

Guidance needs of Rural and Urban Adolescents- A comparative study

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ARTICLE DETAILS

Article History

Published Online: 05 July 2018

Keywords

adolescents, boys, girls, guidance needs, rural, urban

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ABSTRACT

The aim of the present study was to compare and assess the guidance needs of urban and rural adolescents. The objectives of the study were - to assess and compare the guidance needs of urban and rural adolescents in physical, social, psychological, educational and vocational areas. A total sample of 240 adolescent boys and girls in the age range between 14 to 15 years were selected at random from different academic institutions of Bangalore urban and rural district through a survey. The standardized tool Guidance Need Inventory developed by Dr. J. S. Grewal was used to elicit the data. The collected data was analyzed by using number, percentage and chi square test. The results indicated that the adolescents residing both in urban and rural areas have high need of overall guidance and also in physical, social, psychological, educational and vocational aspects. The rural adolescents have higher need of guidance in physical, social, psychological, educational and vocational aspects than the urban adolescents.

1. Introduction

The World Health Organization (WHO 2011) refers an adolescent as 'an individual in the 10-19 years of age group'. It is a transitional period of life in which the individual experiences a number of changes in all the domains. It is the important period of life span in which an individual searches identity in personal, social and occupational spheres. This period entails major, interrelated changes in all realms of development (Papalia, 2004). This stage of life is considered as a period which begins in biology and ends in society (Santrock 2007). Hence adolescents are expected to live in as per the expectations of the society. In this critical journey of becoming the able adult members of the society the adolescents encounter many developmental and behavioral challenges.

Adolescents in the present day context are living in a world which is very complex and competitive for them. They not only are facing serious challenges related to their academics but also the interpersonal and intrapersonal relationships as well. These problems usually affect adolescents' personal, social, and academic developments. This in turn will have a great effect on the later development and efficiency of adolescents as responsible citizen. To overcome these challenges of this important transition period, adolescents need guidance from the significant adults in their life, so that they face these challenges effectively. Guidance helps them to navigate the problems in a effective manner.

Guidance is the need based systematic professional process of helping an individual through education and interpretative procedures to gain a better understanding of the characteristics and potentialities and to relate oneself more satisfactorily to social requirements and opportunities in accord with social and moral values. Guidance means guiding the adolescents in physical, social psychological, educational and

vocational areas. Manjot et, al (2013) reported that the adolescents need guidance in physical, social, psychological, educational and vocational areas. Deepthi and Kaur (2012), Suresh Prabu(2015) and Souza and Gururaj (2008) also opined that both adolescent boys and girls need high level of guidance. Hence the present study was taken up to assess the guidance needs of urban and rural adolescent boys and girls.

2. Methodology

Aim:

- To assess and compare the guidance needs of urban and rural adolescents.

Objectives:

- To assess the level of guidance required by the urban and rural adolescents.
- To compare the guidance needs of urban and rural adolescents in physical, social psychological educational and vocational areas.

Procedure:

A total of 240 adolescents in the age range of 14-15 years were selected through a survey for the study. One hundred and twenty adolescents from Bangalore Urban (boys=60, girls=60) and 120 adolescents from Bangalore rural district (boys=60, girls=60) were selected. To assess the guidance needs, the standardized tool; Guidance Needs Inventory developed by J.S. Grewal was used. The tool was translated to local language - Kannada for the better understanding of the rural adolescents. The demographic details were collected by using a self structured basic data sheet. The data was compiled, tabulated and analyzed by using number, percentage and chi square test.

3. Results and Discussion

Demographic details of the respondents:

Majority of the respondents were in the age group of 14 to 15 years and were studying in 8th and 9th standard. Most of the

urban respondents had one sibling and rural respondents had two siblings and they belonged to nuclear families.. The family income of respondents ranged between Rs.10, 000 -19,000 per month.

Table 1: Need of overall guidance among adolescents

Level of Guidance	Respondents						X ² Test
	Urban		Rural		Combined		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Low	46	38.4	1	0.8	47	19.6	99.66*
Average	31	25.8	3	2.5	34	14.2	
High	43	35.8	116	96.7	159	66.2	
Total	120	100.0	120	100.0	240	100.0	

*Significant at 5% Level,

$\chi^2 (0.05, 2df) = 5.991$

The need of overall guidance required by the urban and rural adolescents is depicted in Table-1 (Fig.1). When the respondents' guidance needs were assessed irrespective of their place of stay it was observed that majority of the adolescents (combined=66.2%) indicated high need of guidance. The data further reveals that higher percentage of the urban (38.4%) adolescents need low level of guidance and 25.8% of them require average level of guidance. It was further observed that 35.8% of them require high need of guidance. The guidance need of rural adolescents was vice-a-versa when compared to their urban counter parts, where it was noticed that

majority of them (96.7%) indicated that they require high level of guidance and only 2.5% of them required average level of guidance. About less than one percent of them indicated low need of guidance. This difference in the need of guidance between urban and rural adolescents was also found to be statistically significant at 5% level (Chi square value = 99.66*) which indicated that the rural adolescents need high level of overall guidance. The findings are thus in association with Manjot et,al., (2013) where it was reported that the rural adolescents need high level of guidance in various areas.

