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A comparative study of attitude of primary and secondary school teachers towards teaching as career

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Abstract

The present study was undertaken to study the difference between primary and secondary school teachers attitude towards teaching as career choice. The sample comprised of government and non govt primary school teachers and govt and non govt secondary school teachers of urban areas. The data was collected by using Attitude towards Teaching as Career scale by dr. J.P S rivastava and Dr. s P Gupta. Analysis of data yielded that both urban and primary and urban and secondary school teachers have favourable attitude towards teaching as career but the difference in their attitude is insignificant.

Keywords: Attitude, Teaching, career, difference

Introduction

Education and life are inseparable. It is both the means and the end in itself. As a means, education aims at imparting knowledge, developing skills and inculcating values in the younger generation. Human beings get education through both formal and informal means. Teacher is the key ingredient in this process. In fact, the quality of education being provided in the class largely depends on the quality of teachers. The effects of a teacher on the nation and the future of the nation are unquestionable. As it was stated by the philosopher Henry Adams that a teacher affects eternity and he can never tell where this influence stops. Smith (1986) adds,

“(teaching) is a profession that profoundly affects the lives of every individual and ultimately the strength and well-being of the nation.” The fascination of discovering knowledge is skill another attraction of teaching profession. One gets to learn new things everyday in this whole process. Every-day a teacher gets opportunity to discover new things but how much he learns depends upon his passion for his work and his sense of devotion towards his career. A teacher besides being competent in his subject, teaching methods and understanding the learner must also have a favourable attitude towards teaching profession. Teaching attitude refers to how a teacher thinks or feels about the ways in which he intends to act as a teacher. A good and dedicated teacher always possesses some attributes like patience, forgiveness, self control, intelligence, learning, truthfulness and non-irritable temper. There are various factors which influence the quality of teachers. Among these are the training and education during the teacher education programmes which effect the teacher's qualities the most. Teaching is a profession, which lays the foundation for preparing the individuals for all other professions. Glorifying the role of teacher Aristotle once said, “Those who educate children are to be honored more than those who bear them. For these only give lives, those arts of living well.”

Objectives of the Study

Comparison of attitude of urban primary and urban secondary school teachers towards teaching as career:

1. To compare the attitude of urban primary and urban secondary school teachers towards teaching as career.
2. To compare the attitude of urban primary and urban secondary school male teachers towards teaching as career.
3. To compare the attitude of urban primary and urban secondary school female teachers towards teaching as career.

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Hypothesis of the Study

1. There is no significant different in the attitude of urban primary and urban secondary school teachers towards teaching as career.
2. There is no significant difference in the attitude of urban primary and urban secondary school male teachers towards teaching as career.
3. There is no significant difference in the attitude of urban primary and urban secondary school female teachers towards teaching career.

Methodology

The present study is based on ‘descriptive method of research, which provides a investigation to study, describe and interpret what exists at present.

Sample

The population of the present study may be stratified into the following strata :

1. Govt. primary school teachers of urban area.
2. Non-govt. primary school teachers of urban area.
3. Govt. secondary school teachers of urban area.
4. Non-govt. secondary school teachers of urban area.

Research Tools

Attitude towards teaching as career scale an Indian adaptation of Merwin and Divesta’s Scale (developed by Dr. J. P. Srivastava and Dr. S. P. Gupta)

Objectives

Comparison of attitude of urban primary and urban secondary school teachers towards teaching as career.

Table 1: Critical ratio for comparing the attitude of urban primary and urban secondary school teachers towards teaching as career.

Variable	Type of School	N	Mean	S.N.	‘t’ Value	Results
Attitude towards Teaching as Career	Primary	278	41.7446	8.3969	0.884	Insignificant
	Secondary	265	42.3472	7.42438		

The table 1 shows the comparison of attitude of urban primary and urban secondary school teachers towards teaching as career. The t value 0.884 at df (541) in insignificant which mean that although both urban and primary and urban secondary school teachers have favourable attitude towards teaching as career but the difference in this attitude is insignificant.

Result & Discussion

Urban primary and secondary school teachers have not been found to differ significantly in their attitude towards teaching as career, there are many factors that influence their attitude towards teaching as career. Primary teachers in urban areas are a little more updated that secondary school teachers, in urban areas avail better facilities to some extent as compared to secondary school teachers. Urban government primary and secondary school teachers have been found to differ significantly in their attitude towards teaching as career. Mean value suggest more favourable attitude in case of secondary school teacher. Stress has created an insignificant influence on the attitude of teachers from urban government primary and secondary school.

Suggestions and Conclusion

Attitude plays a very crucial role in an individual life, it, to a large extent determines, how efficiently one accomplishes his/her job. On the basis of the findings, following conclusion have been drawn urban primary and secondary school teachers have not been found to differ significantly in their attitude towards teaching as career. Thus, nothing of definite can be said.

Suggestions/Conclusions

- It would be better if a comparison of attitude towards teaching as career be made among primary, secondary and higher level teacher it relation to their sex, age and experience.
- This study could be repeated to the comparison of attitude towards teaching as career of teachers from general academic education professional from education like engineering, medical, MBA, MCA etc.

- It would be better if the attitude towards teaching as career may be compared among the teacher teaching students from academic streams (Science, Arts, Commerce).
- A study of attitude towards teaching as career could be made also be studied among teachers in special education in relation to age, sex, experience etc.

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