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A Study of Professionalism of College Teachers

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ABSTRACT

The present study is related to the measurement of professionalism of college teachers and to find out whether is there any significant difference towards professionalism of college teachers as far as the gender of the teacher, teachers working in various faculties and teaching experience are concerned.

In this study, a Likert type five-point attitude scale of twenty statements was developed and used by the researcher. Fifty-six teachers working in a different stream of Rajkot (Gujarat) were selected as the sample, among them 28 were male teachers and 28 were female teachers. Analysis and scoring of the study were done by t-Test and f-Test. The findings revealed that Gender, faculties i.e. Arts, Science, Commerce & Education and teaching experience had a significant effect on teachers attitude towards professionalism.

Keywords: Professionalism, Professional Attitude Index, Faculty.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Education is the field that serves knowledge and understanding to the society. Teacher professionalism has relevant significance in education that it affects the student's ability to learn effectively. It can also be defined as the ability to reach the students in a meaningful way, developing innovative approaches to mandated content while motivating, engaging and inspiring young adult minds to prepare for ever-advancing technology, professional standards are statements of a teacher's professional attributes, professional knowledge & understanding, and professional skills. In the classroom, you're not only keeping things professional with your co-workers and administrators, you're also setting an example for your students and establishing what is and is not acceptable in your classroom. While the same principles apply in the classroom as they do in a business office, they are both more important and more difficult to maintain proper dress, fairness, honesty, self-discipline, and diligence are key to "keeping it professional" in class.

Due to the growing autonomy being given to the educators, professionalism remains one of the most influential attributes of education today. So it's very necessary to know which kind of attitude do teachers have about their professionalism.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To know the attitude towards professionalism of teachers working in various colleges. Following objectives were formed.

- 1) To find out whether there is any significant difference between the attitudes towards professionalism as far as the gender of the teacher is a concern.
- 2) To find out the effect of teaching experience of teachers on their attitude towards professionalism.
- 3) To know whether there is any significant difference among attitude towards professionalism of teachers working in different faculties i.e. Arts, Commerce and Science, Education.

3. HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY:

- 1) There will be no significant difference between mean professional attitude index of male teachers and female teachers.

2) There will be no significant difference among mean professional attitude index of teachers having a different level of teaching experience.

3) There will be no significant difference among mean professional attitude index of teachers working in different faculties i.e. Arts, Commerce, and Science & Education.

4. VARIABLES:

a. Independent variable:

There were four independent variables as follows:

Variable	Levels
Gender	Male Female
Experience	Up to 5 years 6 to 10 years More than 10 years
Stream	Arts Commerce Science Education

b. Dependent Variable:

The dependent variable of the study was score obtained by the teacher on '**Know your Professional Index**'.

5. OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF THE TERMS INVOLVED IN THE STUDY

Professionalism:

Professionalism can be defined as an individual in a certain occupation, able to establish boundaries for themselves and others working in the same profession through his/her knowledge, academic growth, content power, even his dressing and behavior with students etc.

Professional attitude Index:

The score obtained by the teacher on 'know your professional Index' attitude scale.

Faculty:

It means faculties running different colleges like Arts, Commerce, Science, Education etc.

6. TYPE AND METHOD OF THE RESEARCH

The present study is a Quantitative type of research and Survey method was used to collect the related data.

7. POPULATION

The present study comprised of the teachers working in different colleges of Arts, Commerce, Science & Education affiliated with Saurashtra University of Rajkot city.

8. SAMPLE

In the present study teachers from Arts, Commerce, Science & Education were selected purposely, who were present on the day of data collection. So total 56 teachers were available and hence the sample size was 56 teachers among them 28 were male teachers and 28 were female teachers.

9. TOOL

A Likert type five-point attitude scale 'Know Your Professional Index' developed by Ambasana was used to measure attitude towards professionalism. It contains 20 statements.

10. DATA COLLECTION

In the present study, the researchers gave the 'Know Your Professional Index' attitude scale to 56 college teachers and ask to fill them up as per instructions on the attitude scale. Later the scoring was done as per the scale point range of the response categories 'strongly agree' to 'strongly disagree' of the positive statements was 5 to 1 whereas for the negative statements it was 1 to 5. The Professional index range was 20-100 points and it was the sum of an individual's rating across the statements.

11. RESEARCH METHOD

To study the attitudes of college teachers towards professionalism the researcher has used the survey method.

12. ANALYSIS OF DATA AND INTERPRETATION

The data collected were in numeric code i.e. quantitative. According to the independent variable subgroups were formed. And according to the levels of subgroups dependent variables, the professional index was analyzed utilizing t-test and ANOVA.

Table -1: Analysis of Attitude scores towards professionalism with reference to Gender:

No.	Gender	N	Mean	SD	T-value
1	Male	28	76.14	9.180	3.088
2	Female	28	83.57	8.817	

The mean professional index of 28 Male teachers is 76.14 and the mean professional index of 28 female teachers is 83.57. Obtained t-value is 3.088 which is more than 2.58 so it was significant at 0.01 level. Here hypothesis no.1 'There will be no significant difference between mean professional attitude index of male teachers and female teachers'. Was rejected. There was a clear difference between the indices towards professionalism as far as the gender of the teachers were concerned.

Table – 2: Results of ANOVA Analysis according to the Experience of the Teachers:

SECTION – A: Descriptive

Group	N	Mean	S.D	Minimum	Maximum
Up to 5years	23	75.434	5.680	62	86
6 to 10 years	17	80.117	5.880	74	90
More than 10 years	16	85.937	5.930	69	99

SECTION – B: ANOVA

	Sum of Sq.	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1042.503	2	521.251	6.731	.002
Within Groups	4104.354	53	77.441		
Total	5146.857	55			

By observing section A of the table it is clear that means of the professional index of teachers having experience up to five years was 75.434, mean value of teachers having experience of six to ten years was 80.117, whereas the mean value of the teachers having an experience of more than 10 years was 85.937

Section B table shows the result of one way ANOVA indicates the F-value 6.731 which was significant at the 0.01 level. There was a significant difference between means of the Professional index as the experience was concerned.

Thus the hypothesis no.2 'there will be no significant difference among mean professional attitude index of teachers having a different level of teaching experience.' Was rejected.

Table – 3: Results of ANOVA Analysis according to different faculties running in the colleges:

SECTION – A: Descriptive

Group	N	Mean	S.D	Minimum	Maximum
Arts	10	82.10	11.055	74	90
Commerce	14	73.64	10.382	62	86
Science	15	84.26	10.270	69	99
Education	17	79.76	10.085	64	93

SECTION – B : ANOVA

	Sum of Sq.	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	882.751	3	294.250	3.588	.020
Within Groups	4264.106	52	82.002		
Total	5146.857	55			

By observing Section A of the table it is clear that mean of the professionalism index of teachers working in Arts, Commerce, Science, and Education is 82.10, 73.64, 84.26 and 79.76 respectively.

Section B of the table shows the result of one way ANOVA indicates the F-value 3.588 which was significant at the 0.01 level. Thus there was a significant difference between means of a Professional index.

Therefore hypothesis no.3 'There will be no significant difference among mean professional attitude index of teachers working in different faculties i.e. Arts, Commerce, Science, and Education' was rejected.

13. CONCLUSION

- The professionalism of female teachers is higher than male teachers.
- The teachers working for more than ten years has a higher attitude towards professionalism than those who had an experience of up to five years and six to ten years.
- The teachers working in Science faculty have a higher attitude towards professionalism than any other faculty.

14. REFERENCES

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