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## **A STUDY OF GENDER SENSITIZATION AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN RELATION TO THEIR STUDY DISCIPLINE**

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### *Abstract*

*The study investigated study of gender sensitization among university students in relation to their study discipline. 605 sample of university students were used for the study. A research total title Gender Sensitivity Scale (GSS) was used to collect data for the study. The Scale had 43 items which was validated with a reliability coefficient of 0.833. 'F' test was used as a statistical tool to test for relationship between the independent and dependent variables. From the findings it was found that there is a significant relationship between gender sensitivity and study discipline among the university students.*

**Keywords:** *Gender, Gender Sensitivity, University Students.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

In present scenario gender issues have become burning issues People are now more sensitive towards gender problem because of increasing crimes against women and decline child sex ratio. Education can definitely bring about the necessary change in the issues related to gender bias in the society.

Attitude, misconception and stereotype about the women increased the gravity of this gender ratio problem. Gender sensitivity is a bent of mind which reflect your sensitive and caring attitude towards various issues regarding women.

Gender-sensitive evaluation has become a key tool for understanding the structured causes of gender inequalities and the consequence of such inequalities for men and women.

Thus the problems we are witnessing erosion of moral values and lack of gender sensitivity and both from either family background or educational environment. Because gender sensitivity values begins in the home and build in the educational environment. There is a gender discrimination and inequality in our educational institution, family and society due to lack of sensitivity on gender issues which has affected students academically as well as personally. So the problem of this research is the study of relationship of gender sensitization of university students in relation to their study discipline.

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**OBJECTIVES**

1. To study the relationship of gender sensitization of university students in relation to their study discipline, with respect to
  - a) Arts
  - b) Science
  - c) Commerce
  - d) The professional
2. To study the relationship of gender sensitization of university students in relation to their University with respect to
  - a) B.H.U.
  - b) S.S.U. and MGKVP.

**RESEARCH METHOD**

Descriptive survey method had been applied to collect data in the study. In order to quantify the variables of the study, necessary constructions and standardization of tools namely sensitivity scale undertaken by the researcher and were administered on sample 604 students of university of Varanasi city selected through Simple Random Sampling. The collected data were analyzed with the help of suitable statistical techniques such as mean S.D, t-test and F-test as per the nature of data.

**RESULTS**

The first objective of the study was to see the variation in the level of gender sensitization on university students in relation to their study disciplines. It was hypothesized the students studying different discipline do not vary in their opinion regarding gender sensitization when compared. To see the significant variation in gender sensitivity scores of the students studying different disciplines 'F' test was employed and given below.

**ANOVA**

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean square	P-value	Sig.
Between Groups	5288.122	3	14.162	0.00	S
Within Groups	74928.387	602			
Total	80216.568	605			

Persual of the table shows that the value F.ratio ( $F=14.162$ ,  $dfs=602, 3$ ) is significant at 0.05 level so the formulated null hypothesis is rejected. It is evident from the result. It means that there is significant difference in the level of gender sensitization among university students with respect to their study discipline.

The students of science obtained higher mean gender sensitive scores followed by commerce, arts and students of professional courses. The students of science and commerce have been found more sensitive than the professional and art students regarding gender sensitive issues. The reason behind that is exposure of an academic environment where aversion to superstition and logical judgment regarding women issues are imbibed and presented whereas, arts students and professional courses students do not get such exposure in their surrounding becoming more superstitious and superstitious regarding several traditional and social norms including women issues. It can be said, after an observation of the results that culture and representation of gender role play an important role in perpetuating gender within and beyond academe. Cultural factors are not just of concern to humanistic but also have a direct impact on perception more globally they are variables that social scientists and natural scientists must attend to. A study that appeared in proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences acknowledge that gender biases stem " from repeated exposure to pervasive cultural stereotypes that portray women as less competent but simultaneously emphasize their warmth and like ability compared with men" (Moss-Racusin et al.2012) The implications of these studies are relevant to both broad and discipline specific trends. This is important given how different disciplines often have seemingly unique protocols for hiring, tenure, and promotion. Gender bias seems pervasive, even when the forms, methods, and metrics vary by discipline.

1. The second objective of the study if the level of gender sensitization varies among university students with respect to different university-
  - i. B.H.U
  - ii. S.S.U.
  - iii. MKGVP.

It was hypothesized that the students studying university do not vary in their opinion regarding gender sensitization when compared.

To see the significant variation in gender sensitive scores of the students studying different university 'F' test was employed and the influences have been entered in below table.

	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	F	P-value	Sig.
Between groups	12423.688	2	6211.84	55.25	0.00	S
Within groups	67792.82	603	112.426			
Total	80216.508	605				

Perusal of the table shows that the value of the F ratio (55.253) is significant at 0.05 levels. So the formulated null hypothesis is rejected. It means that there is significant

difference in the level of gender sensitization among university students with respect to Difference University.

The results indicate that the mean gender sensitive scores of central university students were higher than their counterparts of state universities students. It is looking so because of difference in educational environment. Educational Institutions have also become one of the discriminatory practicing areas regarding gender discrimination. Central Universities are richer in library facilities, exposure to a national and international scenario which might be the reason that students are becoming more sensitive towards gender issues. After analyzing data on the basis of findings we can say that students of central university have better environment incomparision to other University that's why here students are more sensitive in comparison to other.

#### **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

According to the results significant difference was observed among different discipline and also university regarding gender sensitivity. Educational institution as an organized ought to take major responsibility in fostering gender sensitive values in student.

Majority of the University Students hold average level of sensitivity concerning gender equality. Students Study Discipline significantly affects level of gender sensitization. The students of science are higher in gender sensitivity followed by commerce, arts and students of professional courses.

Students of Central University (BHU) are higher in gender sensitivity than their counter parts of State University (MGKVP and SSU). This study will be significant to parents, teachers and students in relation to their study discipline on gender sensitivity issues so as to guide them on equal treatment among their children in order to bring equality and to develop sensitivity among students along with removal of gender biasness toward women. Total revamping of the educational institutions is needed to orient personnel on gender sensitive issues. Educators need to critically evaluate the way they produce, reproduce and distribute knowledge and attitudinal pattern and its stereotypes regarding gender. In order to promote formation of inclusive society free from gender discrimination such efforts will serve to be a boon for overhauling the Indian education system.

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