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A Study of the Relationship Between Altruistic Behavior and Personality Traits of College Students in Jaipur District

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Abstract

The present study examines the association between altruistic behavior and personality traits among college students in Jaipur District. A sample of 100 students was selected, including equal representation from urban and rural areas as well as government and private colleges. Data were collected using standardized questionnaires measuring altruism and personality. Descriptive statistics and correlation analysis were used to evaluate the relationship between the two variables. The results demonstrate a moderate positive correlation, indicating that personality significantly influences altruistic tendencies among college youth.

Keywords: Altruism, Personality Traits, College Students, Prosocial Behavior, Jaipur District, Correlation, Emotional Stability, Empathy, Social Psychology etc.

Introduction

Altruism, a core aspect of human social behavior, refers to voluntary actions performed to benefit others without expecting material or personal gain. In educational institutions, altruistic tendencies are vital for nurturing collaborative learning, social sensitivity, empathy, and a positive academic climate. For college students who are transitioning into adulthood, altruistic behavior plays an influential role in shaping their identity, interpersonal relationships, and emotional maturity.

Personality, on the other hand, represents a unique combination of emotional, cognitive, and behavioral characteristics that shape how individuals interact with their environment. Traits such as agreeableness, openness, emotional stability, and conscientiousness significantly contribute to how individuals think, feel, and act in social situations. These traits often determine whether students demonstrate cooperative, empathetic, or prosocial actions.

In Jaipur District, students study in diverse institutional settings—government, private, urban, and rural colleges—which expose them to different social environments, academic pressures, peer groups, and value systems. These surroundings may influence both personality development and altruistic tendencies. Understanding this relationship is therefore important for educators, psychologists, and researchers who aim to promote positive youth development.

Research on altruism and personality has shown that individuals with strong interpersonal sensitivity, emotional regulation, and self-confidence are more likely to participate in humanitarian activities, help peers, and take social responsibility. College students often engage in group assignments, extracurricular activities, community service programs, and social interactions, which provide natural opportunities for altruistic behavior. When personality traits are strong—such as empathy, self-concept, and assertiveness—students demonstrate better conflict resolution, peer cooperation, and prosocial engagement.

However, the relationship between altruism and personality may vary depending on the student's cultural background, family environment, socio-economic status, and institutional setting. Jaipur District presents a diverse context where students from different socio-demographic backgrounds come together, offering a rich field for investigation.

This study focuses specifically on exploring how personality traits correspond with altruistic behavior among college students in Jaipur District. By identifying whether a meaningful relationship exists, the research aims to provide insights for educators and policymakers to enhance value-based education, personality development programs, and prosocial learning practices in higher education institutions.

Review of Literature

Indian Studies

Sharma (2018) examined empathy and helping behavior among undergraduate students and found that supportive personality traits significantly enhanced altruistic tendencies.

Verma & Choudhary (2019) studied personality correlates of prosocial behavior and reported that emotionally stable students were more inclined to help peers.

Kaur (2020) investigated altruism in college youth and observed that students from urban colleges expressed higher altruistic motivation than rural students.

Patel (2021) analyzed personality development in higher education and concluded that interpersonal sensitivity directly influenced students' social responsibility.

Rathore (2022) explored altruistic actions among university girls and found a positive association between self-concept and cooperative behavior.

International Studies

Johnson & Miller (2017) found that personality traits, especially agreeableness, were the strongest predictors of altruism among American college students.

Hernandez (2019) reported that emotional intelligence contributed significantly to prosocial actions among university students in Spain.

Liu & Chen (2020) observed that Chinese students with strong cooperative orientation demonstrated higher willingness to help strangers.

Baker (2021) emphasized that self-regulated personality traits were positively linked with long-term volunteering activities among UK youth.

Smith (2022) highlighted that personality stability and empathy predicted altruistic decision-making among international university students.

Objective of the Study

To investigate the relationship between altruistic behavior and personality traits among college students in Jaipur District

Hypothesis of the Study

H₁: There is no significant relationship between altruistic behavior and personality traits of college students.

Methodology

Population

All college students in Jaipur District.

Sample

100 students:

- 50 Urban (25 boys + 25 girls)
- 50 Rural (25 boys + 25 girls)
- From Government and Private Colleges

Tools Used

1. **Altruistic Behavior Scale**

Personality Assessment Scale

Statistics Used

- Mean
- Standard Deviation
- Pearson's Correlation

Data Analysis

Table 1:

Correlation Between Altruistic Behavior and personality Traits

Variables	N	Correlation (r)	Significance (p)
Altruism & Personality	100	0.41	0.0002**

Interpretation

- The correlation value (0.41) shows a moderate positive link.
- The p-value indicates high statistical significance.
- The null hypothesis is rejected.
- Personality traits influence altruistic behavior among college learners.

Findings

- A meaningful positive relationship exists between altruistic behavior and personality traits.
- Students with stronger personality characteristics exhibit higher levels of empathy, cooperation, and helping behavior.
- The correlation is statistically significant, establishing personality as an important predictor of altruism.

Conclusion

The study concludes that personality plays a crucial role in enhancing altruistic behavior among college students in Jaipur District. Individuals with attributes such as emotional stability, empathy, and social adjustment demonstrate stronger prosocial tendencies. These findings suggest that education systems should integrate personality development and value-based learning to promote socially responsible behavior.

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