THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Distance of Hindu Students of College towards Other Religious Group: An Empirical Study on Sarguja District

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Abstract:
It is said that every individual regards his or her own culture as being superior to all other culture as inferior by virtue of being different from his or her own culture. Inspite of this all people shows relationship to other religious group. People feels different level of intimacy or social distance to different religious group. The Present investigation has been undertaken to study the social distance of Hindu students towards other religious groups.60 Hindu student of Govt. College of the age range of 17-20 years were purposively and randomly selected. Social distance scale developed by Bogardus was used. on the basis of intimacy rank and kendalls coefficient of concordance the data were analysed.
The result show that Hindu students have highest intimacy to Christian and lowest intimacy to Yahudies. Also there is a strong agreement within all the subject. (Judges or Hindu students of college).

Keywords: Social distance, religion, intimacy, Race.

1. Introduction
We all human being are the member of a society which is constructed by different types of religious groups. In the society all religious groups have their own tradition values, norms, etc. different people of different religious groups shows some distances towards other religious groups.

Social distance describes the distance between different groups of society and is opposed to locational distance. The notion includes all differences such as social-class, race/ethnicity or sexuality, but also the fact that the different groups do not mix. the term is often applied incities but its use is not limited to that.

Another hand the degree of acceptance or rejection of social intercourse between individual belonging to diverse racial, ethnic, or class groups.

Social distances can be measured by some tests developed by different psychologists and sociologists. One of them is Bogardus social distance scale.7 statements are included in Bogardus social distance scale. All the statements are arranged in an order starting from favourable to unfavourable statement.

Kuppuswami has used the bogardus social distance scale and obtained high social distance of people towards Muslims, Harijans, and Padris because they secured 5,6,7 ranks from most of the people. Although Brahmin, and Christians secured 1,2,3 ranks from most of the people and shows high intimacy.

Bogardus himself used the social distance scale between Americans and Canadians observed that Americans shows much positive attitude towards Canadians and English man but they show negative attitude towards Indians, Negro and Turks.

Striking similarity in responses of group members is an Index of social norms. A remarkable similar picture of social distance for national and ethnic groups in the united state is found in different strata of population and different religion.

In 1938, college students at different colleges and universities (in USA) ranked ethnic group and national group in much the same way (Hartley 1964 and Guilford 1931) found a very similar rating far flung parts of the country.

Group of all the members of one religion are called in-group and the members of other religious groups are called out-group for that in-group. The members of in-group feel a strong sense of identity and similarity with the group and shows unity and co-operation within their group. They also feel sense of elitism about their group.

Feldmen (1905), Fisher (1938) and Mayers (1987) found that every member of in-group shows similar negative attitude towards member of out groups.

Downing and Monako observed that the more differential contact between in-group and out-group the more would be the negative attitudes towards the member of out-group.

2. Methodology

2.1. Selection of Sample
For the present study 60 Hindu Students of College from Rajeev Gandhi Govt. P.G. College Ambikapur Sarguja (C.G.) were selected as sample. A purposive random sampling technique was employed under the age group of 17 to 20 years.

2.2. Tools
Social distance scale developed by Bogardus was used to measure social distance. It consists of 7 items in which candidate have to rank. On the basis of rank and kendall's coefficient of concordance. It measures social intimacy of a person to the people of different religious group, cast, state etc.

2.3. Procedure
60 Hindu students between the age rang of 17 to 20 years were taken and Bogardus social distance scale was administrated in an individual situation. For selection of sample a purposive random sampling technique was used. After sampling, the data were tabulated and put to the statistical treatment. Data were analyzed on the basis of the ranks and kendall's coefficient of concordance.

3. Results and discussion
After the observation of the obtained data and result of the present study it is cleared that Hindu students of college show highest intimacy to Christian and lowest intimacy to Yahudis.

