



A Comparative Study of Personality Characteristics Among Male and Female College Students

Priyanka Sethiya

M.A. (Psychology)

MSS Ankushrao Tope College, Jalna

email- spriyankas147@gmail.com,

Abstract

The Objective of the study is to determine the difference in Personality traits of male and female College students. Hypotheses: 1. Male college students will be significantly more Extraverted than female college students. 2 Female college students will be significantly more Neurotic than male college students. 3. Male college students will be significantly more Psychotic than female college students. Sample: Sample of 60 college students (30 male and 30 female) from various colleges of Jalna district were selected for the research using purposive non-probability sampling. The age of the students was between 17-23 years. In the present study, the independent and dependant variable used are: Independent variable: Gender (male and female) and Dependant variable: Personality characteristics (Extraversion, Neuroticism and Psychoticism). The data collected was analyzed with the help of various statistical techniques like mean, S.D and t-test by using IBM SPSS. Tools: Hindi adaptation of the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ) constructed and standardized by Giridhar P. Thakur and Manju Thakur was used. Conclusions: 1. Male college students are significantly more Extraverted than female students. 2. Female college students are significantly more neurotic than male students. 3. No significant difference in Psychoticism was found between male and female college students.

Key Words: Gender, Personality, Extraversion, Neuroticism, Psychoticism.

Introduction

The word psychology has its origin in two Greek words that is 'psyche' and 'logos'. Psyche means spirit or soul and logos means discourse or study ^[2]. Personality is all that a person is and all that he hopes and aspires to become. It pervades every aspect of one's life. It is the totality of one's behavior towards one's self and others as well. Personality is the total integration of physical, intellectual, emotional, social, spiritual and character makeup of the individual which is expressed in terms of behavior, experiences, manners, attitudes, values, beliefs, aspirations, interests, habits and sentiments. Personality is one of the most important factors that help us in understanding the complexities of human behavior in different situations and therefore, they should not be ignored ^[3]. In today's world education is a necessity and for that reason it is assumed in future plans especially an increasingly important role in personality development of young people. The importance of knowledge of the student's personality for the educator can hardly be exaggerated. In fact it is now held a part of his duty to assess the personality of each pupil. The study helps the teachers,



educationists, counselors and administrators to guide the adolescents so that their personality develops in a proper way and excel in their academic achievement.

Adolescence is the bridge between childhood and adulthood. It is a time of rapid development of growing to sexual maturity, discovering one's real self, defining personal values and finding one's vocational and social direction. Adolescence can be defined biologically, as the physical transition marked by the onset of puberty and the termination of physical growth; cognitively, as changes in the ability to think abstractly and multi-dimensionally; or socially, as a period of preparation for adult roles.

Personality type

Personality type theory aims to classify people into distinct categories. Personality types are synonymous with "personality styles". A type refers to categories that are distinct and discontinuous. For example, you are one or the other. This is important to understand, because it helps to distinguish a personality type approach from a personality trait approach, which takes a continuous approach. To clearly understand the difference between types and traits, consider the example of the personality dimension of "introversion". We can view introversion as: A personality type approach says you are either an introvert or an extravert. A personality trait approach says you can be anywhere on a continuum ranging from introversion to extraversion, with most people clustering in the middle, and fewer people towards the extremes.

Eysenck's Personality Theory

Eysenck (1952, 1967, and 1982) developed a very influential model of personality. Based on the results of factor analyses of responses on personality questionnaires he identified three dimensions of personality: extraversion, neuroticism and Psychoticism ^[4]. Eysenck (1947) found that their behavior could be represented by three independent personality dimensions: Psychoticism (P), Introversion / Extroversion (E); Neuroticism / Stability (N) which is why it's called the PEN model. According to him, these three super factors adequately describe personality.

According to Eysenck, the two dimensions of neuroticism (stable vs. unstable) and introversion-extroversion combine to form a variety of personality characteristics.

- Extraverts are sociable and crave excitement and change, and thus can become bored easily. They tend to be carefree, optimistic and impulsive.
- Introverts are reserved, plan their actions and control their emotions. They tend to be serious, reliable and pessimistic.
- Neurotics / unstable tend to be anxious, worrying and moody. They are overly emotional and find it difficult to calm down once upset. Stables are emotionally calm, non-reactive and unworried.
- Eysenck (1966) later added a third trait / dimension - Psychoticism – e.g. lacking in empathy, cruel, a loner, aggressive and troublesome.



Objectives

1. To study the personality characteristics of college students.
2. To determine the influence of gender on students personality characteristics (extraversion, neuroticism and Psychoticism).

Methodology

Sample : This study includes 60 college students of age 17 - 23 years. The subjects were selected from all Arts, Commerce and science discipline of various colleges situated at Jalna district of Maharashtra State. The sample includes 30 male students and 30 female students who were selected using Purposive non-probability sampling.

Hypotheses :

1. Male college students will be significantly more Extraverted than female college students.
- 2 Female college students will be significantly more Neurotic than male college students.
3. Male college students will be significantly more Psychotic than female college students.

