

A Study of Environmental Ethics Among Higher Secondary School Students in Coimbatore Educational District

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Abstract

Environmental ethics enables the people to know their responsibilities in the conservation of the environment. People need assistance to realize the importance and conservation of natural resources. Helping the people in the arousal of social consciousness to get benefit both at the individual and the community levels. This survey can be extended to find out awareness of environment education among the school students. The subject environmental education introduced in curriculum and creates awareness among the people. The findings of this study will be immense help to government agencies, NGO's academicians, policymakers, teacher, etc. Our environment can only be protected by education. Thus this study helps further to create awareness of environmental education.

Keywords: Environmental ethics, Responsibility, Awareness, Adolescents.

INTRODUCTION

“Environment is anything immediately surrounding an object and exerting a direct influence on it” – P.Gisbert.

Environment education is virtually a new source of concern for educators, teachers and students. A large section of educated people have recognized the urgent need for including environment education at various levels. Only some of them have clear ideas and understandings about the meaning, purpose, needs and course of activities under taken recently to propagate the concept of Environmental. Education and necessary revision in the curriculum is subsequently in a teaching learning situation. The awareness about Environmental Education is more important for the people in all path of life.

Need for the study

Environmental ethics enables the people to know their responsibilities in the conservation of the environment. People need assistance to realize the importance and conservation of natural resources. Helping the people in the arousal of social consciousness to get benefit both at the individual and the community levels.

Scope of the study

This survey can be extended to find out awareness of environment education among the college students. The subject environmental education introduced in curriculum and creates awareness among the people. The findings of this study will be immense help to government agencies, NGO's academicians,

policymakers, teacher, etc. Our environment can only be protected by education. Thus this study helps further to create awareness of environmental education.

Educational agencies such as UGC, NCERT, and NCTE has recommended the environmental education in curriculum. They will incorporate necessary changes considering the output of such research attempts.

Objectives of the study

- To study the environmental ethics among the higher secondary school students in Coimbatore educational districts.
- To study the environmental ethics of the students in terms of gender.
- To study the environmental ethics of the students in terms of locality.
- To study the environmental ethics of the students in terms of subject.
- To study the environmental ethics of the students in terms of age.

Hypothesis

- Considering the objectives, the following hypothesis were formulated for the present study.
- There is no significant difference exit among male and female students in respect of ethics towards environmental science.
- There is no significant difference exit among urban and rural students in respect of ethics towards environmental science.
- There is no significant difference exit among government school and metric higher secondary school students in respect of ethics towards environmental science.
- There is no significant difference exit among government school and Aided higher secondary school students in respect of ethics towards environmental science.

Methodology

The investigator used survey method to study the Environmental ethics among higher secondary school students in Coimbatore educational district.

Sample

In this study, the investigator selected 150 samples from XI standard students from Coimbatore district.

Tool

The investigator used 'Environmental Ethics questionnaire', constructed and standardized by the investigator and Mrs.S.Julei(2009)

Table 1-Central Tendencies and Standard Deviation of Environmental Ethics

Number of Students	Mean	Median	Mode	Standard Deviation
150	117.51	121.5	123	11.03

From the above table the mean score on environmental ethics was found to be 117.51 since it is greater than the neutral score 100, the main mean score indicates that higher secondary school students have positive environmental ethics.

Table-2 Significant difference exit among male and female higher secondary school students in respect of environmental ethics

Variable	No. of Students	Mean	Standard Deviation	Standard Error	't'-Value
Male	60	118.47	11.95	2.02	0.74
Female	70	116.97	10.91		

* 5% Level of Significant

From the above table & Figure it is clear that the mean scores are 118.47 for male higher secondary school students, 116.97 for female higher secondary school students. The table 4.15 reveals that male higher secondary school students have better positive environmental ethics than female student, since there is a variation in the environmental ethics of higher secondary school students.

