



e-ISSN: 2319-8753 | p-ISSN: 2347-6710

IJRSET

International Journal of Innovative Research in
SCIENCE | ENGINEERING | TECHNOLOGY



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

IN SCIENCE | ENGINEERING | TECHNOLOGY

Volume 12, Issue 5, May 2023

ISSN INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD
SERIAL
NUMBER
INDIA

Impact Factor: 8.423

9940 572 462

6381 907 438

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www.ijrset.com

Mental Health of Male and Female Street Vendors

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ABSTRACT: The purpose of the study was to compare the mental health of male and female street vendors. The study was conducted on the sample of 58 people aged between 18-45 years. The sample included 29 males and 29 females. The sampling method that was used was Purposive sampling technique. The following study attempts to compare the means of overall mental health of the males and females street vendors. Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make healthy choices. There were total 7 hypotheses made and last one (H₀₇) was that there is no significant difference between the overall mental health of male and female street vendors. The findings showed that there is a significant difference in the overall mental health of male and female street vendors and hence the null hypothesis was rejected.

Keywords: Mental Health, Positive self evaluation, Realistic self perception, Integration evaluation, Autonomy, Group oriented attitude, Environment mastery.

INTRODUCTION TO MENTAL HEALTH

As important as taking care of one's body is taking care of one's mind. The ability to successfully manage one's life is dependent upon good emotional and mental wellness as part of overall health. Mental health is the capacity for emotional and spiritual toughness that helps one to enjoy life and withstand sorrow, sadness, and disappointment. It is a strong sense of wellbeing and a solid conviction in one's own dignity and worth as well as that of others.

Mental health refers to

- ❖ one's internal experience as well as the ability to control and balance their emotions.
- ❖ Self-worth and assurance.
- ❖ Accepting themselves as they are.
- ❖ Managing one's emotions and strengthening one's "bounce-back ability"

The state of one's mind has an impact on everything they do, including how they sleep, what they eat, the risks they take, and the activities they engage in for fun and relaxation.

Mental health is the psychological state of being, as well as emotional and behavioral stability; it's about the way we feel, think, and act. The absence of a mental condition is commonly meant when the phrase "mental health" is used.

Street vending concept

Street vendors are referred to as hawkers, street traders, sidewalk vendors, and other peddlers. The time or place in which they function affects the terminology used to describe them. Depending on the geography and region, they have different applications. State to state terminology as well as language to language differs. Street vendors act as distributors of goods and services at fair pricing, and buyers may evaluate the product based on their economic and social situations.

According to their location, McGee (1973) divided merchants into three categories:

- Street vendors are individuals who sell their items on the street.
- Market seller and bus hawkers are examples of merchants that sell in all sites where some people assemble, such as the markets and bus terminals.
- There are sellers who sell their items in a bazaar, which can cause congestion and obstruction.

Three different categories can be used to categorise the street vendors:

- Fixed
- Peripatetic

- Moving hawkers or mobile hawkers.

II.REVIEW OF LITERATURE

BABU V .et al (2019) has conducted a study on the topic: - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF STREET VENDORS: A STUDY WITH REFERENCE TO VISAKHAPATNAM CITY. The study looked into their issues and opportunities in the Visakhapatnam coastal area. The street vendors Bill 2013 was passed by the Indian government (Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation) in an effort to raise their level of living. In this study, the researchers assessed the challenges faced by street vendors at work and the opportunities that needed to be made available. By using easy sample, the researchers chose 110 respondents from R.K. Beach to Bheemili Beach in Visakhapatnam Corporation for their descriptive study. Data were gathered through the use of interviews. In order to safeguard their rights and conduct their street vending business, this study identifies the issues that street sellers encounter.