Tools :

Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ)—The Eysenck personality questionnaire, first published by Eysenck and Eysenck (1975) for the measurement of extraversion, neuroticism and psychoticism was based on their work in Britain^[1]. Hindi adaptation of E.P.Q was used in present study which was developed by G.P. Thakur & Manju Thakur. The EPQ measures the traits of personality: Psychoticism (P), Extraversion (E), Neuroticism (N) and Lie (L). Reliability ranges are 0.80 to 0.90 and validity of test is satisfactory. EPQ-R contains 90 items and covers all the four categories above mentioned. Scoring of EPQ-R can be done with the help of stencils.

Procedure of Data Collection:

The data were collected personally from the local colleges on different occasions employing the tool; the tool was administered in manageable batches of 5. The duration of the testing sessions was about 30 minutes. Sufficient distance between the two subjects was kept, so that one cannot easily see the answer written by other. The test is carried out in accordance with specific instructions given by the authors of the test. A good deal of time was spent before the actual administration of the test explaining how it was to be answered. The students were asked to fill in the personal data in the response sheet before writing the responses for the test.

Variables :

Dependent variable:

1. Personality Characteristics (i.e. Extraversion, Neuroticism and Psychoticism)

Independent variable:

1. Gender (i.e. Male and Female)

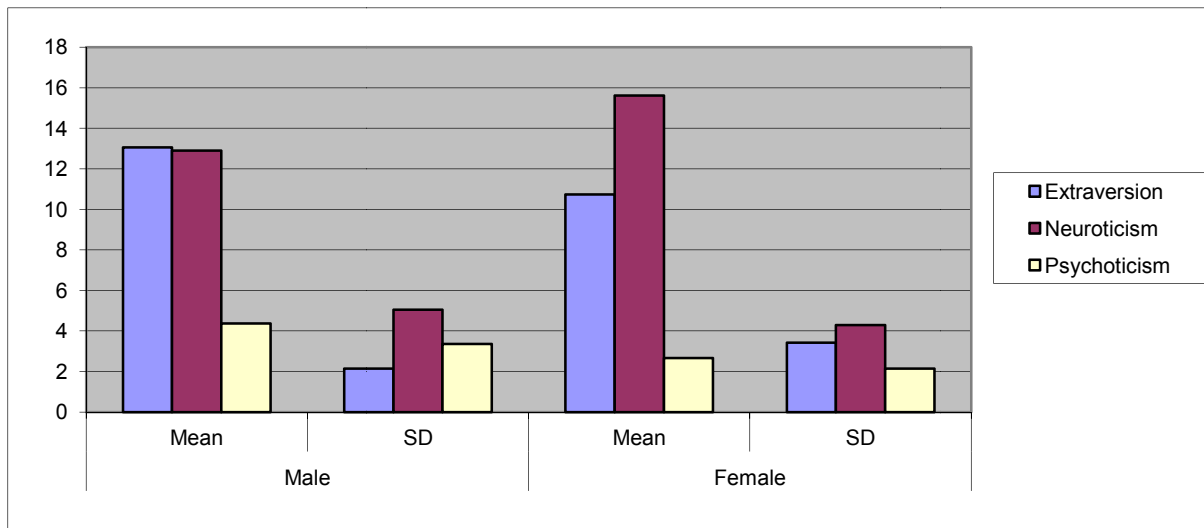
Results

Mean, SD and t value for Extraversion, Neuroticism, Psychoticism among male and female college students are given below.



Gender	Male		Female		DF	T
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Extraversion	13.06	2.14	10.73	3.42	58	4.59*
Neuroticism	12.9	5.05	15.62	4.29	58	-2.72*
Psychoticism	5.27	3.55	3.57	2.05	58	2.35

*Significant at 0.01



Discussion and Conclusion

- The male college students are significantly more extraverted than female students. Thus, male students are more outgoing, talkative, high on positive affect (feeling good), Dominant, Risk-taking, irresponsible and active than female students.
- The female college students are significantly more neurotic than male students. Thus, female students are more anxious, tensed and moody, depressed and have low self-esteem than male students.
- The male college students have more Psychoticism than female students. However, the difference is not significant. Thus, male students are aggressive, egocentric, dogmatic and tough minded than female students but not significantly.

References

- [1] Richard Lynn and Terence Martin (1996) Gender Differences in Extraversion, Neuroticism and Psychoticism in 37 Nations, The Journal of Social Psychology Volume 137, 1997 - Issue 3.
- [2] Priyanka Ranjan Study of Personality Traits among Rural and Urban School Student, IJEDR 2019 | Volume 7, Issue 1 | ISSN: 2321-9939.
- [3] Jolanian, Tahereh, Hokmi, Mohammad, Rafezi, Zohre Comparison of Personality Traits and Psychological Well-Being among Urban and Rural Internet and Non-Internet User in High School Students ISSN: 2090-4274 Journal of Applied Environmental and Biological Sciences.
- [4] Dr. Subhaarati Oinam: Determination of Personality Dimensions as per Sex and Area of Residence of College Students of Manipur IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science (IOSR-JHSS) Volume 21, Issue 8, Ver.4 (Aug. 2016) PP 62-66