

## DETERMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ATTITUDE OF STUDENT-TEACHERS OF CHURACHANDPUR DISTRICT OF MANIPUR, INDIA

*Jangkholun Mate*

*Assistant Professor, Churachandpur College, Churachandpur, Manipur, India*

**Received: 05 Apr 2019**

**Accepted: 10 Apr 2019**

**Published: 15 Apr 2019**

### **ABSTRACT**

*The present study focused to find out the environmental attitude of student-teachers of Churachandpur District of Manipur, India. Further, the study attempted to identify the environmental attitude of student-teachers according to their parents' educational qualifications. The study also aimed to determine the environmental attitude of student-teachers in Churachandpur District of Manipur, India, according to their parents' occupations. The universe of the present study comprised of all the student-teachers of college of teacher education in Churachandpur District of Manipur, India. The sample of the study was randomly drawn and consisted of 86 student-teachers, which comprised of 30 male and 56 female. The study employed descriptive survey and analytical method. The collected data were analyzed by using MS-Excel and by adopting appropriate statistical techniques like Mean, Standard Deviation, and Percentage. The hypothesis of the study was tested by computing p-value and accordingly they were rejected and or not rejected (accepted). The Major Findings of the study revealed a high level of environmental attitude for the student-teachers of College of teacher education, Churachandpur, The study found out that there is no significant relationship between the environmental attitudes of different group of the student-teachers according to their fathers' educational qualifications and their fathers' educational qualifications. The environmental attitude of student-teachers whose fathers' occupation is teacher, retired, cultivator and administrative departments was high and that of self-employed and other was moderate. The study showed that there is no significant relationship between the environmental attitudes of different group of the student-teachers according to their mothers' educational qualifications and their mothers' educational qualifications. The environmental attitude of student-teachers whose mothers' occupation is cultivator and others was high and that of self-employed teacher, retired, and administrative departments was moderate.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Environmental Attitude, Student-Teacher, College of Teacher Education, Environmental Education*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Environmental attitudes refers to the collection of beliefs, affect, and behavioral intentions a person holds regarding environmentally related activities or issues (P. W. Schultz, C. Shriver, J. J. Tabanico, & A. M. Khazian, 2004). According to Hines et al. (1986) the term 'Environmental Attitude' refers to an individual's feelings, pro or con, favorable or unfavorable with regard to particular aspect of environment. Environmental Attitude refers to the collection of beliefs, affect, and behavioral intentions a person holds regarding environmentally related activities or issues (P. W. Schultz, C. Shriver, J. J. Tabanico, & A. M. Khazian, 2004). It also means the scores obtained from the Environmental Attitude Scale

developed and standardized by the researcher based on the components: Regard for life and environment, Environmental issues, Equitable and judicious use of resources, Conservation of nature and natural resources, Ecological responsibility; and Sustainable development and eco-friendly lifestyle (S. Nair Tara & R.L. Bindu, 2016).

Environmental education is a process in which individuals not only gain information, awareness and skills, but also they gain the ability to be determined on taking actions in order to solve problems and t. The primary goal of environmental education applied in various countries is to make individuals attain positive attitudes and behaviors, is increasing environmental awareness so helping people to improve positive attitudes and values towards environment. (Erol & Gezer, 2006). The main focus of environmental education is to inculcate information and skill and also create environmentally literate people who are aware of environmental problems and have attitudes and motivation to develop solutions to these problems and to prevent prospective problems. In order to be able to overcome environmental problems, individuals' behaviors towards environment should be changed and individuals should be encouraged not to view environment as something to be exploited for their ends rather as a precious asset worth being protected for the survival of man because for environmental education to achieve its goals, individuals' attitudes and behaviors towards environment need to be changed (Sinha, Jangira & Das, 1985).

