

## SECURITY INSECURITY AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN RELATION TO SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS

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### ABSTRACT

*The purpose of this study was to find out the difference in security and insecurity level of adolescents on the basis of some socio-demographic factors i.e. gender, structure of family and caste. To achieve the objectives of the study security and insecurity scale by Dr. Beena Shah (2010) was administered on a sample of 200 adolescents who were randomly selected from different schools of district Ludhiana. Descriptive statistics was used to analysis the data. The t-value was applied. Analysis revealed significant mean difference in security and insecurity of adolescents according to gender and caste. No significant mean difference exists in security and insecurity of adolescents on the basis of structure of family.*

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### INTRODUCTION

Human personality is a very broad and comprehensive concept consisting of many aspects and factors that influence the behavior. Adolescence is that span of life in which an individual undergoes physical, social and psychological changes. It is the most important period of human life. The adolescents have to face various difficult situation. In this period of development physical, mental and social forces is fast and the result is that the individual has to make new adjustments with his own self, with the family and with the society at large. It is a time when adolescents need maximum attention and care of their parents. They need love, affection and sense of security. But this sense of security is dependent on various socio-demographic factors. In the present study researcher tries to find out the difference in the security and insecurity level of adolescents on the basis of gender, structure of family and caste.

### SECURITY

Security is a state of mind in which one is willing to accept the consequences of one's behavior. All the aspects of individuals behavior in all areas of life can be interpreted in terms of security. The feeling of security is a state of freedom from any kind of fear or danger to life. An adolescents with a sense of security is able to access his/her rights, goals with in his/her capability without any external or internal hindrance. Feeling secured is

essential condition for all round development of an individual.

### INSECURITY

The feeling of insecurity is opposite to the feeling of security. The insecurity state of person is an emotional problem, a state of being in disturbance due to the feeling of tension, strain and conflict together with other consequences of tension for example nervousness. An insecure person perceives the world as a threatening jungle and most human beings as dangerous and selfish, feels rejected and isolated, anxious and hostile, is generally Pessimistic and unhappy, shows sign of tension and conflict, tend no turn inward is troubled by guilt feelings tend to be neurotic and selfish.

### EMERGENCE OF PROBLEM

Adolescence as often termed as a 'Period of stress and storm'. It will be very fruitful to learn about feeling of security and insecurity among adolescents. Adolescents should have an all round development viz physical, mental, social, aesthetic and emotional etc. for the full of development of personality. This healthy development is quite necessary for learning and also for proper survival. It is quite necessary that he/she should be brought up in a good environment and healthy personality traits should be inculcated at early stage of development. A feeling of security is essential for

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balanced development of adolescents. According to study published by American psychological association "People who feel insecure about their attachment to others might be at higher risk for cardiovascular problems than those who feel secure in their relationship" (McWilliams 2010). In the present study investigator tries to find out the impact of gender, family structure and caste on the feeling of security and insecurity among adolescents.

**OBJECTIVES**

1. To find out the difference in the security and insecurity of male and female adolescents.
2. To find out the difference in the security and insecurity of joint/nuclear family adolescents.
3. To find out the difference in the security and insecurity of general/schedule caste adolescents.

**HYPOTHESIS**

1. There exist no significant mean difference between the security and insecurity of male and female adolescents.
2. There exist no significant mean difference between the security and insecurity of joint and nuclear family adolescents.
3. There exist no significant mean difference between the security and insecurity of general and schedule caste adolescents.

**SAMPLE**

The sample comprised of 200 adolescents of senior secondary schools selected randomly from district Ludhiana of Punjab.

**TOOLS**

Scale of security and insecurity developed by Dr. Beema Shah (2010) was used. The tool measure the security and insecurity among adolescents.

**PROCEDURE**

Security and insecurity scale was administered to 200 adolescents of different schools of Ludhiana district and their responses were scored, tabulated and analyzed using appropriate statistical technique.

**STATISTICAL TECHNIQUE**

Both descriptive and inferential statistics were

used for the analysis of the data. The descriptive statistics such as mean and S.D. were used. Inferential statistics such as t-test was employed.

**Table-1**  
**Significance of the difference between means of security and insecurity of adolescents according to gender**

Group	N	M	S.D.	Critical t-value	Level of significance
Male	100	108.16	12.81	2.61**	Significant at .05 and .01 level of significance
Female	100	102.38	18.03		

From table (1) it can be seen that critical value is 2.61\*\* which is significant at .05 and .01 level of significance. Therefore, null hypothesis that there is no significant difference between mean scores of security and insecurity of male and female adolescents is rejected. The mean scores of female adolescents is 102.38 which is significantly lower than the mean scores of males which is 108.16. It may therefore be said that male adolescents possess high level of security than female adolescents.

**Table-2**  
**Significance of the difference between means of security and insecurity of adolescents according to structure of family**

Group	N	M	S.D.	t-value	Level of significance
Joint family	100	106.62	16.83	1.22	Not significant
Nuclear family	100	103.92	14.39		

From table (2) it can be seen that critical value is 1.22 which is not significant at .05 and .01 level of significance. Therefore, the null hypothesis that there is no significant difference between mean scores of security and insecurity of joint and nuclear family adolescents is not rejected. The mean scores of joint family adolescents is 106.62 which is higher than the mean scores of nuclear family adolescents which is 103.92 but the difference in mean scores is not significant at both levels.

**Table-3**  
**Significance of the difference between**  
**means of security and insecurity of**  
**adolescents according to caste**

Group	N	M	S.D.	Critical t-value	Level of significance
General Caste	100	113.64	11.69		Significant at .05 and .01 level of significance
Schedule Caste	100	95.90	13.93	6.26**	

Table (3) depicts that the critical value is 6.26\*\* which is significant at .05 and .01 level of significance. Therefore, the null hypothesis that there is no significant difference between mean scores of security and insecurity of general/schedule caste adolescents is rejected. The mean scores of general caste adolescents is 113.64 which is significantly higher than the mean scores of schedule caste adolescents which is 95.90. It may therefore be said that general caste adolescents possess high level of security than schedule caste adolescents.

#### CONCLUSION

On the basis of data the hypothesis were tested. Following conclusions were drawn :-

1. Male adolescents have more security than female adolescents.
2. Adolescents coming from joint families possess more security than adolescents belong to nuclear families.
3. Adolescents belong to general category have more security than schedule caste adolescents.

#### EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

The present study has multiple implications in the field of psychology and education. The information regarding security and insecurity of adolescents is helpful in revealing the need of adolescents to start some special programme of Guidance and Counseling for the students.

Parents can also understand the effect of parenting on the psychology of children. They can be guided to provide congenial environment at home. The results of the study can also be discussed in seminars, refresher courses, workshops for the benefit of adolescents.

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