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ATTITUDE OF PROSPECTIVE TEACHERS TOWARDS TEACHING PROFESSION

¹P. China Hanumantha Rao and ²Dr. B. Srilatha

²Associate Professor, St. Joseph's College of Education for Women, Guntur

¹Department of Education, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur

Abstract

This paper focuses on the attitude of prospective teachers towards teaching profession. Teaching being a self-motivated activity demands a favorable attitude and specific competencies from its practitioners. Teachers' positive attitude helps students to have healthy discussions and thereby produce improved learning outcome. The purpose of this study is to understand how different variables like gender, residential area, qualifications, and marital status influenced teachers' attitude towards teaching profession. The improvement of educational quality depends on attitudes. The way teachers view their jobs has a big impact on how well students learn. Their level of job satisfaction is likewise determined by it. This is crucial because teachers are the ones who build nations, and they actually have a significant impact on how those nations evolve. The sample included 150 prospective teachers from Telangana's Osmania University. The researcher used Teacher Attitude Tool developed by Dr. S.P. Ahluwalia, (1978). The study conclusions show that urban prospective teachers have a more positive view about the teaching profession than rural prospective teachers. Postgraduate prospective teachers have a better attitude than undergraduate prospective teachers in teaching profession. Equal attitudes regarding the teaching profession exist between male and female prospective teachers.

Keywords: Attitude, Prospective Teachers, Teaching Profession.

Introduction

One of the purposes of education is to develop all round personality of the child. It is a systematic, efficient and deliberate influence exerted by the teacher upon the pupils. It also unfolds and expands the inherent powers, capacities, capabilities, interest, aptitude and attitude of the learners. Teacher is expected to be committed to his profession, learner, society, nation and to high human values. If quality education is a goal, it cannot be achieved without the sincere efforts of dedicated and committed teachers. According to Keith Harrell (1998), "attitude is everything". It affects and influences a person's behaviour which in turn affects performance. It often involves feelings, opinions and dispositions which affects behaviour. How successful a person is in achieving his or her set goals is a function of the person's attitude.

Need and Significance of the study

People's attitude towards their professions has a result on their performance. This is also valid for teaching profession. In teaching how a teacher performs their duty as a teacher depends to a great extent on their attitude. Attitude of a teacher towards teaching becomes influential so far as children can perceive the nature of feelings the teacher has towards them and there are evidences to show the presence of such a perception. If a teacher has dominant and autocratic attitude, the children are likely to be aggressive or over submissive. They show little satisfaction in their work and do not cooperate well with one another. In a class where a teacher has democratic and socially integrative attitude, the children feel relaxed and friendly. They work together and they are interested in what they are doing. A warm, sympathetic, friendly and understanding teacher is more likely to have a positive influence on student as compared to the one who is cold, unfriendly and autocratic. A teacher's attitude to teaching will certainly affect his or her performance in the classroom.

Hence, the present article is intended to study Attitude of prospective teachers towards Teaching Profession.

Statement of the Problem

Attitude is about emotions and feelings, and effective teachers willingly share emotions and feelings (i.e., enthusiasm, affection, patience, sadness, disapproval) as well as a sincere interest and care about their students. An



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important factor that needs to be considered, especially when a new therapy is presented, is attitude toward teaching. Because he is interested in a wide range of subjects and likes his intellectual pursuits, a teacher is knowledgeable. A person with a teaching attitude is one who goes above and beyond to assist students in learning, is able to build strong interpersonal connections, and has the knowledge and skills to contribute to the interaction process, which benefits students most. The desire to teach is the primary motivation for why student teachers engage in the teacher preparation programme.

Therefore, the present investigation was taken up to find out the attitude of prospective teachers towards teaching profession.

. The study intends to find out the answers for the following questions:

- Do the prospective teachers possess right attitude towards their profession?
- Is there any influence of the following independent variables i.e. gender, residential area and qualifications on the dependent variable i.e. attitude towards teaching profession?

Title of the study

“Attitude of prospective teachers towards Teaching Profession”

Review of Related Literature

1. **FatmaKayanFadlemula (2015)** conducted a study on “Pre-service Teachers’ Learning styles and Attitude towards Teaching Profession”. A sample of 1321 pre-service teacher, studying in middle sized public University, located in the Mediterranean region of Turkey. Results revealed that pre-service teachers mainly had converging and assimilating learning styles and they showed positive attitude towards teaching profession. Another one result found that there were 73 significant differences in pre-service teacher’s attitude scores considering their gender, teaching program, grade level, grade point average, and type of graduated high school.
2. **Hasan Aydin, and Dolgun Aslam (2016)** studied on “Determining Attitudes towards Pedagogical Teacher Training: A Scale Development Study”. This study was helping to determine the attitudes of teacher candidates towards the Pedagogical teacher training. The purpose of the study measurement tools can be utilized in future studies. The study showed that the attitude scale towards pedagogical teacher training was a valid and reliable tool.
3. **Cynthia, D’Costa and Veena Deshmukh (2017)** conducted a study on “Relationship Between Teacher Effectiveness and Multiple Intelligence of Secondary School Teachers”. The sample consisted of 300 secondary school teachers with minimum graduates and professionally trained. The study revealed the result that there was a significant difference in the teachers’ multiple intelligence. There was a significant difference between graduated holders and professionally trained teachers.
4. **KaterynaZhytnukhina (2018)** conducted “A Study on the D.Ed. Trainees’ Attitude in the Direction of Instructional Media” they chose two teams such as a hundred sixty-five college students and a hundred and seventy preservice academics. Supported the ultimate results of the have a look at, it absolutely was all over that proper course within the choice and usage of educational media will perform as a primary think about the event of students’ attitude in a very positive direction.

