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ORIGINAL ARTICLE



A STUDY ON SUICIDAL IDEATION AMONG HIGHER SECONDARY STUDENTS IN RELATION TO THEIR ANXIETY

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Abstract:

A study was conducted to find out the level of suicidal ideation and anxiety among higher secondary school students. It was also tried to find out the difference among the students based on demographic variables like Gender (Male and Female), Location of the school (Rural and Urban) and the anxiety. The total numbers of 585 samples were collected through a random sampling technique in Palani Taluk at Dindigul district. The major finding of the study is higher secondary male students have high level of anxiety.

KEYWORDS

Anxiety, Relation, Suicidal Ideation, Society And Specifically.

INTRODUCTION

Suicide is one of the neurotic disorders which is the combination of both anxiety and depression. In day to day life all human beings are having this problem. It has spread to all parts of society and specifically to higher secondary students. It is derived from Latin word meaning of "one's own" and "to kill" is a conscious act of self induced annihilation. It is not a random or pointless act but a way out of a problem or crisis that is causing intense suffering. It is usually associated with several causes like disappointment or un fulfilled needs, feeling of hopelessness, conflict between survival and unbearable stress, narrowing of perceived options and need for escape.

Anxiety as a state of uneasiness, accompanied by dysphoria and somatic signs and symptoms of tension, focused on apprehension of possible failure, misfortune or danger. (Andrew, M.Coleman 2006).

Naomi, M. et al., (2006) have reviewed that the understanding the link between anxiety symptoms and suicidal ideation and behaviors in outpatients with bipolar disorder. These findings were indicated that increased ruminations may mediate the association between anxiety and suicidal ideation behavior. In men, lower emotional processing may also play a role in this relationship.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To find out the level of suicidal ideation of higher secondary school students.

2. To find out the level of anxiety of higher secondary school students.

3. To find out whether there is any significant difference among the higher secondary students in their suicidal ideation with respect to

Gender (Male/Female)

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Location of the school (Rural/Urban)

4. To find out whether there is any significant difference among the higher secondary students in their anxiety with respect to

Gender (Male/Female) Location of the school (Rural/Urban)

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

1. There is a significant difference between male and female higher secondary students in their suicidal ideation.

2. There is a significant difference between higher secondary Students from rural and urban areas in their suicidal ideation.

3. There is a significant difference between male and female higher secondary students in their anxiety.
4. There is a significant difference between the higher secondary students from rural and urban areas in their anxiety.

SAMPLE OF THE STUDY

The present study consists of 585 students studying in various schools in Dindigul district. The samples were selected by using random sampling technique.

METHOD OF THE STUDY

The present study was undertaken by using normative survey method.

TOOLS USED

Suicidal Ideation Scale (SIS) was constructed and validated by the researcher with the help of the guide. Taylor Manifest Anxiety Scale (TMAS) was constructed and validated by Taylor (1953).

SUICIDAL IDEATION SCALE

Suicidal Ideation Scale (SIS) was constructed and validated by the researcher. The tool has 64 statements having 5 alternates. Each statement has 4 responses that is never, rarely, sometimes and often. Each response denotes a different position. The respondent is required to put a tick mark in the relevant column against each statement according to his/her reaction to that statement. The total score is 192. High score indicate high suicide ideation and low score indicate low suicide ideation.

Statements	Points (weight ages)					
	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often		
Negative	0	1	2	3		

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1-64	Mild
65-128	moderate
129 and a bove	severe

TAYLOR MANIFEST ANXIETY SCALE

Description of the material

Taylors manifest anxiety scale (TMAS) was constructed and standardization by Taylor (1953). TMAS is used to measure the level of anxiety. This scale consists of 50 statements, each with true or false responses. Items of the scale were written in such a way that acceptance of certain statements as "true" and acceptance of certain other statements as "false". These are the index of one's manifest anxiety scale.

Method of scoring

The response is scored according to the scoring key. 1 mark is given for false response in false statements. In a similar way 1 mark is given for true response in true statements and 0 marks for false response for true statements and 0 for true response for false statements.

The individual score 50 indicates very high level of anxiety. When the individual scored below 20 have low level of anxiety. When the individual scored 30-46 has high level of anxiety. There are 13 false statements and 37 true statements in the scales and they are as follows.

