Abstract: In this study, researcher has tried to know the status of altruism of students studying at senior secondary class on the basis of their gender. For this study the researcher has selected 200 students. The Altruism Scale prepared by Dr. S.N. Rai and Dr. Sanwat Singh (2004) has been used for the collection of data. The analysis techniques of SPSS-20 have been used by the researcher. The results showed that the mean scores of female is higher than the mean score of male senior secondary class students, but the P value and t value showed that the mean difference between the female and male senior secondary class students is significant at .05 level of significance, therefore it can be concluded that there is considerable difference exist regarding genders for altruism of senior secondary students. The female students have higher level of altruism than male students of senior secondary class.

Key words: Gender, Altruism and Senior Secondary Class Students.

Introduction

In the studies of psychological research, Altruism is observed as pro-social behaviours such as helping, comforting, sharing, cooperation and community service. Most of the person likes to help others if they recognize that a person is actually in need and try to reduce the person's distress.

The term Altruism coined by well known sociologist August Comte. The term 'Egoism' and selfishness are opposite of Altruism. Conceptually the term altruism is philosophical and ethical in nature. Altruism is a traditional virtue in many cultures and a core aspect of various religious traditions and secular world views. Altruism is caring about the welfare of other people and acting to help them. Pure Altruism consists of sacrificing for someone other than the self (e.g. sacrificing time, energy or possessions) with no expectation of any compensation or benefits, either direct or indirect (e.g. receiving recognition for the act of giving).

According to Wispe (1978), Altruistic behaviour is the behaviour that is directed in a positive way and is given the name of positive social behaviour. The major dimensions or components are selflessness, Feeling of Loyalty, Pro-social behaviours, happiness, and well-being. In this study, researcher has observed the Altruism status in reference of gender of senior secondary class students.

The word "gender" came into common use as an alternative to the word "sex" in the United States in the 1970 (Krieger, 2003). Using the word "gender" was a way for researchers and activists to counter the belief that our masculinity and femininity were biologically determined -- a belief pervading the scientific and lay communities at the time (Krieger, 2003).

Gender is not innate, but rather something one learns from watching and doing. Individuals are considered active agents in constructing (and deconstructing) norms of masculinity and femininity. The concept of agency, the part individuals play in exerting power and producing effects in their lives, is central to social constructivism (Courtenay, 2000)

Statement of Problem:
Altruism and Gender: A study of Senior Secondary Class Students
Objectives of the study
1. To study the Altruism of senior secondary class students.
2. To compare the Altruism of Male and Female senior secondary class students.
Hypothesis of the Study:
Only one hypothesis has been formulated for this study that is “There is no significant difference between the Altruism of Male and Female senior secondary class students”.

Operational definitions of the key words:
Gender: "Gender is a socially determined construct describing the characteristics, behaviors, and roles deemed appropriate and expected of men and women (and boys and girls) by a given society. These characteristics, behaviors, and roles are learned and reinforced through a socialization process that begins early in life and continues throughout the life cycle" (Rolleri, 2012).

Altruism:
Altruism is the principle or practice of concern for the welfare of others. Pure Altruism consists of sacrificing something for someone other than self, with no expectation of any compensation or benefits either direct or indirect. Altruism also refers to the behaviour that has its aim to produce, maintain or improve the physical or psychological welfare and integrity of other persons.

Senior Secondary class Students:
Senior Secondary class School Students refer to the students of those studying in 11th to 12th classes of school education.

Delimitation of the Study:
The study was conducted under following delimitations:
1. This study was delimited to Lucknow city only.
2. The study was delimited to the XIth class only.
3. The study was kept limited only to senior secondary classes.
4. Only 200 students were included in the study.

Methodology of Research:
Descriptive survey research method has been used in this study.

Population:
In present study, all senior secondary class students of district Lucknow studying in class XIth are taken as population.

Sampling technique and sample size:
Stratified simple random sample technique has been used for the selection of sample from population. The sample of 200 senior secondary class students was selected. In gender distribution 100 were male 100 were female students.

Tool used in the study:
The researcher has used The Altruism Scale prepared by Dr. S.N. Rai and Dr.Sanwat Singh (2004).

Statistical techniques used for data analysis:
First the data taken from senior secondary students studying in 11th class than the data was analysed to know whether the data is fit for parametric or nonparametric statistics and to verify the null hypothesis, after that, the results for descriptive table, P- value, t value and for other diagrammatic presentation were analysed.

