

ALIENATION OF MALE AND FEMALE ADOLESCENTS
IN RELATION TO LOCUS OF CONTROL

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Abstract

*Adolescence is the period of transition from childhood to adulthood. It is characterized by rapid physical, biological and hormonal changes resulting into psychosocial, behavior and sexual maturation between the age of 12-19 years in an individual. At this stage many problems occur and researches have been shown regarding the theme of 'Alienation'. It is one of the greatest problems confronting us today. **Alienation is an experience which has become more and more a reality of the life in these days of modernization**, probably adolescents are more and more prone to it than the aged or children. Although the concept of alienation has a central place in the history of sociological thought it is only recently that attempts have been made to define it in empirically operational and to relate it to specific social systems or sub systems rather than such global referents as "The Culture" or "The Society as a Whole". However the present study is about the alienation of adolescents in relation to locus of control, sex and residence. According to the illustrated Dictionary of Education Locus of Control, identified by Rotter as the learner autonomy. A Locus of Control orientation is a belief about whether the outcomes of our actions are contingent on what we do or an event outside our personal control, so the present attempt is to find out the level of alienation in internally controlled male and female in consideration to their residence as well.*

Key Words: Alienation

INTRODUCTION

According to Encyclopedic Dictionary of Education, Alienation is a mental state of feeling separated or estranged from an individual group or society, commonly evidenced in the behavior of adolescents during secondary school and college years as they adjust to approaching adult status. Man defines, "Alienation as a sense of social estrangement an absence of social support or meaningful social connection. It identified five meanings of alienation, namely, powerlessness, meaninglessness, normlessness, isolation and social

estrangement. Number of research scholars have studied, Alienation with many different concept like could reported the personality traits of alienated youth and found that he is characterized by a generalized distrust of others, a rejection of socially approved 'rules of interpersonal conduct, social introversion , poor impulse control and ambivalence, whatever one's self-esteem, is threatened stress is produced and if resources are not adequate to meet threats to self-esteem, individual, may have feeling of hopelessness, helplessness and despair. These negative and debilitating feeling can result in self alienation. It could be a source of adjustment problems even though it generally assumed. The problems of personal and social adjustment may the result from disorders in the personality as shyness, introversion or can be from crisis of identify, emotional problem etc further explored by Sharma. Alienation is the result of the technical advancement, industrialization, urbanization and excessive competition in urban areas while in rural areas it seems to be by product of poetry, social and the cultural discrimination, economic exploitation, a sense of deprivation and growing unemployment. The investigator has chosen this concept as there were hardly any studies done on the same and the problem of alienation is increasing in the present generation especially in adolescents. This highlights the need for the study of stated topic.

DEFINITIONS

Mau (1992) defines, "Alienation as a sense of social estrangement, an absence of social support or meaningful social connection."

According to **Encyclopedic Dictionary of Education**, Alienation is a mental state of feeling separated or estranged from an individual group of society, commonly evidenced in the behavior of adolescents during secondary school and college years as they adjust to approaching adult status.

According to **Kanergo (1979)**, the term Alienation is used to describe people who feel they have few or no opportunity to have any power or control over their lives. They feel they lack the freedom to make changes or seek personal achievement.

NEED OF THE STUDY

As the present day youth and adolescents are surrounded by one problem or the other, but modernization and excessive competition have made them done on the path of life. In the race of success everything behind himself separated from others or society which leads to the

growing problem of alienation. Alienation is a psycho-social phenomenon and is growing among student at almost all levels of educational institutions. It has been reported that the outcome of alienated behavior is so serious and harmful that it not only obstructs the growth of the institution but damages the personality of the individual also. In this respect, the present study will help the educational planners, administrators, teachers and parents to understand the adolescent in a better way and plan the curricula limited findings have been sorted related to the “Alienation of Male and Female Adolescent in relation to their Locus of Control” which further emphasizes the need for research on the present topic.

CHARACTERISTICS AND NEEDS OF THE ADOLESCENCE

The main characteristics and needs of early adolescence

- Adjust to profound physical, intellectual, social and emotional changes.
- Develop a sense of identify and of personal and social value.
- Establish relationships with particulars adults within which these processes of growth can take place.
- Develop a positive self concept.
- Experience and grow towards independence.

