

POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION AND ATTITUDE AMONG THE STUDENT: A CASE STUDY OF KALABURAGI CITY, KARNATAKA

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ABSTRACT

In the present study, an attempt has been made to figure out the political socialization and attitude among the students in Kalaburagi city. Political socialization is most important factor in present days, which influence on every one and helps the better understanding of the society with reference to the political system.

Keywords: political socialization and attitude, political system, kalaburagi city, karnataka

INTRODUCTION

Social changes are occurs when students are in the streets. Universities regularly provide the youth force for social reform movements and for mass political action. Some of the reasons are clear, students are idealistic and their reformist enthusiasm has not been chastened by the "unforeseen consequences" which their elders have witnessed following earlier reforms. Students are available, logical by conflicting obligations. Their resources are wholly liquefied; they have little invested in the status quo and can commit themselves without much sacrifice to a new and radical future.

Socialization is a process, wherein individual learns how to behave in a particular social situation. The process of socialization is life long process. In the initial stage of life children socialize themselves in the family, than in schools and with friends. Political behaviour is somewhat matured behaviour, in this process apart from the role of family, friends, schools as an agency of socialization, the role of media both print and screen, some organizations and so forth are also significant.

As liberal democratic culture and values have blossomed in Western societies, it increasingly became axiomatic that broad participation in the decision-making processes is a prerequisite for proper democratic governance (Dahl 1971, 1998; Pateman 1970). Political theorists claimed that all individuals ought to have an appropriately equal opportunity to influence decision-making

processes (Verba et al. 1978). While electoral turnout and voting, which is the cornerstone of the democratic political process, has been reportedly decreasing over the last decades in almost all European states (O'Toole et al. 2003), academic experts and technocrats have been exploring alternative participations activities that could influence and shape decision-making processes, within a variety of social and cultural contexts.

METHODS

An attempt is made in this section to explain the methods, tools and techniques that were chosen and employed for the study of women teachers. After proper scrutiny, the methods which suit best to the present study are employed. Keeping in view the nature and objectives of the present study and the type of respondents involved in the present study, interview methods has been preferred to other methods. As such the present study has employed interview schedule to collect the data.

The interview schedule was prepared keeping in view the objectives, the research questions and the hypotheses of the study, care was taken to see that, none of the objectives, were left out and irrelevant superfluous data were gathered from the respondents.

Sampling:

Keeping in view the limitations of the researcher sampling method has been applied to select the respondents. There were about Departments in the Gulbarga University campus. The present study is restricted to 4th semester students , it is considered that the students studying in final year or 4th sem are more matured than the students in previous or 1st semester students , as such study is restricted itself to the 4th semester students in all number of students. It was decided to take 40 students from each from Humanities, Science, Social Science and Law and Education faculties. In all the study consists of 160 respondents selected on the random basis studying in the Jnana Ganga campus Gulbarga University, Gulbarga

Field - Gulbarga:

Gulbarga is one of the 28 administrative districts of Karnataka located on the northern side of the state. The entire district is situated in Deccan Plateau and the general elevation ranges from 300-750 meters above mean seal level.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the present study an attempt is made here to through light upon the process of socialization.

As it is discussed in the early para the role of family more particularly, the role of parents is important. So to identify the level of interest of the parents of the respondents the data are collected and are presented in the following table.

SOCIAL PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

Table 1: Age of the Respondents

Age group	No. of Respondents	Percentage
21 – 25	139	86.9
25 +	21	13.1
Total	160	100.00

The data on age group of the respondents reveal that, an overwhelming majority of the respondents (86.9 percent) come from 21-25 years age group. Only about 13 (13.1) percent come from the age group above 25 years of age. It could be analyzed here that, the students immediately after completion of their graduation course join for post-graduation course, the age group of the respondent indicates that there is no gap between completion of U.G course and joining to the P.G. course. The study reveals that, majority of the respondents are pursuing their post graduation course at the right and proper age.

SEX COMPOSITION OF THE RESPONDENTS:

It is significant to note that, out of 160 respondents studied the respondents are distributed equally. The researcher here purpose fully selected equally on the basis of sex. So as to know the role the sex of the respondents plays on the political participation and other political attitudes.

Table 2: Educational Qualification of the Respondents

Qualification	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Only Degree	120	75.00
Degree with B.Ed	40	25.00
Total	160	100.00

It is significant to note that more than 2/3 of the respondents that is 75 percent of them joined P.G. course with degree course. Whereas, 1/4 that is 25 percent of the respondents have joined P.G. course with B.Ed as additional qualification. It could be observed mentioned and observed the trend of coming to P.G. course after completion of B.Ed course has started.

READING OF POLITICAL NEWS OF MAGAZINES

The data on reading of political news and magazines are collected and are presented in the following table.

Table 3: Reading of Political News & Magazines

Reading	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Never	72	45.00
Often	88	55.00
Total	160	100.00

The table above indicates that, about 45 percent of the respondents never read political news in news paper and magazines. A majority of the respondents that is 55 percent of the respondents read political affairs in news papers and magazines.

In the recent days TV channels and the live discussion on political affairs on the TV screen has become a popular programme. As such the study intends to know trend among the post graduate students about TV programmes on political issues.

