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A Study On Environmental Ethichs Of High School Students

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Abstract

This paper is aimed at investigating the Environmental ethics of high school students. Environmental Ethics Scale (EES) constructed and standardized by Hajeen Taj (2001) has been administrated to a random sample of 500 high school students studying in Cuddalore District. The statistical techniques adopted to analyse the collected data were descriptive and differential analysis. The results revealed that the average level of environmental ethics of high school students. It is found that high school students do not differ significantly in environmental ethics in respect of their gender and locality of the school.

Key Words: Environmental Ethics, Gender, Locality of the School, High School Students.

1. Introduction

Although environmental ethicists often try to distance themselves from the anthropocentrism embedded in traditional ethical views (Passmore 1974 & Norton 1991), they also quite often draw their theoretical resources from traditional ethical systems and theories.

Philosophers tend to divide the academic approach to ethics into two domains: theoretical ethics and practical/applied ethics. Environmental ethics is a practical/applied ethic; it is a system for determining correct action with regard to the natural world, either in specific situations or in terms of a general approach to the environment. "Environmental ethics as applied ethics," makes it sound as if environmental ethics is primarily or even exclusively the application of theoretical ethics-- the sorts of systems we get from the likes of Kant and Mill-- to environmental problems. This seems to be the wrong way to think about environmental ethics.

2. Need and Significance of the Study

Environment has provided man with various resources in the form of flora and fauna, but man is destroying them by various sources. So it is the need of the hour to implement the environmental education. Education is the only way to influence values, attitudes and beliefs in relevance to environmental ethics. In the long run, behavior can be modified through the process of environmental education.

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3. Statement of the Problem

The investigator has participated motivated him to choose the problem "A Study on Environmental Ethics of High School Students".

4. Operational Definitions

Environmental Ethics

It refers to the responsibility to understand the environmental consequences of our consumption and need to recognize our individual and social responsibility to conserve natural resource and protect the earth for future generation.

High School Students

It refers to those who are undergoing High school students in Cuddalore district.

5. Objective of the Study

1. To find out the level of environmental ethics of high school students.
2. To find out whether there is any significant difference in the environmental ethics of high school students in respect of their following sub-samples a) Gender and b) Locality of the school.

6. Hypotheses of the Study

1. The level of environmental ethics of high school students.
2. There is no significant difference in the environmental ethics of high school students in respect of their following sub-samples a) Gender and b) Locality of the school.

7. Method and Sample of the Study

The normative survey method has been adopted in this study. The random sampling technique has been used in the selection of a sample consisting 500 high school students in Cuddalore District in Tamilnadu State.

8. Scoring Procedure

The Environmental Ethics Scale (EES) constructed and standardized by Hajeen Taj (2001) was adopted has given the maximum score for this tool is 135 and a minimum score is 35. Hence, one who secures a score below 68 (Q_1 value) indicates low environmental ethics, a score between 69 and 100 (Q_2 value) indicates average level of environmental ethics and a score above 101 (Q_3 value) indicates high level of environmental ethics..

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9. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION DATA

The following statistical techniques have been used in the present study

(i) Descriptive Analysis and

(ii) Differential Analysis

The analysis and interpretation are given in the following tables

10. Analysis of Data

Hypothesis 1

The level of environmental ethics of high school students is low.

Table-1

Showing the Mean and Standard Deviation scores of environmental ethics of high school Students

Variable	Number of Sample	Mean	Standard Deviation
Environmental Ethics	500	95.65	4.95

It is evident from the table 4.1 the computed mean and standard deviation of environmental ethics scores of the high school students for the total sample is found to be 95.65 and 4.95 respectively, the mean score is average value (69-100). Hence, the hypothesis rejected and it is concluded that the average level of environmental ethics of high school students.

Hypothesis 2

There is no significant difference in the environmental ethics of high school students with regard to gender.

Table-2
Comparison of Mean Environmental Ethics of High School Students with regard to Gender

Variable	Gender	N	Mean	SD	't' Value	Level of Significance
Environmental Ethics	Male	349	95.76	4.86	0.80	Not Significant
	Female	150	95.37	5.16		

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated 't' value 0.80, which is lesser than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level of significance. Hence, the hypothesis is accepted and it is conclude that there is no significant difference between male and female high school students in respect of their environmental ethics.

