

DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF THE TOOL LEVEL OF ASPIRATION SCALE

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ABSTRACT

Level of Aspiration is the possible goal of an individual sets in the performance. The Level of Aspiration which a person sets up for himself is frequently determined by the amount of self – esteem which he / she needs to maintain. Generally normal people set their Level of Aspiration littler above their present level of performance, raise it after success and lower a little after experiencing failure. Abnormal people and people dominated with excessive fear of failure set their future goals either unrealistically too high or low. Many factors like task difficult achievement, expectation of others and cultural factors influence one's Level of Aspiration. Feedback about one's performance is also equally effective in influencing Level of Aspiration. Generally, people tend to set their Level of Aspiration slightly above their previous performance and continue to adjust the level in successive trails. The purpose of this study is to establish the reliability and validity of the tool Level of Aspiration Scale. The study has revealed that the reliability and validity of the tool Level of Aspiration Scale was ensured.

Keywords: Development, Validation, Level of Aspiration Scale.

INTRODUCTION

Frank (1935) defines Level of Aspiration as “the level of future performance in a familiar task which an individual, knowing his level of past performance in the task, explicitly undertakes to reach”.

There are two determination of the Level of Aspiration, namely those stemming from the cultural norm of a group and those which all associated with the individual’s self – image. The cultural determinants of aspiration level are all the cultural pressures on the individual to sail towards higher achievement. Cultural pressures not only determine the level of achievement to which we aspire but also the level of performance with which we are satisfied.

A person’s Level of Aspiration is also markedly determined by his self – image. He strives and achieves, not only because of external pressure in the form of group standards and other problem opinion, but also because of his loyalty to his conceptions of himself as a person.

There are four typical sequences of events in a Level of Aspiration.

1. Last performance
2. Setting of aspiration for the next performance.
3. New performance
4. Psychological reaction due to the new performance.

Level of Aspiration does not exclusively rely upon performance but may depend on particular motivation, based upon which it can be classified into two types, namely high Level of Aspiration and low Level of Aspiration marked by less motivation towards achievement and high fear of failure (negative aspiration).

Levels of aspiration are more realistic in generally secured, self-confident individuals who anticipate success and are able to tolerate failure well. It has long been apparent that people

frequently are influenced by other peoples in terms of Level of Aspiration may arise from individual difference in achievement motivation.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The investigator has selected the present study with the aim of establishing the reliability and validity of the tool Level of Aspiration Scale. Therefore, it has been entitled as “DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF THE TOOL LEVEL OF ASPIRATION SCALE”.

SAMPLE

The sample consists of 50 B.Ed. First Year Students studying in the Cholan College of Education, Kancheepuram District.

VARIABLES OF THE STUDY

- i. Gender (Male / Female)
- ii. Age (Age 20 and below / Age 21-25 / Age 26 and above)
- iii. Community (OC / BC /MBC / SC – ST)
- iv. Religion (Hindu / Non Hindu)
- v. Marital Status (Married / Unmarried)
- vi. Student’s Residence (Hostel / Day Scholar)
- vii. Locality of the Institution (Rural / Urban)
- viii. Father’s Occupation (Coolie / Government / Business / Farmer)
- ix. Mother’s occupation (House Wife / Government / Others)
- x. Family Monthly Income (Below Rs.5000 / Rs.5000 – 10,000 / Above Rs.10, 000)

PILOT STUDY

The investigator has conducted pilot study in Cholan College of Education, Kancheepuram District. The investigator met 50 B.Ed. First Year Students studying in this college and explained to them the purpose of the questionnaire and distributed. In addition to this, the investigator has consulted with 6 Senior Professors who have got more than 20 years of teaching experience in the field of education.

TOOL USED IN THE PRESENT STUDY

The General Information Schedule

It includes general information about the respondents regarding Gender, Age, Community, Religion, Marital Status, and Student's optional subject, student's Residence, Locality of the Institution, Parent's occupation and Family Monthly income.

Level of Aspiration Scale developed by Mohanan, Samsanandaraj and Annaraja (2001).

ESTABLISHING VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY OF THE TOOL

(i) VALIDITY OF THE TOOL

A test is said to be valid if it measures what it intends to measure. The investigator has established validity for the tool Level of Aspiration Scale. The tool has been submitted to a panel of experts and 6 Senior Professors with more than 20 years of teaching experience who have agreed with the statements in the tool. Thus, the validity of the tool has been established.

(ii) RELIABILITY

Reliability of the test refers to the degree of consistency and accuracy with which a test measures what it intends to measure.

The investigator has used test - retest method for establishing the reliability of the tool. The investigator randomly chooses 50 B.Ed. First Year Students studying in Cholan College of Education, Kancheepuram District and the tool administered to them. After an interval of two weeks, the same tool was administered to the same set of student teachers. Correlation coefficient between the two sets of scores was calculated. The reliability of Level of Aspiration Scale was found to be 0.85. This is highly reliable to conduct a research. Thus the reliability of the tool was established.

SCORING PROCEDURE

The validated Level of Aspiration Scale comprised of 30 items. The respondents are asked to respond to the statement on 5-point scale. All the favorable statements are scored as 5 points for the response fully agree, 4 points for the response agree, 3 points for the response uncertain, 2 points for the response disagree and 1 point for the response fully disagree.

For the unfavorable statements, the scoring system is reversed as 1 point for the response fully agree, 2 points for the response agree, 3 points for the response uncertain, 4 points for the response disagree and 5 points for the response fully disagree.

CONCLUSION

In this present study the investigator has established the reliability and validity of the tool Level of Aspiration Scale. The pilot study was conducted by the investigator. The validity and reliability of the tool was established. The reliability of the tool was found to be 0.85, which is highly reliable to conduct a research.

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