

DO STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION HAVE TOILET ETIQUETTE?

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Abstract

A study was attempted to find out the toilet etiquette of students in higher education. The objective of the study is to find out the toilet etiquette of students in higher education. To achieve the purpose, the investigator adopted survey method. Simple random sampling technique was employed to select the sample of 90 students consisting of 45 male and 45 female students. A questionnaire was developed by the investigator to serve the purpose of the study. Percentage and t-test were used by the investigator for data analysis. The major findings of the study are majority of the students' have average level of toilet etiquette with regard to gender. There is significant difference in toilet etiquette of students in higher education with regard to gender.

Keywords: Higher Education, Toilet Etiquette, investigator, Sampling

INTRODUCTION

A teacher tells his students that a man lived with a python whole day and his name was recorded in the Guinness book for living with the python whole day. Immediately a student replied that living with a python is not a big deal asks him to stay in our school toilet for one hour and that it is the real challenge. This story shows the real face of the school toilets in India. We have now started thinking of making a clean and green India and the timely initiative taken up by the Government is a welcome movement. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Swach Bharat scheme aims to eliminate open defecation by constructing toilets in every household by 2019. Around 48% of India's urban population has no access to toilets and in rural areas, the number stands at 60% (Roychoudhury, 2014). Before constructing toilets, we need to ask ourselves a question that is, are we using the public toilets properly? Obviously, the answer is 'no'. Many of us are afraid to use public toilets and very try to control the call of nature. Educated people shy away from using public toilets and even when they use they are not bothered about its cleanliness. The reason behind the pathetic fate of public toilets is the lack of toilet education among us. Considering this, a study was attempted to find out the toilet etiquette of students in higher education.

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Private schools hype infrastructure facilities, but hide terrible toilets. Though they charge high fees, many do not have enough toilets for students (Kerala Private Schools, 2015). The British Cleaning Council (BCC) has warned that children are unwilling to use unhygienic, badly equipped toilets. Backing a campaign on the issue, it says too many school toilets are closed for part of the day, and others that boys and girls have to share (School Toilets 'Bullying Fears', 2008). Sumathi Mahesh says her children do their best not to use the toilets in the school they go to in Korattur. "They have an aversion to using the toilets because they're usually filthy. They control the urge to use the toilet till they reach home," she said. "We know that holding back is bad for health but what else can they do?" She says she advises her children to use the toilets early, when few children have used them, rather than later in the day because they are cleaned only once daily,

after school hours (Ramya, 2015).

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To find out the toilet etiquette of students' in higher education.

HYPOTHESIS

There is no significant difference between male and female higher education students in their toilet etiquette.

METHODOLOGY

To achieve the purpose, the investigator adopted survey method to study the toilet etiquette of students in higher education.

SAMPLE OF THE STUDY

The sample of the study has been selected from various department students pursuing their higher education. The investigator employed simple random sampling technique to select the sample of 90 students consisting of 45 male and 45 female students.

TOOL USED

To measure the toilet etiquette of students in higher education, the investigator has developed a questionnaire. The reliability of the tool is found to be 0.62.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES EMPLOYED

1. Percentage Analysis
2. t-test

ANALYSIS OF DATA

Table 1: Level of Toilet Etiquette of Students in Higher Education with regard to gender

Personal Variable	Category	N	Level of Toilet Etiquette					
			Low		Average		High	
			N	%	N	%	N	%
Gender	Male	45	6	13	33	74	6	13
	Female	45	1	2	33	74	11	24

It is inferred from the above table that majority of the students' have average level of toilet etiquette with regard to gender.

Table 2: t-test Analysis on the Scores of Toilet Etiquette of students' in Higher Education with regard to Gender

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t - Value	P - Value
Male	45	47.46	9.705	2.493	0.015
Female	45	52.57	9.728		

It is inferred from the above table that P value is lesser than 0.05 for toilet etiquette of students' in higher education. It shows that there is significant difference in toilet etiquette of students' in

higher education with regard to gender. The Female students have better toilet etiquette than male students.

FINDINGS

- Majority of the students' have average level of toilet etiquette with regard to gender.
- There is significant difference in toilet etiquette of students' in higher education with regard to gender.

INTERPRETATIONS

The study reveals that female students have better toilet etiquette than male students. This may be due to the emphasis given to female members of the family to take care of the cleanliness of toilet at home as part of their domestic chores.

QUESTION-WISE ANALYSIS

Some of the interesting findings of the few question-wise analysis are:

- 57% of male and 48% of the female students' are having fear washing their feet after using the toilet to avoid damage to our expensive footwear.
- 52% of male students' say that they will urinate in places other than toilets (public places).
- 48% of students' say that they do not take efforts to stop the water leakages in the toilet.
- 45% of the female students' says that they do not know to operate the napkin dispensary machine in the toilet.
- 15% of the students' say that they enjoy talking inside the toilet with their friends.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

- Short films can be screened to the students regarding toilet cleanliness
- Efforts must be taken to cultivate toilet etiquette among the students
- Teaching toilet etiquette at schools and colleges
- Assigning a project to clean their toilets at home
- Crash courses can be conducted on 'How to use the toilets'
- To conduct awareness programs on the threats of using unhygienic toilets
- Sanitation club should be organized in schools and college to facilitate the toilet hygiene
- Government sanitary inspector should regularly visit the school and college toilets
- The school and college management should take efforts to fulfil adequate toilet facilities to the students and frequent water facilities to the toilet
- The management should appoint enough workers to maintain cleanliness of the toilets
- Health programs should be conduct exclusively for girls and female students on 'how to operate the napkin dispensary machine'.

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