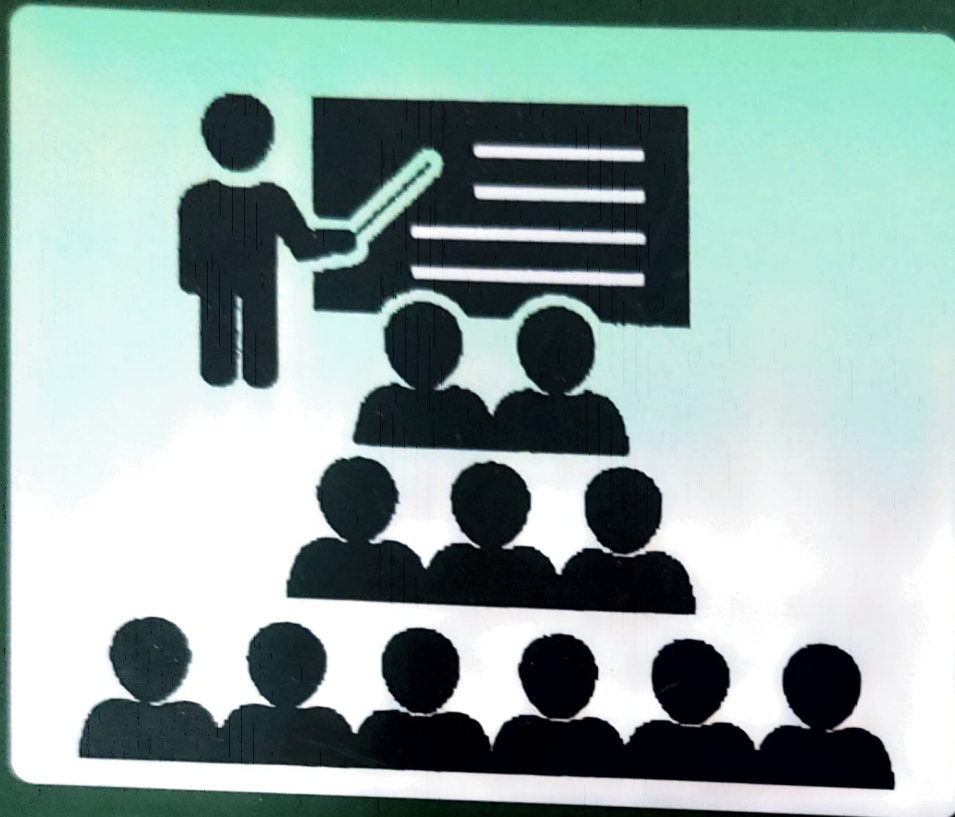


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SPIRITUAL INTELLIGENCE AND SELF-CONCEPT OF COLLEGE STUDENTS

P.Sheela and Devika.S

Abstract : *The relationship between spiritual intelligence and self-concept is dynamic and bidirectional. Spiritual intelligence practices can lead to a deeper understanding of the self, shaping values, beliefs, and a sense of purpose. In turn, this enriched self-concept that support and enhance the ongoing development of spiritual intelligence. With this in mind, the investigators attempted a study to find out the relationship between spiritual intelligence and self concept among college students in the District of Kanniyakumari , Tamilnadu. The investigators found that there exists relationship between these concepts. Though these are two distinct concept some interconnectedness occurs between the two that mutually influences and relate to an individual's understanding of themselves and their place in the world.*

INTRODUCTION

Today's youth are facing more challenges and opportunities in this age of Google world. To reduce their mental strain and stress and improve their well-being to ensure happy living is a very important issue to address. In the century of explosion of technology, knowledge and aspirations, it has become very difficult for us to exist and live our life successfully. Especially, today's youth are getting very much affected due to these minute to minute changes and are facing stress to its ultimatum which is manifested in the form of emotional tensions, suicide, rebelliousness, destructiveness, non-conformity and defiance. Spiritual Intelligence and evolving self concept have a significant influence on the quality of life and success human beings particularly the youth especially in 21st century.

Spiritual intelligence is the intelligence in which we access our deepest meaning, purpose and highest motivation. It is the intelligence that makes us whole and gives our integrity. It is the soul 'intelligence-the intelligence of the deep self. Francis Vaughan (2002) defines spiritual intelligence as that concerned with the inner life of mind and spirit and its relationship to being in the world. Spiritual Intelligence implies a capacity for a deep understanding of existential questions and insight into multiple level of consciousness.

The self-concept is what the individual thinks of his actual self-"Its Me Concept". It operates as a guide to behaviour. It is a person's total subjective environment and a distinctive centre of experience which results from the evolutionary interactions with others. A life long process it is develops continuously in social settings. An individual is not born with self-concept nor does he inherit it but he forms as a result of his experiences and capacities. An abbreviated way of saying attitude and conception towards one's self is self-concept.

NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

A nation is built in its educational institutions. Education has a responsibility to equip the youth with the real knowledge and skill, by which they will be able to build up their characters and enter a world of good and great men. Education has a promise to train the youth. But today's education system is far away from its promise. The reason behind this may be the lack of value and spiritual oriented education. What we need today is the education for the harmonious development, of whole personality of man-physical, vital, mental, intellectual and spiritual. Kothari education commission (1964-66) has recommended in cultivating social moral and spiritual values as one of the chief aims of education. WHO (World Health Organization) defined health as a state of complete physical, mental, social and spiritual well-being.

The present era is an age of value-vacuumness, anxiety and fear. Our youth is becoming drug-addicted and sleazy. A comprehensive observation revealed that there is negative relationship between the area of scientific development and higher values. Poor self-concept can be a reason for all these grave occurrences. When a

person is having poor self-concept then, it will affect his performance in many areas including his spiritual development. Those having high self-concept are not easily frustrated and will lead a life with values. Spiritual Intelligence is one of the important factors that will help in forming constructive self-concept and living a life with spirits of joy, satisfaction and values. The investigators undertook the study titled "Spiritual Intelligence and Self-concept of college Students" to study whether spiritual intelligence is a decisive factor for self-concept.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The problem selected for the present study is entitled as "Spiritual Intelligence and Self-Concept of College Students".

OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS

Spiritual Intelligence

Spiritual Intelligence is an innate ability of thinking and understanding of spiritual phenomena and to guide the everyday behaviour of spiritual ideology.

Self-concept

It is an individual's way of looking at himself. It also signifies his way of thinking, feelings, behaving and forming an image about himself.

College students

They refer to students studying in UG and PG degree courses in Arts and science colleges of Kanyakumari District.

OBJECTIVES

- To study the significant relationship if any in the mean scores of Spiritual Intelligence and self-concept of college students with respect to the background variables Sex, Locale, Religion.
- To study the relationship between Spiritual Intelligence and self-concept of college students.

HYPOTHESIS

- There exists no significant difference in the mean scores of Spiritual Intelligence and self concept of college students based on Sex, Locale and Religion.
- There exists no significant correlation between Spiritual Intelligence and self concept of college students.

METHODOLOGY

Method used

For the present study normative survey method is used

Sample

The sample for the study consists of 400 students from different Arts and Science colleges of Kanyakumari District.

Tools used

Spiritual Intelligence test (constructed by the investigators) and Self-concept inventory (constructed by the investigators)

Statistical Techniques Used

Arithmetic mean, Standard Deviation, t-test, ANOVA followed by Scheffe's test and Correlation co-efficient

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Comparison of Spiritual-Intelligence with sub variables

Comparison of male and female college students in their Spiritual Intelligence

Hypothesis: There exists no significant difference between the mean scores of spiritual intelligence of male and female college students.

Table 1: Comparison of spiritual intelligence based on sex

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t-value	Remarks
Male	200	17.25	3.650	8.965	Significant
Female	200	20.66	3.951		

The Table 1 gives the comparison of Spiritual Intelligence based on sex. The mean scores of Spiritual Intelligence are 17.25 and 20.66 respectively for male and female students.

The calculated t-value 8.965 is significant at 0.01 level of significance. It shows that female students have high Spiritual Intelligence than male students. Therefore the hypothesis is rejected

Comparison of urban and rural college students in their Spiritual Intelligence

Hypothesis : There exists no significant difference in the mean scores of Spiritual Intelligence of college students based on locale.

Table 2: Comparison of Spiritual Intelligence based on locale

Locale	N	Mean	SD	t-value	Remark
Urban	160	18.83	4.308	0.490	NS
Rural	240	19.03	4.073		

The table 2 gives the comparison of Spiritual Intelligence based on locale. The mean scores regarding Spiritual Intelligence are 18.83 and 19.03 respectively for urban and rural college students respectively. The calculated t-value 0.490 is less than the table value. It shows that urban and rural students have more or less same level of spiritual intelligence. Therefore the hypothesis is accepted.

Comparison of Spiritual Intelligence based on religion

Hypothesis: There exists no significant difference in the means scores of Spiritual Intelligence of college students based on religion.

Table 3: Comparison of Spiritual Intelligence based on religion

Religion	Mean	Source	Sum of squares	df	Means Scores	f.value	Remarks
Hindu	16.53	Between groups	1242.791	2	621.395	43.446	Significant
Muslim	18.61						
Christian	20.61	Within groups	5678.209	397	14.303		
Total	18.95		6921.000	399			

The calculated f-value 43.446 for Spiritual Intelligence is statistically significant at 0.05 level. So the study revealed that there is significant difference among Hindu, Muslim and Christian college students in their spiritual intelligence. Therefore the hypothesis is rejected.

