



Assessment of social maturity of the adolescent girls of rural and urban areas

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ABSTRACT

The term adolescent comes from Latin word “adolescere” which means to “grow at maturity”. A socially matured person is well accepted by the peers as well as society. So an adolescent has to be socially matured. Thus, the social maturity has various aspects of social abilities as self-sufficiency, occupational activities, communication self-direction and social participation. The social maturity as a term is used commonly in two ways. Firstly, in reference to the behaviour that conforms to the standards and expectations of the adults and secondly in reference to the behaviour that is appropriate to the age of the individual under observation. A comparative study of social maturity of adolescent girls in rural and urban areas was undertaken with the objectives to assess social maturity of adolescent girls and to compare the social maturity of rural and urban adolescent girls. One hundred twenty adolescent girls between age group of 13-16 years from two rural and two urban schools were selected randomly. A Dr. Nalini Rao’s Social Maturity Scale was used for to assess social maturity. Sadashiva (2006) studies on the Adolescent period is a time of considerable changes in all aspects of functioning. There are three aspects of significant concern during adolescence *viz.*, social, educational and nutritional. Significant differences were found between rural and urban adolescents with respect to development of personality traits such as self-concept and self-esteem, individual capacities, tender mindedness, shrewdness and internal restraint.