

# COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, NAGAON



## REPORT

**TITLE: A CASE STUDY ON SELF IDENTITY OF  
STUDENTS OF DIFFERENT LOCALITIES**

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**SUBMITTED BY:**

**NAME: POOJA DAS**

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**SUBMITTED TO:**

**NAME: JAHNAVI DAS**

**LECTURER,**

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, NAGAON**

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## INTRODUCTION

### Self-Identity of Children

Our self-identity is a collection of beliefs we hold about ourselves. It is a key foundation for children's social and emotional development related to their feelings of security and self-worth. Research continues to explore the association between identity, resilience development and mental health (Burns and Rapee, 2006). This process is important for anyone working with children because identity and feelings of well-being are firmly linked to life experiences. Identity formation is a complex socio-cultural process that is never completed and which includes a variety of representations of a child about themselves, about the world, about his place in this world. Children begin to ask identity questions at an early age. Who am I? Who is my family? Where do I belong? Why does my family celebrate some festivals and not others? These are all standard questions children ask to determine how they fit into their world. Erik Erikson (1902–1994) became one of the earliest psychologists to take an explicit interest in problem of child identity. Self-identity refers to the descriptive characteristics, qualities, and abilities that people use to define themselves. Children develop self-identity, who they believe themselves to be, and begin to form relationships through play and peer relations which contribute to their emotional, social and cognitive development. Building a Strong Self-Identity takes a great deal of confidence and a healthy self-esteem for a child to accept themselves. For feeling comfortable in their self-identity we have to encourage them for developing the following qualities within them:

- I. Find out their strength and weakness.
- II. Distinguish between likes and dislikes of themselves.
- III. Become a great friend.
- IV. Felling of self-respect.
- V. Identifying important things to their life.
- VI. Be aware of their downfalls so they can improve on them and develop some personal qualities, etc.

Children should be asked to write down their qualities heading like THIS IS ME and make a card or collage to develop a strong self-identity. It should not be imposing other ideas on them. A child's sense of self-identity may change as they enter the teenage years, but keep encouraging them to see their good points so they feel confident about themselves. Children learn to know themselves in relation to opportunities and limitations in their social world. Attachment is part of the process of identity formation.



## **SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

Childhood is an important period of social development, particularly in the formation of self-identity. For some children, the way they feel about themselves and their social identities may contribute to their vulnerability to depression. Depression is a complex condition influenced by a range of factors, but there is evidence that social factors can play a critical role. Children derive a sense of pride, self-worth, and consistency from their social identities.

When social identity is rapidly changed, threatened, or questioned, a child may become vulnerable to depression. The people around us also influence our social identities and the way we feel about ourselves. If a child is very shy and withdrawn, it is likely that other children will pick up on her social cues and leave her alone, thus confirming her social identity as "shy and withdrawn." In turn, she may lack satisfaction in her social role, feel lonely, or become frustrated trying to break free from that identity. When people are depressed, they tend to experience social withdrawal. Research has shown that periods of loneliness are predictive of the onset of depression. Social identification is important because it influences how people see themselves and how they interact with others. If people have a positive view of their identity within a group, they are more likely to relate well to others in that group and feel positive emotions about themselves. Therefore it is important to study about the self-identity of children of different localities with different socio-economic background.

## **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

### **A Case Study on Self Identity of Students of Different Localities**

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

1. To study about the self-identity of children of different localities.
2. To compare the level of self-identity of children of different socio-economic background.
3. To find out the relationship between self-identity and socio-cultural activities.

## **METHODOLOGY**

Research methodology is a systematic way to solve a problem. It is a science of studying how research is to be carried out. Essentially, the procedure by which researchers go about their work of describing explaining phenomena are called research methodology. It is also defined

as the study of methods by which knowledge is gained. Its aim is to give the work plan of research.

In this study the researchers applied interview method. Therefore the investigators use a Questionnaire, it includes '11' questions. Interview can be defined as a qualitative research technique which involves "conducting intensive individual interviews with small number of respondents to explore their perspectives on a particular idea, program or situation. Interview is one of the most flexible and widely used methods for gaining information about people's experience, views and feelings. Interview is of different types viz., Personal Interview, Telephone Interview, Structured Interview, Unstructured Interview, Depth Interview, protective techniques etc.

- According to McNamara 1999, "Interviews are particularly useful for getting the story behind a participant's experiences."
- According to Good and Hatt, "An interview is a close face to face conversation on a dialogue between the investigator or interviewer and interviewees."

Interview method has different advantages like-

Through questioning in depth information can be obtained. Through personal interactions the interviewer can observe the respondent's reaction, body language, facial expression about a particular question. That helps the researcher to reword the question spontaneously. The presence of researcher and respondent and the interaction between them has a great influence on both the quality and quantity of responses generated from the respondent.

### **TOOLS FOR DATA COLLECTION**

Researchers have applied interview method and questionnaire as a tool for data collection.