PROBLEM AROUSING DURING THE ADOLESCENT PERIOD

Adjustments to physical growth

- Adjustments to mental competition
- Adjustment to emotional disturbances
- Problem of home adjustment
- Problem of adjustment with friends
- Problem of sex adjustment
- Problem of adjustment with society

No doubt, the usual problems of adolescence are inevitable and temporary but if not handled and solved properly may become so intense as to impair the total personality of the adolescent. So, it is always suggested to study the root cause of various problems of adolescence so that these can be either

Prevented or solved through proper remedies. One such problem which has been much talked about is adolescents in Alienation.

MEASUREMENT OF ALIENATION

- **Powerlessness** –the perception that one cannot what is happening to him. It refers to one's ability to control one's destiny.
- **Self-estrangement**- The failure to find self-rewarding activities. Also, it is a failure to realize one's potential, feeling that nothing in the individual himself or what has done is valued for itself.
- **Social Isolation**- The individual feels that he is purposefully deprived from interacting and integrating with others, feels isolated from society lacks satisfaction with the group.
- **Meaninglessness**- The perception that one is unclear as to what one ought to believe when the individual's minimal standards for clarity in decision making are not met.
- **Normlessness**- It denotes a situation in which the social norms regulating individual conduct have broken down or is no longer effective as rules for behavior.

KINDS OF ALIENATION

Alienation from decision making- This alienation is antecedent to self estrangement, for separation from the decision-making powers over what one produces is theoretically. The most important factor leading to alienation from self.

- **Personal Alienation**
 - (i) Alienation from self: this is loss of pride in one's work, hence loss of satisfaction.
 - (ii) Alienation from the meaning of existence: this is said to be intolerable unless some reason for existing is involved, some purpose justifying life's trial when, Therefore, we have no other object than ourselves.
- **Social Alienation**

- (i) Alienation from society's mean ends system: It refers to a social condition to which individuals adapt. Individuals are alienated from either society's means or its ends system.
- (ii) Alienation from the system: This is a conscious rejection of which society stands for as a whole.

LOCUS OF CONTROL

This is one of the important factor in determining one's personality and mental state of mind. Locus of control (Rotter, 1966) is conceptualized one dynamic bipolar continuum spanning from internal to external. It is defined as an individual's general expectancy of the outcome of an event as being either within or beyond her or his personal control and understanding (Rotter, 1966). In the psychological literature, there is ample evidence that locus of control is fundamental and stable personality trait, with clear behavioral consequences. Essentially, individuals locus of control would impact how they perceived and interacted within their surroundings. Several studies have reported that locus of control orientation during childhood tends to be more external that locus of control orientation during adolescence and adulthood.

GENDER

Gender is regarded as the state of being male or female. Gender affects many aspects of life, including access to resources, methods of coping with stress, styles of interacting with others, self-evaluation, spirituality and expectations of others. These are all factors that can influence mental health either positively or negatively. Psychological gender studies seek to better understand the relationship between gender and mental health in order to reduce risk factors and improve treatment methods.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

"Alienation of Male and Female Adolescents in Relation to Locus of Control".

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The Present study will be carry out with the following objectives

- To identify alienation of the students at the adolescent stage.
- To ascertain the effect of locus of control on alienation at adolescent stage.

- To explore the relation of alienation with locus of control at adolescent stage.
- To find out the difference in alienation of male and female adolescent stage.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

- There exists no significant effect of locus of control on alienation at adolescent stage.
- There exists no significant relation of alienation with locus of control at adolescent stage.
- There exists no significant difference in alienation of male and female adolescent.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

- Sheikh (1994) reported that adolescent male and female do not seem to differ significantly from each other with reference to total alienation.
- Sheikh (1994) reported that adolescent male and female do not seem to differ significantly from each other with reference to total alienation. This finding was also supported by number of studies (Pluvial, 1970; HOLIAN, 1972; Moyar & Motta, 1982; Mohanty, 1984). Further, in a study by Raj(1995) it was revealed that male and female tribal high school students did not differ significantly with regard
- Mary (2001) in her study determined that students in the sample exhibited alienation; the degree of alienation was lower in the case of urban students as compared to rural students. Contrasting these views, Sharma (2002) found no significant relationship of alienation with residence.

DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

- The measuring tools and instruments are partially reliable and valid.
- If the scope of study is too wide the depth is reduced.
- More accurate results can be had from the whole of the population rather than from sample drawn from a population unless the sample is true representative of the population which is quite different to achieve.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Methods of research are sometime determined by theory underlying the problem of the study objectives of the study resources of the investigator etc.

Method: - Survey Method is used for collecting the data.

Sampling Technique: - Random Sampling Technique is used.

Sample: - The study was delimited to 100 students

50 Males

50 Females

Study will be delimited to the adolescents between the ages of 13 to 18 years.

Tool:-

- Student Alienation Scale by Dr. R. R. Sharma(1988)
- Locus of Control Scale by Dr. N. Hasnain and Dr. D. D. Joshi (1992)

Statistical technique

The following statistical techniques were employed to analyze the data

Descriptive Statistics: - Mean Standard Deviation, Correlation, and Standard Error of Mean.

Inferential Statistics: - ANOVA (Two –way)

ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION OF THE STUDY

1. Overall level of alienation

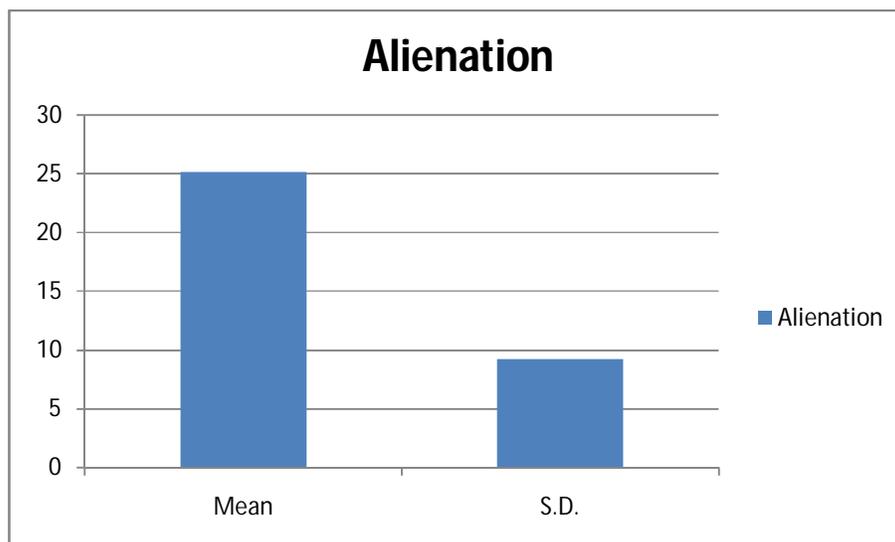
The total scores obtained by adolescents on alienation and their mean and standard deviation are

Mean, SD and SE_m of Adolescents on Alienation

Variable	N	Mean	S.D.	S.Em	Remarks
Alienation	100	25.12	9.25	0.925	Average Alienation

According to the norms given in the manual of Student Alienation Scale(SAS).

Table shows that mean score and standard deviation of adolescents on alienation are 2.12 and 9.25 respectively. This has been presented in the following bar diagram.



2. Effect of locus of control on alienation

It was hypothesized that “There exists no significant effect of locus of control on alienation at adolescent stage”.

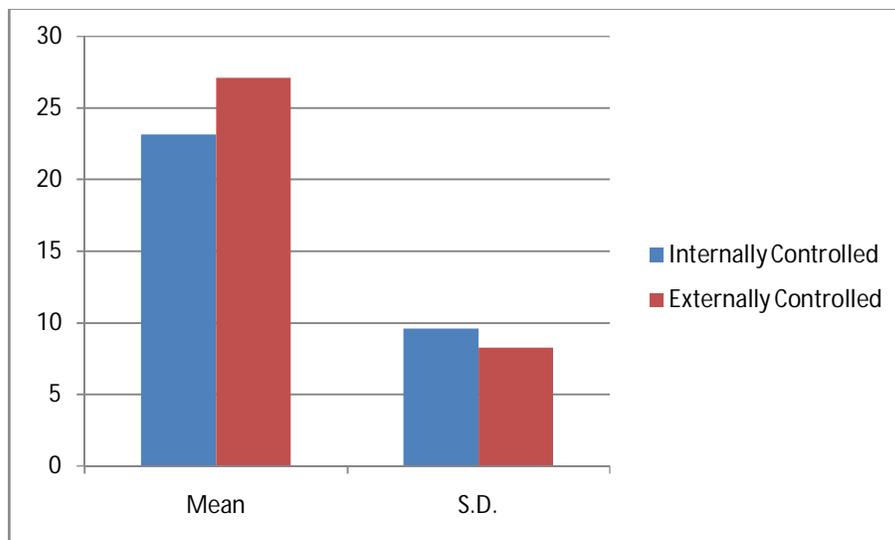
Mean, S.D., SE_m and F-value of internally controlled and externally controlled on Alienation.

