

COMPARISON OF ATTITUDINAL BEHAVIOUR OF POST GRADUATE BOYS AND GIRLS STUDENTS TOWARDS THE USE OF COMPUTER FOR THEIR EMPOWERMENT

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ABSTRACT

Traditionally, behaviour technology is a male domain and research has previously shown that boys have a greater interest in application of technology in day-to-day life than girls. However, in changing scenario of globalization use ICT tools for communication is increased drastically among both male and female. The students commonly use computer for their academic and communication work and some of them believed that reluctance in the use computer is big blunder and some of them had anxiety in use of computer. Keeping in view a comprehensive study was plan to know the attitudinal behaviour of Post Graduate boys and girls students. 60 girls and 60 boys were randomly selected from the Post Graduate students of B. A. College of Agriculture. Measurement of attitude scale developed by Christian (2010) was used. All the 120 respondents were interviewed at their hostel or classroom. The result revealed that mean score of attitudinal behaviour of girls were (43.67) and boys were (41.43) and t-test is found to be significant which implies that there were significant difference in attitude level of boys and girls towards the use of computer for their empowerment. Girls had more inclination towards use of computer for their empowerment than the boys.

Keywords: gender gap, computer use, attitude

INTRODUCTION

Information Technology policy must adopt gender perspective while advocating gender equality, in turn, must be aware of the opportunities and challenges that technology brings forth. Failure to reflect on gender issues in the early stages of technology diffusion may unwillingly generated adverse effects on women. Even apparently gender-neutral decision about infrastructure can have an impact on women's inclination towards the use of new technologies.

The characteristics of ICTs and its overall benefits for economic development makes it a key component through which gender equality can be improved. Looking more specifically, ICTs can for one influence the public opinions in a positive way about gender equality. Especially in a country like India, this can be a good strategy by inducing policymakers to include gender as an important component to their social and economic policies. In other sectors of the industry like health and education, ICT can be more focused on improving the lives of women in more rural areas. The challenge of building a social model based on gender equality should now go in hand with targeted efforts to expand women's access to and use of information and

communications technologies (ICT) as a way to democratize information, communications and the participation of women in the generation of knowledge.

ICT enable women to play an active role in development, support and dissemination networks. They also provide women with access to new jobs and professions, to participation in interactive learning and tele-information initiatives and to knowledge and information for empowerment and for improving their lives. These technologies help women take their place in the public space of the information society, creating resources, contributing ideas and opinions and capitalizing on their own inventiveness and creativity.

This study aims to understand the relationship between gender and attitude towards the use of computer for their empowerment. Literature shows that gender plays a key role in understanding the differences in perception towards usefulness of technology and ease of use of computer with regards to attitude. This paper analyses the effect of gender on attitude towards computer technology.

OBJECTIVES

(a) To study the level of attitude of the post-graduate girls

- (b) and boys students towards the use of computer for their empowerment.
- (c) To facilitate comparison level of attitude of the post-graduate girls and boys students towards the use of computer for their empowerment.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted on post-graduate students of B. A. College of Agriculture at Anand Agricultural University. 60 girls students and 60 boys students were selected randomly and interviewed personally at their hostel or classroom. The ex-post facto research design was employed for the study. In the present study the level of attitude of the post-graduate research scholars was operationalized as the degree to which the post-graduate research scholars agree or disagree with different aspect of computer use for their

empowerment. This variable was measured by using the scale developed by Christian (2010) and Patel et al., (2015) by slight modification. The scale consisted of ten statements. The collected data were classified, tabulated and analysed with appropriate statistical tools like mean, standard deviation and “t”-test.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table-1 shows that 26.66 per cent of girls students and 60.00 per cent of the boys students have positive attitude towards the use of computer for their empowerment, whereas 73.33 per cent of girls students and 40.00 per cent of boys shows highly positive attitude towards the use of computer for their empowerment. So it can be concluded that girls students have highly positive attitude towards the use of computer than the boys students.

Table-1 Attitude of the girls and boys students towards the use of computer for their empowerment n=120

Attitude	Score	Girls (n=60)		Boys (n=60)	
		frequency	percent	frequency	percent
Highly Negative	10-18	0	00	0	00
Negative	18-26	0	00	0	00
Neutral	26-34	0	00	0	00
Positive	34-42	16	26.66	36	60.00
Highly positive	42-50	44	73.33	24	40.00

Table-2 revealed that the mean score of attitude of girls were 43.67 and the mean score of the attitude of boys were 41.43. The “t”- test is performed to compare both mean and t-test found significant at 0.05 level of significance.

Table-2 Comparison of the attitude of girls and boys students by using t-test n=120

Student	Frequency	Mean score	t-value
Girls students	60	43.667	4.07 *
Boys students	60	41.433	

CONCLUSION

The comparison of the attitudinal behaviour of girls and boys students shows the significant result. It means there is a significant difference between the attitude of boys and girls students. The result shows that girls students has more positive attitude towards the use of computer for their empowerment than the boys students as the boys has reluctance in learn about the computer for their empowerment and girls were active in learning, which developed positivism

towards the use of computer. The reason for this result might be the difference in psychology of the girls and boys. Girls are generally more conscious in nature about any type of work and do the work with precision, whereas boys are somewhat less conscious about their work. But it doesn’t mean that boys are not active or not having plan for future, but as far as this study is concern the girls has more positive attitude towards the application of the computer for their better future.

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