Chapter – 11

SUMMARY

The present study was designed to see the relationship of the perception of feminine worth with the indulgence in eve teasing by boys and the experience of eve teasing by females in Chandigarh.

The primary objectives of the study were:

1. To construct an appropriate instrument to measure the extent and frequency of eve teasing males indulge in.

2. To construct an appropriate instrument to measure the extent and frequency of eve teasing females experience.

3. To construct an appropriate instrument to measure the perception of feminine worth of males and females.

4. To examine the relationship between the indulgence of males in eve teasing and their perception of feminine worth.

5. To study the relationship between the experience of eve teasing by females and their perception of feminine worth.

6. To compare the perception of feminine worth of males vis-à-vis females.
The secondary objectives of the study were:

1. To find out the relationship of the following demographic factors with the phenomenon of eve teasing and the perception of feminine worth:

   (a) Father’s Education
   (b) Mother’s Education
   (c) Mother’s Employment Status
   (d) Type of Family
   (e) Family Income
   (f) Having a male sibling
   (g) Having a female sibling

On the basis of related literature, the following hypotheses were formulated:

All the hypotheses that have been derived in the review are listed below:

$H_1$: Females’ experience of eve teasing is more than males’ admission to indulgence in eve teasing.

$H_2$: Female’s perception of feminine worth is better than that of males.

$H_3$: Perception of feminine worth is positively correlated with the individual’s family income.

$H_4$: Perception of feminine worth of individuals having cross-gender sibling(s) would be better than those having same-gender sibling(s).
Summary...

H5: Individual's perception of feminine worth is positively correlated with the parent's educational level.

H6: Perception of feminine worth of individuals having working mothers would be better than those having non-working mothers.

H7: Individuals who have studied in coeducational schools have a better perception of feminine worth than those who have studied in segregated schools.

H8: Perception of feminine worth of individuals from nuclear families would be better than that of individuals from joint families.

H9: There is a positive correlation between the females' perception of feminine worth and their experience of eve teasing.

H10: There is a negative correlation between males' perception of feminine worth and their indulgence in eve teasing.

The first two phases were devoted to the construction and standardisation of the tools required to measure (a) indulgence of eve teasing by males (IETQ); (b) Experience of eve teasing by females (EETQ); and (c) perception of feminine worth by males and females (ATWS). These involved item preparation, item analysis, and establishing the reliability and validity of the three instruments.

In the third phase of the study, IETQ and EETQ were administered to a sample of 750 males and 750 female undergraduate students respectively. These students were studying in various colleges of Chandigarh and Panjab University campus. All the subjects were also administered the ATWS to measure their perception of feminine worth. Some information regarding the socio-demographics was also taken from the sample. For data analysis, only those respondents were considered who had not left any information unfilled in the questionnaires. Thus, the final sample consisted of 672 female and 448 male respondents.
For analysing the data, t test was used to find out the gender differences in the perception of feminine worth. Pearson's coefficients of correlation were computed to see the relationship of perception of feminine worth with (a) the indulgence of males in eve teasing; and (b) the experience of eve teasing by girls. Pearson's coefficients of correlation were also computed to find out the relationship of various demographic variables with (a) the perception of feminine worth; (b) indulgence of males in eve teasing; and (c) the experience of eve teasing by girls. Multiple regression analysis was used to ascertain these relationships.

Seven out of the ten hypotheses formulated on the basis of the review of literature were confirmed. The hypothesis that the perception of feminine worth of individuals having cross-gender sibling(s) would be better than those having same-gender sibling(s) (H₄) was not confirmed. The results of the study did not substantiate the hypothesis that perception of feminine worth of individuals from nuclear families would be better than that of individuals from joint families. The hypothesis that there is a positive correlation between the females' perception of feminine worth and their experience of eve teasing was confirmed only in the case of mild forms of eve teasing.

The results obtained in the present study may be summarised as follows.

1. The experience of eve teasing by females was found to be significantly greater than the indulgence in eve teasing admitted by males.

2. Gender differences were found in the perception of feminine worth with females having a more egalitarian attitude than males towards women.

3. Significant relationship was found between the perception of feminine worth of males and their indulgence in eve teasing indicating that males with more traditional attitudes toward women
Summary...

indulged in eve teasing more than the males with egalitarian attitudes.

4. Significant association was found between the perception of feminine worth of females with their experience in eve teasing indicating that the more egalitarian the attitude of females, the more is the likelihood of their being harassed by males.

5. The demographic variables that influenced the males to indulge in eve teasing were type of school attended (coeducational or only boys'), family income, education of parents, and employment status of the mother. Males who attended coeducational schools indulged in eve teasing less than the males from only boys' schools. Males from economically weaker class indulged in eve teasing more than the males from affluent families. The more educated the parents, less the males indulged in eve teasing. The males who had employed mothers were found to indulge in attention seeking behaviour more than the males whose mothers were non-working.

6. Various demographic variables, which influenced males' perception of feminine worth, were the type of school that they had attended, family income, parents' education, mothers' employment status, and having a male sibling. Those males who attended co-ed schools, belonged to well-off families, whose parents were more educated, and whose mothers were employed had a better perception of feminine worth. Having a male sibling made the males more gender stereotyped.

7. The type of family – nuclear or joint, or having a sister, neither contributed to the males' perception of feminine worth nor to their indulgence in eve teasing.
8. Demographic variables that were found to contribute to the experience of girls being harassed were the type of school that the girls attended, their family income, and the mothers' education. Girls who had attended co-ed schools had experienced more attention seeking behaviour by boys. The girls from affluent families had experienced more eve teasing. Mothers' education was found to be having an inverse relation with the girls' experience of severe forms of eve teasing.

9. The type of families – nuclear or joint, fathers' education, mothers' employment status, and having a sibling of either gender did not contribute to the experience of eve teasing by girls.

10. The perception of feminine worth in girls was found to be related to the family income, parents' education level, and the mothers’ employment status. Girls from affluent families and whose parents were more educated had a better perception of feminine worth. Girls whose mothers were working also had a better perception of feminine worth. Having a brother diminished the perception of feminine worth in girls.

11. The type of school that the girls had attended, the type of family they came from, and having a sister was not found to contribute to their perception of feminine worth.