

# EFFECT OF SOCIO-PERSONAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS ON SOCIAL MATURITY OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS

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## ABSTRACT

*Social maturity signifies mastery in social behavior in terms of human relations, social techniques and social institutions. Social maturity is a unit of key to handling social relationships with family, neighbour, relatives, and colleagues. Current study was undertaken to assess the impact of socio-personal and socio-economic factors on the social maturity of adolescent girls in rural and urban areas. The study was conducted in Bareilly district of Uttar Pradesh. The objective of study was assessing the social maturity of girls. The total sample size was 120 in this, 60 are rural girls and 60 are urban girls. The study indicates that father occupation matters a lot in social maturity of adolescent girls both in rural and urban areas. Highly educated mothers and high caste have made positive and significant influence on social maturity score of the adolescent girls in rural areas. However, there are several other variables besides the variables under study which make influence on social maturity of adolescent girls in rural and urban areas.*

**Keywords:** *Social maturity, adolescents, rural and urban girls.*

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## INTRODUCTION:

Adolescence is a transforming period of human development during which rapid biological, psychological and social changes take place. This period marks the end of childhood and sets the foundation for maturity. Adolescence is a stage of development in which all kind of changes take place. This stage is the creation of a person. The outline of the adult life of a child is prepared in this stage. In fact, rural and urban area has several changes. However, rural area has provides more scope for social maturation. But urban area have play major role to development of mental maturity so early social maturity may occurred in urban area rather than rural area.

Adolescence begins after the end of childhood. Adolescence is called the treaty period of childhood and maturity. Adolescence begins at the end of childhood, that is, at the age of thirteen. Adolescence is also called the state of hurricanes of emotions. In adolescence, children experience conflict in values, ideals and emotions. Adolescence is that period of every person's life. This occurs at the end of childhood and ends at the beginning of adulthood. In other words the critical period between childhood and adulthood is called adolescence. Hormones in boys and girls from childhood to adolescence undergo psychological, social, and physical changes due to hormones. This time is around puberty. During this time, the adolescent develops social abilities and behavior. Also, the brain of teenagers also grows towards maturity. According to the World Health Organization, these changes persist for about 10 to 19 years. Changes in boys and girls during adolescence often become a matter of concern for parents. Some important steps in this period are:

➤ **Early stage of adolescence (between the ages of 10 and 13)**

During this phase, boys and girls develop rapidly. Many types of changes are seen in the body. These changes include hair growth near the underarms and genitals, breast development in girls and testicles in boys. It is believed that this change starts in girls one to two years earlier than boys. During this period, many girls also start their

menstrual cycle. At the same time, the onset of puberty can be a difficult time for transgender children. Some children may also question their gender identity at this time.

➤ **Middle stage of adolescence (between the ages of 14 to 17)**

During this time, the development of most boys starts rapidly and pubertal changes also continue, such as changes in voice and pimples. At the same time, physical changes in girls are almost complete and menstruation of most girls also becomes regular. At this age, many teenagers start taking interest in romance and physical relationships. At the same time, teenagers start arguing and reasoning with parents, because they do not want to spend time with friends more than family and live in restrictions. With all these the boy and girl's brain development continues.

➤ **Last stage of adolescence (between 18 and 21 years of age)**

Physical development is usually completed by the late stages of adolescence. The teenagers in the final stages of adulthood begin to understand their personality and their importance. They decide only on the basis of their ideals, with a focus on their future. Relationships like friendship and love become stable in this period. Some boys and girls are emotionally and physically separated from their family. However, many reestablish a new relationship with their parents.

In adolescence, there is often a change in the behavior of your children with good temperament, who accept and understand your words. Yes, because it is like that. During this time children are undergoing psychological changes. Changes such as anger and rebellion can be seen in your children due to psychological changes. This phase of development brings something new for boys and girls both they are :

**Physical changes in boys during adolescence**

Like girls, boys also undergo physical changes during adolescence, which are as follows:

1. From the age of 12, armpit, legs, chest and facial hair also start growing.
2. The testicles of boys begin to enlarge and the penis also develops.
3. The boys' voices also begin to change.
4. Nothing like sudden onset of puberty in boys, like the onset of menstruation in girls, but the onset of puberty is considered to be nightfall and dream defects in boys.
5. Nightfall usually starts between the ages of 13 and 17 years.
6. By the age of 17 or 18, the genitals of boys also develop completely.
7. Boys develop at a fast pace around the age of 13 and it slows down by the time they reach 18.
8. As the height of boys increases, their chest and shoulders also become wide.
9. During this time the boys grow 10–30 cm. This process stops after about 18–20 years.
10. It is common for boys to have mild development in their breasts. If they look normal, do not panic, their development stops after a while.
11. During this time, the production of testosterone (sex hormones) in the youth begins to increase, which produces sperm (sperm).

**Physical changes during adolescence in girls:**

1. Rapid changes occur during adolescence in girls. The changes in their body at this stage are as follows:
2. Girls' breasts begin to develop. It is a sign that puberty is beginning.
3. Between 12 and 18 years, girls' breasts are fully developed.
4. Both the left and right breasts may develop in different sizes.
5. It is considered good to use a soft crop top or sports bra during this time.
6. Girls are tall during this period and some parts of their body — such as hands, head, and face — can grow faster than other organs.
7. After 16–17 years of age, the girls stop growing.
8. During this time the hair of the genitals also starts growing.

**Physical changes during Adolescence:**

Psychological changes are associated with hormonal and neuro-developmental changes, leading to social and emotional changes.

