



# A STUDY OF ATTITUDE OF UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE TEACHERS AND STUDENTS TOWARDS TRANSGENDER IN KOLKATA, WEST BENGAL.

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## ABSTRACT

In this research study, the researcher examined the level of attitude towards transgender between under graduate college teachers and students to identify the significant difference between these two group of people. For the purpose of this present study 200 under graduate college students, where 100 male and 100 female students from different art's and science undergraduate colleges selected for this study. Also 200 under graduate college teachers, where 100 men and 100 women teacher from different undergraduate college of Kolkata,westbengal, are selected for this study. Sample are selected by random sampling technique and data collected by survey method questionnaire to measured the attitude of undergraduate college teachers and students towards transgender people. The collected data analyzed by mean , standard deviation , 't' value and analyzed data present in the form of tables. The data interpreted appropriately to reach at logical findings and conclusions. Subsequently it is found that, the under graduate college teacher had favorable attitude towards transgender.

**KEYWORDS:** Attitude, Transgender,UG student,UG teacher.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The gender uniqueness becomes a challenge in gender oriented social order. In our they experience discrimination and mistreatment that affects their lifestyle and also influence their healthcare, poor educational and employment opportunity. The society only accepts male and female as specific gender identities. The society has not acknowledged the concept of third gender or transgender. Gender identity gets complicated when someone born with the physical characteristics of men or women but identifies and behaves like female or male. They are transgender people whose gender identity doesn't match with the gender assigned to them at birth. These communities are also called LGBT. LGBT group of people includes lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community who are considered as gender and sexual minority. Transgender is an umbrella term for those person whose gender identity or behavior does not confirm to that typically associated with the sex to which they were assigned at birth. Transgender does not imply any specific form of sexual orientation, transgender people may identify as heterosexual , homosexual or as bisexual. The transgender women lives as a woman today, but the thought to be male when she was born . There are few transgender people identify as neither male nor female or as a combination of male or female. A transgender man is a man who was assigned female at birth, whose gender identity is male in present. In India transgender community comprises of Hijras, Kothis,Aravanis,Jogappas , Shiv- Shakthis etc.The hizra is an institutionalized third gender role in india. The term hizra are neither male nor female,but contain elements of both. In April, 2014, Supreme court of India delivered a landmark judgement granting the transgender community the right to be identified as third gender and the West Bengal state government constituted west bengal transgender development board and adopted west bengal transgender development board regulation,2015. In 2020, the

state government of West Bengal reconstituted the board by the name of West Bengal transgender persons development board ( WBTGPDB). Attitude are generally positive or negative behaviour of a person. A person's attitude is expressed by their behaviour. Attitudes are positive or negative views about a place, person, thing or events . A person's attitudes are the result of either direct experience or observational learning from the environment. In our society, negative attitude towards transgender may causes their psychological problems as well as discriminatory treatment of transgender individuals. These transgender people have been part of the broader culture and treated them with great respect. The constitution of India provides the fundamental right to equality and tolerates no discrimination on the grounds of sex, caste, creed, or religion. The main objective of this study focused on to find out the different levels of attitude towards transgender people.

## 2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

1. Caitlin ryan, Stephen t.russell,david huebner, rafael diaz and Jorge Sanchez (2010) conducted a research study on "family acceptance in adolescence and the health of LGBT young adults ". The research study shows that the accepting behaviours of parents and caregivers towards their LGBT children are protective against mental health risks. High religious involvement in families was strongly associated with low acceptance of LGBT children.During adolescence LGBT young adults who had high levels of family acceptance significantly carry higher self esteem, social support and general health. LGBT young adults who reported low levels of family acceptance were over three times more likely to have suicidal thoughts and to report suicide attempts, compared to those with high levels of family acceptance.
2. Elizabeth r.boskey (2014) conducted a research study

on “understanding transgender identity development in childhood and adolescence”. The main aim of this research study was to provide an overview of gender identity development in childhood and adolescence in order to encourage better integration of comprehensive understandings of gender identity into new sexuality education curricula by the inclusion of some specific information about transgender.

