
A Comparative Study of Cultural Effect on Introversion and Extroversion Trait of Muslim and Non-Muslim Adolescence Girls

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Abstract

Adolescence is that span of years during which boys and girls move from childhood to adulthood. The transition takes place mentally, emotionally, socially and physically in every adolescent. Personality of an individual plays a vital role in achieving the objectives of higher education or adaptability of the child in the society. In this study an attempt has been made to study the personal traits of Muslim and Non-Muslim adolescent girls with focus on their personality traits of introversion and extroversion. Sample of 100 girls' students was taken with 50 girls of Muslim and 50 girls of Non-Muslim category. The tool used was calculation method and Questionnaire is given to both the group. Scoring of the tool was done to find out the extrovert, introvert and ambivert students. The study showed that there is significant difference in introversion extroversion behavior of girls of Muslim and Non-Muslim category.

Keywords: Personality traits, introversion, extroversion, cultural differences.

Introduction

Personality of an individual plays a vital role in the adaptability of the child in the society and in achieving the objectives of higher education. By the time the child enters higher education, the traits or the characteristics of personality become permanent and dominant. The trait of extroversion-introversion is a central dimension of human personality theories. Extrovert characters tend to be social, while the introverted tend to be private and isolated. The activity of the extrovert is seen as directed towards the external world and that of the introvert inward upon himself or herself.

There are numerous factors contributing to personality development of an individual. The determinants of personality include biological factors such as genetics and other environmental factors such as social, cultural, economic etc. Personality traits of a person are largely governed by the culture in which the individual has been brought up. The term culture has a wider meaning whereby it includes the set of values, beliefs, customs and traditions and norms of a specific group of people. Culture, therefore, influences and affects the manner in which we learn, live and behave. Because of this, many theorists believe that culture is an important shaper of our personality. Generally it has been seen that people raised in a particular culture often share some common personality traits. According to Franz Boas, pioneer of Psychological Anthropology or the study of the relationship between culture and personality, personality is obtained through culture and not biology. His theory called Cultural Relativism gives a comprehensive understanding of the underlying relationship between culture and personality. Our culture contributes to the development of our beliefs and values. What a person would turn out to be is largely associated to one's culture in which he has been reared. It also lays down the foundation for a person's belief system and how a person conducts his or her life. Culture therefore sometimes is defined as the essence of life. This determines what a person says or does and when it is said or done. There are rules to go by depending on the culture. 1. All cultures are different and cultures have a profound influence on people. Culture shapes their thoughts, dream, and logic and so on. 2. Culture has a lot to do with the personality of a child. Culture educates a child in some of the basic aspects of life. What is acceptable, what is unacceptable, what is natural, what is unnatural, etc. 3. Culture also reprimands a child when he or she does not comply through various pressures and inducements.

Culture can affect how we perceive the world, for instance, what we consider beautiful or ugly. A slender person may feel ugly in a culture that praises and worships obesity, even if they are considered beautiful in other cultures. Thus, culture has an ability to affect the way you perceive the world and the way you perceive yourself.

Can a particular cultural upbringing have an effect on the personality traits of extroversion-introversion? We know that each particular culture has its own set of values and beliefs that influences a person's behavior, mind set and the way of conduct. The differences in the culture, the practices and rules and regulations can affect the overall personality of the child. Thus an attempt has been made in this paper to find out the personality trait of extroversion and introversion with respect to two different cultures i.e. Muslim and non Muslim on adolescence girls.

Rationale of the Study

Cultures and Communities have a deep impact on personality as it effects the upbringing environment of children. It is common perception from past research that the girls belonging to

Muslim community are submissive, shy and resilient to step out of their set boundaries. Can these personality characteristics be linked to the beliefs, feelings, attitudes and practices of a particular culture? Does the cultural practice impact the personality traits of a person? These are some research questions. Therefore an attempt is made in this paper to study the personality traits specifically of Muslim girls with respect to introversion and extroversion and compare with those of Non- Muslim girls .The present study explores the relationship between different cultural upbringing on personality characteristics. Are there differences in personality characteristics among adolescent girls being reared in different cultural backgrounds? This study has attempted to unravel the relations among personality, and students' specifically girls' with cultural differences. Various studies have been done in the past to study various aspects of personality. In those studies, sample size was often small and heterogeneous groups wherein both girls and boys were selected for studies. Majority of the studies in this field are done either on children or on adults. The studies so far we come across do not particularly cover this area and some were knocking only the peripherals. In this particular project, we try to establish a link between extraversion and introversion and its relationship with different cultural upbringings, specifically of adolescent girls. We will investigate into the personality trait of introversion and extroversion of adolescent Muslim and non Muslim girls. Personality is one of the factors affecting learning which justifies the need for our study. So, here, in this project, we dealt with a particular trait of personality i.e. introversion-extroversion. This particular aspect of personality is very significant and plays a vital role in achieving the objectives of higher education .Conducting such studies will help us analyze exactly how girls brought up in different cultural environments with a particular beliefs and practices differ with respect to this trait. It will prepare and equip us to deal in rational and logical manner to their problems suggest ways to improve their performance in higher education. These solutions will help us deal with problems in positive and productive manner with the changing needs and situations. If we find out the type of personality and the actual reasons behind it, we can suggest and devise ways in which girl students can acquire maximum out of higher education.

Statement of the Problem

A comparative study of cultural effect on introversion and extroversion trait of Muslim and non-Muslim adolescence girls

Objectives

1. To study the introversion/extroversion trait of adolescent Muslim girls.
2. To study the introversion/extroversion trait of adolescent Non-Muslim girls.
3. To compare the introversion/extroversion trait of adolescent Muslim and Non-Muslim girls.