Groups	N	Mean	S.D.	S.Em	F-value	Level of significance
Internally Controlled	50	23.16	9.58	1.35	4.605	.005 level
Externally Controlled	50	27.08	8.27	1.16		

At df (1, 99) $p < .05 = 3.92$ and $< .01 = 6.85$

The mean scores of internally controlled and externally controlled on alienation are 23.16 and 27.08 respectively. The F-value being greater than the table value at 0.05 level of

significance. The diagrammatic presentation of mean differences of internally controlled and externally controlled is as given in the following bar diagram.



3. Relation of alienation with locus of control

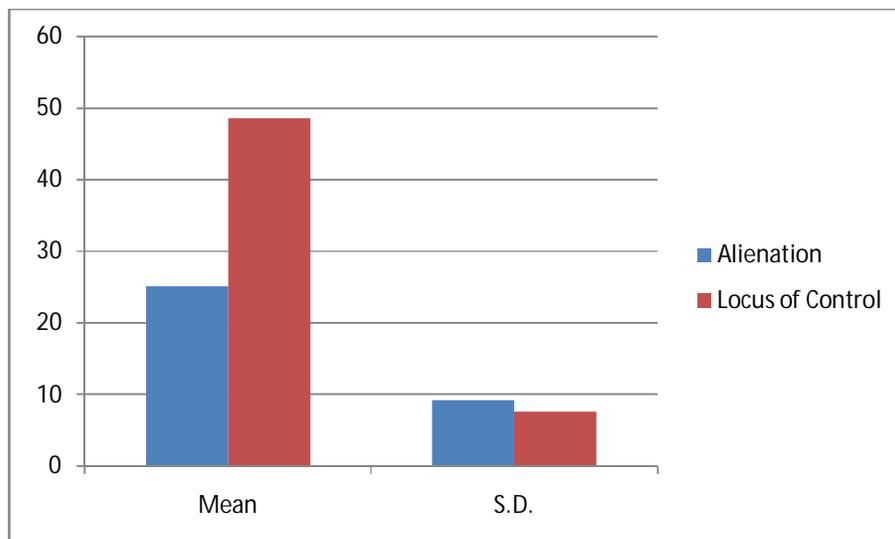
The formulated hypothesis that, “There exists no significant relation of alienation with locus of control at adolescent stage”. The result regarding this hypothesis have been presented in table

Means, S.D, and Correlation of Adolescents

Variables	N	Mean	S.D.	Correlation coefficient (r)	Level of Significance
Alienation	100	25.12	9.25	-0.292	0.01 and 0.05 levels
Locus of Control	100	48.60	7.65		

At $df=98$ $p.0.05 = 0.195$ and $p.0.01 = 0.254$

Mean scores of alienation and locus of control is 25.12 and 48.60 respectively. The correlation coefficient being -0.292, which is greater than table values.