The data on watching political talks on TV screen are collected. The analysis indicates that, more than the third of the respondents that is 36 (36.2) percent of them never watch political

discussions on TV screen. Whereas, a majority of the respondents that is nearly two third of them (46.8) percent often watch political discussions on TV screen.

It could be concluded here that, the TV programmes have become more popular and attracting the people towards TV through its programmes. The proportion respondents watching TV programmes is high compared to the respondents often reading political news in news papers.

It is significant to note that a majority of the respondents that is 60 percent of them consider they gain more knowledge by watching political discussions on the screen. Whereas 45 percent of them never consider that, the TV programmes are useful in gaining knowledge.

When it comes to the respondents for their active participation in political discussions by writing to news paper in the form of article about political issues, the result is not so appreciating. Only about 44 (44.4) percent of respondents express their political views in news papers. Whereas, remaining 55 (55.7) percent of them never express their views in news papers.

Next to family school is the one institution wherein individuals spend much of their time and socialize. And teachers play significant role in the process of socialization. In the present study an attempt is made to know whether the post graduate students discuss with their teachers about political issues or not.

Data on discussion with teachers about politics indicates that, majority of the respondents that is about 55 (54.4) percent of them never discuss about politics with their teachers. About (45.6) percent of them oftenly discuss with the teachers about politics and political issues.

Further the respondents were posed with a question whether they support a party as your teacher supports. The data on support to a party as their teacher support indicates that, an overwhelming majority of the respondents that is 73 (72.6) percent of the respondents never support to a party which their teacher supports. About 28 (27.4) percent of the respondents often support to a party to which their teacher supports.

The gap between respondents and their teachers in political support and discussion might be attributed to the fact that at the post graduate level the teachers usually maintain distance or it could be stated there is less opportunities and scope to discuss about political issues and so forth. As such the researcher could observe such situations.

In the present study an attempt is also made to understand, whether, the post graduate students studied discuss about political issue with their friends.

The analysis of the data indicate that, majority of the respondents that is about 56 (55.8) percent of them never discuss with their friends about political issues. Whereas about 40 (41.3) percent of the respondents discuss about political issues with their friends.

Further, data on support the party as friends support indicate that an overwhelming majority that is 78 (77.5) percent of the respondents never support the political party as their friends support. Only about 23 (22.5) percent of the respondents support a political party as their friends support.

This trend of acting independently not supporting a party supported by a friend might be attributed to the fact that, in post graduate level students in a particular department join from different districts with different cultural, political, social background. This kind of heterogeneous character of background that each is having might be the factor for the present milieu.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES:

In the present study an attempt is also made to understand the political activities of the respondents. In the first instance the respondents were asked whether they are member of any political party. The data so collected are presented in the following table.

Table 4: Membership to Political Party

Membership	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	79	49.40
No	81	50.60
Total	160	100.00

The data of membership any political party is distributed almost equally among the respondents. About 49 (49.4) percent of the respondents are having membership to one or the other political party. Whereas, about 51 (56.6) percent of the respondents do not have membership to any political party. The difference between two categories is negligible. Further, data on participation of post-graduate students in the student movement on the campus take to a different angle of take to a different angle of the attitude of the students.

Table 5: Participation in Student Movement

Participation	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Never participate	26	16.20
Participate often	134	83.80
Total	160	100.00

Data on participation in student movement of on the campus indicate that an overwhelming majority that is more than two thirds of the respondents (83.8 percent) oftenly participate in student movements on the campus. Whereas only about 16 (16.2) percent of the respondents.

It is significant to note that, when it comes to any political issues membership to any political party and so forth, the respondents are almost distributed at the equal proportion. When it is the issue of student movement more than two thirds of the respondents show their inclination to participate in it. It shows even the educated youths slag behind to participate themselves in any political activities. The researcher here suggest to take up further research to identify the factors behind the slagness about politics among youths.

Further, the respondents were asked whether, they have ever contested the election or not. In consonance with the ideas expressed in the earlier paragraphs more than two thirds of the respondents that is 94 (94.4) percent of the respondents are not contested any elections. Only about 6 (5.6) percent of the respondents have contested the elections. The youths of this region are not interested in contesting elections or they do not want to involve themselves in election politics.

It is quite interesting to note that, when it is for them to contest for elections response was very poor. Whereas, nearly half of the respondents that is about 46 (45.6) percent of them canvassed in the election for the political parties. More than half of the respondents that is 54 (54.5) percent of them not engaged themselves in canvas for any candidate.

Table 6: Exercise of Vote

Exercise vote	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	148	92.50
No	12	7.50
Total	160	100.00

The data on exercise of vote in the general elections indicate that all most all respondents have exercised their role during elections. Only a negligible proportion of the respondents that is 8 (7.5) percent of the respondents have not exercised their vote.

It is significant to note that, the successful functioning of democratic system lies on the smooth, fair and systematic election process, which is the function of executive system of our government. As a citizen of the country it is our bond duty to participate ourselves in the election and exercise our valuable vote. It is generally held assumption and most of the time proved by the statistical data provided by the election commission that, urbanites, educated population not so actively participate in the process of election and they do not exercise their vote regularly. Which is proved by the low rate / percentage of voting in urban and educated mass living areas.

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