Analysis and interpretation of data objectives wise:
First objective of the study is to Study the Altruism of senior secondary students-
For this objective the descriptive analysis technique was used. Which shows that the statistical values of Mean, Median and Standard error of altruism of male senior secondary student were 42.18, 43.00 and .5577 respectively, while for female senior secondary students the statistical values of Mean, Median and Standard Error of altruism were 46.78, 48.00 and .5074 respectively. The table-1 of descriptive analysis has shown this analysis as below-

Table-1: Descriptive analysis of data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Std. Error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>42.180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>95% Confidence Interval for Mean</td>
<td>41.073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5% Trimmed Mean</td>
<td>42.289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Median</td>
<td>43.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Variance</td>
<td>31.099</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The skewness of sample distribution of male and female students were -.253 and -1.436 for same standard error of 0.241 and the kurtosis of sample distribution of male and female students were -.389 and 3.046 for the same value of standard error 0.478.

Assumption-1: The data of sample should be normally distributed.

To identify the nature of data gathered whether it is parametric and non-parametric Kolmogorov-smirnov test of normality was applied. Table-2, Test for normality has shown the result as follow-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 2: Test of Normality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altruism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>female</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*a. Lilliefors Significance Correction*

For the test of normality the SPSS-20 software computed the significance value .133, but P >.05. This showed that the data is normally distributed; therefore first assumption for the parametric data was satisfied.

Assumption-2: The data should be homogenous in nature.

For the checking of second assumption for parametric statistics the data should be homogenous. The researcher used the Levene’s test for equality of variance of homogeneity.

The test of homogeneity of variance has been shown below table-3-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table-3: Test of Homogeneity of Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Altruism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based on Mean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based on Median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based on Median and with adjusted df</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based on trimmed mean</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Levene statistic value based on mean explained the significance of homogeneity. The software value of significance is .091, in which the p>.05, this showed further that the data is satisfying the second hypothesis for parametric statistics.

Three more features also explained the nature of the data, these are Skewness and kurtosis and box plot figures, to explain all three features two histogram and one box plot figure have been given below-

**Histogram of Male scores on Altruism**

**Figure -1**

The above figure showed that distribution of male population is not identical to the NPC. The statistics skewness value is -.253. This showed that distribution of data is slight negatively skewed because the mean of scores laid left side to the median of scores. The kurtosis value for male distribution is .389, which is more than normal kurtosis value .263 to be Mesokurtic. So the distribution of male is Platykurtic.

**Histogram of Female scores on altruism**

**Figure -2**
In the distribution of female data, the score was different from the NPC. The statistics value skewness is -1.436, and the mean (46.780) lead left side to the median (48.00). Therefore distribution of data is negatively skewed. The kurtosis value for female distribution is 3.046, which is very high than normal kurtosis value.263, thus the distribution of female is also Platykurtic in figure.

**Figure - 3**

![The Box plot](image)

**The Box Plot of male and female scores on Altruism**

The box plot figure gave clear picture of that the mean value of altruism scores of male and female. The female students' scores were higher than the male students. The extreme values of scores for lower and higher, the female students scored higher than male senior secondary students.

1. The second objective of the study is to examine the altruism of senior secondary Male and Female students.

To examine second objective the researcher has formulated hypothesis H01, “There is no significant difference between the altruism of senior secondary Male and Female students.”

For the comparison of Altruism of senior secondary Male and Female students, t-test (for independent sample) has been applied.
Analysis of Self-Concept of senior secondary Male and Female students

Table: No.4

Independent Samples Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Altruism</th>
<th>Levene's Test for Equality of Variances</th>
<th>t-test for Equality of Means</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Sig.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equal variances</td>
<td>6.101</td>
<td>.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not assumed</td>
<td>2.892</td>
<td>.091</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the above table, it is clear that the mean of altruism of Male senior secondary students was 42.18 and mean of female students was 46.78. The independent t-test identified, t value is 6.101 at 0.05 level of significance. The critical value that is the required for the rejection of null hypothesis with degree of freedom 198, from the t-table comes out to be 1.98 but the calculated t-value 6.101 is higher than the critical value. So, there is significant difference exist between the means of altruism of male and female senior secondary class students. Hence null hypothesis H01 is being rejected. The rejection of H01 indicates that, regarding gender, Male and female students has considerable significant difference on altruism scores.

**Conclusion:** The main objectives of this study were to find out the Altruism of senior secondary class students and to compare altruism of male and female senior secondary class students, who are studying in District Lucknow. On the basis of result and it can be concluded that –

The test of normality and the test of homogeneity of variance results showed that the nature of distribution of population is parametric. The gender has direct influence on altruism. Thus, the female students have higher level of altruism than male students of senior secondary class.

**References**


