



Student-Teachers' Attitude towards Teaching Profession

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Abstract:

Unfortunately in India, to-day, the socio-economic status and the professional status of teachers is low. Specially, at the primary level it falls much below the standards despite many efforts undertaken to improve it. Due to Fix pay salary, status of Vidya-Sahayak, young generation is not attracted towards teaching profession. They do not get minimum vages also. Its affect the quality of teaching. Latest figures of Gunotsav point out the education scenario of Gujarat. The quality of education as an academic study must be raised which can be one of the influential factor for school teaching to emerge as a profession on par with other established professions like Law, Medicine, Engineering etc. Unless, teaching attains the status of high profession and teachers as professionals, it is painful to harbor high expectations that we as people have from our teachers and to have right attitudes towards their profession. In the academic year of 2015-16, 35% seats were not filled with the students. It shows that teaching profession can-not attract the future teacher towards this noble profession. That's why here it is necessary to know what the attitudes of teachers towards teaching profession are?

Keywords: Attitude, Teaching profession, Training

1. Introduction

The aim of every professional education is to make the education professionally devoted and dedicated to the concerned profession as an effective and efficient professional. Teaching is the only profession which shapes the society. Teacher has been looked upon by the society as the wisest men of the community. He enjoyed very respectable status in the society. In Indian society same spiritual and social cultural leaders had more respect for the teacher than to the God. In the words of **Prof. Humayun Kabir**, “*Teachers are literally the arbiters of a nation's destiny*” Teacher is the most important factor in the reconstruction of education. But “Teaching is not every body's cup of tea” as Ruskin says “Teaching is a painful, continuous and difficult work to be done by kindness, by watching, by warning, by perfecting by praise but above all by exercise”. Teachers who are generally unenthusiastic about the teaching profession (i.e. having a negative job orientation) reported in one study, that they were more distressed about their teaching situation than were teachers who were enthusiastic (Litt& Turk 1985, p.180). Thus, for the professional growth of the teachers and improvements in education, the attitudes held by them are very important. How a teacher performs his/her duty as a teacher is dependent, to a great extent, on his/her attitudes, values and beliefs. A positive favourable attitude makes the work not only easier but also more satisfying and professionally rewarding. A negative and unfavourable attitude makes the teaching task harder, tedious and unpleasant. In addition, a teacher's attitude also influences the behaviour of her/his students. Thus effective and productive learning on the part of students can be achieved only by teachers with desirable attitudes. Thus, teacher's attitude towards teaching profession forms the major

variable for the present study on secondary school teachers. There is a need in to examine teacher attitude towards their profession as the educational system undergoes major changes and improvements. It is not enough if the prospective teachers are empowered with knowledge and skills but they should have a favorable attitude towards teaching which in turn influences their teaching competency. Hence, the present study attempts to assess the Attitude of B.Ed. trainees towards teaching profession. The focus of the present study was attitudes towards the teaching profession by education students enrolled in B.Ed. course in Ahmedabad city.

2. Objectives of the study

Following were the **Objectives** of the study:

1. To compare attitude towards teaching among male and female teachers towards teaching profession.
2. To compare attitude of rural and urban area's teachers towards teaching profession.
3. To compare attitude of science and general streams' teachers towards teaching profession.

3. Hypothesis of the study

The researcher formulated the following null hypotheses.

- Ho₁** : There is no significant differences of attitude towards teaching profession among male and female teachers.
- Ho₂** : There is no significant differences between rural and urban area's teachers attitude towards teaching profession.
- Ho₃** : There is no significant differences of attitude towards teaching profession among student teachers with General and Science stream.

4. Variable of the study

In the present study attitude of student teachers was a dependent variable and student teachers' gender, their area and stream were considered as a dependent variable.

5. Delimitations of the study

1. Present study was delimited to the B.Ed. students of Ahmedabad city only.
2. Only those B. Ed students who belong to Arts and Science subject streams were included in the study. The present study focused on professional attitude as perceived by the individual and not through the indicators of professional attitude.
3. Tool used for the quantitative study is self-reporting device and thus has an inherent limitation due to its nature.

6. Research Method

This study falls under the category of descriptive research. Thus, survey method was adopted to carry out the work. In this study, emphasis was given on inferential quantitative approach to compare the different variables.

7. Population and sample

The population of the present study comprises of Gujarati medium B.Ed. students of Ahmedabad district and all the students of B.Ed. constitute the population. Looking at the nature of this study, stratified random sampling technique was used to select the required sample of teachers. The present study consisted of 100 B.Ed. Students of different colleges of Ahmedabad were selected as a sample of the study.