The result does not help to identify exactly the pairs of group which differ significantly. Hence Scheffe's multiple Comparison was used for further analysis

Table 4: Scheffe's procedure for the comparison of Spiritual Intelligence based on religion.

Religion	N	Mean	SD	Pair	Scheffe's procedure	Remarks
Hindu	120	16.53	3.848	AVS B	0.001	0.01
Muslim	88	18.61	4.557	AVS C	0.000	0.01
Christian	192	20.61	3.323	BVS C	0.000	0.01

The result showed that there exists significant difference among the three pairs Hindu and Muslim, Muslim and Christian and Christian and Hindu.

Comparison of Self-concept with sub variables

Comparison of male and female college students in their Self-concept

Hypothesis: There exists no significant difference between the mean scores of Self-concept of male and female college students

Table 5: Comparison of self-concept based on sex

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t-value	Remarks
Male	200	67.48	11.825	8.736	Significant
Female	200	78.20	12.703		

The table 5 gives the comparison of self-concept based on sex. The mean scores of self-concept are 67.48 and 78.20 respectively for male and female students.

The calculated t-value 8.736 is significant at 0.01 level of significance. It shows that female students have high self-concept than male students. Therefore the hypothesis is rejected

Comparison of urban and rural college students in their self-concept

Hypothesis: There exists no significant difference in the mean scores of self-concept of college students based on locale.

Table 6: Comparison of self-concept based on locale

Locale	N	Mean	SD	t-value	Remark
Urban	160	71.91	13.411	1.134	NS
Rural	240	73.45	13.351		

The table 6 gives the comparison of self-concept based on locale. The mean scores regarding self-concept are 71.91 and 73.45 respectively for urban and rural college students respectively. The calculated t-value 1.134 is less than the table value. It shows that urban and rural students have more or less same level of self-concept. Therefore the hypothesis is accepted.

Comparison of self-concept based on religion

Hypothesis: There exists no significant difference in the means scores of self-concept of college students based on religion.

Table 7: Comparison of self-concept based on religion

Religion	Mean	Source	Sum of squares	df	Means Scores	f.value	Remarks
Hindu	66.38	Between groups	8820.490	2	4410.24	27.965	Significant
Muslim	72.00						
Christian	77.26	With in groups	62608.62	397	157.704		
Total	72.84		71429.11	399			

The calculated f-value 27.965 for self-concept is statistically significant at 0.05 level. So the study revealed that there is significant difference among Hindu, Muslim and Christian college students in their self-concept. Therefore the hypothesis rejected.

The result does not help to identify exactly the pairs of group which differ significantly. Hence Scheffe's multiple Comparison was used for further analysis

Table 8: Scheffe's procedure for the comparison of self-concept based on religion.

Religion	N	Mean	SD	Pair	Scheffe's procedure	Remarks
Hindu	120	16.53	13.136	AVS B	0.007	significant
Muslim	88	18.61	13.842	AVS C	0.000	
Christian	192	20.61	11.533	BVS C	0.005	0

The result showed that there exists significant difference among the three pairs Hindu and Muslim, Muslim and Christian and Christian and Hindu.

Table 9: Correlation of spiritual intelligence and self-concept for the total sample

Sample	Total number	Correlation co-efficient	Remarks
Total	400	0.728	significant

The table 9 shows that spiritual intelligence and self-concept are highly positively correlated.

MAJOR FINDINGS

- ◆ There exists significant difference between male and female students in their spiritual intelligence(t-value 8.965)
- ◆ There is no significant difference between urban and rural college students in their spiritual intelligence (t value 0.490)
- ◆ There exists significant difference among Hindu, Muslim and Christian college students in their spiritual intelligence.(f value-43.446)

- ◆ There exists significant difference between male and female college students in their self-concept-(t value-8.736).
- ◆ There exists no significant difference urban and rural college students in their self-concept.(t value-1.134).
- ◆ There exists significant difference among Hindu, Muslim and Christian college students in their self-concept (f value-0.770).
- ◆ There exists significant correlation between spiritual intelligence and self-concept of college students.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

- Spiritual Intelligence makes a better self-concept among college students.
- We can encourage the teachers and parents to help the students to practice yoga, Meditation, Spiritual practice, social service etc which helps the students to have better forming of self-concept.
- Parents should be aware of the importance and need of spiritual intelligence which leads to better self-concept.
- Spiritual Intelligence shall be included in the curriculum, to develop self concept.

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