



A Study of Risk –Taking Attitude and Achievement Motive Among Adolescents –A Correlational Study

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Abstract : *The present research "A study of Risk-Taking Attitude and Achievement Motive among Adolescents– A correlational study" was taken up with the purpose to see the correlation between risk taking attitude and achievement among adolescents. To verify this, three hypotheses were formulated- (1) Male Adolescents will have higher risk-taking attitude than females Adolescents. (2) High Risk takers will have high achievement motive in comparison to low risk takers. (3) There will be positive correlation between risk taking attitude and achievement motive. The study was conducted on 100 samples among which 50 were males and 50 were females with their ages ranging from 17 to 19 years. The sample was selected by incidental cum purposive sampling method from Patna town. The tools used were -1) Risk –taking*

questionnaire (RTQ), developed by Dr. Virendra Sinha and Dr. Prem Nath Arora. 2) Achievement motive test (ACMT), developed by V.P. Bhargava. The result was interpreted on the basis of Mean, Standard deviation, t-ratio and Correlation. All three hypotheses were not proved. The 1st hypothesis was not proved as the scores of female was higher than male adolescents and it was not significant at 0.05 level ($t = 1.997$) whereas according to hypothesis Risk taking attitude will be greater than male adolescents. The 2nd hypothesis was also not proved as the obtained t-ratio is -0.452 ($df = 98$) which was not significant even at 0.05. And lastly the 3rd hypothesis was also not proved because the obtained r-value is -0.015 ($df = 98$) which indicates negative correlation between Risk- Taking Attitude and Achievement Motive. Finally, the researcher concluded by saying that since the obtained result does not support any of the framed hypothesis, there is greater scope for further research on the topic. Besides, the very fact that the hypotheses have not been proved has given a deeper insight into the need to change one's mind set and read the signs of the times, while framing the hypothesis for a research topic of such a nature.

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Introduction :

Risk-Taking Attitude- The term “risk” means a dangerous element or factor, and an individual put willingly/unwillingly in that situation. Risk is frequently defined in relation to ideas of danger, loss, threat, damage and injury; but occasionally we see positive references to accepting a challenge or opportunity in order to gain, to achieve progress and to experience the new.

Risk taking can be defined as any consciously or unconsciously controlled behaviour with a perceived uncertainty about its outcome or about its possible benefits or costs for the physical, economical or psycho-social well being of oneself or others.

An attitude can be defined as a positive or negative evaluation of people, objective, event, activities, ideas or just about anything in ones environment.

Achievement Motive- The term achievement motivation refers to motivation stemming from desire to perform well or striving for success. Achievement motivation helps to determine how and why an individual behaves in a certain way.

Purpose :

The purpose of the present study was to examine the correlation between risk- taking attitude and achievement motive among adolescents. Thus the answer to the following questions were sought.

- 1) To examine risk-taking attitude in male and female adolescents.
- 2) To discover whether the risk- attitude increases or not in course of time
- 3) To find out the relation between risk taking attitude and achievement motive.

Hypotheses :

Keeping in mind the purpose of the present study following hypotheses were formulated for verification.

- 1) Male Adolescents will have higher risk-taking attitude than females Adolescents.
- 2) High Risk takers will have high achievement motive in comparison to low risk takers.
- 3) There will be positive correlation between risk taking attitude and achievement motive.

Methodology :

(a) Sample: The study was conducted on 100 samples among which 50 were male and 50 were female adolescents of age ranging from 17 to 19 years. The sample was selected by incidental cum purposive sampling method from Patna town. The research tools used for testing the hypothesis were:

- Risk –taking questionnaire (RTQ), prepared by Dr. Virendra Sinha and Dr. Prem Nath Arora.
- Achievement motive test (ACMT), prepared by V.P. Bhargava.

