



A Review on the Socially Constructed Roles of Gender: A Socio-Psychological Study

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ABSTRACT

Sex and gender are often used interchangeably, despite having a different meaning. Gender refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviors, expressions, and identities of girls, women, boys, men and gender-diverse people. It influences how people perceive themselves and each other, how they act and interact and the distribution of power and resources in society. Currently, gender continues to play a very important role in various fields of research, especially in the field of educational psychology. Various researchers have investigated gender as a determining factor for various psychological variables (achievement motivation, adjustment ability, social adjustment, etc.) in their research. Various findings have come out from their studies and in some cases, gender has been identified as a determining factor and in some cases it has not. So, with the help of this study, the researchers have tried to review gender as a determining factor for different psychological variables.

Key Words: Gender, Achievement Motivation, Adjustment Ability, Social Adjustment

1. Introduction

Sex and gender are often used interchangeably, despite having a different meaning. Gender refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviors, expressions, and identities of girls, women, boys, men and gender-diverse people. It influences how people perceive themselves and each other, how they act and interact and the distribution of power and resources in society. Recently, gender continues to play a very important role in various fields of research, especially in the field of educational psychology. Various researchers have investigated gender as a determining factor for various psychological variables such as achievement motivation, adjustment ability, social adjustment, etc. in their research. Halder, P., Roy, S., Gorain, S. C., Adhikari, A. & Saha, B. (2022) showed that gender is not a determining factor for attitude towards sustainable development. Kundu, M., Saha, B. & Mondal, B. C. (2015) also revealed that gender is not a determining factor for adjustment of the undergraduate students. Ansary, K. (2023) and Adhikari, A. (2023) said that like another factor gender is also influenced the adjustment of an individual. In this study, the researcher has studied the research works of different researchers and tried to see how gender has influenced various psychological variables. Adhikari & Saha, (2021b) found that gender is such an issue which is reflected in the contemporary literature as a noticeable in terms of dominance, patriarchy or even social mobilization. Adhikari & Saha, (2021a) in a research work also talked about how gender is also reflected highly in the participation in education, politics and other societal activities.

2. Objective of the study

The main objective of this study is to study gender as a determining factor for different psychological variables.

3. Review of the related literature

Ansary, S., Ansary, K. & Adhikari, A. (2022) conducted a study on attitudes towards social adjustment among the undergraduate students of the Purulia district. The objective of this study is to study the social adjustment of undergraduate students. The finding of this study revealed that there is no significant difference existing between male and female undergraduate students of the Purulia district regarding their attitude towards social adjustment. Khatun, S., Ansary, K. & Adhikari, A. (2022) studied the attitude of undergraduate students towards yoga education. The result of this study showed that there is no significant difference existing between male and female undergraduate students regarding their attitude toward yoga education. Ansary, K., Saha, B. & Gorain, S. C. (2021) conducted a study on the achievement motivation of undergraduate students. The finding of this study revealed that there is no significant difference existing between male and female undergraduate students regarding their achievement motivation. Roy, S. & Saha, B. (2022) carried out a study on Achievement Motivation of Post Graduate level students. The result reveals that there was no significant difference in the Achievement Motivation of Post Graduate level students in respect to their Gender. Ansary, K., Gorain, S. C. & Saha, B. (2023) studied the attitude of undergraduate students towards value-oriented education. The findings of this study revealed that there is no significant difference existing between

different demographic variables (gender, local of the students) of undergraduate students regarding their attitude towards value-oriented education. Ansary, K. & Saha, B. (2023) conducted a study on the construction and standardization of adjustment ability inventory. Paramanik, J., Saha, B. & Mondal, B. C. (2014) conducted a study on the adjustment of secondary school students. The finding of this study revealed that the mean adjustment score of girls is higher than those of boys which indicated that the girls are better adjusted as compared to their boys' counterparts. Kar, D., Saha, B. & Mondal, B. C. (2014) measured the emotional intelligence of secondary school students in relation to gender and residence. The finding of this study revealed that gender does not affect the level of emotional intelligence. Saha, B. (2013) conducted a study on creativity in relation to environmental awareness in the Birbhum district. The result of this study showed that boys and girls students do not differ significantly with regard to environmental awareness. Saha, B., Sen, S. & Adhikari, A. (2021) conducted a study on the attitude of college students towards yoga. The findings of this study revealed that the majority of the rural male and rural female students are quite closer according to their opinion about yoga practice. Saha, B. (2021) examined the attitude of college students toward yoga practice. The result of this study revealed that both male and female students do not differ significantly in their attitude towards yoga practice. Saha, B. & Adhikari, A. (2021) measured the social relationship of undergraduate college students in West Bengal. The finding of this study revealed that attitudes towards social relationships between male and female college students differ significantly. Roy, S., Saha, B. & Maji, S. (2017) measured the attitude towards inclusive education among B.Ed. students in the Purulia district of West Bengal. The result of this study revealed that the attitude of B.Ed. students did not differ significantly with their personal variables such as gender, stream and residence. A study taken by Mohanta et al. (2023a; 2023b) showed using clustering analysis how gender has been clubbed to express their views towards organizational climate and commitment which is an important part of professional domain.

4. Conclusion

Gender refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviors, expressions, and identities of girls, women, boys, men and gender-diverse people. It influences how people perceive themselves and each other, how they act and interact and the distribution of power and resources in society. Recently, gender continues to play a very important role in various fields of research, especially in the field of educational psychology. The main objective of this study is to study gender as a determining factor for different psychological variables. Keeping this objective in mind, the researchers have studied the research works of different researchers and tried to see how gender has influenced various psychological variables. Ansary, S., Ansary, K. & Adhikari, A. (2022) (2022), Khatun, S., Ansary, K. & Adhikari, A. (2022), Ansary, K., Saha, B. & Gorain, S. C. (2021), Ansary, K., Gorain, S. C. & Saha, B. (2023), Roy, S. & Saha, B. (2022), Kar, D., Saha, B. & Mondal, B. C. (2014), Saha, B. (2013), Roy, S., Saha, B. & Maji, S. (2017) showed gender is not a determining factor for different psychological variables and Paramanik, J., Saha, B. & Mondal, B. C. (2014), Saha, B. & Adhikari, A. (2021) claimed that gender is a determining factor for different psychological variables.

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