



"THE SOCIAL VALUE AMONG WOMEN OF DIFFERENT SOCIAL CLASSES AND AGE GROUPS IN INDIA."

Dr. Annapurna Gupta

Assistant Professor, Anand Engineering College Agra.

ABSTRACT

The present research was undertaken to investigate the differences in social classes and age groups in their social value. The sample consisted of 300 women from Kanpur City. Random sampling technique was used for selection of the subjects. Personal value questionnaire by Dr. G.P. Sharry was used for data collection for social value only. Results revealed that there were significant differences among women of three different social classes (GEN, OBC & SC/ST) and women of four different age groups.(20-25 yrs., 30- 35 yrs.,. 40-55 yrs., 50-55 yrs.) in their level of social value independently as well as jointly.

Values play the most prominent role in the life of an individual they encompass the entire region of human endeavor whether it concerns feeling, willing and doing. Value system is more or less internally consistent and determines behavior and that a change in any part of the system will affect other connected parts and lead to behavioral change.

*Values may be defined in common term as if "conception of the desirable" **Spranger (1928)** describes value as basic interest or motives in the personality of an individual, **T. Parson Shills (1952)** referred values as is moral preferences a value is not just a preference but it is a preference which is felt or considered to be justified morally or by reasoning or by aesthetic judgment usually by two or all three.*

Tolman (1952) states that cultures have value standards, cognitive appreciations or morals which are acquired by the actor living in these cultures.

Review of literature has highlighted the role of some significant determinant of values such as age, sex, culture, education, etc. Some important findings about these determinants are as follows:-

Pandey (1976) reported that theoretical political and economic values are higher among supernormal adolescents, while social is higher among normal.

Persons and Mary (1997) examined that man engaged more frequently in exercise women engaged more frequently in relaxation and health promoting behaviours women valued health more than men.

Although a vast amount of literature is available on the values affected by different factors, however, no study is available on the differences in the level of social value among women of different social classes (i.e. General, Backward & SC/ST) and different age groups i.e. (20-25 yrs., 30-35 yrs., 40-45 yrs., 50-55 yrs.) altogether. As such present research work is an attempt to study differences in social value among women of different social classes and different age groups.

Method

The approach of the present setting (study) is Quasi-Experimental with Factorial Design. The two independent variables are social class and age group demographic and organismic variables respectively. These values of Iv have been manipulated through selection. Social Class assumes three values- GEN, OBC & SC/ST. While age group assumes four values (20-25 yrs., 30-35 yrs., 40-45 yrs., 50-55 yrs). The social value is the dependent variable.

The variables controlled in the study are sex. Education urban style of living (Subject Relevant Variables) non-working status, Place (home) time of testing (leisure time) testers effect and fatigue (Situational Relevant variables) and instructions and sequence of tests (Sequence Relevant Variables).

On the basis of review it has been hypothesized that there will be a difference in social value of women of different social classes and age groups independently as well as jointly

Sample- A sample of 300 women has been selected. The elements of target population are women of three different social classes and four different age groups of Kanpur City.

The sample includes 100 females of each of the three different social classes. 75 women have been selected in each of the four age groups, being 25 of each social class in each group.

The Sample Paradigm

Social Class

AGE GROUP	General	Backward	SC/ST	Total
20-25 yrs	25	25	25	75
30-35 yrs	25	25	25	75
40-45 yrs	25	25	25	75
50-55 yrs	25	25	25	75
Total	100	100	100	100

The tools of the study included: (1) Personal Data Sheet (2) Dr: Mrs. G.P. Sharry's personal value questionnaire for social value only.

Having selected the sample the researcher asked the elements of sample to give some valuable time of theirs to collect the data for research work. Firstly they were given to fulfill personal data sheet then G.P. Sharry's personal values questionnaire for social value. They were assured of confidentiality anonymity and secrecy of the information given by them.

RESULTS INTERPRETATION

Two-way analysis of variance has been applied to find out the differences in social value among social classes and age groups independently as well as jointly. To see the trend of values among social classes as well as among age groups, their mean differences have been plotted in matrices. Their significance has been checked against critical differences at .05 and .01 levels. Significances at .05 and .01 levels have been given weightage of 1 & 2 respectively, to be added as scores which are the basis of hierarchy among groups.