(b) Research area:

Table No.1

Area of study	Male Adolescents	Female Adolescents
St. Karens High School (S. K. Puri)	12	12
Baldwin Academy (Boring Road)	12	12
The Career Point Tutorials (Boring Canal Road)	20	20
R.P.S School (Bailey Road)	06	06

Result Interpretation :

Hypothesis no.1- “Male adolescents will have higher risk- taking attitude than female adolescents.”

The result is given in table no.2.

Table No.2

(N = 100)

Mean, SD , t-ratio of male and Female Adolescents on risk- taking attitude

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t-ratio	df	Level of Significance
Male	50	130.5	23.494	1.997	48	P<0.05 *
Female	50	140.1	24.507			

Not significant at 0.05 level (2.01)

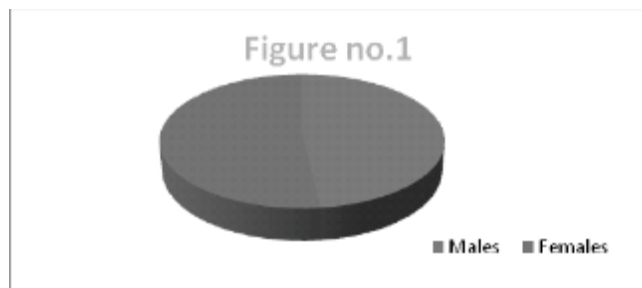
Table No.2 shows the mean of risk taking attitude of male adolescents which is 130.5 and female adolescents which is 140.1. The mean obtained by female adolescents is more than the male adolescents. Thus this rejects the hypothesis that “Male adolescents will have higher risk taking attitude than female adolescents.”

The SD obtained is 24.507 in females and 23.494 in males respectively. .

The obtained t-ratio is 1.997 (df = 48) which is not significant even at 0.05 level. Non significant t-value indicates no significant difference among male adolescents and female adolescents on risk taking attitude, hence it can be concluded that hypothesis No.1 which states that male adolescents will have higher risk taking attitude than female adolescents has not been proved.

The result has also been given in the form of pie chart.

Pie-chart showing the Risk-Taking Attitude among Male and Female Adolescents.



Hypothesis No. 2 - “High risk takers will have high achievement motive in comparison to low risk takers”.

Table No.3

Table showing Mean, SD, t-value & df of achievement motive scores of High and Low risk takers

Variables	N	Mean	SD	t- value	Df	Level of Significance
High risk takers	49	18.408	4.742	- 0.452	98	P<0.05 *
Low risk takers	51	18.86	4.747			

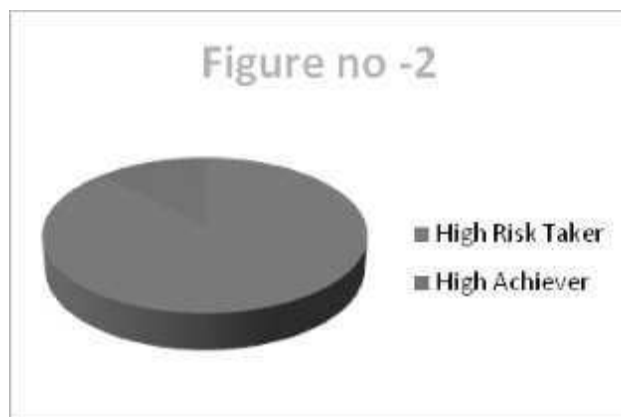
Not significant at 0.05 level(1.98)

Table No. 3 shows the value of mean of high risk takers on achievement motive which is 18.408 and mean of low risk takers on achievement motive is 18.86. The mean obtained by low risk taker is more than the high risk taker. The obtained SD is 4.742 in high risk takers and 4.747 in low risk takers respectively. SD is much less than the mean of both the groups.

The obtained t-ratio is -0.452(df = 98) which is not significant even at 0.05. Not significant t-value indicates no significant difference in mean of high risk takers on achievement motive and mean of low risk takers on achievement motive. Thus, hypothesis no.2 has not been proved.

The result has also been presented in the form of pie chart

Pie-chart showing the achievement motive score of high and low risk takers.