Hypothesis

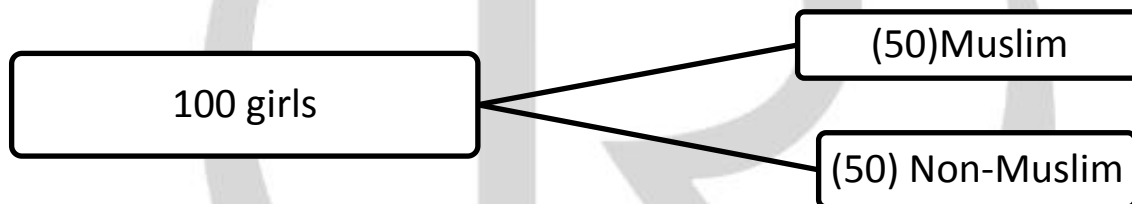
There is no significant difference in the extroversion/introversion traits of adolescent Muslim and Non-Muslim girls.

Design of the Study**Sample**

A sample of 100 girl students was taken with 50 Muslim girls and 50 non Muslim girls through purposive sampling.

Tool

Introversion Extroversion Inventory by PF Aziz and Dr. Rekha Agnihotri

Method

Experimental research design of study was followed. Government School of South Delhi was taken on the basis of their geographical proximity to the researcher. The researcher briefed the teacher in charge about the project and its relevance. Proper coordination and arrangement was done for date and time for administering the questionnaire. After selecting the sample properly the test was administered on students.

Scoring of Tool

Calculation method was followed. Questionnaire was given to both the groups then scores were compared.

Extrovert responses are considered to be correct. One mark is awarded for each correct response. Correct responses are given in manual. After checking the responses of the subject from manual subjects score is calculated by following formula:

Score obtained = No. of correct responses (-) No. of incorrect responses

The subject obtains a plus score when the Number of correct responses exceeds that of the incorrect ones; he/she gets a minus score when the no. of incorrect responses exceeds that of the correct ones .If the subjects score ranges between -15 and +15, he is said to be an ambivert. If the score is above +15, he is said to be an extrovert and if the score is below -15, he is said to be an introvert.

Observations

Table: Showing the number of girls of the different traits.

| S. No. | No. of girls | Introversions | Ambiverts | Extroversions |
|--------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| 1 | Muslim(50) | 2 | 26 | 22 |
| 2 | Non-Muslim (50) | 1 | 17 | 32 |
| | Total(100) | 3 | 43 | 54 |

Analysis and Interpretation

From the above data 2 Muslim students are found to be introvert i.e. only 4% of the total sample taken.

- 26 students out of 50 students are found to be Ambivert i.e. 52%
- 22 students of the total sample are found to be extrovert i.e. 44% of the total sample taken.
- The majority of the students in the Muslim category are found to be Ambiverts.
- However in Non-Muslim category only 1 student out of a sample of 50 is found to be introvert that constitutes 2%.17 students out of 50 students are found to be Ambiverts i.e. 34% of the Non-Muslim girls.
- 32 students out of 50 students are found to be extrovert category which is 64% of the data.
- On comparing the scores of Muslim students with Non-Muslim students we can say that majority of Muslim students show the Ambivert traits i.e. 52%, wherein Non-Muslim students category majority of the students show the traits of extroversion i.e. 64% which reflects that certain factors such as discipline, community practices, beliefs, value system which may contribute to them showing the Ambivert traits.
- In introverts there are 2 students showing the introversion traits and their score is 26 which is very high degree of introversion which can be contributed to the factors mentioned above whereas in Non-Muslim category there is only 1 student who is in introversion category with a score which is 16 i.e. borderline traits of introversion
- From the data we can conclude that there is a difference in the personality traits of Muslim and Non-Muslim girl students.

- On comparing the Ambivert category we find that there are more Muslim girls in the category i.e.52% of the Muslim girls than the Non-Muslim girls i.e. 34% of the non Muslim girl's data.

Findings and Conclusions

On comparing the results following findings and conclusions can be drawn:-

- The number of respondents with introversion trait in non Muslim is2% as against4% respondents in Muslim girls.
- There were more respondents in Muslim girls' category that showed ambivert personality trait i.e.52% than non Muslim respondents i.e. 34%.
- Clearly maximum of non Muslim respondents showed extroversion traits i.e.64% whereas only 44% of non Muslim girls showed extroversion personality trait.

So, we can conclude that the students from non Muslim cultural upbringing have more extroversion trait as against Muslim girls.

Thus, in the study we can conclude that differences in the upbringing owing to cultural differences which in turn are governed by values, beliefs and practices affects the people's personality traits. Certain beliefs, customs and traditions associated with a particular culture sets limits to development of one's personality characteristics.

Delimitation

- 1 Sample of only 100 students was taken with 50 Muslim and 50 non Muslim girls.
2. The study is delimited only to the aspect of introversion and extroversion behavior of personality.
3. The study is confined to girl students only.

Educational Implications

For Parents: - The parents should be sensitive towards the demands of the child and the present society. Hence they should encourage the child to come out of the inhibitions and carve a niche for themselves.

For Teachers: - The teachers should understand the individual differences and accordingly mould the instructions to suit the varied need and demands of the pupil.

For Administrators: - The stakeholders while developing curriculum should be sensitive towards the need in the larger context of the society with varied cultural differences, provisions should be there so that all can benefit from the curriculum.

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