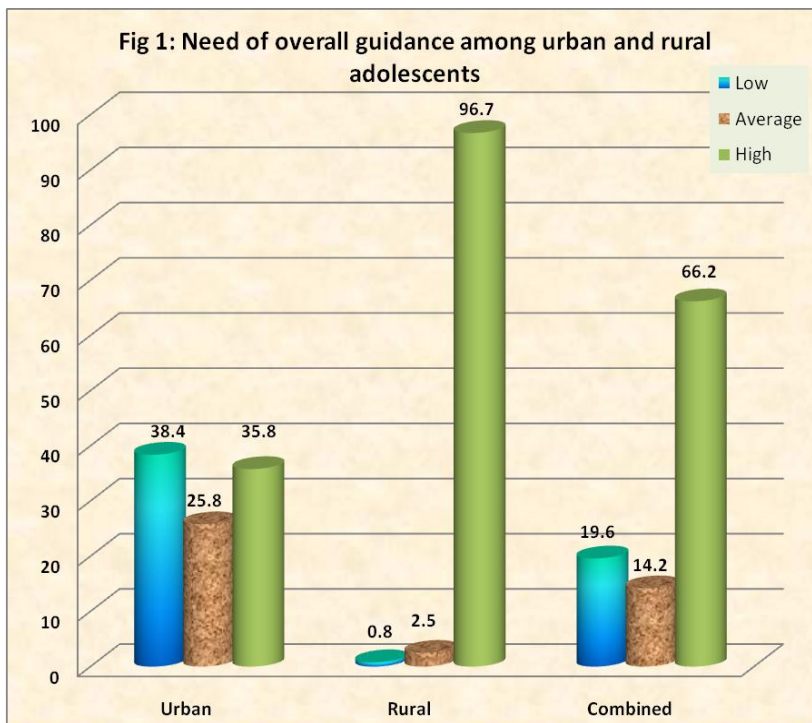


Table 2: Need of physical guidance among respondents

Level of Guidance	Respondents						X ² Test
	Urban		Rural		Combined		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Low	25	20.8	0	0.0	25	10.4	73.42*
Average	78	65.0	43	35.8	121	50.4	
High	17	14.2	77	64.2	94	39.2	
Total	120	100.0	120	100.0	240	100.0	

*Significant at 5% Level,

$\chi^2 (0.05, 2df) = 5.991$

The need of physical guidance among urban and rural respondents is depicted in Table 2. It was observed that a higher percentage (65%) of the urban respondents indicated average need of physical guidance and 14.2% of them indicated high need of physical guidance. About 20.8% of them indicated low need of physical guidance. With regard to the rural respondents it was found that majority (64.2%) of them indicated high need of physical guidance and 35.8% of them indicated average need of physical guidance. It was further

observed that when the guidance needs of adolescents were assessed irrespective of their place of stay, the adolescents indicated average need of physical guidance (Combined=50.4%). The difference between the need of physical guidance between the urban and rural respondents was found to be significant at 5% level (Chi square value=73.42*). The results thus infer that the rural adolescents have a high need of physical and guidance than the urban adolescents who have the average need of physical guidance.

Table 3: Need of social guidance among adolescents

Level I Guidance	Respondents						X ² Test
	Urban		Rural		Combined		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Low	37	30.8	1	0.8	38	15.8	82.31*
Average	70	58.3	45	37.5	115	47.9	
High	13	10.9	74	61.7	87	36.3	
Total	120	100.0	120	100.0	240	100.0	

*Significant at 5% Level

$\chi^2 (0.05, 2df) = 5.991$

Guidance needs of urban and rural respondents in social aspect are depicted in Table 3. It was observed that a higher percentage (58.3%) of the urban adolescents indicated average need of social guidance and 30.8% of them indicated low need of social guidance. About 10.9% of them indicated low need of social guidance. With regard to the rural respondents it was found that majority (61.7%) of them indicated high need and 37.5% of them indicated average need of social guidance. About less than one percent of them indicated low need of social guidance. It was further observed that when the

guidance needs of adolescents were assessed irrespective of their place of stay, higher percentage of the adolescents (combined=47.9%) indicated average need of social guidance. The difference between the need for social guidance among the rural and urban adolescents was found to be significant at 5% level (Chi square value = 82.31*). The results thus indicate that the rural adolescents have a high need of social guidance and the urban adolescents have an average need of social guidance.

