

# A Comparative Study of Hosteler and Non-Hosteler Students on Self-Concept

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**Abstract:** The present study is designed to explore impact of social environment on school students and to find out the positive or negative effect of home environment on self-concept of school students consisting of a sample of 200 school students (100 male students and 100 female students, further 100 students hostelers and 100 non-hostelers ) were selected through simple random sampling technique. “Self-Concept Questionnaire” by Dr. R.K. Saraswat was used for assessing self-concept of subjects under investigation. This was comparative study of hostelers and non-hostelers and of gender differences.

**Keywords:** hostelers, non-hosteler students, social environment.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Hostel is a place where students stay away from home in the institution. A hostel presents altogether different physical, social, psychological and philosophical environment compare to home environment. The students who they stay away from their parents in the hostels are known as hostellers. Unlike home the students are deprived of various physical and emotional comforts. They have to conform with norms and values forced by the authorities. Hostel environment varies from home environment. Non-hostellers do not stay away from their parents. The students who live in home with their parents and come to school or college only for study hours are indentified as non-hostellers. They remain in constant touch with their parents and other members of family and relatives and feel more secured and comfortable compare to a hosteller students. Thus compare to hosteller subjects their environment is non-deprivational to large extent.

In modern psychology “self” has been related with the individuals identities, ‘self’ is a process by means of which the organism drives and constructs self products, which when taken together represent the organism’s interpretation and meaning of itself. In this relationship, the organism is entity and self is the process that evolves representation of its own entity and it is related with mental behavioral activities. (Horrocks and Jackson, 1972).

In the Dictionary of Education by Good (1973) self-concept is defined as “the individual’s perception of himself as a person, which includes his abilities, appearance, performance in his job and other phases of daily living (Manmeet Kaur).

In modern society there is as increasing awareness that “the proper study of man is man, self-concept is the individual as known to the individual” (Morphy, 1974). A person having a favourable self-concept has more chance of developing a pleasing personality and get success in all walks of life. Self-concept is considered as the centre-core of personality around which his different traits will be organized (Horlock, 1974). Self-concept develops by a process of looking at oneself objectively, evaluating his or her capacities and limitations impartially and arriving at a positive or negative about him or her. Therefore the correct self-perception leads one to have a correct self-concept.

Self-concept is a dominant element in personality pattern. Self-concept is what one considers one’s self to be. There are said to be three components of self-concept viz

- (i) Perceptual (physical)
- (ii) Conceptual (psychological)

(iii) Attitudinal.

Within the physical component come one’s own feeling about one’s appearance, attractiveness etc. within the psychological component are included one’s origin, abilities and personality traits, present status and future prospects, attitudes of self-esteem, pride, beliefs from the core of attitudinal component (Geeta Choubey, 1989).

The above discussion leads us to conclude that self-concept is something perception of one-self about himself or herself i. e. attributes he or she possesses. In other words an evaluation of one’s strong and weak points. The strong points which are virtue of one’s existence and weak points which motivates one to improve more and more. The strong points are appreciated (by human environment) and weak points are criticized. Thus the present study includes this variable due to possible impact of environment around the individual.

**STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:**

“A comparative study of hosteler and non-hosteler students on adjustment.” Here self-concept is dependent variable on which effect of independent variable namely hostel and home environment is to investigated.

K-S Test (kolmogrov Smirnov) was applied to ascertain the normal distribution of the scores of whole population on the self-concept variable in the investigation.

t-ratios were worked out to find out the significance of difference on self-concept of the students.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:**

1. To compare the self-concept of hosteler and non-hostelers and hostelers subjects.
2. To compare of self-concept of hosteler boys and hostelers girls.
3. To compare of self-concept of non-hosteler boys and non-hostelers girls.

**HYPOTHESES:**

- H1 – There exists no significant difference in the self-concept of hostelers and non-hostelers.
- H2 – There exists no significant difference in the self-concept of hosteler boys and hostelers girls.
- H3 – There exists no significant difference in the self-concept of non-hosteler boys and non-hostelers girls.

**2. DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

The present study has been delimited with respect to variable of the study, sample, tools and techniques. The independent variables of the study are home environment and hostel environment and dependent variable is adjustment. The sample of the study includes 200 school students consisting of 100 hostelers and 100 non-hostelers of the same schools from Bathinda city. “Self-Concept Questionnaire” by Dr. R.K. Saraswat for assessing self-concept of subjects under investigation. Operational definition of self-concept will comprise of the self-concept dimensions, viz, physical, social, temperamental, educational, moral and intellectual as taken by Dr. R.K. Saraswat in Self-Concept Questionnaire(SCQ).

**3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**t-ratio between mean scores on self concept questionnaire of hostelers and non-hostelers subjects**

Sr no.	Group	N	M	$\sigma$	SE <sub>m</sub>	SE <sub>D</sub>	t-ratio	Level of sig.
1	Hostelers	100	175.5	9.47	.94	1.88	2.5 in favour of non- hostelers	Sig. at 0.05 level of confidence
2	Non-hostelers	100	180.2	16.30	1.63			

The above table indicates t-ratio between mean scores of two groups is found to be 2.5 in favour of non-hosteler students. In other words non-hostelers has better self-concept in comparison to hostelers. Consequently our hypothesis “There exists no significant difference in the self-conceptof hostelers and non-hostelers” can’t be accepted.

**International Journal of Novel Research in Education and Learning**

 Vol. 3, Issue 2, pp: (22-24), Month: March - April 2016, Available at: [www.noveltyjournals.com](http://www.noveltyjournals.com)
**t-ratio between mean scores of hostelers boys and hostelers girls subjects on self concept questionnaire**

Sr no.	Group	N	M	$\sigma$	SE <sub>m</sub>	SE <sub>D</sub>	t-ratio	Level of sig.
1	Hostelersboys	50	176.3	10.13	1.43	1.88	0.74 in favour of hostelers girls	Not sig. at 0.05 & 0.01 level of confidence
2	Hostelers girls	50	174.9	8.7	1.23			

The above table indicates t-ratio between mean scores of two groups is found to be 0.74 in favour of hosteler girls. The calculated value is much lesser than table value. Hence difference is matter of chance and does not represent true difference. Thus our hypothesis "There exists no significant difference in the self-concept of hosteler boys and hosteler girls" can't be rejected. In other words the impact of environment does not vary with sex. Both sexes feel the effect of deprivational environment to almost same extent.

**t-ratio between mean scores of non-hostelers boys and non-hostelers girls subjects on self concept questionnaire**

Sr no.	Group	N	M	$\sigma$	SE <sub>m</sub>	SE <sub>D</sub>	t-ratio	Level of sig.
1	Non-Hostelers boys	50	179.7	17.8	2.51	3.26	0.30 in favour of non-hostelers girls	Not sig. at 0.05 & 0.01 level of confidence
2	non-hostelers girls	50	180.7	14.81	2.09			

The above table indicates t-ratio between mean scores of two groups is found to be 0.30 in favour of non-hosteler girls. The calculated value is much lesser than table value. Hence difference is matter of chance and does not represent true difference. Thus our hypothesis "There exists no significant difference in the self-concept of non-hosteler boys and non-hosteler girls" can't be rejected. In other words the impact of environment does not vary with sex.

We conclude environments have its impact but it does not vary strongly with respect to sex.

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