

**A COMPARITIVE STUDY OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH RESPECT TO GENDER AND
OWNERSHIP OF THE SCHOOL**

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ABSTRACT

In the present research, which has been conducted in the Hanoi city of Vietnam, the secondary school students have been taken into consideration to find out the gender wise and ownership wise differences in their achievement in social science. For this, a sample of 100 students has been taken from 8 (4 public and 4 private) secondary schools. Among them, a sample of 50 students was selected from public and 50 from private secondary schools. From the 50 public secondary school students, 21 students were male and 29 were females. Whereas, from 50 private secondary school students 30 students were male and 20 female. The study reveals that the social science achievement of the students gets affected by the gender and not by the ownership of the schools.

Keywords: Social Science, Achievement

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, education is a popular problem which is universally prevalent. Especially in Vietnam, this issue becomes greatly serious because the quality of student is decreasing at an alarming level. In fact, there are already enough reasons to worry about it. According to the education development index (EDI) was published by UNESCO in 2008, Vietnam stood at 79th out of 129 countries. In the period of promoting industrialization, modernization and international integration, human resources of Vietnam are becoming more important in deciding the development of the country. Education plays an important role and task in the construction of a new generation of Vietnamese people, meets the requirements of social and economic development. According to Pham, “although the contents and courses of education from pre-school to secondary school has been changed and renewed, it also reveals many weaknesses. The educational program is not appropriate to students’ ability, too many theories without practicing, not associated with social requirements. There is an imbalance between the socio-economic and the education structure, between the requirements of developing labor and the training structure, between training and utilization” (Pham 1998, p.28). Social science deals with the scientific study of human society and social relationships. Social science is, in its broadest sense, the study of society and the manner in which people behave and influence the world around us. It tells us about the world beyond our immediate experience, and can help explain how our own society works - from the causes of unemployment or what helps economic growth, to how and why people vote, or what makes people happy.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A comparative study of the social science achievements of secondary school students with respect to gender and ownership of the school.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF THE KEYWORDS

Social science:

A branch of study dealing with the scientific study of human society and social relationships.

Achievement:

Achievement refers to the upgradation of knowledge in social science which can be indicated by marks or grade points.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To compare the social science achievements of secondary school students on the basis of gender.
2. To compare the social science achievements of secondary school students on the basis of school ownership.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

1. There will be no significant difference in social science achievements of the male and female secondary school students.
2. There will be no significant difference in social science achievements of the secondary school students of public and private schools.

DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

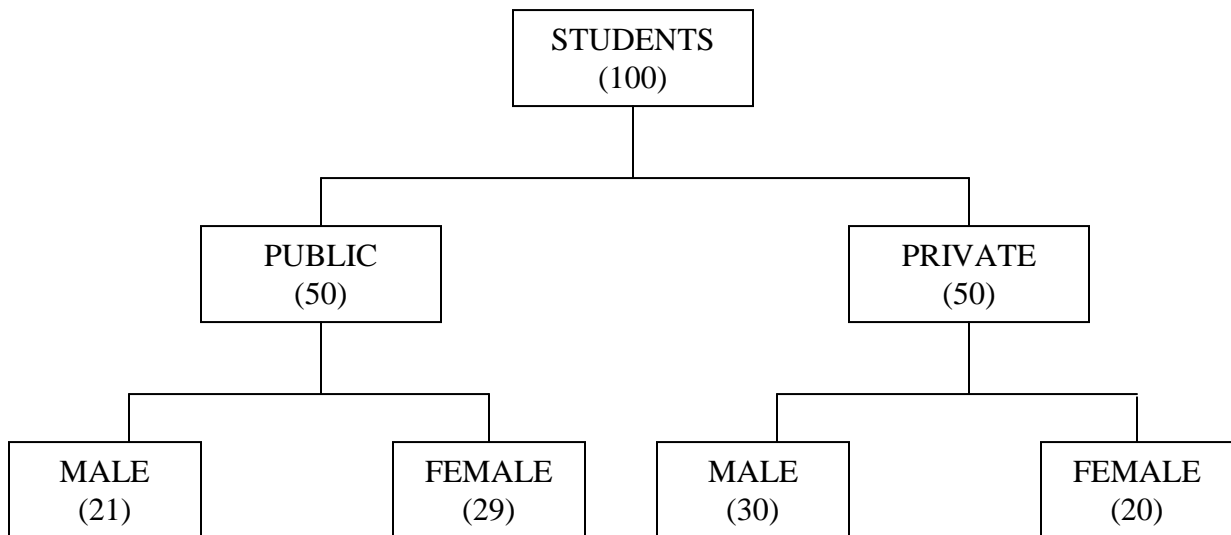
1. The sample of 100 students will be taken.
2. The study will be delimited only to the secondary school students.
3. The sample will be taken from the Hanoi, Vietnam.

