

## A study of higher secondary school student's self-image and their educational

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### Abstract

This study examined the relevance of self image and educational interest of higher secondary school students in relation to the background variable, gender. Self image scale educational interest scale created and standardised by the investigator was used for the study. The tool was used for assessing 300 higher secondary school students of Tenkasi District. Simple random sampling method was adopted for obtaining the data. The study found that there was no significant difference between boys and girls self image and educational interest of higher secondary school students. Also the study found that there is no significant correlation between self image and educational interest.

**Keywords:** self image, educational interest, higher secondary student

### Introduction

Education gives an individual the ability to understand the world around him and his place in it. Education creates a well balanced personality in the individual with an equal development of intellect and physical health features. The concept of education is like a diamond which appears to be of different colour when seen from a different angle.

The term self image refers to our perception of ourselves. This perception can be based on attitudes, feelings, abilities, skills, or appearance. However a wide proliferation of labels has also been used. It helps the students to develop and accepts an integrated and adequate picture of himself and a clear undertaking of one's problems and of his role in the world of education, with satisfaction to himself and society therefore educational guidance is needed at all stage of education.

Education helps to develop the individual as a whole and to bring out his innate abilities. So in our country the education is made free to all. School acts an agency of education, shape the character and develop the intelligence of the individual formal education is given to individuals through the primary secondary and higher secondary stages. Individuals improve the skills in 3 R's. Such as Reading, Writing and Arithmetic through primary education. The terminal behaviour resulting from secondary education will help the students either to opt for higher studies or choose a job to earn for himself and his family. The main aim of education is not only the development of knowledge among the children but also the development of children's personality. Education also helps to promote national integration and international understanding among the children.

### Significance of the study

Today we live in a competitive world, where academic excellence is a must for success in life. One of the goals of higher secondary stage of education is to equip the school leavers with the necessary knowledge and skill to participate as adults in social and economic life of the larger society. This is the stage of school education, which acts as an orientation

for higher education. Hence the students are put into a lot of emotional stress during this stage. Much has been talked about too much of stress and workload in schools, which kill the self esteem of students. Many studies show that more and more of students are being overcome by low self esteem feeling, which is not healthy either from the social point of view or individual's point of view.

A knowledge of Educational Interest can also great help to teachers in the selection of teaching aids method of teaching and also in planning of learning experiences to be provided. It is also a fact that all children few are very much interested in their studies and few students are not at all interested in their studies. It is the responsibility of the teachers to help Children under their care in the selection of subjects for their study. It is an important decision to be made and they have the right to turn the teachers who have to serve as guide to them and see that children get over this difficulty. If this aspect is neglected, it may even spoil the very life of the pupil.

The present study focuses its attention in this dimension. The purpose of this study is to see whether there is any relationship among self image and educational interest. If so the researcher wishes to further analyse and see how the school curriculum program could be altered in order to improve the self image of students and their educational interest.

### Objectives of the study

1. To find out the level of self image of higher secondary school students.
2. To find out the level of educational interest of higher secondary school students.

### Null hypotheses

1. There is no significant difference between boys and girls higher secondary students in their self image.
2. There is no significant difference between boys and girls higher secondary students in their educational interest.
3. There is no significant relationship between self image and educational interest.

**Methodology**

The researcher used the survey method for obtaining the data.

**Sample for the study**

The investigator has adopted the simple random sampling technique for selecting the samples. The sample for the present study constitutes 300 students studying XI and XII standard under Tamilnadu state board syllabus.

**Tools used in the present study**

The researcher used the following tools for collecting data in the present study. They are

1. Self-image Measuring Scale
2. Educational Interest Measuring Scale.

**Statistical techniques used**

Mean, SD, t-test and Pearson product moment correlation were used for the study.

i) To find out the level of self image of higher secondary school students

**Table 1:** level of self image of the higher secondary school students

Dimension of self Image	Low		Moderate		High	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Real Image	90	30.0	159	53.0	51	17.0
Societal Image	77	25.7	150	50.0	73	24.3
Predictable Image	81	27.0	148	49.3	71	23.7
Self Image	78	26.0	155	51.7	67	22.3

**Table 3:** Difference between boys and girls in their self image.

Dimension of self image	Gender	N	Mean	SD	t value	Remarks
Real	boys	145	31.66	2.957		
	girls	155	31.30	3.144	1.018	NS
Societal	boys	145	28.43	4.315		
	girls	155	27.69	4.731	1.411	NS
Predictable	boys	145	28.80	4.355		
	girls	155	27.93	4.632	1.679	NS
Self image	boys	145	88.88	7.175		
	girls	155	86.92	8.772	2.131	S

(At 5% level of significance the table value of 't' is 1.96)

It is inferred from the above table shows that there is no significant difference between boys and girls students in their real, societal, predictable self image. But there is significance difference between self image of higher secondary students boys and girls.

While comparing the mean value of boys (M = 88.88) and girls (M = 86.92), the boys are better than girls in their self image.

**Null Hypothesis: 2**

There is no significant different between boys and girls higher secondary school students in their Educational interest.

**Table 4:** Difference between boys and girls higher secondary school students in their educational interest

Groups	No	Mean	SD	't' Value	Remarks
Boys	145	86.23	8.621	2.136	S
Girls	155	83.83	10.748		

(At 5% level of significance the table value of t' is 1.96)

It is inferred from the above table shows that 30.0%, 53.0%, and 17.0% of students have low, moderate and high real self image. Among them 25.7%, 50.0%, and 24.3% of students have low, moderate and high societal self image.

Among them 27.0%, 49.3% and 23.75 of students have low, moderate and high predictable self image.

Among them 26.0%, 51.7%, and 22.3% of students have low moderate and high self image.

ii) To find out the level of educational interest of higher secondary school students.

**Table 2:** level of boys and girls higher secondary students in their educational interest

Gendar	Low		Moderate		High	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Boys	29	20.0	82	56.6	34	23.4
Girls	52	33.5	77	49.7	26	16.8

It is inferred from the above table shows that 20%, 56.6%, and 23.4% of the boys have low, moderate and high level of educational interest.

Among them 33.5%, 49.7%, and 16.8% of the girls have low, moderate, and high educational interest.

**Hypothesis wise analysis**

**Null Hypothesis: 1**

There is no significant different between boys and girls higher secondary school students in their self image.

It is inferred from the above table shows that there is no significant difference between boys and girls of school students in their Educational interest. While comparing the mean value of boys (86.23) and girls (83.83), boys are better than girls in their educational interest.

**Null hypothesis: 3**

There is no significant relationship between self image and educational interest of higher secondary students.

**Table 5:** Correlation between self image and educational interest of higher secondary school students

Self Image	Df	Calculated 'r <sup>2</sup> ' value	Remarks
Real	3	.179	NS
Societal		.293	NS
Predictable		.296	NS
Self image		.397	NS
Educational Interest		.149	NS

(At 5% level of significance, for 4 df the table value of is 9.488)

It is inferred from the above table that there is no significant relationship between real societal, predictable, and total self image and educational interest of higher secondary school students.

### **Educational implication**

The result shows that self image and educational interest of boys and girls reveals that the boys are better than the girls. This may be due to the fact that the boys are given more freedom in our society due to which they are more outgoing and social. This allows them to come in contact with and share relationship with different people. This ultimately boosts their self image. A School teacher involve improve the self image of the students in the way of conduct personality development classes and will teach value education in leisure time. The teacher must watch learning ability of the students and teach them different teaching methods and provide various learning experience and using different teaching methods to improve the educational interest. A highly positive self image and improved educational interest can yield high quality students who are capable creating bright future for the society and world.

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