3. Holger b elischberger , Jessica j glazier , Eric d hill,Lynn verduzco - baker ( 2018) introduced a research study on “attitude toward and beliefs about transgender youth : a cross - cultural comparison between the united states and India”. The aim of this research study was to examine attitudes towards transgender youth in the united states and India. The researchers found that in United States the attitude of the youth towards transgender was generally positive but in india, the attitude of the youth towards transgender moderately negative.
4. Sunandita bhowmik and Reshmi chattopadhyay (2022) were conducted a research study on “challenges faced by the sexual and gender minority people during covid - 19 pandemic and their managing techniques : critical analysis of West Bengal, india”. The purpose of the research study was to understand the tragic life of transgender people amid the pandemic during to corona virus disease of 2019. The aim of the researcher was to present a holistic picture of the challenges in related to their physical and mental health, barrier to healthcare and their financial crises. The research study showed that transgender people are in psychological distress for abandoning their comfortable identity, rejection of society and being burdensome for their families and this situation has become worsened during covid -19 pandemic.
5. Sam winter (2006) conducted a research study based on “Thai transgenders in focus : their beliefs about attitudes towards transgender and origins of transgender”. The research study shows that 62.9% of mothers and 40.6% of fathers accepted or encouraged their child’s transgender from its first expression. Thai people overall held similarly favourable attitudes towards Mtf Tgs . The research study also revealed that, based on their beliefs,97.1% of the sample could be divided into three groups.Where 61.2% fell into a biogenic group, emphasising the role played by inborn biology, while 29.4% believed took a ‘peer psychogenic ‘ view , emphasising the role played by friends in the development of the transgender. Small group of people 6.5% believed that biology,karma, and parents combined to account for their transgender.
6. Sharma G. ( 2021 ) conducted a research study on “ Attitude towards homosexuality in ten countries : A review”. This study represents a reviewed researches conducted in ten countries viz. Italy, India, Israel, Albania, Ghana , Portuguese, Indonesia, Russia, USA and Australia. The researcher found that the majority number of the countries held negative attitude towards homosexuality, whereas people with higher education tends to have a positive attitude towards homosexuality. The research study also revealed that the religious affiliations are associated with negative attitude and intolerance of homosexuality.

### 3. RATIONALE OF THE STUDY

In our modern society, transgender people are the most marginalized community in India. Transgender people are lived miserable lives. Transgender people frequently enduring more discrimination, harassment, education, food and other essential services. Modern society acknowledges only male and female as gender identities. The modern society has not yet accepted the existence of transgender between these two. The reason behind the non accepted tendencies of people is the negative attitude towards transgender . There are various types of of research study conducted on transgender people.But what are the different attitude of undergraduate college teachers and students towards transgender is not explore. In order to achieve the objectives it is necessary to understand the psychological issues and challenges they face as well as examine the prevailing attitudes in the society. There are very few number of research studies are found yet in west bengal to investigate the attitudes towards transgender.For these reason the present study need to explore. The present study will empirically examine the level of attitude of undergraduate college teachers, the level of attitude of undergraduate college students towards transgender people and find out the difference in the attitude of undergraduate college teachers and students towards transgender.

### 4. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

what is the attitude of undergraduate college teachers and students towards transgender in Kolkata, west bengal.

### 5. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

1. To identify the level of attitude of undergraduate college students towards transgender.
2. To find out the difference in the attitude of undergraduate college teachers and students towards transgender.
3. To find out the level of attitude of undergraduate college teachers towards transgender.

### 6. HYPOTHESES

**H01** : There will be a significant difference between male and female undergraduate college students in their attitude towards transgender.

**H02** : There will be a significant difference between men and women undergraduate college teachers in their attitude towards transgender.

**H03** : There will be no significant difference between undergraduate college teachers and undergraduate college students in their attitude towards transgender.

### 7. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

**Research design** : In this research, survey research method is used for collecting, analysing and interpreting the data.Here sex of the participants is the independent variable. Their attitude towards transgender is the dependent variable.

**Population of the study** : All the under graduate college teachers and students of different undergraduate colleges of Kolkata under the affiliation of University of Calcutta.

**Sample :** 4 under graduate arts and science colleges of Kolkata and it's adjoining areas are chosen for the study.

**Sample size :** 200 under graduate students,100 male and 100 female students who studied under graduate arts and science colleges of Kolkata are selected for the study as sample. 200 under graduate college teachers with 100 men and 100 women are selected as a sample.

**Sampling techniques :** Random sampling techniques used for the selection of 400 samples from the different undergraduate colleges of Kolkata in west bengal.

**8. TOOLS OF DATA COLLECTION**

In this present study to examine the attitude of undergraduate college teachers and students towards transgender, information collected by informal interviews is used to prepare items for the questionnaire. Total 19 items were formulated and use a four point rating scale. Reliability of the questionnaire is tested by test retest method.

**9. DATE COLLECTION**

In the college premises, the students were asked to answer the questionnaire in their classroom. For the college teachers,the questionnaire was given to individually at their work environment.

**10. DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

1. The study delimits with only 4 undergraduate arts and science colleges are taken for this study.
2. The study delimits with only undergraduate college teachers are chosen for this study.
3. The study delimits with undergraduate colleges students are selected for this study.
4. The present study delimits with only urban areas of Kolkata and West Bengal.

**11. DATA ANALYSIS**

In this present study, the descriptive analysis - mean, standard deviation and 't' value is used.

CATEGORY	N	MEAN	SD	't'
Male student	100	37.81	4.62	0.46
Female student	100	37.29	4.62	

**Table 1**

**Table 1 :** Indicates that there is no significant difference in the attitude of the transgender between male and female undergraduate college students. Subsequently the hypothesis "there will be a significant difference between male and female undergraduate college students in their attitude towards transgender" is rejected.