From the above table the standard error is 2.02. The measured 't' – value is 0.74 which is less than the table value 1.96(5% Level of significant). Hence the null hypothesis, “there is no significant difference exit among male and female higher secondary school students in respect of environmental ethics” is accepted

Tabla -3 Significant difference exit among Rural and Urban higher secondary school students in respect of environmental ethics

Variable	No. Of Students	Mean	Standard Deviation	Standard Error	't'-Value
Rural	50	118.26	11.52	2.20	0.68
Urban	50	116.76	10.47		

* 5% Level of Significant

From the above table & figure it is clear that the mean scores are 118.26 for Rural area higher secondary school students, 116.76 for Urban area higher secondary school students. The table 4.19 reveals that Urban Area subject higher secondary school students have better positive environmental ethics than Rural area higher secondary school students, since there is a variation in the environmental ethics of higher secondary school students.

From the above table the standard error is 2.20. The measured 't' – value is 0.68 which is less than the table value 1.96(5% Level of significant). Hence the null hypothesis, “there is no significant difference exit among Rural and Urban higher secondary school students in respect of environmental ethics” is accepted

Table-4 Significant difference exit among Government and Matric higher secondary school students in respect of environmental ethics

Variable	No. Of Students	Mean	Standard Deviation	Standard Error	't'-Value
Government	40	118.5	11.02	2.346	0.98
Matric	45	116.2	10.45		

* 5% Level of Significant

From the above table & figure it is clear that the mean scores are 118.5 for Government higher secondary school students, 116.2 for Matric higher secondary school students. The table 4.21 reveals that Government higher secondary school teachers have better positive environmental ethics than Matric

higher school students, since there is a variation in the environmental ethics of higher secondary school students.

From the above table the standard error is 2.346. The measured ‘t’ – value is 0.98 which is less than the table value 1.96(5% Level of significant). Hence the null hypothesis, “there is no significant difference exit among Government and Matric higher secondary school students in respect of environmental ethics” is accepted

Table 5 Significant difference exit among Government and Aided higher secondary school students in respect of environmental ethics

Variable	No. Of Students	Mean	Standard Deviation	Standard Error	‘t’-Value
Government	40	118.5	11.02	2.456	0.65
Aided	50	116.9	12.24		

* 5% Level of Significant

From the above table it is clear that the mean scores are 118.5 for Government higher secondary school students, 116.9 for Aided higher secondary school students. The table 4.21 reveals that Government higher secondary school teachers have better positive environmental ethics than Aided higher school students, since there is a variation in the environmental ethics of higher secondary school students.

From the above table the standard error is 2.456. The measured ‘t’ – value is 0.65 which is less than the table value 1.96(5% Level of significant). Hence the null hypothesis, “There is no significant difference exit among Government and Aided higher secondary school students in respect of environmental ethics” is accepted

Major findings

There is no significant difference exit among male and female students in respect of environmental ethics.

There is no significant difference exit among rural and urban area students in respect of environmental ethics.

There is no significant difference exit among Government and Matric school students in respect of environmental ethics.

There is no significant difference exit among government and aided school students in respect of environmental ethics.

Suggestions for future research

Research is vital and comprehensions area. The purpose of any research is to find solutions scientifically for the problems related to education, society; etc. However investigation of one problem always provides any research questions that can be investigated by other researchers. Some of the areas for research in the future may be as follows.

1. This study was confined to only five schools in Coimbatore only. Study may be conducted in district, regional, state level in future.
2. The present study was confined to the higher secondary school students. This may be extended to various levels of learners.
3. The present study was confined to the higher secondary school student of various levels.

4. This study may be conducted at various organizations.
5. Similar study may be done with other variables like matirc school parents' educational qualifications, socioeconomic status and educational qualification of parents etc.,
6. Likewise this study may be conducted among professionals of government and non-governmental organizations (NGOS).

The future of the nation depends upon the quality of education. To provide better school students, quality training should be given. Ti enhance the students the innovations like important of environmental education ethics in classroom should be added in the 'Curriculum'. The future world may be peace fully and naturally designed without usurping the wealth of everyone – the wealth of nature.

Conclusion

This study has attempted to find out the environmental ethics among higher secondary school students quite a large number of variables have been included to make the study fruitful. The questionnaire that has been developed in this 'investigation will also be useful to Arts and science colleges or educational colleges or engineering colleges.

According to Mahatma Gandhi "Economics was not merely a science of wealth rather it was also meant to serve a moral and spiritual purpose".

It's the time of the hour to make our future generation to be ethics of the environment to improve their life in a sustain movement and apply the positive steps towards the sustainable future.

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