. Scale was consisted of 58 items; content validity was judged by the expert rating of items. The reliability of the scale was found 0.711. Responded in five point likert scale (Strongly agree, agree no comment, disagree, strongly disagree) by the parents. 22 items negative and 36 items positive.

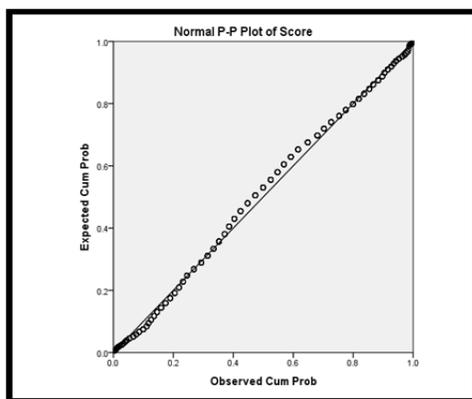


Fig. No. 1 Showing the P-P plot

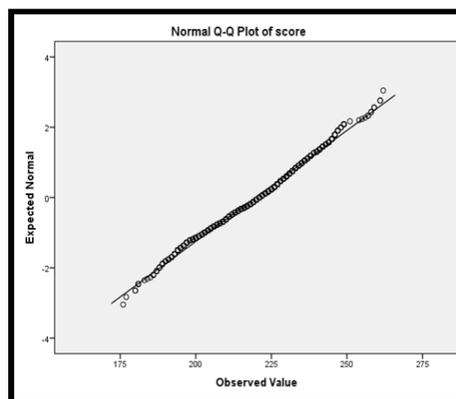


Fig. No. 2 Showing the Q-Q plot

The P-P Plot and Q-Q Plot showed that the data scores lie on the straight line which implied the normality of the data, that the data were not extremely deviated from the normal distribution.

Table 3. Showing the Norms of the Percentile for interpretation of Parental attitude towards girls' education scale.

Percentiles	Raw Scores	Levels of Parental attitude
Above P ₇₅	Above 231	High
P ₂₅ to P ₇₅	209 to 231	Average
Below P ₂₅	Below 209	Low

2.5 Technique of analyzing the data

The investigator considered the following statistical techniques important to be used in the study. They were descriptive statistics like Mean, Median and Standard Deviation (SD) and Inferential statistics like 't' test.

3. Analysis and Results

3.1 Analysis and Interpretation

H₀1:- There will be no significant difference between the attitudes of the parents belonging to scheduled caste and scheduled tribe community towards girls' education.

Table 4. Group statistics of parental attitude_communitywise

Parental Attitude	Community	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
	ST	408	215.67	16.77	.83
	SC	456	223.49	13.93	.65

Table 5. Independent samples t test for Parental Attitude towards Girls' Education _Community wise

Sub-scale	Levene's Test for Equality of Variances			t- test for equality of means			
	Equal variances not assumed	F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2 tailed)	Mean Difference
Parental Attitude		27.881	.000	7.409*	794.025	.000	7.824

(* Significant at the 0.05 level)

For H_{01} , the results of the t-test depict analyses of Levene's test for equality of variances (table no.5) the F value is 27.881 and the p value is 0 .000 ($p < .05$) so, equal variances cannot be assumed. df is to be adjusted for unequal variances and in this case df of t is 794.025. Table no. 5 also shows that in case of parental attitude in variation of community the calculated $t_{(794.025)}$ value is 7.409 and 'p' value is .000 ($p < 0 .05$). Hence, t is significant at 0.05 level and H_{01} is rejected. Therefore, it can be said that, there is significant difference between the attitudes of the parents belonging to scheduled caste and scheduled tribecommunity towards girls' education.

H_{02} :-There will be no significant difference between the attitudes of the parents belonging to male and female towards girls' education.

Table 6. Group statistics of parental attitude_Genderwise

Parental Attitude	Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
	Male	432	220.20	15.24	.73
	Female	432	219.40	16.39	.79

Table 7. Independent samples t test for Parental Attitude towards Girls' Education _Community

Sub-scale	Levene's Test for Equality of Variances			t- test for equality of means			
	Equal variances assumed	F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2 tailed)	Mean Difference
Parental Attitude		2.957	.086	.748**	862	.455	.806

wise(** Not Significant at the 0.05 level)

For H_{02} , the results of the t-test analyses of Levene's test for equality of variances (table no. 7) the F value is 2.957 and the p value is 0 .086 ($p > .05$) so, equal variances can be assumed. Table no.7 also shows that in case of Parental Attitude towards Girls' Education between male and female the calculated $t_{(862)}$ value is .748 and 'p' value is .455 ($p > 0 .05$). Hence, t is not significant at 0.05 level. So, H_{02} is not rejected. Therefore, it can be said that there is no significant difference between the attitudes of the parents belonging to male and female towards girls' education.