Rapid and drastic advancement in the modern industries and technologies and population explosion and similar other factors severe deteriorating environmental problems to an unprecedented level. Nevertheless, technically speaking, human careless act is the basic deriving force which led to the present environmental issues. As such it was felt important to determine the environmental attitude of the student-teachers of college of teacher education in Churachandpur District, Manipur, so as to understand their level of concern to environmental issues. As they will, in future (when employed as a teachers in schools of any type), play a vital role in inculcating positive environmental attitudes into the school students, whose positive attitude towards environment will have a long-lasting impact of the newly emerging environmental concept on "Sustainability of the environment."

## PREVIOUS STUDIES

Arminda Paço & T. Lavrador (2017) had found no significant differences in the averages between the two groups (greater and lesser environmental knowledge) across the majority of the items. It also showed a higher level of environmental knowledge does not necessarily lead to more positive attitudes and behaviours regarding energy saving.

According to I. Crumpei, S. Boncu, & G. Crumpei (2014) the findings showed that most of the students have pro-environmental, internal motivated attitudes. Internal motivated environmental attitudes are the only significant predictor for environmental moral reasoning. Students who care for the environment because of their values and beliefs are more likely to choose the ecological option. Their study established no relationship between moral reasoning and external motivated attitudes. Choosing to show environmental concern just for social approval has no real importance in explaining pro-environmental behaviour.

E. Yalçinkaya, & O. Çetin (2018) study revealed that students' attitudes towards the environment seem to be positive. The investigator found that there is no significant difference between the attitudes of the students towards the environment and their grade level. In this case, it can be stated that the students had similar attitudes towards the environment based on class level. The study also revealed that there is a significant gender difference in the students'

environmental attitudes in favour of female students. This suggests that female students' attitudes towards the environment were more positive (R. Duarte, J. J. Escario, & M.V. Sanagustín, 2015; M. Özden, 2008).

Nergiz Kuruoglu, Ilker Ugulu, Nurettin Yorek (2015) proved that there has been no meaningful difference environmental attitude considering educational status of mothers.

H. Çokçalışkan, &Ö. Çelik (2017) found out that there is a significant relationship between the pre-service teachers' environmental awareness and environmental attitudes. When the direction and level of this relationship was examined, it was found that there is a positive and medium level relationship ( $r = .523$ ). Further, they argued that the pre-service teachers' gender does not have a significant effect on either their environmental awareness or environmental attitudes.

O. Sapci, & T. Considine (2014) asserted that as the degree of agreement with environmental concerns increase, households take direct action to conserve energy. This study finds direct empirical evidence connecting environmental attitudes with observable energy consumption behavior (M. Özden, 2008).

According to M. Özden (2008) there was significant attitude score between income levels of family ( $F_{(5-825)} = 18.393, P < 0.05$ ). According to the results, rich student teachers have more positive attitude towards environmental issues than poor and average ones. This result may come from rich student teachers' higher level of awareness about environmental issues than poor ones. Because rich student teachers use more technology than poor ones, they can face environmental issues more than poor student teachers. The study also established that there was significant score differences with the four dimensions of questionnaire between student teachers having different father's job. It was also revealed significant differences between father's education level and environmental attitudes

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- To find out the Environmental attitude of student-teachers of colleges of teacher education in Churachandpur District of Manipur.
- To find out the environmental attitude of student-teachers of Churachandpur, Manipur according to their parents' educational qualifications.
- To study the environmental attitudes of student-teachers in Churachandpur District of Manipur, India, according to their parents occupations.

## **RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

- What is environmental attitude of the student-teachers in the college of teacher education in Churachandpur District of Manipur, India?
- What is the environmental attitudes of student-teachers in Churachandpur District according to their fathers' educational qualifications?
- What is the environmental attitudes of the student-teachers of Churachandpur according to their fathers' occupations?

- What is the environmental attitudes of student-teachers in Churachandpur District according to their mothers' occupations?
- What is the environmental attitudes of student-teachers in Churachandpur according to their mothers' occupation?