Statement type		Total number of	
	Statement number	statements	
True statements	2,5,6,7,8,10,11,13,14,17,19,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,30,31,33,34,35,36,3	37	
	7,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49		
False statements	1,3,4,9,12,15,16,18,20,29,32,38,50	13	

RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY OF TAYLORS MANIFEST ANXIETY SCALE

The Reliability and validity were assessed by the author through split half method and test- retest method and it is found that the reliability is .93 and validity is .91.

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 Table 1 showing the mean, SD, t- value and level of significance on the basis of gender higher secondary students in their level of suicidal ideation

Variable	Gender	No	Mean	Standard	't' value	Level of
				deviation		significance
	Male	298	85.60	16.39		
Sui cidal						
ideation	Female	287	84.42	13.85	0.94	Not
						Signi ficant

The mean and SD for male and female on suicidal ideation are 85.60, 16.39 and 84.42, 13.85 respectively. The't' value is 0.94. It is lower than the table value. It is concluded that there is no significant difference between male and female students in their suicidal ideation. Therefore, the alternate hypothesis that there is significant difference between male and female and female higher secondary students in their suicidal ideation is not accepted. Hence it is concluded that higher secondary students differ in their level of suicidal ideation based on gender.

Variable	Location	No	Mean	Standard	't' value	Level of
				deviation		significance
	Urban	274	83.88	14.50		
Suicidal						
ideation	Rural	311	86.03	15.74	1.71	Not
						Signi ficant

Table 2 showing the mean, SD, t- value and level of significance on the basis of living place of higher secondary students in their level of suicidal ideation

The mean and SD for students from rural and urban areas on suicidal ideation are 83.88, 14.50 and 86.03, 15.74 respectively. The't' value is 1.71. It is lower than the table value hence it is concluded that there is no significant difference between rural and urban students in their suicidal ideation. Therefore, the alternate hypothesis that there is significant difference between higher secondary students from rural and urban areas in their suicidal ideation is not accepted. Hence it is concluded that the living place has no effect

upon the feeling of suicidal ideation among higher secondary students.

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Table 3 showing the mean, SD, t- value and level of significance on the basis gender of higher secondary students in their level of anxiety

Variable	Gender	No	Me an	Standard	't' value	Level of
				deviation		si gni fican œ
Anxiety	Male	298	25.54	4.71		
	Female	287	24.51	5.58	2.41	0.05

The mean and SD for male and female students on anxiety are 25.54, 4.71 and 24.51, 5.58 respectively. The't' value is 2.41. It is higher than the table value hence it is concluded that there is significant difference between male and female students in their anxiety. Therefore, the alternate hypothesis that there is significant difference between the male and female higher secondary students in their anxiety is accepted. Male students have high level of anxiety than the female students. Therefore, it is concluded that higher secondary students differ in their level of anxiety based on gender.

Table 4 showing the mean, SD, t- value and level of significance on the basis of living place of
higher secondary students in their level of anxiety

Variable	Location	No	Mean	Standard deviation	't' value	Level of significance
Anxiety	Urban	274	25.37	5.37		
	Rural	311	24.74	4.99	1.45	Not Significant

The mean and SD for rural and urban areas are 25.37, 5.37 and 24.74, 4.99 respectively. The't' value is 1.45. It is lower than the table value hence it is concluded that there is no significant difference between urban and rural students in their anxiety. Therefore, the alternate hypothesis that there is significant difference between higher secondary students from rural and urban areas in their anxiety is not accepted. Hence it is concluded that the living place has no effect upon the feeling of anxiety among higher secondary students.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. There is no significant difference between male and female higher secondary students in their suicidal ideation.

2. There is no significant difference between the higher secondary students from urban and rural areas in respect to their level of suicidal ideation.

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3. There is significant difference between male and female higher secondary students in their level of anxiety.

4. There is no significant difference between the higher secondary students from urban and rural areas in respect to their level of anxiety.

CONCLUSION

The present study indicates that the higher secondary student's anxiety level is high. The male students have high level of anxiety than female students. The teachers and parents should encourage the students to develop their quality of life. So the present and future teacher should bear in mind that it is their responsibility to build confidence and character of the students.

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