



# RESEARCH AND REFLECTIONS ON EDUCATION

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# RISK TAKING BEHAVIOUR AND SELF ESTEEM OF ORAON TRIBAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Research  
Paper

## ABSTRACT

*The investigator is working with the Oraon tribes; she wanted to study about the self esteem and risk taking behaviour of students. Hence the population consists of high school students, taking 998 students as the sample. The investigator has used Self Esteem Scale (SES) by A.H. Heagly, (1996) and has adopted the Risk Taking Behaviour Tool designed by Anbalagan and Annaraja (2008). The findings show that there is a significant difference between male and female in self esteem and in risk taking behaviour and their levels are moderate. Key words: self esteem, risk taking behaviour, Oraon tribe and high school students*

## INTRODUCTION

Man by nature has the tendency to explore and invent. There is no bed of roses in the life of an individual. Every phase of life involves some kind of risk. Nature teaches us to adapt and adopt situations wisely and consciously by taking steps towards it. Every stage of life invites human beings to risk taking behaviour. The students are no exception to this law of nature. A person who is not risk taking will remain stagnant in life. There is no improvement, invention and experiment without risking some aspects of life. Therefore risk taking behaviour is an important aspect and essential part of one's life. Oraon tribes are basically agriculturists and hunters which involves risks. Risk taking behaviour will reflect the self esteem and personality of an individual. By an intelligent risk, one can achieve the goal he/she desires. It is an attitudinal disposition.

Self esteem is the orientation one has towards oneself which can be positive or negative, high or low. Self esteem of a person helps one to be confident to face situations comfortably and express oneself boldly. This leads to taking risks regardless of the origin, nationality or any external barriers which would stop a person of low self esteem. Improving one's self-esteem increases one's confidence and is a first step towards finding happiness and a better life. The investigator is interested in the behavioural patterns of the Oraon tribal students in their risk taking behaviour and self esteem.

## SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY

Success of an individual depends on the ability to integrate life experiences with challenging opportunities. Self

esteem, or the way we feel about ourselves, is an important aspect of our emotional well-being. The youth of today can easily be deviated from their goal of life if one is not clear about the focus and steps towards achieving it. Self esteem and risk taking behaviour is unavoidable for the success. Oraon tribal youth are exposed to the modern world like any other youth of their age. But being in the rural and semi urban areas where life is not fully affected by the technology but partially can have its influence on the decision making of the youth. Standard IX and X students are still under the influence of their parents in a rural set. The environmental aspects and family situations can also make impacts on the youth. So, a study like this will throw some light and understanding about the present scenario of the Oraon tribal youth. The present study is a unique exploration of the self esteem and risk taking behaviour of the specific group of tribe about whom much sufficient studies are not available. Therefore, the finding will be of great interest and add to the pool of knowledge.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To find the level of self esteem of Oraon tribal high school students.
2. To find out whether there is any significant difference in self esteem of Oraon tribal high school students with regard to the type of school.

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3. To find the level of risk taking behaviour of Oraon tribal high school students.
4. To find out whether there is any significant difference in risk taking behaviour of Oraon tribal high school students with regard to the type of school.
5. To find out the influence of self esteem on the risk taking behaviour of the Oraon tribal high school students.

## ANALYSIS OF DATA

### Percentage analysis

1. The level of self esteem of Oraon tribal high school students

**Table 1**

### THE LEVEL OF SELF ESTEEM OF ORAON TRIBAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Self esteem					
Low		Moderate		High	
Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
210	21.00%	583	58.40%	205	20.50%

It is inferred from the above table that the level of self esteem of Oraon tribal high school students is moderate (58.4%)

2. The level of risk taking behaviour of Oraon tribal high school students.

**Table 2**

### THE LEVEL OF RISK TAKING BEHAVIOUR OF ORAON TRIBAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Risk taking behavior					
Low		Moderate		High	
Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
247	24.70%	512	51.30%	239	23.90%

It is inferred from the above table that the level of risk taking behaviour of Oraon tribal high school students is moderate (51.3).

### Differential analysis

#### Hypothesis 1

There is no significant difference between male and female Oraon tribal high school students in their self esteem.

**Table 3**

### SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MALE AND FEMALE ORAON TRIBAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THEIR SELF ESTEEM

Gender	N	Mean	S.D.	Calculated t' value	P-value	Remark
Male	419	52.63	3.128	5.693	0	S
Female	579	51.44	3.379			

### NULL HYPOTHESES

1. There is no significant difference between male and female Oraon tribal high school students in their self esteem.
2. There is no significant difference between government and private high schools Oraon tribal students in their self esteem.
3. There is no significant difference between male and female Oraon tribal high school students in their risk taking behaviour.
4. There is no significant difference between government and private high school Oraon tribal students in their risk taking behaviour.
5. There is no significant inter-correlation between self esteem and risk taking behaviour of Oraon tribal high school students.