## **DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY**

### **Method of the Study**

The researcher used descriptive survey and analytical methods in the present study as they are the most suitable ones.

### **Population of the Study**

The population of the study comprised of all the student-teachers of college of teacher education in Churachandpur District of Manipur, India.

### **Sample of The Study**

The sample of the study included of 86 student-teachers, which comprised of 30 male and 56 female.

### **Study Tool**

The researcher had developed an environment attitude scale following systematic and appropriate procedures. The final draft of the scale consisting of 20 items in six domains of environmental issues, namely, Environmental Problems, Energy Saving, Waste Products, Environmental Responsibility, and Environmental Support.

## **PROCEDURES OF THE STUDY**

This study has been conducted according to the following steps:

- Preparation of study tool- Environmental Attitude Scale- till the final version was compiled.
- Determined study population and sample of the study.
- Data collected from the sample of the study.
- Analysis and interpretation of collected data.
- Finalization of the report of the study.

## **ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION**

After retrieving the Environmental Attitude Scale from the respondents, the responses were coded and data were entered in the Microsoft-Excel program and statistical computation was performed to obtain Mean, Standard Deviation, and Percentage values.

## **RESULTS OF THE STUDY**

The following are the results of the study according to the sequence of questions:

### Results of the First Question

*What is environmental attitude of the student-teachers in the college of teacher education in Churachandpur District of Manipur, India?*

To answer this question, M, SD, Percentages and Total scores of items of environmental attitude of the student-teachers was computed, the result is shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Showing M, SD, Percentage Level of Environmental Attitude**

Group	M	SD	Level of Attitude (In Percentage)	Degree of Attitude
Male	3.88	0.99	77.67	High

Analysis of the above Table showed a high level of environmental attitude for the student-teachers of College of teacher education, Churachandpur.

### Results of the Second Question

*What is the environmental attitudes of student-teachers in Churachandpur District according to their fathers' educational qualifications?*

To answer this question, M, SD, Percentages and Total scores of items of environmental attitude of the student-teachers according to their fathers' educational qualifications was computed, the result is shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Showing M, SD, Percentage Level of Environmental Attitude**

Group	M	SD	Level of Attitude (In Percentage)
Under-matriculate	3.81	1.09	59.60
Matriculate	4.01	0.86	67.25
10+2	7.22	0.94	53.60
Graduate	4.05	0.92	81.08
Postgraduate	3.65	1.02	51.33

Analysis of the above Table showed the environmental attitude levels of student-teachers whose fathers' were under-matriculate came at 59.60, whose fathers' were matriculate came at 67.25, whose fathers' were 10+2 came at 53.60, whose fathers' were graduate came at 81.08, and whose fathers' were postgraduate came at 51.33. Apparently, it may be concluded that there is no significant relationship between the environmental attitudes of different group of the student-teachers according to their fathers' educational qualifications and their fathers' educational qualifications because phenomenon did no followed the general believe that the higher the parents educational qualifications the better the children environmental attitude.

### Results of the Third Question

*What is the environmental attitudes of student-teachers in Churachandpur District according to their fathers' occupations?*

To answer this question, M, SD, Percentages and Total scores of items of environmental attitude of the student-teachers according to their fathers' occupation was computed, the result is shown in Table 4.

**Table 3: Showing M, SD, Percentage Level of Environmental Attitude**

Group	M	SD	Level of Attitude (In Percentage)	Degree
Teacher	3.87	0.93	60.86	High
Self-employed	3.60	1.17	50.00	Moderate
Retired	3.94	1.01	63.64	High
Other	3.82	0.94	58.20	Moderate
Cultivator	3.88	1.04	61.67	High
Administrative Departments	4.13	0.93	72.00	High

Analysis of the above Table showed the environmental attitude of student-teachers whose fathers' were in the administrative departments came at 72.00, which is the highest, while whose fathers' were retired came at 63.64, whose fathers' were cultivator came at 61.67, whose fathers' were in other occupations came at 58.20, and whose fathers' were self-employed came at 50.00. Thus, the environmental attitude of student-teachers whose fathers' occupation is teacher, retired, cultivator and administrative departments was high and that of self-employed and other was moderate.

