

A comprehensive study on the level of altruistic personality of young adults

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ABSTRACT

Being altruistic is one of the basic human traits but not exhibited by all, it has the capacity to transform the life of the people. The study aimed to find the level of altruism in the participants and also, gender differences exist in the research variables. The participants consisted of 70 male and female undergraduate College students. The study reveals differences based on gender on altruism.

Keywords: altruism, positive psychology, happiness, helping strangers

Analysis of altruistic personality of individuals

Altruism is the unselfish concern for alternative folks—doing things merely out of a need to assist, not as a result of you feeling you are supposed to, out of duty, loyalty, or non secular reasons. It involves acting out of concern for the well-being of other people. In some cases, these acts of selflessness lead people to jeopardize themselves to help others. Such behaviors are typically performed unselfishly and with no expectations of reward. Alternative instances, referred to as reciprocal altruism, involve taking actions to help others with the expectation that they're going to supply help in return.

What is the position of altruism in human life? To solve this query, it's far more important first to realize whether or not altruism—a choice to advantage a person else for their sake instead of one's personal—even exists in human beings. The lifestyles of altruism have been debated, regularly hotly, for centuries. One motive for the heated debate is if altruism exists, it has profound implications. Its lifestyle speaks no longer best to how we ought to direct our energies, however additionally to an essential query about human nature: Is the entirety we human beings do,

regardless of how noble and apparently selfless, definitely directed in the direction of reaping rewards ourselves? Those who cautiously contemplate the human circumstance regularly finish that self-hobby underlies all our actions. The clever and witty Duke de los angeles Rochefoucauld did: "The maximum disinterested love is, after all, however a form of bargain, wherein the pricey love of our personal selves continually proposes to be the gainer a few manner or other". Many philosophers and scientists, each earlier than and on the grounds that have reached comparable conclusions. If they may be right, then it's far critical that we apprehend this truth approximately human nature, lest fanciful goals of altruism seduce us into counterproductive sentimentality and doomed efforts at social reform. But there may be a motive to assume that they may now no longer be right. I want to make a case that altruism does exist in human beings. The case consists of outlining a concept of altruistic motivation, reviewing proof acquired from direct exams of the primary guideline of the concept, reviewing proof applicable to associated issues, and thinking about the results of the concept at each a conceptual and a sensible level. I want to make a case that altruism exists; however I additionally want to offer proof that altruism is a critical pressure in human affairs. Indeed, the proof shows that altruism is a way extra pervasive and effective than has been recognized. Failure to comprehend its significance has handicapped us to apprehend why we human beings act as we do and in which our happiness lies. This failure has additionally handicapped efforts to sell higher interpersonal members of the family and an extra caring, humane society.

OBJECTIVES

- To highlight the main characteristics of altruistic behaviour.
- To understand the different levels of altruistic abilities in individuals.
- To compare the different situations in which individuals are showing altruism.
- To find any differences on the basis of gender in the level of altruism.

Method

An Altruistic Personality Scale has been used in this research developed by Krueger, R. F., Hicks, B. M., & McGue, M. (2001). The scale has a total of 20 items related to different situations in which people show altruistic behavior.

Participants.

For the present study random sampling was used in which a total 70 participants were as the sample from Jaipur. These people participated of their own will. Participants ranged from the age of 18-35 (adults) and out of which 35 were males and 35 were females respectively.

Research design.

N	70
MALE	35
FEMALE	35
AGE GROUP	18-35

Assessments and Measures

The questionnaire which is used is ALTRUISTIC PERSONALITY SCALE made by Krueger, R. F., Hicks, B. M., & McGue, M. in 2001. In this study is a 20- item scale designed to measure altruistic tendency by a gauging in frequency on engages in altruistic acts primary towards strangers. Participants answer on a 5-point scale ranging from Never to Very Often. The procedure of data collection was completed through Google Form where the participants were allowed to give responses in the comfort of their personal zone.

PROCEDURE.

The research started to know the level of altruism in adults in the participants. The procedure for the research included choosing the right tool and a better 20-item questionnaire to be used in the

study. Created a Google Form and put the right response type suited to the research.

Most people in their social circle distributed the questionnaire through social media. Participation was not made mandatory but people's free will. The response was collected in the most precise manner.

SCORING.

The 20-item inventory form is scored on a 5-pont rating scale ranging from never (1) to very often (5). The reading for each response was calculated and added together with the item and Mean, SD and T-test was calculated as well. The minimum score is 20 and the maximum score a participant can get is 100. The level of altruism ranges from very low altruistic level = 20 to very high altruistic level = 81-100, respectively.

Categories	Raw-Score
Very high altruistic level	81-100
High altruistic level	61-80
Medium altruistic level	41-60
Low altruistic level	21-40
Very low altruistic level	20

RESULTS

Outcome 1

Result Table

GROUPS	MEAN	SD	T-TEST	
MALE	53.94	14.60	1.9931	
FEMALE	47.49	12.49	1.9931	
TOTAL	50.71	13.84	1.9931	

DISCUSSION

The current study is conducted to find out the level of altruistic level of the individual in the area in which the research is conducted. The total sample taken in this study is 70 and by calculating the scores the study found that the total mean of the study is 50.71 which comes under the medium altruistic level of the individuals. The SD of the total score is found 13.84 and by calculating the T-test the score is found 1.9931 which shows the variable data that is used to calculate the T-test is not significant.

The mean for the female data is found 47.49 and the SD of this data is found 12.49 and the score of the T-test is the same as the variable data that is used to calculate the T-test is the gender verifiable.

The mean of the male data is founded 53.94

And the SD of this data is found 14.60 and the significance scores are the same as the total significant score.

By understanding the score patterns and comparing the variable scores by gender we found that the both male and female scores are under the category of the medium altruistic level but the male score is higher by 6.45, which shows that the male participants have a little more altruistic level than female participants.

By comparing to the previous research paper that is A study on altruism and subjective

well being among emerging adults by jeya Bala P, mariya sneha S, prizila S, Priya darshini S, A Antony rose Rashmi and J irin jeya Sheela it founded that the significance level between male and female is same in both of the research that is not significant. The findings of this study is different from the previous researchers of Dreber and Essen (2011); and Fehr and Glatzle-Rutzler (2013) which identified females to be more altruistic than males, but in this research study the total mean of the male participants is slightly higher than females and the scores are not significant.

Contrary to the hypothesis the results are showing that the males have higher altruism level than females. It can be because of exposure to the situation that the questionnaire has (for example pushing a stranger's car that is out of gas/petrol) or it is because of cultural differences.

The study provides a better understanding of altruism among the participants. The findings of this research would help further in the application of positive psychology in counselling settings. Furthermore, the present study sheds light on the positive aspects of Indian adults thus invoking a shift of attitude toward them. Results of the current study could be used to spread awareness among people who have a misconception about adults. Instead of viewing them as indifferent, emerging adults can be portrayed as what they are, optimistic explorers of life.

Recommendations for further research on the topic

Future research on Altruism could use a larger and a more diverse sample group also involving people other than college students. The research design could use more variables like family type, peer influence, etc.

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