

A study of Impulsiveness in Relation to Environmental Ethics of Secondary School Students

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ABSTRACT

The present research aims to examine the impulsiveness in relation to their environmental ethics of secondary school students. The current study targeted a sample of 100 secondary school students of Chandigarh. Descriptive survey was done for the collection of data. The data was analyzed statistically by using mean, standard deviation, t-test and Pearson's coefficient of correlation (r). The study's findings revealed no significant relationship exists between impulsiveness and environmental ethics of secondary school students. The study recommended that stakeholders in education needed to identify and understand the psychological needs of adolescents. The study recommends future research on how impulsiveness varies and test if impulsiveness can be improved by implementing various workshops and counseling.

Keywords: Environmental Ethics, Impulsiveness

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INTRODUCTION

Among all stages of human development, adolescence is the most significant stage, bringing many positive and negative changes. Though changes are absolute and grow towards externality, adolescents are most poor to be impulsive and thus exhibit wide range of behavior. Impulsivity is the tendency to act on a whim, displaying behavior symbolized by little or no consideration, manifestations of the consequences.

Impulsivity is a pattern of behavior that consists of rapid, unplanned action that occurs unpredictably, without consideration or conscious judgment and regard for possible consequences (Campbell, 2004). Impulsivity is a rash response in situations where the considerate response is more appropriate (Nigg *et al.*, 2005). According to Moeller (2001), impulsivity as the predisposition to act with a low or inadequate degree of deliberation, forethought, or control. Environmental ethics is the relationship between humans and the environment. Environmental ethics is defined as which is concerned with the moral relations that make the connection between the human and the natural environment (Taylor, 1989). Environmental ethics is related with the study of dialectical issues and principles relating to human interactions with the natural environment (Attfeld, 2012). Environmental ethics is that branch of environmental philosophy that deals with the conceptual foundation of environmental values and is related to the relationship between humans and the environment (Badesaba & Punita, 2019).

Environmental ethics is related to the study of conceptual and moral issues concerned with the growth of human population, consumption of resources, animal rights, moral status of nature and species etc. Our attitude towards the environment depends on our moral sensibilities and the theoretical underpinning of our moral judgment.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Spinella and Miley (2003) reported an inverse relationship being demonstrated between academic grade and impulsiveness. The results showed mean differences in the drinking behavior

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of African Americans and European Americans. It also revealed different developmental courses and important racial differences for sensation seeking and impulsivity.

Lozano, Gordillo and Perez (2014) examined the relationship among impulsivity, intelligence and academic performance with a special interest in testing. It was also found that the interaction effect between impulsivity and intelligence in the prediction of performance and reported that impulsivity was negatively related to both academic performance and intelligence.

Mosti, *et al.* (2014) concluded that impulsivity, which includes poor regulated self-learning and careless problem-solving skills, has resulted in lower academic achievement among college students. The study also suggested that self-reported poor attention was proved to be a better indicator of academic success than planning or motor impulsivity or performance.

Singh, *et al.* (2014) examined the role of environmental awareness on secondary school teachers in relation to sex, type of board and courses of studies. The results highlighted the influence with regards to type of school, sex and courses of studies on the level of teachers in the context of environmental understanding.

Hadi, Al Naser, Kamour, Ashour and Al Qarut (2021) investigated on the sample consisted of 334 male and female undergraduate students from the college of business administration (N=91), mass communication (N=51), law (N=46), and arts and humanities (N=146). The study showed results that undergraduate students showed a moderate level of interpersonal sensitivity and impulsiveness. It also indicated that an increase of the interpersonal sensitivity subscale (Separation anxiety) increases motor impulsiveness. The study

also found a lower score on interpersonal sensitivity subscale i.e. timidity, motor impulsiveness, and non-planning impulsiveness. The results also exhibited an increase of interpersonal sensitivity subscales, interpersonal awareness, motor impulsiveness, non-planning impulsiveness, and intentional impulsiveness.

