



SURVEY ON FRIENDSHIP OF STUDENT TEACHERS

Xavier Raj S.¹ and Dr. G. Singaravelu²

¹Research Scholar Bharathiar University, Coimbatore.

²Professor & Head, Department of Education
& HOD i/c Department of Educational Technology
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore.



ABSTRACT:

In this study, the investigator made an attempt to find out the friendship of student teachers in Kanyakumari district. The objectives of the study were, i) To find out the level of friendship of student teachers. ii) To find whether there is any significant difference in friendship of student teachers with respect to their Gender, Subject, Educational Qualification and Marital Status. Survey method was adopted for the present study. The population for the present study consisted of all student teachers studying in Colleges of Education in Kanyakumari district. Using simple random sampling technique the investigator selected a sample of 510 student teachers. To interpret the raw data, analyses were done using percentage analysis, mean, standard deviation and t-test. The findings revealed that, most of the student teachers seem to have average level friendship. There is significant difference between male and female student teachers and married and unmarried student teachers in their friendship. There is no significant difference between U. G. and P. G. qualified student teachers and arts and science subject student teachers in their friendship.

KEYWORDS: Educational Qualification and Marital Status , Survey method.

INTRODUCTION:

Friendship is a relationship of mutual affection between two or more people. Friendship is a stronger form of interpersonal bond than an association. Friendship is a relationship with broad, ambiguous, and even shifting boundaries. The terms friend and friendship mean different things to different people and different things to the same people at different times. To think and communicate effectively about the topic, people find it necessary to use distinctions such as true friends, best friends, good friends, casual friends, work friends, social friends, and friendly acquaintances. In spite of friendship's vague and seemingly indefinable quality, friendships contribute in important ways to psychological development and health and well-being from early childhood through the older adult years. Robert Paine (1969) described friendship as an institutionalized non-institution (Suttles, 1970). Friendship is a relationship in which the partners respond to one another with an individualized interest and concern and commit time to one another in the absence of constraints toward interaction that are external to the relationship itself. The more these two factors are in evidence, the stronger the friendship.

NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

In order to fulfilling the needs and demands, winning the confidence and satisfaction among the students friends. Friendship is a relationship in which the partners respond to one another with an individualized interest and concern and commit time to one another in the absence of constraints

toward interaction that are external to the relationship itself. The attitudes of students are changing rapidly day-to-day, whether positive or negative and the major reason for this change may be the influence of friends. Some students are coming to the school or college only to meet and chat with their friends and in some cases the educational level and course satisfaction is decided by the friends. So, one can understand that friendship plays a predominant role in life especially in the students' life. Thus the investigator decided to study friendship as the variable for the study and entitled the problem as 'Survey on Friendship of Student Teachers'.

OBJECTIVES

1. To find out the level of friendship of student teachers.
2. To find whether there is any significant difference in friendship of student teachers with respect to their a) Gender, b) Subject, c) Educational Qualification and d) Marital Status.

HYPOTHESES

1. The level of friendship of student teachers is average.
2. There is no significant difference in the friendship of student teachers with respect to their a) Gender, b) Subject, c) Educational Qualification and d) Marital Status.

METHODOLOGY

Survey method was used by the investigator for the present study.

POPULATION

The population of the present study consisted of all the students doing their B. Ed. course in the colleges of education in Kanyakumari district, affiliated to Tamilnadu Teachers Education University, Chennai.

SAMPLE AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

Using simple random sampling technique the investigator selected 510 student teachers from various colleges of education in Kanyakumari District.

TOOL USED

For the present study, the investigator used Xavier and Meenakshisundaram's i.e., XaMe's Friendship Scale (XMFS, 2015).

ANALYSES OF THE DATA

To interpret the raw data, analyses were done using percentage, mean, standard deviation, and t-test. The results of the analysis are presented in the following tables.

1. *The level of friendship of student teachers is average.*

Table 1
Level of Friendship of Student Teachers

Variable	Low		Average		High	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Friendship	69	13.5	386	75.7	55	10.8

2. *There is no significant difference in the friendship of student teachers with respect to their a) Gender, b) Subject, c) Educational Qualification and d) Marital Status.*

Table 2.a
Difference between Male and Female Student Teachers in Their Friendship

Variable	Gender	N	Mean	S.D	Calculated 't' Value	Remarks
Friendship	Male	57	104.61	9.01	3.07	S.
	Female	453	108.43	7.32		

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

The calculated t value 3.07 is greater than table value 1.96. Null hypothesis is rejected at 0.05 level. Hence there is significant difference between male and female in the friendship of student teachers.