SALAM A. et al (2018) has conducted a study on the topic: -The Impact of Urban Culture on Street Vending: A Path Model Analysis of the General Public's Perspective. They conducted tests on a sample of 425 responses that represent Baghdad, Iraq, residents' opinions. Between September and November of 2018, these data were gathered to evaluate the measurement models' reliability as well as the importance of the complete structural model, prediction ability, and mediation analysis. They discovered that low-income consumption and resistance successively mediate the influence of urban culture on street vending, whereas resistance mediates the effect of a lack of microfinance on street selling. Resistance also mediates the effect of urban culture on street vending. The direct influence of culture on street vending is minimal, and the prevalence of street trading is positively impacted by a lack of microfinance. In addition to analysing the relationship between urban culture and street selling, this study also examined the effects of culture, consumerism, resistance, and microfinance on street vending. As a result, this study adds to the body of existing literature.

Dr Parmar C .et al (2022) had studied on the topic: - A STUDY ON "QUALITY OF LIFE OF STREET VENDORS OF VADODARA CITY" This study makes an effort to portray the living conditions and working conditions of Vadodara's street vendors. The research is exploratory in nature, and a quantitative technique is used to explain the circumstances. For this inquiry, the researchers collected data from fifty persons using a purposive sample technique. The study's conclusions cover socioeconomic characteristics, working circumstances, and their effects on the standard of living for street vendors.

III.METHODOLOGY

PURPOSE: To access the mental health of street vendors

SAMPLE: The sample comprises of 29 female and 29 males falling in the age range of 18 to 45 years of age, the sampling technique used in the present study is purposive sampling.

HYPOTHESIS:

- H01: There is no significant difference between in the Mental health of male and female street vendors
- H02 : There is no significant difference between the Positive self evaluation of male and female street vendors
- H03 : There is no significant difference between the Realistic perception of male and female street vendors
- H04: There is no significant difference between the Integration Evaluation of male and female street vendors
- H05 : There is no significant difference between the Autonomy of male and female street vendors
- H06 : There is no significant difference between the Group oriented attitude of male and female street vendors
- H07 : There is no significant difference between the Environmental mastery of male and female street vendors

VARIABLES: Mental well-being. Urban street vendors

DESIGN: The research design employs in the present study is cross-sectional study (Descriptive Research).

TOOLS:

The tool used in the present study for collecting data are:

Mental Health Inventory by Dr Jagdish and Dr A.K.Srivastav

Mental health is defined as a person's capacity to have a favourable opinion of themselves, to perceive reality, to integrate their personalities, to be autonomous, to have group-oriented attitudes, and to control their surroundings.



A 56-item Mental Health Inventory is provided which is valid, reliable and standardized test for measuring mental health. Positive self-evaluation, perception of reality, personality integration, autonomy, group-oriented attitudes, and environmental mastery are the six dimensions of the inventory's four-point response scale, which measures a person's mental health.

- Positive Self-Evaluation: This concept encompasses traits such as self-assurance, self-acceptance, self-identity, feeling deserving, awareness of one's potential, etc.
- Perception of Reality: This concept has to do with having a realistic perception of reality, being devoid of need for imagination, and having a comprehensive perspective on life.
- Integration of Personality: This trait denotes the harmony of psychic forces within the person and includes the capacity to comprehend and share the feelings of others, the capacity to focus at work, and a keen interest in a variety of pursuits.
- Autonomy: This concept entails having a consistent set of internal norms for one's behaviour and relying on one's own potential for development rather than on those of others.
- Group-oriented Attitude: This trait is linked to interpersonal skills, teamwork, and the capacity for leisure.
- Environmental Mastery: This skill involves being effective in meeting situational requirements, having the capacity to work and play, and being able to accept responsibility and modify.

Inclusion Criteria:

- Participants should be aged between 18 to 45 years
- Participants were selected on the basis of their nature of work.

Exclusion Criteria:

- Gender was no bar for the study.
- Mix samples were taken.
- Lucknow area was chosen for the collection of data.
- Participants who are psychotic to severe mental health are excluded from the study.