### **ANALYSIS OF THE DATA**

#### **QUESTIONNAIRE**

##### **GENERAL DATA-I**

Name of participant: Manjeeta Borah

Class: VI

Father's Name: Ranjan Borah

Mother's Name: Pompi Borah

Father's occupation: Teacher

Mother's occupation: House wife

Father's education status: M.A pass

Mother's education status :B.A Pass

Q. 1) who are you?

Ans: I am a girl of 12 years old .

Analysis: From this answer we understood that she has same sense about herself and she is beloved girl for her parents.

Q. 2) what do you like to spend your free time?

Ans: I like to play with my mom in my free time

Analysis: she is very friendly with her mother and she is very active.

Q. 3) what's your hobby?

Ans: Dancing

Analysis: By giving answer, it can assume that, she is very fitness conscious.

Q. 4) Do you like to attend any social function?

Ans: Yes I have attended puja, new year celebration, Diwali and I enjoyed, while attending those kind of function.

Analysis: From this answer, it is seen that she is social being and extrovert type of personality.

Q. 5) Do you like to play with your friend?

Ans: Yes I like to play with my friends. But not with all. I have three best friends with them I mostly played

Analysis: From this answer It is seen that. She is friendly in nature. But she is more conscious about choosing her friend.

Q. 6) which subject do you like most?

Ans: Social Science

Analysis: From this answer, it is seen that she is very analytical in nature and have sharp brain

Q. 7) what's your favourite colour?

Ans: white, because it gives us peace

Analysis: from the answer it is seen that she has very unique thought.

Q. 8) what's your favourite food?

Ans: Roti and pumpkin sabji

Analysis: From this answer it is seen that her choice are very unique compared to other children because other children mostly attracted toward fast food.

Q. 9) Do you visit to your neighbour's home?

Ans: Yes I oftenly visit to my neighbor's home because from school at 3.00 pm than I go to tuition every day. So I could not get much time from visiting neighbour's home.



Analysis: From the above answer, it is seen that she is socially active. It also depicts that, her life is much busy. So she doesn't get enough time in her personal life.

Q. 10) what's your last academic result of annual examination held on class?

Ans: I got 94% and I secured 11 ranked in my class.

Analysis: From this answer, it is seen that, she is very intelligent girl

Q. 11) Do you worship God?

Ans: Yes I pray God everyday

Analysis: From this answer, it is seen that she has spirituality and believe in existence of God.

Q. 12) Do you feel any hesitation to talk with your teacher in school and with the guest when they come to your home?

Ans: No I frankly have spoken with them. My teacher told that, I am a smart girl.

Analysis: From this answer, it is seen that she is frank in nature.

Q. 13) What is your aim in life?

Ans. Doctor.

Analysis: She is highly ambitious and it also reflects her humanity.

## QUESTIONNAIRE

### GENERAL DATA-II

Name of the participant: Samir Das

Class: VII

Father's Name: Deepak Das

Mother's Name: Bina Das

Father's Occupation: Self business

Mother's Occupation: House Wife

Father's Educational Status: B. Com passed

Mother's educational status: H.S. passed

Q.1) Who are you?

Answer. I am a boy of 13 years old and I read in class VII

Analysis: From the answer given by the boy it shows that he has complete sense about himself.

Q.2) How do you like to spend your free time?

Answer: I like to play game in mobile,puzzle,Cricket.

Analysis: By this answer we understood that he is very smart.

Q.3) What is your hobby?

Answer: Playing and reading story book.

Analysis: From his answer, it is very clear that he is very active.

Q.4) Do you like to attend social function?

Answer: Yes I like to attend bihu function, festival program and participate Independence Day.

Analysis: From his answer it is clear that he is socially adjustable person and he has extrovert type of personality. He likes to interact and communicate with others.

Q.4) Do you like to play with your friends?

Answer: Yes I like it.

Analysis: From his answer it is clear that he is very socially active

Q.6) which subject does you like most?

Answer: Science.

Analysis: From his answer it is clear that he is very practical.

Q.7) what is your favourite colour?

Answer: Green.

Analysis: The participants said that his favourite colour is green that means he loves the beauty of nature.

Q.8) what is your favourite food?

Answer: Chicken ,fruits,meggie.

Analysis: From his response it is shows that the quality of childhood because maximum children are at these age groups likes to eat chicken.

Q.9) Do you visit your neighbour's home?

Answer: Yes.

Analysis: From his answer we got that there boy is extrovert and socially adjustable person.

Q.10) What is your last academic result?

Answer: I got 80 percentages in class VII

Analysis: From his response it is clear that he is a good in academics or an intelligent boy.

Q.11) Do you worship God?

Answer: Yes.

Analysis: From his response it is clear that he believes the existence of God.



Q.12) Do you feel any hesitation to talk with your teacher in school and with the guest when they come to your home?

Answer: I feel very nervous when I talk with my teacher but I like most when guest came to our house.

Analysis: From the response of the child it is clear that he has a mix personality.

Q.13) what is your aim in life?

Answer: My aim in life is to become a good teacher.

Analysis- From his response it is clear that he choose a ambitious path of life as his mother.