8. Research Tools

In the present study, researcher has used attitude scale regarding teaching profession. After a careful scrutiny of the statements by experts, statements were selected for the study related to attitudes

towards teaching profession of prospective teachers. Based on the judges' comments on the items' content and face validity, relevance and clarity, 34 items were retained.

9. Data Analysis, Interpretation and Results

Objectives of the study were to assess the professional attitude of student teachers and compare the professional attitude of different groups student teachers made on the basis of gender, subject stream taught and area. On the basis of the scores obtained on the Professional Attitude Scale the teachers were categorized under two heads; favorable (score 85& above) and not-so-favorable (score below 85). Percentages of cases for favorable and not-so-favorable professional attitude were calculated for the total sample as well as for its sub groups formed on the basis of gender, subject stream taught and medium of instruction which are given in Table No. 1 and their 't' values for significance of difference between means calculated.

Table 1: Number and Percentage of Teachers of Different Groups on Professional Attitude

Category	Gender				Stream				Area				Total N = 100	%
	Male (43)		Female (57)		General (80)		Science (20)		Rural (48)		Urban (52)			
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Favourable	18	41.86	22	38.19	35	43.75	12	60	15	31.25	20	38.46	100	44.96
Un favourable	25	58.14	35	61.81	45	56.25	08	40	33	68.75	32	61.53	100	55.03

Table 1 reveals that the total sample of teachers has a tilt towards Not-so- favorable attitude towards teaching profession as 55.03 of cases come under this category and 44.96 cases are showing a positive or Favorable attitude. Similar trend is visible in all the sub-groups of teachers. This means that most of the teachers (55.03%) irrespective of their gender, area, educational qualification, and subject stream do not have favourable attitude towards teaching profession. Within sub-groups, females have more number of cases (N =22) with favorable attitude than males (N =18). The general subject stream teachers are more positive in their attitude towards teaching profession(N =35) than their counterparts i.e. Science stream teachers (N = 12).

Through Table No. 1, number and percentage of teachers who have favorable attitude and who have not-so- favorable attitude towards teaching were presented and studied. It is also necessary to compare the different subgroups for their attitude means. For this, 't' values were calculated which are presented in Table No. 2

Table 2: Significance of Difference between Means of Different Subgroups of Teachers for Professional Attitude

Demographic variables		N	Mean	S.D	t- Value	Level of Sig.
Gender	Male	43	88.33	10.50	6.82	Sig. at 0.01 level
	Female	57	92.97	13.31		
Area	Rural	48	92.36	12.42	5.02	Sig. at 0.01 level
	Urban	52	88.94	11.39		
Qualification	General	80	91.32	10.6	1.52	N.S.
	Science	20	89.98	13.21		

10. Results and Findings of the study

- In case of hypothesis H01 the result shown that there is a significant difference exists between teachers in relation to their gender. Female teachers have higher attitude than that of male teachers. Hence first null hypothesis is rejected.

- In case of hypothesis H0 2 the result shown that there is a significant difference exists between teachers in relation to their area. Rural area's teachers have higher attitude than that of urban area's teachers. Hence second null hypothesis is rejected.
- In case of hypothesis H0 3 the result shown that there is no significant difference exists between teachers in relation to their stream. It means General Streams teachers and Science stream's teachers have similar attitude towards teaching profession.

11. Conclusion

A very significant area explored in the present study was professional attitude of teachers, where it was found that majority of student-teachers displayed lack of positive or favourable attitude towards their teaching profession. Teachers subdivided on the basis of gender showed difference in their level of professional attitude. Males had less positive professional attitude than females. This connotes that professional attitude of male teachers is highly negative than of female teachers. Healthy attitude of teachers towards their profession is a pre-requisite for a healthy school system. If teachers will lose faith in their profession and its contribution in making of the mankind and causing progress in the society; if the honour of the 'noblest of all' profession is not acknowledged and respected by the teachers, then their job satisfaction level will go down and the high position of teaching community will also be lowered. The implication of current state of teachers holding less favourable or positive attitude towards their profession is very dangerous as it not only kills the 'professional self' of a teacher but also dampens the spirit of the school life. Teachers performing their duty only for the sake of salary and not liking or respecting the job in which they are engaged bring forth a catastrophic situation taking the school system nowhere.

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