POPULATION

The population for the study comprised of the secondary school students of eight secondary schools of Hanoi. As the population was quite extensive, it was very difficult to approach each and every student of all the secondary schools of Hanoi within the limited resources of time and money. For this, small but representing sample has been taken to identify the results.

SAMPLE

The study was carried out on 100 secondary school students of Hanoi. These 100 students were randomly selected. Amongst them, 50 students were selected from four public secondary schools and the rest 50 students were selected from four private secondary schools. The tabulation of sample may be represented as follows;



TOOLS TO BE USED

1. The questionnaire was developed by the investigators themselves in order to find out the social science achievement of the students.
2. Statistical techniques to be used:

- a. Mean
- b. Standard Deviation
- c. t-test

Were the main statistical techniques employed in the analysis of the data obtained from the questionnaire prepared in order to test the hypothesis.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

The statistical analysis was computed for each objective separately. The data were analyzed for mean, standard deviation and t-test at 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance.

- The first objective of the study was to compare the social science achievements of secondary school students on the basis of gender.

To achieve this objective mean, standard deviation and t-test value has been calculated which is shown below:

TABLE – 1

Significance of difference in social science achievement of male and female secondary school students

Variable	Sample size	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-test	Level of Significance	Null Hypothesis
Male	51	72.8	12.6	5.26	Significant at both the levels	Rejected
Female	49	60.6	10.5			

Table – 1 shows that the mean score of male secondary school students is 72.8 and that of female is 60.6. Standard Deviations are 12.6 and 10.5 respectively. The obtained t- test value is 5.26 which is greater than table value at 0.05 level and 0.01 level of significance.

Thus it can be inferred that the two groups differ significantly in social science achievement. The mean score of males is greater than the females. It indicates that the secondary school male students have higher social science achievement as compared to their female counterparts.

- The second objective of the study was to compare the social science achievements of secondary school students on the basis of school ownership.

To achieve this objective mean, standard deviation and t-test value has been calculated which is shown below:

TABLE – 2
Significance of difference in social science achievement of public and private secondary school students

Variable	Sample size	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-test	Level of Significance	Null Hypothesis
Public	50	65.36	14.21	0.135	Not Significant	Accepted
Private	50	65	12.48			

Table – 2 shows that the mean score of students of public schools is 65.36 while that of students of private schools is 65. Standard Deviations are 14.21 and 12.48 respectively. The obtained t-test value is 0.135 which is less than the table value at 0.05 level and 0.01 level of significance.

Thus it can be inferred that the two groups does not differ significantly in social science achievement. This shows that the ownership of the students (i.e. public or private) does not affect the social science achievement of secondary school students.

Therefore,

1. The null hypothesis is retained at any level of significance.
2. There is no significant difference in the social science achievement of secondary school students of public or private schools.

MAIN FINDING OF THE STUDY

The findings of the investigation are summarized below:

Findings 1:

- There is a significant difference in the social science achievement of male and female students of secondary schools.
- This also shows that male students of secondary school have high social science achievement as compared to their female counterparts.

Findings 2:

- There is no significance difference in the social science achievement of the students of public and private secondary schools.
- This also shows that ownership of the schools (i.e. public or private) does not affect the social science achievement of secondary school students.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATION OF THE STUDY

On the basis of the findings of the study, the following educational implications emerged are as follows:

1. Special emphasis should be given on the female students in relation to the social science achievement because this study reveals that the males perform better than the females.
2. Emphasis should be given on promotion of social science subjects as it will help them in managing the available resources.
3. There is the need of the hour to wake up and understand our society.
4. Students should be encouraged to perform better as they are the foundation stones who will serve the nation in future.

5. Teacher and parents should take interest in the queries of the students and should help them in their better performance.
6. New innovative ideas of the students should be promoted by the teachers as well as parents.

CONCLUSION

The above findings conclude that social science achievement of the secondary school students does not get affected by the ownership of the schools (i.e. public or private). But it gets affected by the gender (i.e. male and female) of the students. This shows that male students have better achievement in social science as compared to the female students.

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