## QUESTIONNAIRE

### GENERAL DATA-III

Name of the Participant : Rimpi Dey

Class : IV

Father's Name : Deepak Dey

Mother's Name : Neha Dey

Father's Occupation : Puchka Seller

Mother's Occupation : Housewife

Father's Educational Status : Under Matric

Mother's Educational Status : Under Matric

Q.1) Who are you?

Ans: I am a girl.

Analysis: In this answer the participant said that she is a girl. By the answer we understand that she has some sense about herself but not complete sense about herself as she has not mentioned her name.

Q.2) What do you like to spend your free time?

Ans: I like to watch movie in my free time.

Analysis: From the reply, it is very clear that she likes to spent her free time by enjoying own company. She is like introvert type.

Q. 3) What is your hobby?

Ans: Singing ,Dancing, gardening

Analysis: From her reply it is very clear that she is a fun loving girl. Through singing and dancing she enjoys a lit she is physically active also.

Q. 4) Do you like to attend any social function?

Ans: Yes, I like to attend Puja, Dipawali celebration.

Analysis: From her reply it very much clear that she is socially active and she likes to celebrate social functions.

Q. 5) Do you like to play with your friends?

Ans: Yes, I like to play with my friends in school sitting in the same bench. Again I like to play with my neighbour which is staying in the rent house like us.

Analysis: From her reply it is very much clear that she is conscious about her choices.

Q. 6) Which subject do you like most?

Ans: Hindi

Analysis: From her reply it is very much clear that she likes literature subject.

Q. 7) Which is your favourite colour?

Ans: Red

Analysis: From her reply it is very much clear that she likes bright colour.

Q.8) What is your favourite food?

Ans: Rice and smoked potato.

Analysis: From her reply it is clear that she is unable to eat healthy food properly and it is due to her economic condition.

Q.9) Do you visit to your neighbour's home?

Ans: Yes, I like to visit my neighbour's home, which are staying in the rent houses like us.

Again I want to visit my other neighbour but I hesitate to go there because they are rich.

Analysis: From her reply it is very much clear specified about her choices. Due to their economic status she feels hesitation to go other person's houses, whose economic status is better than them.

Q.10) What is your last academic result of annual examination?

Ans: It was not good. I have secured 42% marks.

Analysis: From her reply it is very much clear that she is not a bright student.

Q.11) Do you worship God?

Ans: Yes, I pray to god every day.

Analysis: From her reply it is very much clear that she believes in God.

Q.12) Do you feel any hesitation to talk with your teacher in school and with the guest when they come to your home?

Ans: Yes, I always feel hesitation to talk to my teacher in school and with the guest.

Analysis: From her reply it is very much clear that she does not want to mix up with everyone. It shows her introvert character.

Q.13) What is your aim in life?

Ans. My aim in life is to be a good tailor.

Analysis: From her reply it is very clear that she don't have a good ambition in her life.

## **FINDINGS**

- From the first interview schedule it is found that as the family background of 1<sup>st</sup> child is economically and psychologically sound, due to which child get support in the field of all directions such as personal, educational, social etc. from her parents. Child is highly ambitious, so she choose her aim to be a doctor. It also reflect her creative mind. Child has very unique mind set and conscious about her choice. From the interview, it also seen that girl is socially active and extrovert type. Highly energetic and fit.
- From the second study it is seen that the boy is belonging from a middle class family. His mother is a house wife and father is a businessman the educational background of his family is good so he get support from his parents in every side. It is also reflects from the study that the child is socially active but for some reason he felt hesitation when he face his teacher. Therefore it can be said that the boy has a mixed personality.
- From the third interview we have seen that the economic and social background of the child is not sound. Since her parents are less educated as his father is a puchka seller by profession and her mother is a house wife. The child is not getting any proper guidance in any field which affect in every aspects of her life. So she became an introvert type. She does not have any high ambitions also.



## CONCLUSION

The above discussion reveals the importance of self-identification in the personality development of a child. Maintaining self-identity is important because it strengthens the character of the child. Self-identification helps in boosting the self-confidence of the child. Self-identification sometimes may be positive or negative. Positive identification of self helps to create a good personality, on the other hand, if self-identification is of negative sense, it hurdles the way of their creativity, confidence, which further creates problem in their proper psychological development.

Teacher plays a great role in the development of self-identification of the students. A teacher should take proper care of his or her students for their positive psychological development. A teacher should make sure that he or she should respond to the students in such a way that can boost their sense of self and improve their self-confidence. At the same time, students can improve in their areas of weakness if the teachers correct them, when they do something wrong or inappropriate. Thus, we can conclude that identification of self plays a vital role in the life of children.



## APPENDIX

- Who are you?
- How do you like to spend your free time?
- What is your hobby?
- Do you like to attend social functions?
- Do you like to play with your friends?
- Which subject do you like most?
- What is your favourite colour?
- What is your favourite food?
- Do you visit your neighbour's home?
- What is your last academic result?
- Do you worship God?
- Do you feel any hesitation to talk with your teacher in school and with the guest those come to your home ?

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'D' followed by a horizontal line and a small upward curve.

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