#### Results of the Fourth Question

*What is the environmental attitudes of student-teachers in Churachandpur District according to their mothers' educational qualifications?*

To answer this question, M, SD, Percentages and Total scores of items of environmental attitude of the student-teachers according to their mothers' educational qualifications was computed, the result is shown in Table 3.

**Table 4: Showing M, SD, Percentage Level of Environmental Attitude**

Group	M	SD	Level of Attitude (In Percentage)
Under-matriculate	3.92	1.02	64.00
Matriculate	3.76	0.93	67.25
10+2	4.05	0.91	66.29
Graduate	3.72	0.99	53.00
Postgraduate	Nil	Nil	Nil

Analysis of the above Table showed the environmental attitude of student-teachers whose mothers' were under-matriculate came at 64.00, whose mothers' were matriculate came at 67.25, whose mothers' were 10+2 came at 66.29, and whose mothers' were graduate came at 53.00. Apparently, it may be concluded that there is no significant relationship between the environmental attitudes of different group of the student-teachers according to their fathers' educational qualifications and their fathers' educational qualifications because phenomenon did no followed the general believe that the higher the parents educational qualifications the better the children environmental attitude.

#### Results of the Fifth Question

*What is the environmental attitudes of student-teachers in Churachandpur District according to their mothers' occupations?*

To answer this question, M, SD, Percentages and Total scores of items of environmental attitude of the student-teachers according to their mothers' occupations was computed, the result is shown in Table 5.

**Table 5: Showing M, SD, Percentage Level of Environmental Attitude**

Group	M	SD	Level of Attitude (In Percentage)	Degree of Attitude
Teacher	3.47	1.25	49.67	Moderate
Self-employed	3.81	0.94	55.71	Moderate
Retired	3.84	1.10	59.00	Moderate
Other	4.05	0.93	68.00	High
Cultivator	3.86	0.93	61.11	High
Administrative Departments	3.84	0.96	59.50	Moderate

Analysis of the above Table showed the environmental attitude of student-teachers whose fathers' were in the administrative departments came at 72.00, which is the highest, while whose fathers' were retired came at 63.64, whose fathers' were cultivator came at 61.67, whose fathers' were in other occupations came at 58.20, and whose fathers' were self-employed came at 50.00. Thus, the environmental attitude of student-teachers whose mothers' occupation is cultivator and others was high and that of self-employed teacher, retired, and administrative departments was moderate.

## DISCUSSIONS

The present study found out a high level of environmental attitude for the student-teachers of College of teacher education, Churachandpur, which male student-teachers and 77.07 for female student-teachers. Similar findings revealed by (Arminda Paço & T. Lavrador, 2017; I. Crumpei, S. Boncu, & G. Crumpei, 2014). The found out that there is no significant relationship between the environmental attitudes of different group of the student-teachers according to their fathers' educational qualifications and their fathers' educational qualifications. Similar findings (Nergiz Korooglu, Ilker Ugulu, Nurettin Yorek, 2015; M. Özden, 2008). The environmental attitude of student-teachers whose fathers' occupation is teacher, retired, cultivator and administrative departments was high and that of self-employed and other was moderate. Similar findings (M. Özden, 2008). The study showed that there is no significant relationship between the environmental attitudes of different group of the student-teachers according to their mothers' educational qualifications and their mothers' educational qualifications. The environmental attitude of student-teachers whose mothers' occupation is cultivator and others was high and that of self-employed teacher, retired, and administrative departments was moderate.