1. Along with this, there is an increase in intellectual ability.
2. During this period, logical and moral thinking is strengthened in teenagers.
3. They start being rational.
4. Normal thinking changes.
5. Be able to make rational decisions.

#### **Emotional changes in Adolescence :**

Due to the changes in hormones, the youth undergo many emotional changes.

1. Mood swing
2. Privacy demand
3. Future concern
4. Flow in the clouds of imaginative hope
5. Getting tense due to relationships with friends and parental and school expectations.

Maturity means the ability of the environment to respond appropriately. Maturity also knows the right time and place to behave and know according to the circumstances and culture of the society in which the person lives.

Social maturity is the ability to act in a reasonably responsible manner. Adolescence is the age for a person to express mature behavior. Social maturity is an essential aspect for the individual as well as the society. A socially mature adult shows some important characteristics. He is able to successfully adapt himself to his peers and make himself a partner. This includes forms of behavior such as group compatibility, kindness and empathy, fair play emotional adjustment, etiquette and politics, dependability, confidence, cooperation, leadership, and cheerfulness.

A socially mature person should be able to make decisions, make decisions and take appropriate action in facing problems and important issues. He should be able to participate in cooperative activities without conflict with others. He is able to take responsibility for his actions and make and keep a large number of friends. He has a balanced and objective estimate of himself and can take himself into different roles according to the demands of different circumstances. He identifies the interests of the group and benefits the group for his own benefit.

When a person voluntarily participates in social events, social and efforts. The person is determined or conducts limited social restrictions without any mental tension conflict or discontent, then it is understood that social maturity has developed within him; such a person spends his time, labor or money on social occasion. They also feel satisfied and happy, due to social maturity; the person is able to easily accept social efforts and paradigms and is successful in establishing the social adjustment. Social maturity is considered to be the climax and supreme characteristic of social development, but is such a view one person may be different from the other, social maturity is found more in introverted persons than in introverted persons. Hence social qualities develop to a greater extent within such individuals.

#### **METHODOLOGY:**

The questionnaires were used for the research study distributed among the students. The Interview schedule was prepared to know family profile of the sample social maturity scale was used to know social maturity score of rural and urban adolescent girls. Sample comprised 60 rural and 60 urban adolescent girls in the age group of 12-18 years. The research personally distributed booklets of Dr Nalini Rao's social maturity scale to sample, collected and then statistically analyzed it by applying multiple regression and.

#### **RESULT AND DISCUSSION:**

**TABLE: EFFECT OF SOCIO-PERSONAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS ON SOCIAL MATURITY OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS IN URBAN AREAS.**

S. No	Name of variable	Regression coefficient	Standard error	Intercept	R <sup>2</sup> (%)
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1.	Age	4.3837	5.8047	184.0889	36.23
2.	Education	3.3346	5.0632		
3.	Caste	1.2565	3.1544		
4.	Family type	0.8862	6.0319		
5.	Family size	0.1259	1.9165		
6.	Father's education	0.6591	2.4565		
7.	Mother' education	0.7092	1.4867		
8.	Father's occupation	5.554*	2.8206		
9.	Mother's occupation	3.5561 <sup>+</sup>	2.4619		
10.	Family income	0.006	0.0007		

\*Significant at P &lt; 0.05

+ Significant at P &lt; 0.10

The results of multiple regression analysis in urban area is presented in table. In this case, all the variables under study were positive effect on social maturity but two variables viz, father's occupation and mother's occupation have made statistically significant impact on social maturity of adolescent girls in urban areas. The value of was relatively low in this case, i.e., 36.23 per cent.

### CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION:

Social maturity is the result of social development of an individual. From birth itself, the child gradually begins to accept the ideal customs, traditions and other characteristics of the society in which he lives. In simple words, socialization of the child is called ingestion. As a result of socialization, the child brings the culture of the society into his life. Bringing the culture of the society to life and behaving socially according to the culture is called social maturity. The results revealed that father occupation matters a lot in social maturity of adolescent girls both in rural and urban areas. Highly educated mothers and high caste have made positive and significant influence on social maturity score of the adolescent girls in rural areas. However, there are several other variables besides the variables under study which make influence on social maturity of adolescent girls in rural and urban areas as indicated by value of R<sup>2</sup> Lata and Chhikara (1995) revealed that socio-economic factors such as occupation of parents and family income were significantly associated with adoptive behaviors of children. The study has implications for students, parents, teachers and policy makers.

Many facts have an impact on social maturity. Among all these elements is the wisdom of the child. It has been found from many studies that the adolescents who have more intelligence, not only understand the social values quickly but also quickly adopt them. It is because of intelligence that adolescents gives social value to behavior. Apart from intelligence, another element is the family which plays an important role towards social maturity. The family is the first school for socialization. Staying in the family, the child receives the first lesson of social customs, customs, practices and four steps. Family characters create the character of a child. The food and diet of the family affect the food and behavior of Bihar Walla. This further love given by the family to the child definitely has an impact on the socialization of the child. Friend circles and schools also affect social maturity. The socialization of the kind of friends will be the same. Through simulation, the child learns the behavior of ghosts from his friends. Similarly, the characteristics of the school affect the socialization of the child. All the things affect the social development of the child, the school's fellow students, the socialization environment, tradition etc. of the school. Social maturity generally increases in the same order as age increases. But this does not mean that every older person is socially mature. Many such individuals are found in society who behaves socially like young children. The age of a normal person increases with age, social maturity goes on increasing, but due to intelligence, family characteristics, friends circle etc., some people achieve social maturity quickly.

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