Table 4: Need of psychological guidance among adolescents

Level of Guidance	Respondents						X ² Test
	Urban		Rural		Combined		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Low	16	13.4	0	0.0	16	6.7	91.49*
Average	79	65.8	22	18.3	101	42.1	
High	25	20.8	98	81.7	123	51.2	
Total	120	100.0	120	100.0	240	100.0	

*Significant at 5% Level,

$\chi^2 (0.05, 2df) = 5.991$

Guidance needs of urban and rural adolescents in psychological aspects is depicted in Table 4. It was observed that majority (65.8%) of the urban respondents indicated average need and 20.8% of them indicated high need of psychological guidance. About 13.4% of them indicated low need of psychological guidance. With regard to the rural respondents, it was found that majority (81.7%) of them indicated high need and 18.3% of them indicated average need of psychological guidance. It was further observed that when

the guidance needs of adolescents was assessed irrespective of their place of stay that higher percentage of the respondents (combined=51.2%) had high need of psychological guidance. The difference between the need of psychological guidance was to be significant at 5% level (Chi square value = 91.49*). The results thus indicate that the rural adolescents have a high need of psychological guidance and the urban adolescents have the average need of psychological guidance.

Table 5: Need of educational guidance among adolescents

Level of Guidance	Respondents						X ² Test
	Urban		Rural		Combined		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Low	41	34.2	3	2.5	44	18.3	95.24*
Average	60	50.0	25	20.8	85	35.4	
High	19	15.8	92	76.7	111	46.3	
Total	120	100.0	120	100.0	240	100.0	

*Significant at 5% Level,

$\chi^2 (0.05, 2df) = 5.991$

The educational guidance needs of urban and a rural adolescents is presented in Table 5. A cursory glance at the results reveals that 50% of the urban adolescents indicated average need of educational guidance, 34.2% of them indicated low and 15.8% indicated high need of educational guidance. The trend was different with regard to the need of educational guidance among rural respondents. It was noticed that majority (76.7%) of the rural respondents are in the high need of educational guidance and 20.8% need average need of

educational guidance. A smaller percentage (2.5%) of them indicated the low need of guidance in educational aspects. When both the urban and rural adolescents were combined it was observed that higher percentage (46.3%) of them indicated high need of educational guidance. The difference was found to be significant at 5% level (chi-square value=95.24*). The results thus infer that the educational needs of rural adolescents are higher and educational needs of urban are average.

Table 6: Need of vocational guidance among adolescents

Level of Vocational Guidance	Respondents						χ ² Test
	Urban		Rural		Combined		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Low	41	34.2	3	2.5	38	15.8	53.83*
Average	60	50.0	46	38.3	108	45.0	
High	19	15.8	71	59.2	94	39.2	
Total	120	100.0	120	100.0	240	100.0	

*Significant at 5% Level,

χ² (0.05,2df) = 5.991

Table 6 discerns the need of vocational guidance among urban and a rural adolescents. A cursory glance at the results reveals that 51.6% of the urban adolescents indicated average need of vocational guidance, 29.2% of them indicated low and 19.2% of them indicated high need of vocational guidance. The trend was different with regard to the need of vocational guidance among rural respondents. It was noticed that majority (59.2%) of the rural adolescents are in the high need of vocational guidance and 38.3% of them are in average need of vocational guidance. A negligible percentage (2.5%) of them indicated low need. When both urban and rural adolescents were combined it was observed that majority (45%) of them indicated average need of vocational guidance. The difference between the need of vocational guidance between urban and rural adolescents was found to be significant at 5% level (chi

square value = 53.83*). The results thus indicated that, the rural adolescents need high level of vocational guidance and the urban respondents need average level of vocational guidance.

4. Conclusion

The study concludes that the adolescents residing both in urban and rural areas have high need of overall guidance. Their needs were also higher in physical, social psychological educational and vocational aspects. The rural adolescents have higher need of physical, social, psychological, educational and vocational guidance than the urban adolescents. The results highlight the need of guidance for adolescents in all the developmental areas.

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