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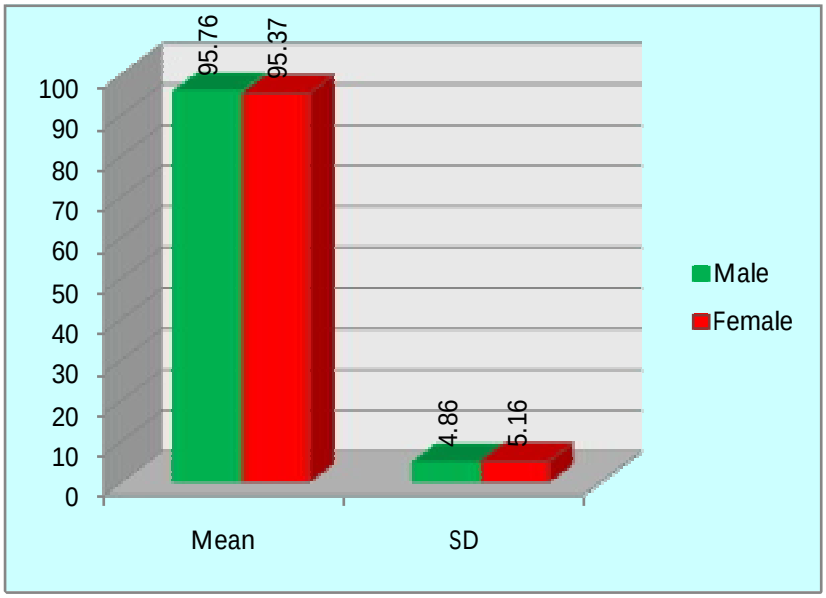

Figure 1
Bar Diagram Showing the Mean and Standard Deviation scores of Environmental Ethics based on their Gender

Hypothesis 3

There is no significant difference in the environmental ethics of high school students with regard to locality of the school.

Table-3
Comparison of Mean Environmental Ethics of High School Students with regard to Locality of the School

Variable	Locality of the School	N	Mean	SD	't' Value	Level of Significance
Environmental Ethics	Rural	320	95.95	5.23	1.79	Not Significant
	Urban	180	95.12	5.23		

It is inferred from the above table that the calculated't' value 1.79, which is lesser than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level of significance. Hence, the hypothesis is accepted and it is conclude that there is no significant difference between rural and urban high school students in respect of their environmental ethics.

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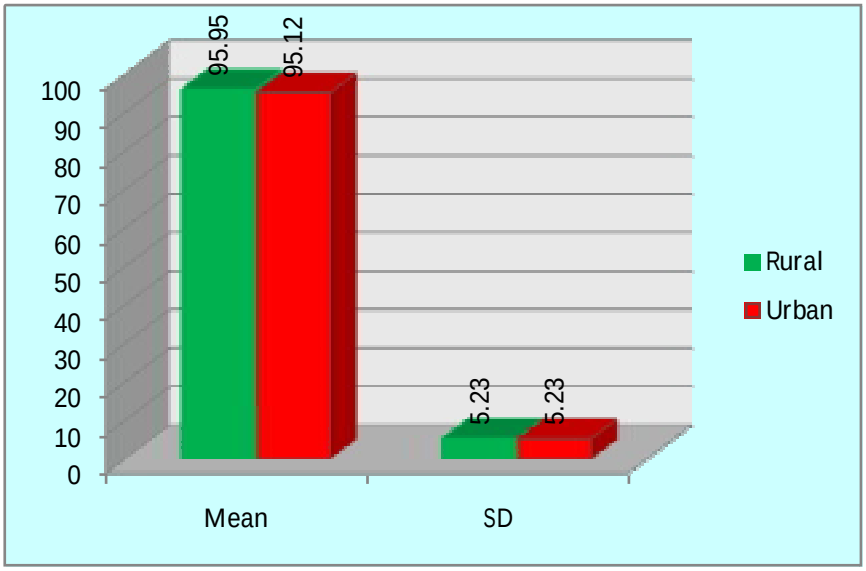

Figure 2
Bar Diagram Showing the Mean and Standard Deviation scores of Environmental Ethics based on their Locality of the School

11. Findings of the Study

- The average level of environmental ethics of high school students.
- There is no significant difference between male and female high school students in respect of their environmental ethics.
- There is no significant difference between rural and urban school high school students in respect of their environmental ethics.

12. Conclusion

The examined the present study environmental ethics of high school students. It is found that the high school students' environmental ethics is average. It is concluded that do not differ significantly in environmental ethics in respect of their gender and locality of the school.

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