CATEGORY	N	MEAN	SD	't'
Men(College teacher)	100	49.90	5.49	8.36
Women (College teacher)	100	38.23	5.32	

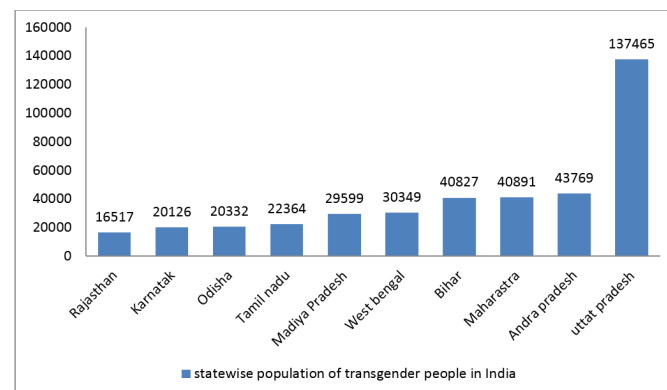
**Table 2**

**Table 2 :** Indicates that there is a significant difference in the attitude of transgender between men and women undergraduate college teachers. Subsequently, the hypothesis "there will be a significant difference between men undergraduate college teachers and women undergraduate college teachers in their attitude towards transgender" is accepted. Based on their 't' value ( 't'= 8.36 ) men undergraduate college teachers having more favourable attitudes towards transgender than the women undergraduate college teachers.

GROUP	N	MEAN	SD	't'
College student	200	37.57	4.39	5.54
College teacher	200	44.07	7.96	

**Table 3**

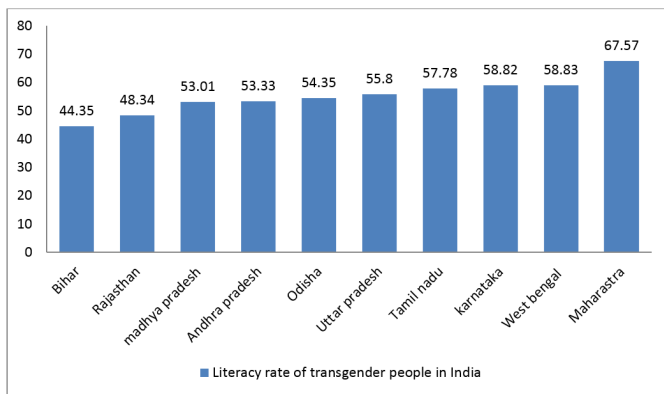
**Table 3:** shows that the comparison of attitude towards transgender among undergraduate college teachers and undergraduate college students. The calculated 't' value ( 't' = 5.54 ) shows that the undergraduate college teachers are better than the undergraduate college students. The calculated mean value shows that there is a significant difference between the two groups. So, the hypothesis States that there will be no significant difference between undergraduate college teachers and undergraduate college students in their attitude towards transgender is rejected.



Source : Population census 2011 .

**Figure 1:** State wise population rate of Transgender people in India , 2011 .

**Figure 1:** Shows State wise population rate of Transgender people in India , 2011. The data indicates that under ten states of India , the highest Transgender populated state is Uttar Pradesh ( 139,465 ) where the rate of others states Transgender population is Andhrapradesh ( 43,769 ) , Maharashtra ( 40,891 ) , Bihar ( 40,827 ) , West Bengal ( 30,349 ) , Madhya pradesh ( 29,597 ) , Tamil Nadu ( 22,364 ) , odisha ( 20,332 ) , Karnataka ( 20,266 ) and Rajasthan ( 16,517 ) .



Source : Population census 2011 .

**Figure 2:** State wise literacy rate of Transgender people in India , 2011 .

**Figure 2:** Indicates state wise literacy rate of Transgender people in India , 2011 . The results shows that in Madhya Pradesh ( 67.57 ), the literary rate of Transgender people is very high where the lowest literacy rate is located in Bihar ( 44.35 ) among the ten states of India in 2011 . The literary rate of Transgender people in other states of India fall in Karnataka ( 58.82 ), West Bengal ( 58.83 ), Tamil Nadu ( 57.78 ), Uttar Pradesh ( 55.80 ), Odisha ( 54.35 ), Andhra Pradesh ( 53.33 ), Madhya Pradesh ( 53.01 ), Rajasthan ( 48.34 ) and Bihar ( 44.35 ) .

## 12. MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. In this research study, there is no significant difference between male and female undergraduate college students in the attitude of transgender.
2. In this research, there is a significant difference in men and women undergraduate college teachers in attitude towards transgender. Based on their mean score, where men undergraduate college teachers are more favourable attitudes towards transgender than the women undergraduate college teachers.
3. In this research study, it is found that there is a significant difference between undergraduate college teachers and students in their attitude towards transgender. The undergraduate college teachers are more favourable attitude towards transgender than the undergraduate college students.

## 13. CONCLUSION

The transgender people or sexual minorities people faced different types of social problems in their life. They continue deal with major psychological distress for abandoning their comfortable identity, rejection of the society. The result of this present research study shows that the attitude towards transgender people of male undergraduate teachers are more favourable attitudes than the women undergraduate college teachers in Kolkata, west bengal. The research study also revealed that the undergraduate college teachers are contain more positive attitude towards transgender community than the undergraduate college students in Kolkata, west bengal. Subsequently it is suggested that to increase the positive attitude of undergraduate college students towards transgender to inclusion some transgender related topics in their curriculum

and raise an awareness among them for construct a strong social relationship among society's people and make a strong social bond.

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