TABLE NO. 2 (a) MEANS: SOCIAL VALUE**SOCIAL CLASS**

AGE GROUP	GEN	O B C	SC/ST	AGE MEAN
20-25 yrs	10.88	11.20	10.76	10.947
30-35 yrs	9.72	9.96	10.04	9.907
40-45 yrs	11.16	14.24	10.56	11.987
50-55 yrs	11.64	12.80	11.88	12.107
CLASS MEAN	10.85	12.05	10.81.	-

TABLE NO. 2(h) ANOVA SOCIAL VALUE

Source	Ss	Df	Mss	F.Ratio
Tss	2476.20	299		
Oss	455.56	11		
Wss	2020.64	288	7.016	
Ass (class)	99.31	2	49.65	7.08***
Bss (age)	237.93	3	79.31	11.30***
ABss	118.32	6	19.72	2.81**

Details of significant results- The perusal of table no. 2(b). reveals that F. ratio (7.08) for factor A (class) is significant at .001 level of significance. It denotes that there are significant differences in women of different social classes (GEN, OBC & SC/ST) in their social value **Matrix no. 2(a) Mean differences among social classes.**

MEAN	SOCIAL CLASS	GEN	OBC	SC/ST
10.85	GEN	X	1.20**	
12.05	OBC		X	
10.81	SC/ST	.04	1.24**	X

Cri. diff. at .05= . 739

Cri. diff. at .01=. 975

The order: **OBC >GEN >SC/ST**

Matrix no. 2(a) indicates that the OBC class women have significantly greater social value than GEN & SC/ST classes, while difference between GEN & SC/ST class is insignificant.

The perusal of the Table no. 2(b) shows that F. ratio (11.30) for factor B is significant at .01 level of significance. It depicts that there are significant differences among women of four different age groups (20-25 yrs. 30-35 yrs. 40-45 yrs & 50-55 yrs) in their degree of social value.

Matrix no. 2(b) Mean differences among age groups.

Mean	Age group	20-25 yrs	30-35 yrs	40-45 yrs	50-55 yrs
10.95	20-25 yrs	X		1.04*	1.16**
9.91	30-35 yrs	1.04*	X	2.08**	2.20**
11.99	40-45 yrs			X	.12
12.11	50-55 yrs				X

Cri. diff. at .05= . 839

Cri. Diff. at .01=1.107

The order: 50-55 yrs >40-45 yrs >20-25 yrs >30-35 yrs

Matrix no. 2(b) reveals that younger & early adult age groups women have significantly lower social value than their counterparts. While difference between late adult & older age group is not significant. Thus it is obvious that with advancement in age social value increases.

Interaction - Table no. 2(b) indicates that F. ratio (2.81) for factor AB (class & age) is significant at .01 level of significance. Thus it means that the level of social value has been jointly affected by social classes and age groups. It can be clearly shown in the following manner (see Table no. 1(a)). The hierarchy of the levels_ of one factor in relation to the levels of the other factor is as follows -

<p>At the levels of social class : Age Group</p> <p>G: 4>3>1 >2</p> <p>B:3>4>1 >2</p> <p>S: 4 > 1 >3 >2</p>	<p>At the levels of age group : Social Class</p> <p>1: B >G >S</p> <p>2: S >B >G</p> <p>3: B >G >S</p> <p>4: B >S >G</p>
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The joint effect of social classes & age groups on social value is apparent & significant, which can be discussed in the following way at the levels of GEN & SC/ST classes, women of older age groups and at the level of OBC class, women of late adult age group have more social value than their counterparts.

So far as age groups are concerned, at the level of younger, late adult and older age groups. women of (O)BC class and at the level of early adult age group women of SC/ST class have more social value than their counterparts.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

In the present investigation it has been found that differences in social class and age among women affect social value independently as well as jointly

On comparing the social classes it has been found that woman of OBC class have more social value than their counter parts.

On comparing the levels or age groups it has been found that older age groups women have more social value than their counterparts. Thus it may be said that it is their life experience that makes their orientation to social value and to realize the importance of helping others and being with others.

It can be understood with the help of James and Skinnerian theory of values. Both theories are supplementary to each other. So far as social value is concerned, women of OBC class and women or older age groups are reflecting their wants, needs and mental make-up toward charity, kindness, love and sympathy for the people as James considered because they get mental peace and satisfaction and pleasure in such activities which is positive reinforcement as skinner admitted.

In the present study the joint effect of social class and age has been found. At the level of GEN and SC/ST class Women of older age group while at the level of OBC class, women of late adult age group have more social value than then counterparts.

So far as group are concerned, at the level of younger, late adult and older group, women of OBC class and at the level of early adult group while women of SC/ST class have more social value than their counterparts

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