4. Alienation in male & female adolescent

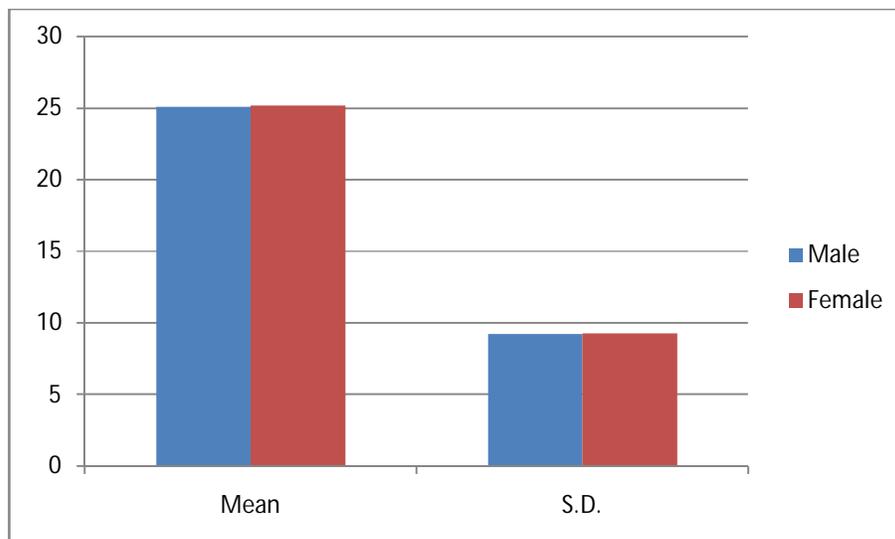
The corresponding hypothesis was that, “There exists no significant difference in male and female on alienation at adolescent stage.” The results pertaining to this hypothesis have been presented in

Mean, S.D, S.E_mS and F-value of Male and Female Adolescent on Alienation

Groups	N	Mean	S.D.	S.Em	F-value
Male	50	25.06	9.24	1.30	.0043
Female	50	25.18	9.27	1.31	

At df (1, 99) $p < .01 = 6.85$ and $p < .05 = 3.92$

The mean scores of male and female adolescent on alienation are 25.06 and 25.18 respectively and F-value is 0.0043 which is smaller than the 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance.



FINDINGS

1. Findings related to alienation

Objective: To Identify alienation of the students at the adolescents stage.

Concerned Hypothesis: This objective is based on brief description of data and no single hypothesis can be formulated to reach the objective. So, the investigator has not formulated any hypothesis to test this objective.

Findings: It is evident from analysis and interpretation of data that the adolescent of bahadurgarh town were found to have average level of alienation.

2. Findings related to Alienation in Internally Controlled and Externally Controlled Adolescent:

Objective: To ascertain the effect of locus of control on alienation at adolescent stage.

Concerned Hypothesis: There exists no significant effect of locus of control on alienation at adolescent stage.

Findings: These exists significant effect of locus of control of alienation of adolescent at 0.05 level of significance. It means internally controlled adolescents are more alienated than internally controlled.

3. Findings related to relation of Alienation with Locus of Control:

Objective: To explore the relation of Alienation with locus of control at adolescent stage.

Concerned Hypothesis: There exists no significant relation of alienation with locus of control at adolescent stage.

Finding: There exists significant and negative relation of alienation with locus of control at adolescent stage.

4. Findings related to Male and Female Adolescent on Alienation:

Objective: To find out the difference in alienation of male and female adolescent.

Concerned Hypothesis: There exists no significant difference in alienation of male and female adolescents.

Findings: Male and Female adolescents do not differ significantly on alienation.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Conclusions based on Overall level of Alienation

All the adolescents of Bahadurgarh town were found to have average alienation.

2. Conclusions based on Locus of Control and Alienation

There exists significant effect of locus of control on alienation.

3. Conclusions based on relationship between Alienation and Locus of Control.

Significant and negative relation exists between alienation and locus of control.

4. Conclusion based on Alienation of Male and Female Adolescent.

No significant difference found in male and female adolescents on alienation.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

After having study of alienation of male and female adolescents in relation to locus of control, it is found that locus of control effects the level of alienation of a persons. It has been said that a Good Education is the key to being successful and while many things contribute to school achievement, one variable that has been overlooked to a large degree is locus of control.

- It has been found that externals exhibits much less persistence at tasks than do internals. It becomes the responsibility of the parents and teachers to develop confidence and to boost their normal, so that they can work hard in spite of being negative towards the problem.

- Home and School environment plays an important role in determining magnitude of alienation and locus of control. Therefore, student should be provided with good and conducive environment to develop to their maximum.
- Provisions should be made to enhance the capacity and capabilities of the students so that they can solve their problems on their own feet. This will help them in developing confidence in them.

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