### METHOD ADAPTED FOR THE STUDY

For the present study the investigator has adapted the survey method of the study in view of the objectives and the nature of the problem.

### POPULATION AND SAMPLE FOR THE STUDY

The total population includes the Oraon tribal high school students of Jharkhand Academic Council Board Hindi medium high schools of Mahuadanr block, Latehar district. The sample consists of 998 Oraon tribal high school students who were selected using simple random sampling technique from the population of the six high schools in Mahuadanr block.

### TOOLS USED

The investigator has used Self Esteem Scale (SES) by A.H. Heagly, (1996) and has adopted the Risk Taking Behaviour Tool designed by Anbalagan and Annaraja (2008).

It is inferred from the above table that there is a significant difference in self esteem of Oraon tribal male and female high school students. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. Male high school students have higher score (52.63) than female high school students (51.44)

**Hypothesis 2**

There is no significant difference between government and private high schools Oraon tribal students in their self esteem.

**Table 4**

**SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOLS ORAON TRIBAL STUDENTS IN THEIR SELF ESTEEM**

Type of school	N	Mean	S.D.	Calculated 't' value	P-value	Remark
Government	254	49.15	2.537	19.317	0	S
Private	744	52.89	3.014			

It is inferred from the above table that there is a significant difference in self esteem among Oraon tribal high school students in terms of type of school. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. The private high schools have higher score (52.89) than the government high schools (49.15).

**Hypothesis 3**

There is no significant difference between male and female Oraon tribal high school students in their risk taking behaviour.

**Table 5**

**SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MALE AND FEMALE ORAON TRIBAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THEIR RISK TAKING BEHAVIOUR**

Gender	N	Mean	S.D.	Calculated 't' value	P-value	Remark
Male	419	53.26	3.75	5.509	0	S
Female	579	54.64	4.14			

It is inferred from the above table that there is a significant difference in risk taking behavior among Oraon tribal male and female high school student. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. The female Oraon tribal high school students have higher score (54.64) than the male high school students (53.26).

**Hypothesis 4**

There is no significant difference between government and private high schools Oraon tribal students in their risk taking behaviour.

**Table 6**

**SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOLS ORAON TRIBAL STUDENTS IN THEIR RISK TAKING BEHAVIOUR**

Type of school	N	Mean	S.D.	Calculated 't' value	P-value	Remark
Government	254	54.22	4.247	0.747	0.471	NS
Private	744	54.01	3.963			

It is inferred from the above table that there is no significant difference between government and private high school Oraon tribal students in their risk taking behaviour. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted.

**Hypothesis 5**

There is no significant inter-correlation between self esteem and risk taking behavior of Oraon tribal high school students.

**Table 7**

**SIGNIFICANT INTER-CORRELATION BETWEEN SELF ESTEEM, RISK TAKING BEHAVIOUR OF ORAON TRIBAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Variable	Self esteem	Risk taking behaviour
Self esteem	1	0.07
Risk taking behaviour	0.07	1

It is inferred from the above table that there is a significant inter-correlation between self esteem, and risk taking behaviour among Oraon tribal high school students. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

### Descriptive analysis

The levels of self esteem and risk taking behaviour of Oraon tribal high school students are moderate (58.4% and 51.3%) respectively. This may be due to the fact that the family environment which makes the students dependent on their parents for everything.

### Differential analysis

1. There is a significant difference in self esteem of Oraon tribal high school students in terms of gender. Male high school students have higher score (52.63) than female high school students (51.44). This may be due to the fact that male students are out going. They are free to move around, whereas, female students have restrictions from their parents and their society.
2. The female Oraon tribal high school students have higher score (54.64) than the male high school students (53.26) in risk taking behaviour. This may be due to the fact the Oraon tribal females show more leadership and involvement in showing their solidarity for political and social aspects by their history for freedom and social change. They normally exhibit more participation in various activities organized in their society. They have been found more daring to venture into the unknown in search of job and financial support for their families. The female high school students have acquired these characters from their mothers.
3. The private high school Oraon tribal students have higher score (52.89) than the government high school (49.15) students in self esteem. This may be due to the fact that in private high schools, the students are given individual attention and personal care. They are motivated to do well in all areas of life. They also give importance to character formation.
4. There is a significant inter-correlation between self esteem and risk taking behaviour of Oraon tribal high school students. This may be due to the fact that self esteem and risk taking behaviour are both inter connected.

## CONCLUSION

The investigator wanted to study about the self esteem and risk taking behaviour of Oraon tribal high school students. The result shows that both are inter connected and the levels of self esteem and risk taking behaviour are moderate. Hence efforts must be taken to increase their levels of self esteem and risk taking behaviour which will bring Oraon tribal students to the lime light.

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