Zafar, Shen, Shahzad and Islam (2021) conducted study on a sample of 713 Chinese who experienced social media users and disclosed that personalized advertising positively influences the urge to buy impulsively through the mediation of impulse buying tendency. Mobile shopping attitude stimulates users to buy impulsively though its interaction effect is irrelevant. It was concluded that impulsive urges positively affect sustainable purchase decisions, although environmental knowledge lessens the impulsive urges.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study and compare the impulsiveness of male and female secondary school students.
- To study and compare the environmental ethics of male and female secondary school students.
- To study and compare the impulsiveness of secondary school students studying in government and private schools.
- To study and compare the environmental ethics of secondary school students studying in government and private schools.
- To study and compare the impulsiveness of secondary school students in relation to their environmental ethics.
- To find a correlation between impulsiveness and environmental ethics of secondary school students.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

- There will be no significant difference in the impulsiveness of male and female secondary school students.
- There will be no significant difference in the environmental ethics of male and female secondary school students.
- There will be no significant difference in the impulsiveness of secondary school students studying in government and private schools.
- There will be no significant difference in the environmental ethics of secondary school students studying in government and private schools.
- There will be no significant difference in the impulsiveness of secondary school students in relation to their environmental ethics.
- There will be no significant correlation between impulsiveness and environmental ethics of secondary school students.

METHOD OF THE STUDY

For the present study, a descriptive survey was used as a design of the study.

Sample of the Study

The study sample consisted of 100 secondary students of Chandigarh, and these students were selected randomly from a list of government and private schools through a system of draw of lots. Numbers of students were 59 (males) and 41(females) taken as sample of the study.

Tools Used

- Impulsiveness Scale (IS) by Rai and Sharma (2013)
- Environmental Ethics Scale (EES) by Taj (2001)

Statistical Techniques Employed

The study employed various descriptive and inferential statistical techniques including Mean, Standard deviation, t-test and the data was further tested by Pearson Correlation.

Results and Discussions

Hypothesis 1

Table 1 represents that the mean scores of the impulsiveness of male and female secondary school students do not differ significantly.

Hypothesis 2

Table 2 represents that the mean scores of environmental ethics of male and female secondary school students differ significantly at 0.01 level.

Hypothesis 3

Table 3 represents that the mean scores of impulsiveness of government and private secondary school students do not differ significantly.

Hypothesis 4

Table 4 represents that the mean scores of environmental ethics of government and private secondary school students do not differ significantly.

Hypothesis 5

Table 5 represents that the mean scores of impulsiveness of secondary school students in relation to their environmental ethics (high and low) do not differ significantly

Hypothesis 6

From Table 6, it can be seen that the coefficient of correlation between impulsiveness and environmental ethics came out to be

Table 1: Results showing mean, S.D. and t- value on impulsiveness between male and female secondary school students

	Mean(M)		S.D.		t-ratio	Level of Significance
	M1 (Male=59)	M2 (Female=41)	S.D.1	S.D.2		
Impulsiveness	15.12	14.51	3.02	3.21	0.96	NS

Table 2: Results showing mean, S.D. and t-value of environmental ethics between male and female secondary school students

	M1 (Male=59)	M2 (Female=41)	S.D.1	S.D.2	t-ratio	Level of Significance
Environmental ethics	95.28	1.02	10.53	14.01	2.59	Significant at 0.01 level

Table 3: Results showing mean, S.D. and t-ratio of impulsiveness between government and private secondary school students

	M1 (Govt.=50)	M2 (Private =50)	S.D.1 (Govt.)	S.D.2 (Private)	t-value	Level of Significance
Impulsiveness	14.50	15.24	3.49	2.64	1.19	NS

Table 4: Results showing mean, S.D. and t-ratio of environmental ethics between government and private secondary school students

	M1 (Govt.=50)	M2 (Private=50)	S.D.1 (Govt.)	S.D.2 (Private)	t-value	Level of Significance
Environmental ethics	96.28	99.42	9.87	14.47	1.28	NS

Table 5: Mean differentials in impulsiveness of secondary school students in relation to their environmental ethics

	M1 (High=27)	M2 (Low=27)	S.D.2 (High)	S.D.2 (Low)	t-value	Level of Significance
Impulsiveness	14.96	13.78	3.14	2.89	1.44	NS

Table 6: Results showing correlation between impulsiveness and environmental ethics of secondary school students

Variable	Impulsiveness
Environmental ethics	0.478*

* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

0.478 which is positively significant at 0.05 level of

CONCLUSIONS

A significant difference between males and females showed that the males possessed more environmental ethics than females. It means environmental ethics has influence on the development level of the impulsiveness of children. It is suggested that guidance should be provided to the children so they can have a good control over their impulsivity.

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