



A COMPARISON OF SELF CONCEPT BETWEEN TOTAL BLIND AND PARTIAL BLIND CHILDREN

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Abstract

The purpose of the study was to find out the difference between the psychological makeup of the children suffering with different degree of disability in vision, which affects their self conceptualization. For achieving the purpose of the study; data was collected on total 100 male blind (n=50) and partial blind (n=50) boys in the age group of 12 to 15 years from different rehabilitative centers (Institutes). The subjects were tested with (CSCS) Children Self concept Scale-The way I feel about myself by Dr. S.P. Ahluwalia. To compare self concept of blind and partial blind boys mean, standard deviation and unpaired t-test was employed with the help of statistical package of SPSS. To test the hypothesis the significance level was set at 0.05 percent. The result showed them to have equal self concept.

Key Words: Self Concept, Disability and Partial Blind.

Introduction

The children with disability are no longer considered as stigma. The outlook towards them has got transformation and the concept and assumptions about them are changing day by day. These special children are gaining attention and various curriculums are developed for their mainstreaming into the society.

The vision disability includes disability for total blindness or partially blindness mainly due to genetical or medical problems. The degree of disability effects the normal development of individual intellectually, socially, emotionally and physically. Thus, these special children are educated using special methodology, instructional medium, learning aids and equipment's specific to their special needs so that self-concept stays intact. Self concept is the sum of total of the belief we each have about oneself. It acts as a motivational force in maintaining mental health and influencing the learning process. It further acts as means of understanding and predicting behavior. The types of behavior depends upon what one feels is capable of and appropriate to this need self concept personifies the individual as a whole and express his needs. The individual with visual impairments determines his or her acceptance in society and thus the researcher investigated the level of self concept between total blind and partial blind children.

Methodology

The present research was entitled as "Comparison of Self-Concept between total blind and partial blind children". For achieving the purpose of the study; data was collected on total 100 male blind (n=50) and partial blind (n=50) boys in the age group of 12 to 15 years from different rehabilitative centers (Institutes). The subjects were tested with



(CSCS) Children Self concept Scale-The way I feel about myself by Dr. S.P. Ahluwalia .All the questionnaire was converted into “Braille”. To compare self concept of blind and partial blind boys mean, standard deviation and unpaired t-test was employed with the help of statistical package of SPSS. To test the hypothesis the significance level was set at 0.05 percent.

RESULT AND FINDING

TABLE NO. 1
DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS OF SELF-CONCEPT BETWEEN
TOTAL BLIND AND PARTIAL BLIND BOYS.

Group	Mean	SD	SEM
Blind	57.76	5.98	0.85
Partial Blind	55.80	6.44	0.91

TABLE No. 2
F AND T-TABLE TO TEST (EQUALITY OF VARIANCE) &
(EQUALITY OF MEANS) OF SELF-CONCEPT AMONG TOTAL
BLIND AND PARTIAL BLIND BOYS.

Variable	Levene's Test of Equality of Variance		t-test of Equality of Means				
	F	Sig	t	df	Sig. (2tailed)	MD	SED
Self-Concept							
Equal Variance assumed	0.109	.742	1.58	98	0.118	1.96	1.24
Equal Variance not assumed			1.58	97.48	0.118	1.96	1.24

TABLE No. 3
T-TABLE OF SELF-CONCEPT DATA WITH F-VALUE

Group	Mean	MD	SE of MD	t-value	P-value	F-value	P-value
Blind	57.76	1.96	1.24	1.58	0.12	0.11	0.74
Partial Blind	55.80						

The value of the mean standard deviation and standard error of the mean for the blind and partial blind as given in the table 1. The mean self concept of the Blind is larger than that of Partial blind. However, whether this difference is significant or not has to be tested by using the two sample t-test for the unrelated groups.

One of the conditions for using the two sample t-ratio for unrelated groups is that the variance of two groups must be equal. To test the equality of variances Levene's test was used in the table 2. F value is .109 which is significant as the P value is .742 which is more than 0.05. Thus the null hypothesis of equality of variance may be accepted and it is concluded that the variance of the two groups are equal. It can be seen from the table 2 that the value of t-statistics is 1.576. This t-value is in significance as the P value is .118 which is more than 0.05. Thus, the null hypothesis of equality of population means of two groups is accepted and it may be concluded that self concept of Blind and Partial blind are equal. In this study only two tail test was used. Therefore only conclusion which can be drawn is that the self concept of both groups are equal and no further conclusion can be drawn about the larger group mean.

In using one tail test the value of t (1.576) should be compared with tabulated to 0.5 ($n_1 + n_2 - 2$) for one tail hypothesis. Here $n_1 = 50$ and $n_2 = 50$. Therefore for one tail hypothesis the value of $t_{0.05} (98) = 1.660$ since calculated value of $t = 1.576$ is lower than the tabulated value of $t = 1.660$. H_0 may be accepted and it may be concluded that self concept of the Blind and Partial Blind are equal.

Discussion

The findings of the study have shown the vision affected completely blind children to be more outgoing in nature than partially blind. The reason behind it can be the acclimatization they develop with their disability and environment. The level of intelligence were found to higher in complete blind than partially blind children.



The blind children were more affected by their feelings as they get upset easily while partially blind were averagely stable as they are able to relate with outside surroundings therefore are demanding and impatient. The blind subjects were phlegmatic and inactive. This disability in them also makes them obedient and sober as they cannot expand their horizon much.

The partially blind children connects more with other groups so are more responsible and rule bound while the blind did not feel much of the obligations and evade rules. They are zestful and prefer to be with the group. They being serene and confident enjoy group activity and are group dependent. The slight vision in partially blind also makes them averagely self-sufficient. The nature of disability makes complete blind careless of protocol as they follow their own urges and are relaxed in nature.

The findings pertaining to self concept factors in partial blind children suggest them to be uniform in behavior, low on intellectual and school status, least conscious about their appearance and attributes and also has lesser level of anxiety levels. Complete blind children gain more popularity than partial blind which can either be due to some in born talent like singing or out of sympathy from able groups. Both blind and partial blind remain contented and satisfied in their setup and develops happiness and satisfaction. Similarly the study conducted by Parmenter on "Self concept development of Partially Seeing" and concluded that no significant difference in self concept development of partial blind and normal children was observed when both groups were given equal opportunities for academic progress and feeling of achievement through an integration programme. In the present study too the overall impact of sub

factors of self concept among both blind and partial blind collectively shows them equal on self concept.

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