

AN ATTITUDINAL STUDY OF PSYCHOLOGICAL CHANGE IN RURAL AND URBAN WOMEN

Mrs. Rekha Kumari*

ABSTRACT

Our women constitute about 50% of our national populations. Their attitude to social change and social transformation matters much. As women are the primary agents of infusing attitudinal dispositions to children in their primary stage of development, a study of their mental ethos has much academic and applied severance specially in a developing society which needs a mindset conducive to the acceptance of material priorities.

Caste and social class play a significant role in formation of attitude in children who mature into adults in due accurse occurs and play their part in social interaction. Under this reality the study of women's attitude towards changing norms of society seems necessary.

Social structure has a complex composition. It consists of several castes with comparatively strict stratifications. The caste have their own perceptions of social issues and they have developed their own norms issues and they have developed their own norms, values and traditions. There norms have social inheritance and they are transmitted to coming generations who strict and adhere to them during their life time. Thus caste attitude has continuity, of course with slight modifications under the influence of several national and global social and political changes.

INTRODUCTION

All the sections of society have not been equally conscious of their rights and responsibilities. Caste based do's and 'do not's come in the way. Caste and class norms play important roles in effecting attitudinal changes. Thus the status of women's mind-set towards acceptance or resistance to the process of social change must be objectively assessed to identify the sections who lag behind the process of social change.

Our constitution has granted equality of status of women and it is the duty of the government as well as of society to awaken and enlighten them so that changes promoting advancements are accepted by them with least strain and human resources and fully and effectively utilized for creating an equalitarian and egalitarian society in the new millennium.

As such studies have been to be inadequate by the present researcher, but not much work has been done on women especially when Indian tradition and its caste affect a lot.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The broad objective of the study is to study the attitude of women towards issues related to social change. The objectives may be listed as under :-

- 1 The study is about the psychological change of women of different castes, social classes, educational levels towards social change and social reform.
- 2 The study is about the psychological change of women of different castes, social classes, and educational levels towards personality modernity.
- 3 The study is about the psychological change of women of different castes, social classes, and educational levels towards socio-culture modernity.
- 4 The study is about the psychological change of women of different castes, social classes, and educational levels towards political modernity.
- 5 The study is about the psychological change of women of different castes, social classes, and educational levels towards Health modernity.

*Lecturer, Sanskriti Institute of Education & Technology, Amarpur Jorasi, Narnaul, Haryana

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

For the present study the following hypotheses were formulated, keeping in view the problem and objectives of the study for empirical verification.

1. There is no significant difference in the psychological change of women of different castes, social classes, educational level towards social change and social reform.
2. There is no significant difference in the psychological change of women of different castes, social classes, and educational levels towards personality modernity.
3. There is no significant difference in the psychological change of women of different castes, social class, and educational levels towards socio-culture modernity.
4. There is no significant difference in the psychological change of women of different castes, social class, and educational levels towards Political Modernity.
5. There is no significant difference in the psychological change of women of different castes, social class, and educational levels towards health modernity.

Research method: In the present study survey method is used.

Sample Selection Strategies: The researcher has employed purposive sample method for the study. The sample comprised of 100 women out of them 50 urban women all housewives with two children, drawn from middle class families inhabiting rural and urban sector of Rajasthan Jhunjhunu. The women comprising the sample had the minimum educational level of matriculation. Out of 100 women 50 were matriculates and the rest of 50 were degree holders, all of them were housewives non working women.

Tools used: For the purpose of collecting data related to variables 'Hamare Dristicon' (Attitude scale) has been used. This has been developed by Chauhan and Singh (1982), modernity scale has been developed at the post graduate department of psychology, Ranchi university, Ranchi (Singh, A.K. 1984). It is a five point likert scale to measure four dimensions of modernity namely:-

1. Personality modernity
2. Socio-culture modernity
3. Political modernity
4. Health modernity

Statistical analysis: Mean, standard deviation and 't' test were employed to know the significant differences.

ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

Table 1

Variable	No. of Women	Mean	S.D.	t-value
Rural Women	50	330.06	26.36	5.95
Urban Women	50	360.46	32.26	

t-value at 0.01 = 2.63

t-value at 0.05 = 1.98

If we observe table No.1 then we find that the mean of the rural women is 330.06 and S.D. is 26.36 and the mean of urban women is 360.46 and S.D. is 32.26 and obtained t-value comes out to be 5.95 which is more than the value of table at 0.01 and 0.05. Therefore it is concluded that there is a significant difference in the psychological change of women of different castes, social classes, educational level towards social change and social reform.

Table 2

Variable	No. of Women	Mean	S.D.	t-value
Rural Women	50	73.72	8.30	5.84
Urban Women	50	84.07	9.81	

If we observe table No. 2 then we find that the mean of the rural women is 73.72 and S.D. is 8.30 and the mean of urban women is 84.7 and S.D. is 9.81 and obtained t-value comes out to be 5.84 which is more than the value of table at 0.01 and

0.05. Therefore it is concluded that there is a significant difference in the psychological change of women of different castes, social classes and educational level towards Personality Modernity.

Table 3

Variable	No. Of Women	Mean	S.D.	t-value
Rural Women	50	74.06	8.24	5.96
Urban Women	50	82.34	9.92	

If we observe table No.3 then we find that the mean of the rural women is 74.06 and S.D. is 8.24 and the mean of urban women is 82.34 and S.D. is 9.92 and obtained t-value comes out to be 5.96 which is more than the value of table at 0.01 and 0.05. Therefore it is concluded that there is a significant difference in the psychological change of women of different castes, social classes and educational level towards Socio Culture Modernity.

Table 4

Variable	No. Of Women	Mean	S.D.	t-value
Rural Women	50	72.56	9.12	5.91
Urban Women	50	83.08	10.76	

If we observe table No.4 then we find that the mean of the rural women is 72.56 and S.D. is 9.12 and the mean of urban women is 83.08 and S.D. is 10.76 and obtained t-value comes out to be 5.91 which is more than the value of table at 0.01 and 0.05. Therefore it is concluded that there is a significant difference in the psychological change of women of different castes, social classes and educational level towards Political Modernity.

Table 5

Variable	No. Of Women	Mean	S.D.	t-value
Rural Women	50	75.37	9.21	10.83
Urban Women	50	84.45	10.83	

If we observe table No.5 then we find that the mean of the rural women is 75.37 and S.D. is 9.21 and the mean of urban women is 84.45 and S.D. is 10.83 and obtained t-value comes out to be 5.92 which is more than the value of table at 0.01 and 0.05. Therefore it is concluded that there is a significant difference in the psychological change of women of different castes, social and educational level towards Health Modernity.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. Social change and social reform have come through a change and this difference is acceptable because all the data have indicated that women of rural and urban areas have different kind of psychology. There is a main difference of the women towards their residence. Residence plays an important role to develop their mental status and more importantly their educational level refers to their attitude towards wholesome. The researcher has found that the problem of caste plays an extremely important role in the rural places.
2. Personality Modernity is a complex concept relating to attitudinal disposition for accepting or rejecting the old values and norms and living. Academically it can be defined as a pre-disposition to accept new values of life so as to keep pace with the trend of the society. It has found that modernity changes in rural urban women which is a common thought and as usual data collected are also agreeing with the statement.
3. The researcher has found that urban women are less religious and they respect the other religion while in rural area the women are



- superstitious and these women are found to live within their own religion.
4. Equally important is the changes in modernity personality. Now a day's women of urban areas are more cautious about their modernity while the rural areas women have a less knowledge because these women are not educated so they do not know about the rights and freedom which are provided to women in modern time.
 5. The researcher has found that there is a difference in rural & urban women about their health, because rural women have less education and less knowledge about medical care.

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