H₀₃:-There will be no significant difference between the attitudes of the scheduled caste community parents belonging to male and female towards girls' education.

Table 8. Group statistics of parental attitude_Gender in scheduled caste community wise

Parental Attitude	Gender (in SC)	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
	Male	228	223.78	12.78	.85
	Female	228	223.38	15.02	.99

Table 9. Independent samples t test for Parental Attitude towards Girls' Education _ Gender in scheduled caste community wise

Sub- scale	Levene's Test for Equality of Variances			t- test for equality of means			
	Equal variances not assumed	F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2 tailed)	Mean Difference
Parental Attitude		5.374	.021	.178	442.665	.859	.232

(** Not Significant at the 0.05 level)

For H₀₃, the results of the t-test analyses of Levene's test for equality of variances (table no.9) the F value is 5.374 and the p value is .021(p<.05) so, equal variances cannot be assumed. Table no. 9 also shows that in case of Parental Attitude towards Girls' Education between male and female in scheduled caste community the calculated $t_{(442.665)}$ value is .859 and 'p' value is .000 (p<0 .05). Hence, t is not significant at 0.05 level and H₀₁ is not rejected. Therefore, it can be said that there is no significant difference between the attitudes of the scheduled caste community parents belonging to male and female towards girls' education.

H₀₄:- There will be no significant difference between the attitudes of the scheduled tribe community parents belonging to male and female towards girls' education.

Table 10. Group statistics of parental attitude_Gender in scheduled tribe community wise

Parental Attitude	Gender (in ST)	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
	Male	204	216.39	16.82	1.18
	Female	204	214.95	16.74	1.17

Table 11. Independent samples t test for Parental Attitude towards Girls' Education _ Gender in scheduled tribecommunity wise

Sub-scale	Levene's Test for Equality of Variances			t- test for equality of means			
	Equal variances assumed	F	Sig.	t	df	Sig.(2 tailed)	Mean Difference
Parental Attitude		.007	.933	.870	406	.385	1.446

(** Not Significant at the 0.05 level)

For H_04 , the results of the t-test analyses of Levene's test for equality of variances (table no.11) the F value is .007 and the p value is .933 ($p > .05$) so, equal variances can be assumed. Table no.11 also shows that in case of Parental Attitude towards Girls' Education between male and female in scheduled tribe community the calculated $t_{(406)}$ value is .870 and 'p' value is .385 ($p > .05$). Hence, t is not significant at 0.05 level. So, H_04 is not rejected. Therefore, it can be said that there is no significant difference between the attitudes of the scheduled tribecommunity parents belonging to male and female towards girls' education.

3.2 Major Findings

- Attitude of scheduled caste and scheduled tribeparents towards girls' education differ significantly. Scheduled caste parents are having more favorable attitude than scheduled tribe parents toward girls' education.
- Attitude of parents belonging male and female towards girls' education do not differ significantly. Both the group showed similar nature of attitude toward girls' education.

c) Attitude of scheduled caste parents belonging male and female towards girls' education do not differ significantly. Both the group showed similar nature of attitude toward girls' education.

d) Attitude of scheduled tribe parents belonging male and female towards girls' education do not differ significantly. Both the group showed similar nature of attitude toward girls' education.

3.3 Discussion

Thus, from the above finding, it may be concluded that the community factors has no influence on parental attitude towards girls' education which may be attributed to more awareness and highly qualification of parents leading to decline in community or cast barriers. And also study it is found that parental attitude towards girls' education belonging male gender is better. Because the researcher predicts that a) parents belonging to female gender are busy with their household work and not aware of girls' education. b) Parents belonging to male gender are involved outside more than home so, they are more aware of about girls' education.

4. Conclusion

The amelioration of the lot of the under privileged people in India, particularly tribes and those castes and class which are given an inferior status, has to be an important aim of the govt. of India. The constitution of India prescribes protection and save guards for the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe. The main save guards are abolition of untouchability, protections from social injustice and various forms of exploitation and given them the right to admission to educational institution. So far the researcher experienced while surveying and his thoughtful prediction are stated. Initiative must be taken to convince the parents that girl children are not to be neglected, because both boys and girls are equal in the eyes of law. Electronic medias like T.V, Radio, Cinema can be utilized to promote educational consciousness among the scheduled caste and scheduled tribeparents to take initiative to education their girls children. In rural village education committee and in the urban area the municipality education committee can take spread education for parents. Monitory system should be more developed for Govt. provides scheme and policy. The illiterate parents should be aware about education through awareness programme. Girls should not be marriage under age.

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