Hypothesis No.3- "There will be positive correlation between risk taking attitude and achievement motive."

Table No. 4

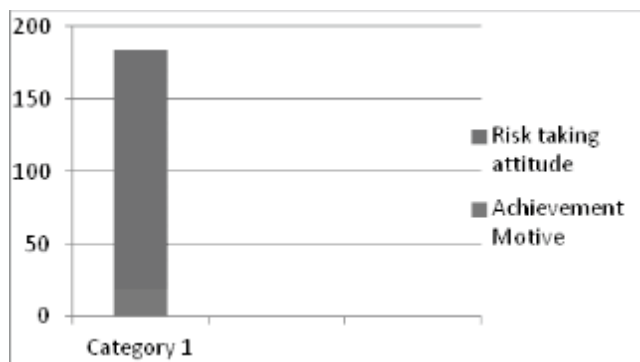
Table showing r- value of the scores of Risk-Taking Attitude Achievement Motive

Variables	N	r	df	Level of Significance
Risk- Taking Attitude	50	-0.015	98	P<0.05*
Achievement Motive	50			

Not significant at 0.05 level (0.195)

The obtained r-value is -0.015 (df=98) which indicates negative correlation between Risk-Taking Attitude and Achievement Motive. Hence, hypothesis is not proved. The table value at 0.05 level is 0.195 and the obtained r-value is -0.015 which is smaller than the value at 0.05 level. The negative sign in the obtained r-value shows that there is negative correlation between risk – taking attitude and achievement motive. Hence, it can be concluded that hypothesis no.3 has not been proved.

Graphical representation of the score on Risk-Taking Attitude and Achievement motive.



Conclusion :

- The mean value of the scores on risk taking attitude of male (mean = 130.5) and achievement motive (mean=17.44) reveals that the males were measured low in comparison to females. The t-ratio (t-

ratio=1.997) was not significant at 0.05 level of significance and thus hypothesis no.1 is not proved.

- The obtained r value is -0.015 (df=98) which is not significant at 0.05 level proves that negative correlation exists between risk-taking attitude and achievement motive and thus it is not supporting the third hypothesis.
- The value of SD was quite less to their means in all hypotheses. Hence it can be said that both male and female Adolescents showed less variability in their responses that make the findings dependable.
- The difference of Risk- Taking Attitude was found between male and female adolescents.
- t-ratio is not significant so it can be said with full confidence that male adolescents will show less risk taking attitude than female adolescents. High risk takers have low achievement motive in comparison to low risk takers.

Summary :

The result was analysed by computing measures of central tendency, measures of variability, t-ratio and correlation. The result on first hypothesis reveals that female adolescents have been measured high on risk taking attitude (mean=140.1) in comparison to male adolescents(mean=130.5). The t-ratio was not significant at P<0.05 level of significance. Thus hypothesis was not proved. The second hypothesis measured achievement motive score of high and low risk takers. Mean of high risk takers is 18.408 and low risk takers is 18.86. The obtained SD is 4.742 and 4.747. The t-ratio was not significant at P<0.05 level of significance. Thus the hypothesis has not been proved. The third hypothesis states "There will be positive correlation between risk taking

attitude (mean=164.665, SD=40.883) and achievement motive (mean= 18.64, SD= 4.594)". The obtained r-value is -0.015 (df= 98) which is not significant at 0.05 level of confidence. The negative sign in the obtained value shows that there is negative correlation between Risk- Taking Attitude and Achievement Motive. Hence, it is concluded that hypothesis three has not been proved.

The findings reveals that the framed hypothesis have not been proved. This show that the times are changing. Male and Female Adolescents are almost on an equal footing when Risk – Taking Attitude is concerned. In fact the result shows that the female adolescents are taking greater risk than the male adolescents.

It is not necessary that there is always a positive correlation between the risk- taking attitude and achievement motive.

Finally, the researchers want to conclude by saying that since the obtained result does not support any of the framed hypotheses, there is greater scope for further research on the topic.

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