
A Comparative Study of Level of Educational Aspiration of Orphan and Normal Students

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Abstract

The present study was conducted to compare the Level of Educational Aspiration of Orphan and Normal Students. When Level of Aspiration is centered on the field of education we may refer to it as Level of Educational Aspiration. Educational aspiration refers to the educational goals of an individual. This study was conducted in Meerut on the students who lived in Orphanage home and the students who lived with their parents. The researcher selected a random sample of 80 students out of which 40 orphan students and 40 normal students. The Level of Educational Aspiration Test by Dr. Yasmin Ghani Khan was used for collecting data from samples. The present study revealed that there was a significant difference of Level of Educational Aspiration between Orphan and Normal Students. Level of Educational Aspiration of Normal students was high as compared to Orphan students.

Keywords: Level of Educational Aspiration, Orphan students, Normal students.

Introduction

In every society education makes life happy, enjoyable and prosperous for both the individual and the community. A child needs the love, care and protection of parents in the early stages of development. The child's immediate family and environment are important in determining how a child grows because he is brought up in an environment where he feels loved and accepted, a sense of belonging, safety and security as well as developing trust, respect and self-confidence. In an achievement-oriented society like ours, a person is judged by what his/her achievements are. A person comes to expect something of himself and he sets his goal. The desire to excel over others or to achieve a higher level of performance than the previous one is intensified in human beings. Lishomwa, K.M. (2013) "A Comparative Study Of Guardians'/ Parents' Involvement Into Orphaned And Non-Orphaned Children's Education In Mongu District" the concluded that, from the children's perspective as well as from the parents'/guardians' perspective, parents were more involved than guardians. These children joined such families as a result of the death of their own parents or irresponsibility on the part of their own parents.

Level of Educational Aspiration: Aspiration means a strong desire to achieve something high or great. Educational aspiration is an important variable in predicting educational achievement and can be viewed as an element in educational achievement motivation, as they are related to the desire for success and the goals to succeed in particular academic areas or to earn a particular degree, focus on development.

Aspiration refers to yearning for and striving for a goal higher than one's present position, which differs from ambition, which is the eagerness to achieve a particular honor. When Level of Aspiration is focused on the area of education we may refer to it as Level of Educational Aspiration. It is considered as a concept referring to orientation towards educational goals spaced in social prestige and arranged in an educational hierarchy. Higher level of education leads to higher educational aspirations. Educational Aspiration is one's will to excel in academics whereas Level of Educational Aspiration is the measure of this will. This study not only measures the Level of Educational Aspiration but also helps in predicting the type of aspiration. Aspirations as a cognitive state motivate or drive young people to strive for academic success (Khoo and Ainsley, 2005). Level of aspiration refers to the degree of quality of performance which an individual desires to achieve (Trusty, J. 2000). Anne Samyukta, (2016) finds that there is no difference in the level of aspiration among orphans and non-orphans. According to previous research, educational aspiration-the nature and level of a student's academic goals-are influential not only regarding students career and occupational decisions and outcomes (Eccles, 2009; Schoon & Parsons, 2002), but also their overall well-being later in life (Ashby & Schoon, 2012).

Orphan students: An orphanage is a residential institution or group home, dedicated to the care of orphans and children who, for various reasons, cannot be cared for by their biological families. It is now generally accepted that orphanages are detrimental to the emotional well-being of children, and government aid goes towards assisting the family unit. A child may be considered an orphan because of the death or disappearance, abandonment or separation or loss of both parents. A child of an unmarried mother or surviving parent may be considered an orphan if that parent is unable to properly care for the child.

According to the report of UNICEF (2017) there are nearly 140 million orphan children worldwide who have lost one or both parents.

Solomon Kassie Alem (2020) revealed that orphan children were exposed to a variety of psychological effects, feeling a lot of worries, feeling pain, fear, loneliness, emotional shock, discomfort in the body or mind, evoking extremely distressing experiences and producing prolonged lasting influence on his later development.

Present study was conducted on the orphan students who lived in orphanage homes located in Meerut.

Normal students: Family is an essential part of a child's education. Providing a happy and positive growing environment has proved to be extremely beneficial in improving the child's mindset and cognitive mind. It is one of the primary roles of a parent to ensure that a happy learning environment is provided to the growing child. Studies show that children often choose their role models based on the kind of behavior of the guardians that are portrayed in front of them. Students who lived with their family were considered as normal students in this study. Present study was conducted on the Normal students studied in government schools of Meerut.