Objectives of the study

1. To find out the attitude towards teaching profession of prospective teachers
2. To find out the influence of the following demographic variables on the attitude towards teaching profession of prospective teachers
 1. Gender
 2. Qualifications
 3. Residential Area

Hypotheses of the study

1. There would be no significant difference between male and female prospective teachers in their attitude towards teaching profession



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- There would be no significant difference between UG and PG qualified prospective teachers in their attitude towards teaching profession.
- There would be no significant difference between rural and urban prospective teachers in their attitude towards teaching profession.

Methodology of the study

The most popular method for resolving educational issues is the normative survey. The normative survey approach emphasizes and evaluates what is already present in current situations or interactions, as well as prevalent customs, ideas, and behaviors.

Population

Population or universe is the aggregate of all units possessing specific unique characteristics on which the sample seeks to draw inferences. To collect the relevant data required for the present study, the researcher considered all the Colleges of Education affiliated to Osmania University, Hyderabad, Telangana State, India, for the year 2020–21.

Tool of the study

The researcher used Teacher Attitude Tool developed by Dr. S.P. Ahluwalia, (1978). The tool was divided into six areas dealt within the tool are Attitude towards: i) Teaching Profession, ii) Classroom Teaching, iii) Child-centered practices, iv) Educational process, v) Pupils, and vi) Teachers. The tool consists of 90 items, 43 are meant to assess attitude in favorable direction and 47 in unfavorable direction.

Statistical Techniques

The following statistical technique has been adopted for analyzing the data which were collected from the sample. They are

- Descriptive Analysis (Mean, Standard deviation)
- Differential Analysis (t test)

Analysis and Interpretation of the Data

Table 1
Whole sample Analysis of Teaching Attitude of Prospective Teachers

Whole	Mean	SD	% of mean	1/5 th of Mean
150	222.6	18.61	61.83	3.08

From the above table, it can be concluded that most of the prospective teachers have average attitude towards teaching profession which is little disappointing to accept.

Table 2
Attitude of Prospective Teachers Variable Wise Analysis

S.NO	Demographic Variable	Categories	N	Mean	% of Mean	SD	S.Ed	't'
1	Gender	Male	70	220.30	61.19	7.42	0.95	4.05*
		Female	80	216.45	60.01	7.78		
2	Qualifications	UG	70	214.32	60.64	9.46	0.98	4.98*
		PG	80	218.34	59.53	5.26		
3	Residential Area	Rural	70	240.36	66.76	9.46	0.60	5.03*
		Urban	80	243.38	71.21	5.26		

Significant at 0.05 level



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Findings of the study

1. The attitude towards teaching profession of the prospective teachers is at average level which is a deeply disappointment to accept.
2. There is a significant difference between male and female prospective teachers in their attitude towards teaching profession. Female teachers are better in their attitude towards teaching profession.
3. There is a significant difference between UG and PG qualified prospective teachers in their attitude towards teaching profession. PG qualified prospective teachers are better in their attitude towards teaching profession than their counter parts.
4. There is a significant difference between rural and urban prospective teachers in their attitude towards teaching profession. Urban prospective teachers are better in their attitude towards teaching profession when compared to rural prospective teachers.

Educational Implications

- 1) The government should grant the teaching profession proper recognition so that future generations will be enticed to join this noble profession by increasing wages and fringe benefits, as well as professionalizing the teaching profession.
- 2) TEIs should conduct aptitude and attitude tests as part of the admission process to determine students who are inclined towards teaching profession.
- 3) Several activities such as seminars, conferences, workshops, and refresher courses should be organized time to time for prospective teachers to instill new ideas in them which leads to enhance their teaching aptitude and the upliftment of teacher education programs to cultivate a positive attitude towards teaching.
- 4) Teachers should be required to attend in-service training on a regular basis in order to instill teaching aptitude qualities.

Conclusion

This study is an attempt to measure attitude of prospective teachers towards teaching profession. This study has enabled us to identify the level of attitude of the prospective teachers and point out the crucial role of right attitude towards their profession.

The investigator would term this study as a modest beginning which can pave the way for quite a number of studies. The investigator admits with all modesty her basic interest in the area of attitude in teaching profession, as a teacher educator, an Indian citizen and as a humanist.

Needless to say, the researcher feels satisfied, though not complacent, with this study as it sought to answer some very important questions. In the process, this study has raised many questions in our minds which will be a curtain raiser for further research, and also satisfy our thirst to find answers to other related questions.

The present study concluded that prospective teachers have average level of teaching attitude which is very disappointing and should develop their right attitude in their own profession.

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