

Study of Modernization among College Students in relation to Locale

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate the significance of difference in level of modernization among urban and rural college students. The study focused its attention on the variable Modernization. For this purpose survey is done on 200 students from rural and urban area of Ludhiana district. Modernization scale by R.S. Singh, A.N. Tripathi and RamjiLal is used for data collection. Result of the study reveals no significant difference in the level of modernization of urban and rural college students.

KEYWORDS: modernization, college students, locale

Introduction:

Modernity is the application of new knowledge and technology in every field of production, consumption, thinking and action. When the people of the society get better and advanced in all the aspects related to their lives, institutions, thinking, attitudes, relationships then that society is said to be modernized. Modernization inspires the society to come out of the shell of backwardness and construct healthy relationships with different societies and countries that may help the society to achieve a better condition and an advanced global position. Modernization in case of Indian society has played a vital role in bringing up its status in the globally recognized societies.

Modernization is a type of social change. It refers to the change in material elements and also in the belief of the people, their values and ways of life as a whole. The process of modernization aims at bringing desirable change in the social structure, values and social norms. Industrialization, verbalization, rapid transportation and communication etc. are steps in the progressive direction of modernization of a nation.

In this era of globalization, it has affected the economy, our culture, information and our relationships with other individuals. It introduces computerization into our daily life experiences, reducing the world into a small box. All these represent opportunities as well as challenges to the education.

Modernization

Modernization attimes is confused with westernization which may stand to uproot the old traditional values. There might be something common between the two. It does not mean the same attributes for both. In order to be clear our concepts about modernization we can visualize that modernization we can visualize that modernization is the process of transforming the old traditional society into modernity. It may stand for contemporary in time and also contemporary in spirit. In fact it is the process which is multidimensional and multifaceted i.e. economic, social, cultural, industrial, technological, value oriented motivation, achievement aspiration and institutional modification. It gives strength to the social system both to generate change and to absorb its produce through rational understanding. It is emphatically clear that it is not to uproot all the old values in material and non-material aspects of culture.

Modernity demands that Indian men and women should use the new scientific methods of thinking, understanding and decision making. They should shun the old values, superstitions, selfish ends and develop their personalities in such a way that they aim at the service of the nation and people at large. We can well realize that we are far behind from our aims if we do not modernize our thinking and mode of work, we do not change our tools and machines, shun the old and adopt the new knowledge and technology, do not look to the future, but continue to look to the past and we do not look to the self-dependence and continue to depend on others, we are bound to be backward and away from modernization process. If we are to develop our country economically and become

independent, then it is essential that modernization of education and the new methods of thinking and working be expanded and social and moral values be established.

Modernization involves not only the changes in the material culture of a nation but also its belief system, values and a way of life on the whole. In fact, modernization is a process which brings desired type of changes in the social structure, value orientation and norms. It is a process of transformation of a society from its backward framework to be forward looking progressive build up. It does not mean mere imitation of some advanced countries. It is a process which helps a nation to establish its own identity.

Rogers (1968) “Modernization is defined as a process by which individual changes from a traditional way of life to a more complex and technological advanced and rapidly changing style of life.”

Apter (1969) “Modernization implies flexibilities of attributes while traditionalism implies rigidity of attributes.”

Vagas(1971) considered modernization as a process of manifold changes in the economic, social, political and cultural fields through which less developed societies acquire characteristics of more developed societies.

Taneja “Modernization is a process of movement from traditional order to certain desired types of technology and the resultant changes in social structure, value orientation, motivation achievement and aspiration.”

Gore (1982) “Modernization is not a philosophy or a movement with a clearly articulate value system. It is a process of change.”

Moore (1993) “A revolutionary change leading to transformation of traditional or pre-modern society into an advance economically prosperous and relatively politically subtle society.”

Shehtraj (2004) “Modernization involves the substitution of old images and forms with new ones.”

It can be concluded that with the fast increasing application of science and technology, the old landmarks and traditional thinking are being radically replaced by new norms with regard to ideologies political, social, economic and cultural aspirations among the nations of the world. Man’s spectacular conquest of time, space and distance as well as use of nuclear energy, has changed the complexion of the world judged against the criteria of pace and process. The changed world can be divided into three categories- developed countries, developing countries and under developed countries. Sophistically this pace of process of change is called process of modernization.

Objective:

- To investigate the significance of difference in level of modernization of urban and rural college students.

Hypothesis:

- There is no difference in level of modernization of urban and rural college students.

Sample:

200 college students from colleges of Ludhiana district were selected. Simple random sampling technique was used in the present study.

Tools used:

Modernization scale by R.S. Singh, A.N. Tripathi and Ramji lal (1999)

Statistical techniques used

Mean, Standard deviation (S.D.), S.E_D were computed and t-test was employed to test the hypothesis.

Results and Discussion:

Table showing the comparison of mean score of Modernization of urban and rural college students

Sample	N	Mean	S.D.	S.E _D	t-value
Rural	100	139.80	21.25	2.85	0.63
Urban	100	138	19		

Not significant at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance.

Above Table shows the mean score of modernization of urban and rural college students. The mean scores of urban and rural college students are 138 and 139.80 respectively. S.D. of modernization of rural and urban college students is 21.25 and 19 respectively. The S.E_D is 2.85 and t-value is 0.63. After consulting the table of t-value, the calculated value is less than tabulated value. So our hypothesis "There is no difference in level of modernization of urban and rural college students" is accepted.

Conclusion:

On the basis of results discussed above following conclusion can be drawn:

There exists no difference in the level of modernization of urban and rural college students.

Educational Implications:

The present study has multiple implications in the field of education. The parents should develop modern approach and they should try to develop the same among their children. The teacher acts as a role model for their students. So, they should adopt modern approach. They should also try to eliminate irrational thinking, blind faith and prejudice among their students.

The teachers should develop curiosity, thoughtful, positive, constructive and modern attitude in their students by encouraging debate and discussion in the classroom as well as co-curricular activities. As the results of this study shows no difference between modernization level of urban and rural college students. Therefore same type of educational programmes can be conducted for both rural and urban college students.

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