## REFERENCES

1. I. Crumpei, S. Boncu, & G. Crumpei, "Environmental Attitudes and Ecological Moral Reasoning in Romanian Students," *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 114, 461–465, 2014. [Online]. Available from: URL: [sci-hub.se/10.1016/j.sbspro.2013.12.730](http://sci-hub.se/10.1016/j.sbspro.2013.12.730)
2. R. Duarte, J. J. Escario, & M. V. Sanagustín, "The influence of the family, the school, and the group on the environmental attitudes of European students," *Environmental Education Research*, 23(1), 23–42, 2015. [Online]. Available from: URL: [sci-hub.se/10.1080/13504622.2015.1074660](http://sci-hub.se/10.1080/13504622.2015.1074660)
3. J. M. Hines, H. R. Hungerford, & A. N. Tomera, "Analysis and Synthesis of Research on Responsible Environmental Behavior: A Meta-Analysis," *The Journal of Environmental Education*, 18(2), 1–8, 1987. [Online]. Available from: URL: [sci-hub.se/10.1080/00958964.1987.9943482](http://sci-hub.se/10.1080/00958964.1987.9943482)



4. N. Koruoglu<sup>1</sup>, I. Ugulu, & N. Yorek, "Investigation of High School Students' Environmental Attitudes in Terms of Some Demographic Variables," *Psychology*, 6, 1608-1623, 2015. [Online]. Available from: URL: <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED560776.pdf>
5. T. S. Nair, & R. L. Bindu, "Effect Of Blended Learning Strategy On Achievement In Biology And Social And Environmental Attitude Of Students At Secondary Level Abstract," *i-manager's Journal on School Educational Technology*, 11(41), 39-52, 2016. [Online]. Available from: URL: <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1131827.pdf>
6. M. Özden, "Environmental Awareness and Attitudes of Student Teachers: An Empirical Research," *International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education*, 17(1), 40-55, 2008. [Online]. Available from: URL: [sci-hub.se/10.2167/irgee227.0](http://sci-hub.se/10.2167/irgee227.0)
7. O. Sapci, & T. Considine, "The link between environmental attitudes and energy consumption behaviour," *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*, 52, 29-34, 2014. [Online]. Available from: URL: [sci-hub.se/10.1016/j.socec.2014.06.001](http://sci-hub.se/10.1016/j.socec.2014.06.001)
8. P. W. Schultz, C. Shriver, J. J. Tabanico, & A. M. Khazian, "Implicit connections with nature. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*," 24(1), 31-42, 2004. [Online]. Available from: URL: [sci-hub.se/10.1016/S0272-4944\(03\)00022-7](http://sci-hub.se/10.1016/S0272-4944(03)00022-7)
9. S. Sinha, N. K. Jangira, & S. Das, "Environmental education: Module for pre-service training of social science teachers and supervisors for secondary schools," Paris UNESCO, 1985. [Online]. Available from: URL: [http://www.unesco.org/education/pdf/333\\_14.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/education/pdf/333_14.pdf)
10. Tara S. Nair, Bindu R.L. Effect Of Blended Learning Strategy On Achievement In Biology And Social And Environmental Attitude Of Students At Secondary Level Abstract, *i-manager's Journal on School Educational Technology*, 11(41), March - May 2016, 39-52. <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1131827.pdf>
11. N. Uzun, K. L. Gilbertson, O. Keles, & I. Ratinen, "Environmental attitude scale for secondary school, high school and undergraduate students: Validity and reliability study," *Journal of Education in Science, Environment and Health (JESEH)*, 5(1), 79-90, 2019. [Online]. Available from: URL: <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1203305.pdf>
12. E. Yalçınkaya, O. Çetin, "An Investigation of Secondary School Students' Environmental Attitudes and Opinions about Environmental Education (EE)," *Review of International Geographical Education Online (RIGEO)*, 8 (1), 125-148, 2018. [Online]. Available from: URL: <http://www.rigeo.org/vol8no1/Number1Spring/RIGEO-V8-N1-7.pdf>