Need and Significance of the study: Democracy will be realized in its fullest sense when we recognize the full range of ability within our total population. Every country has a limited set of abilities and special talents. This must be identified and developed to save it from total immobilization. The gifted individuals have played an important role in the preservation and advancement of civilization. The results and recommendations of the study will be helpful in understanding the current

psychological status of orphan students and will be useful in developing plans and future programs for orphan students.

Objective of the Study: The following objectives have been formulated for the present study-

1. To identify Orphan and Normal students.
2. To study the Level of Educational Aspiration of Orphan and Normal Students.
3. To compare the Level of Educational Aspiration of Orphan and Normal Students.

Hypothesis of the Study:

Following null hypothesis have been formulated for the present study-

There is no significant difference in Level of Educational aspirations of orphans and Normal Students.

Delimitations of the study:

The study is delimited to the following aspects:-

1. The study is delimited to the Meerut Division.
2. The study is delimited to students of age group 10 to 14 years.
3. The study is delimited to 40 orphan Students living in orphanage homes.
4. The study is delimited to 40 normal students studied in government schools.

Method of the study: The researcher employed a descriptive survey design for the quantitative research method.

Tool: The following tool was used-

Level of Educational Aspiration – Yashmin Ghani Khan, Level of Educational Aspiration.

Population and Sample: The Population included all the students from orphanage (age group 10-14 years) and all the students studied in government schools lived with their parents in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India. In the present study simple random sampling has been used. 40 students have been chosen from two orphanages located in Meerut, and 40 students have been chosen from government schools located in Meerut.

Statistical Technique Used:

The mean, S.D and “t” test has been used to analyze and interpret the data.

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Table shows mean comparison of Level of Educational Aspiration between orphan and normal students.

Students	N	Mean	SD	t value	Level of significance
Orphan Students	40	21.23	4.04	2.66	Significance at 0.01 level and 0.05 level
Normal Students	40	23.65	2.58		

The above table shows mean comparison of Level of Educational Aspiration between orphan and normal students. The table reveals that the two groups viz., orphan and Normal Students differ significantly on Level of Educational Aspiration as calculated t-value (2.765) is greater than tabulated t-value (2.65) at 0.01 level of significance and (1.99) at 0.05 level of significance. The mean difference depicts that Normal Students have better Level of Educational Aspiration than orphan Students. Thus from the confirmation of the results from the above table the null hypothesis which reads as, "There is no significant difference between Level of Educational Aspiration of Orphan and Normal Students" stands rejected.

Discussion: Educational aspiration is an important variable in predicting academic achievement and may be seen as an element in academic achievement motivation. When Level of Aspiration is centered on the field of education we may refer to it as Level of Educational Aspiration. It is considered as a concept referring to orientation towards educational goals spaced in social prestige and arranged in an educational hierarchy. Educational Aspiration is one's will to excel in academics whereas Level of Educational Aspiration is the measure of this will. As the result of present study revealed that Normal Students have better Level of Educational Aspiration than orphan Students. These institutes should be conducting various bridge courses and vocational programs which might be contributing to orphan children's level of aspiration similar to that of non-orphans. Despite the absence of parental care, the supportive environment helps orphans to aspire to higher levels.

Conclusion and Recommendations: The main purpose of the study was to compare the Level of Educational Aspiration of Orphan and Normal Students in Meerut. The sample for the present investigation consists of 80 students (40 orphan and 40 normal students) taken from two orphanages located in Meerut, and 40 students have been chosen from government schools located in Meerut. Various statistical methods, including mean, S.D and t-test were applied to analyze the data. Therefore the main conclusions of the study are as under: Normal Students have better Level of Educational Aspiration than orphan Students. Considering the key finding of the study; the researcher concluded the following recommendations-

- These institutes should be conducting various bridge courses and vocational programs which might be contributing to orphan children's level of aspiration similar to that of non-orphans.
- Government and non-governmental organizations should work collaboratively to implement the policy framework and set up orphanage centers to provide appropriate services to orphans.
- Despite the absence of parental care, the supportive environment helps orphans to have high levels of aspirations.
- Counselors should provide more functional job training by providing additional resources to understand and address realistic goals so that children can make their dreams a reality.

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