IV. DATA ANALYSIS/RESULTS

Table: 1 Showing the descriptive statistics of the total sample

Descriptive Statistics						
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Sum	Mean	Std. Deviation
POSITIVE SELF EVALUATION	58	20	32	1590	27.41	3.589
REALISTIC PERCEPTION	58	12	31	1229	21.19	5.555
INTEGRATION EVALUATION	58	17	45	1707	29.43	5.885
AUTONOMY	58	8	32	949	16.36	4.241
GROUP ORIENTED ATTITUDE	58	18	44	1642	28.31	5.154
ENVIRONMENT MASTERY	58	18	33	1359	23.43	3.470
TOTAL	58	114	364	8697	149.95	33.417
Valid N (listwise)	58					

Table 1 shows the sample size, minimum, maximum, sum, mean and standard deviation values of each of the subscales (Positive self evaluation, realistic perception, integration evaluation, autonomy, group oriented attitude and environmental mastery). The total sample size size 58 including both the scores of males and females in each of the sub scales. The mean value for the total sample is 149.95 and the standard deviation value is 33.417.

Table: 2 Showing the paired sample t-test of male and female sample
Paired Samples Test

		Paired Differences				t	df	Significance	
		Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference Lower Upper			One-Sided p	Two-Sided p
Pair 1	POSITIVE SELF EVALUATION (MALE) - Positive Self-evaluation (FEMALE)	.897	4.708	.874	- .894 2.687	1.025	28	.157	.314
Pair 2	REALISTIC PERCEPTION (MALE) - Realistic Perception (FEMALE)	3.690	6.949	1.290	1.046 6.333	2.859	28	.004	.008
Pair 3	INTEGRATION EVALUATION (MALE) - Integration Evaluation (FEMALE)	-.172	8.726	1.620	-3.492 3.147	-.106	28	.458	.916
Pair 4	AUTONOMY (MALE) - Autonomy (FEMALE)	1.414	5.172	.960	-.554 3.381	1.472	28	.076	.152
Pair 5	GROUP ORIENTED ATTITUDE (MALE) - Group Oriented Attitude (FEMALE)	1.034	7.258	1.348	-1.726 3.795	.768	28	.225	.449
Pair 6	ENVIRONMENT MASTERY (MALE) - Environment mastery (FEMALE)	2.310	4.782	.888	.491 4.129	2.602	28	.007	.015
Pair 7	TOTAL (MALE) - TOTAL (FEMALE)	9.172	23.141	4.297	.370 17.975	2.135	28	.021	.042

Table 2

shows the major findings of the study. It shows the t value of each of the pair of subscales (Positive self evaluation, realistic perception, integration evaluation, autonomy, group oriented attitude and environmental mastery) of Mental health inventory (MHI). The t value for the pair 7 i.e. Total scores of male and female street vendors is 2.135 which means that the overall mental health of male and female is significantly different. Hence the null hypothesis (H0) for the pair 7 is rejected.

V.DISCUSSION

Based on the findings, it shows that there is no significant difference between Positive self evaluation of males and females. Hence the null hypothesis for the pair 1 is accepted. Another findings show that there is a significant difference between Realistic perception of males and females. Hence the null hypothesis for the pair 2 is rejected. According to the results there is no significant difference between Integration evaluation of males and females. Hence the null hypothesis for the pair 3 is accepted. There is significant difference between Autonomy of males and females. Thus the null hypothesis for the pair 4 is rejected. There is no significant difference between the group oriented attitude of male and female street vendors. Thus the null hypothesis for the pair 5 is accepted. There is a significant difference between the Environmental mastery of male and female street vendors. Thus the null hypothesis for the pair 6 is rejected. There is a significant difference between the mental health of male and female street vendors. Hence the null hypothesis for the pair 7 is rejected.

VI.CONCLUSION

The research was conducted in order to compare the overall mental health of male and female street vendors. The participants were selected through Purposive sampling method aged between 18-45 years. Based on the results it was found that there is a significant difference between the overall mental health of male and female street vendors. The null hypothesis was rejected in the case of overall mental health of male and female street vendors. But based on the findings there was no significant difference in the positive self evaluation, integration evaluation and group oriented attitude of male and female street vendors whereas there was significant difference in the Realistic perception, Autonomy and Environmental mastery of male and female street vendors. So based on the findings it could be said that how male deals with the situation is different from female street vendors. The findings of the study can become the base for the future studies conducted for street vendors.

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Impact Factor: 8.423



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