Table 2.b
Difference between Arts and Science Group Student Teachers in Their Friendship

Variable	Subject	N	Mean	S.D	Calculated 't' Value	Remarks
Friendship	Arts	279	107.93	7.83	0.24	N. S.
	Science	231	108.10	7.36		

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

The calculated t value 0.24 is less than table value 1.96. Null hypothesis is accepted at 0.05 level. Hence there is no significant difference between Arts and science subjects of student teachers in friendship.

Table 2.c
Difference between UG and PG Group Student Teachers in Their Friendship

Variable	Qualification	N	Mean	S.D	Calculated 't' Value	Remarks
Friendship	U. G.	449	108.02	7.72	0.10	N. S.
	P. G.	61	107.92	6.90		

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

The calculated t value 0.10 is less than table value 1.96. Null hypothesis is accepted at 0.05 level. Hence there is no significant difference between UG and PG degree qualified student teachers in friendship.

Table 2.d
Difference between Married and Unmarried Student Teachers in Their Friendship

Variable	Marital Status	N	Mean	S.D	Calculated 't' Value	Remarks
Friendship	Married	76	105.93	9.38	2.15	S.
	Unmarried	434	108.37	7.22		

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

The calculated t value 2.15 is greater than table value 1.96. Null hypothesis is rejected at 0.05 level. Hence there is no significant difference between Married and Unmarried in the friendship of student teachers.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Percentage analysis revealed that only 10.8% of student teachers have high level of friendship. This result also clearly indicated that nearly three fourth of the student teachers are having average level of friendship.

The 't' test revealed that there is significant difference between male and female student teachers in their friendship. By comparing the mean values, female student teachers (108.43) are better than the male student teachers (104.61) in their friendship. This may be due to the reason that females are more sensitive to any kind of emotional packages and they give more importance and preference to relations than males. This finding is in agreement with the findings of *Thomas, Jennifer (2012)* which revealed that, girls viewed friendships as higher and girls may be more sensitive to the effects of a friend's romantic relationship on their friendship than boys.

There is no significant difference between arts and science subject student teachers in their friendship. This may be due to the reason that friendship is a relationship of mutual affection between two or more people where the subject of study has no role to play.

There is no significant difference between U. G. and P. G. qualified student teachers in their friendship. This may be due to the reason that friendship being a common relational phenomenon there is no place for the degree or educational status.

There is significant difference between married and unmarried student teachers in their friendship. By comparing the mean values, unmarried student teachers (108.37) are better than the married student teachers (105.93) in their friendship. This may be due to the reason that in our social settings after marriage the life or relation of a men or women is mostly limited with the family members and relatives. Also married persons are having lot of responsibilities in their home and so they won't get enough time to communicate with their friends. But unmarried students are free to interact with their friends at anywhere and anytime.

IMPLICATIONS

Based on the findings, the investigator has given the following recommendations for the various sectors of teacher education in order to enhance a better course satisfaction among student teachers.

- Citizenship training camps, special camps, educational clubs and educational tours should be executed as compulsory programmes in teacher education. All these activities play a vital role in the promotion of adjustment and friendship.
- Activities which demand team works should be encouraged by teacher educators in their institutions. Intercollegiate, intra-collegiate, interdepartmental, and intradepartmental and district level programmes and competitions should be organized which will help to strengthen the friendship and enhance the friendship circle.
- Reduce the habit of fault finding and blaming instead develops the habit of adjustment and accept others, which will contribute for friendship.
- The student teachers are advised to interact freely with all the family members, peer and fellow members, society members, teacher educators and with all persons, so as to enhance friendship as it from the basic component for the happiness and success of their profession and personal life.
- Parents should spend time with children in their home and interact with them in a friendly manner and make them to feel friendship is a blessing and it's a beautiful feel that contribute much for the happiness in life.

CONCLUSION

The study revealed that, most of the student teachers seem to have average level friendship. There is significant difference between male and female student teachers and married and unmarried

student teachers in their friendship. There is no significant difference between U. G. and P. G. qualified student teachers and arts and science subject student teachers in their friendship.

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