Name of religion	Percentage of 1St preferences	Total score	Maximum secured rank
Muslim	11.66%	198	2,3
Christian	45%	118	1,2
Sikhs	16.66%	193	1,2,4
Budhist	8.33%	229	5,4
Jainism	8.33%	249	4,5
Parssis	3.33%	333	5,6
Yahudis	0%	345	6,7

Table 1

Christians secured 1, 2 and 3 ranks from most of the subjects and Yahudis secured 5, 6 and 7 ranks from most of the subjects on the basis of total score Christians obtained 118 total score which is lowest and Yahudis obtained 345 total score which shows highest social distance from Hindu students of college.
In addition to this out of selected 60 subjects 45% first rank has given to Christ. And 16.66% first rank has given to Sikh, 11.66% first rank has given to Muslims, 8.33% first rank has given to Budhha, Jain's, 3.33% first rank has given to Parsis and 0% first rank has given to Yahudis.
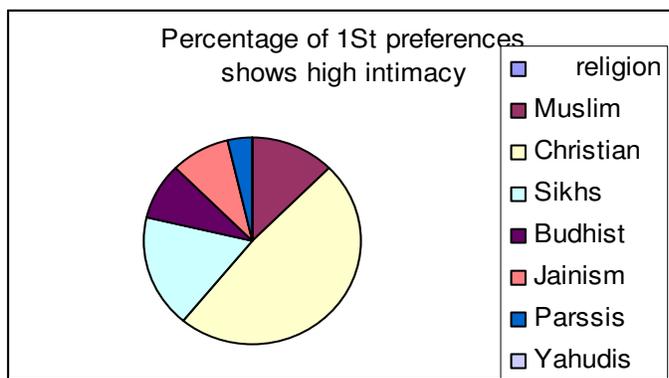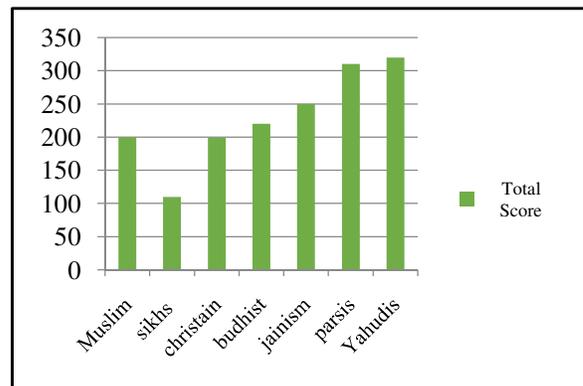

Figure 1

Figure 2: social distance

On the basis of all the above description we can say that Hindu students of college shows highest social distance to Yahudis and lowest social distance to Christians.
The location of this study is Sarguja district were population of Christians is more than other religion after Christians Muslims and Sikhs they also have a considerable population. Jains are ranked as a minority community in Chhattisgarh State and Yahudis,
Budhha and Parsis can be counted on fingers. It can safely be said that they are more or less in significant.
Apparently for this intimacy with the Christian community is frequent interaction of Hindus with the Christian. and because of the low population the interaction with the other community is not frequent. It can also not be ignored that the result may have been different had there been frequent interaction with other communities had been there. some studies tell that members of in-group have more

prejudice towards member of out-group. Due to prejudice, social disorganization developed in a society. Because of social disorganization, society members feel distances from each other.

The other reason for this result is that most of the educational institution, Hospitals and Social welfare organizations are run by the Christian community and the standard and Quality of education and medication is better than other similar institution. It is human nature that is always demands better and cheaper facilities for its well-being and upliftment one more factor needs to be under line that persons belonging to Christian communities are most disciplined individuals they sincere in there work and this attracts the other community to befriend them.

Value of D	Value of W
38,701	.38

Table 2

W value =   .01   .38 > .09
.05   .38 > .03

The research hypothesis is proved that there is a strong agreement within all the subjects.

By the result of kendall's coefficient of concordance it is proved that there is a strong agreement within all the subjects.

In 1938, college students at different colleges and universities (in USA) ranked ethnic group and national group in much the same way (Hartley 1964 and Guilford 1931) found a very similar rating far flung parts of the country. This study supports the present study.

Feldman (1905), Fisher (1938), and Mayer's (1987) study also support the present study

They found that every member of in-group shows similar negative attitude towards member of out groups.

As a conclusion Hindu college students show highest intimacy towards Christian and there is a strong agreement within all the subjects.

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