

FRIENDSHIP AND SENSE OF HUMOUR AMONG LATE ADOLESCENCE AND EARLY ADULTHOOD- A CORRELATION STUDY

¹Nandhini E, ²Nancy M

¹II Year Postgraduate Student.

²Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology,
PSG College of arts and science, Coimbatore-641014
Tamilnadu, India

Abstract: Teen friendships tend to be based on personal similarity, acceptance and sharing. Relationships with friends of the same gender are the norm during high school. During the period of adolescence friendships become more intense, close and supportive. Certain important components like Loyalty, Honesty, Sense of Humour, Communication and flexibility influence a good relationship.

Aim: The aim of the current study is to explore the relationship between Friendship and Sense of Humour among Late Adolescence and Early Adulthood.

Methods: The population included in this study was Early Adolescent and Young Adult Students, The sampling method used in this study was Purposive Sampling. Tools used in this study was “Dimension of Friendship” developed by Chanda in the year 1986 and “Sense of Humour” (SQH-6) developed by Sven Svebak in the year 2015. Mean, Standard deviation and Correlation were used to analyze the data.

Results: The findings of this study reveals that there was no significant difference between Friendship and Sense of Humour. And Gender difference exist only in the dimension Mutual Assistance and not in other Dimensions. There was no significant relationship between Social dimension, Enjoyment and Mutual Assistance and no high level of Cognitive dimension and Understanding was found in this study.

Conclusion: The conclusion of this study reveals that there is no relationship between friendship and sense of humour. This shows that the role of Humour in friendship is not much important as other factors. Gender difference in the dimension Mutual Assistance reveals that females tend to involve more in helping each other in friendship than males. This may be because there is no previous study supporting these two variables Sense of Humour and Friendship.

Keywords: Friendship, Sense of Humour, Relationship, Adolescence.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Adolescence stage of a human is a time where peer play an important role in everyone’s youth life. Teenagers tend to develop friendship more intimate and get more comfortable with friendship. These kind of relationship with peers are an essential component of development. Sense of belongingness and acceptance are developed. Friendships that emerge during adolescence tend to be more complex, more exclusive, and more consistent than during earlier childhood (Steinberg, 2005). Many people develop attitude and frame values that they grasp from their peer group. Peer circle can also develop a person and also it can be a destruction.

DEFINITION OF FRIENDSHIP:

Friendship is a close relationship between two people marked by feeling of care, respect, admiration, concern and love or lives (Lickman, 2013)

SENSE OF HUMOUR:

Humour is a prominent attribute or state of feeling that has the power to evoke laughter. Humour contributes to be a stress buster and promote happiness temporarily. Humour now refers to all forms of laughter, including jokes, stand-up comedy, television sitcoms, political satire, and ridicule. In this sense, humour now can be aggressive and hostile, as well as benevolent and philosophical (Ruch, 1996).

DEFINITION:

According to Psychology of humour, "Humour is defined as a form of communication that is judged to be amusing and makes others laugh.

HUMOUR AND FRIENDSHIP:

One gauge of a healthy friendship is the ability to share gut-wrenching laughter. Jokes between best friends come effortlessly and even in situations that appear dire, close friends are able to find a touch of levity that diffuses stress and leaves both of them feeling better. Good humour can, in fact, create and cement friendships; conversely, caustic humour can signal toxicity.

Some researchers indicate that there exists clear implications for theories of humor style development, highlighting an important role for affiliation humor within stable friendship dyads. (Simon C.Hunter & et.al, 2016). Study conducted on the topic, "Friendship Chemistry: An examination of underlying factors" shows that participants with agreeable, open, and conscientious personalities more commonly report experiencing friendship chemistry, as do those who are female, young and European. (Kelly Campbell & et.al,2015). Another study on the topic "Humour Styles and Negative Intimate Relationship events" shows that there was no significant association was found between aggressive humour used by the participant and relation satisfaction.(Rod Martin,2014). Emotional management ability was positively correlated with self-enhancing humor and trait cheerfulness are negatively related to aggressive and self-defeating humor. Positive humor styles and trait cheerfulness were positively correlated with various domains of social competence, whereas negative humor styles and trait bad mood were negatively correlated with social competence.(Jeremy A.Yip & et.al,2005). Research conducted on the topic "Humour, Peer acceptance and perceived social competence in preschool and school-aged children" shows that results were consistent with the model for 8th grade students with peer measures of humour and behaviour. Humour was predictive of perception of own humour and when assessed by peers, humour also predicted peer acceptance. (Olav Sletta & et.al,1995).

NEED OF THE STUDY:

- Friendship networks are an important source of peer influence. It is based on Choice and Commitment.
- Sense of humour play a major role as a component of Friendship.
- During the Stage of Late Adolescents and Early Adulthood Friendships are fundamentally different from family relationship.
- Many researchers have proved that time spent with Friends are probably greater in Adolescence and Adulthood than any other time in life span.
- There are very few studies concerning these two variables Friendship and Sense of Humour.
- Hence to find out the relation between Friendship and Sense of Humour the current study have been executed.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**AIM OF THE STUDY:**

The aim of the current study is to explore the relationship between Friendship and Sense of Humour among Late Adolescence and Early Adulthood.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

- To assess various dimensions in Friendship among Late Adolescence and Early Adulthood.
- To find out the Sense of Humour among Late Adolescence and Early Adulthood.
- To find out the relationship between Friendship and Sense of Humour among Late Adolescence and Early Adulthood.

HYPOTHESIS:

- There is a significant relationship between the Friendship and Sense of Humour.
- There is significant relationship between Social dimension, Enjoyment and Mutual Assistance
- There is high level of Cognitive dimension and Understanding

SAMPLES:

The population included in this study was Early Adolescent and Young Adult Students, The sampling method used in this study was Purposive Sampling. The sample includes students from various college in Coimbatore.

INCLUSION CRITERIA:

- Early Adolescent and Young adult Students were considered as samples
- Both genders male and female were included
- Literates were considered as Samples

EXCLUSION CRITERIA:

- Students above the age of 25 were not considered as samples
- Those who are unwilling to participate were excluded
- Illiterates were not considered as samples.

TOOLS USED:

- Dimensions of Friendship Scale (DFS)
- Sense of Humour Questionnaire (SHQ-6)

DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOL:

By Chandha & Chandha (1986)

Total number of items in the tool is 64

THE DIMENSIONS:

- Enjoyment
- Acceptance
- Respect
- Trust
- Mutual Assistance
- Confiding
- Understanding
- Spontaneity

Reliability:

The Test-retest Reliability for the scale was found to be .75

Validity:

Overall cross validity was found to be .78

➤ **SENSE OF HUMOUR QUESTIONNAIRE-6 (SQH-6)**

By Sven Svebak in the year 2015

Total number of item in the tool is 6

THE DIMENSIONS:

- Cognitive dimension
- Social dimension
- Affective dimension

Reliability:

The SHQ-6 has good internal consistency with alpha= .85

Validity:

Overall cross validity was found to be .50

PROCEDURE FOR DATA COLLECTION:

For the purpose of this research, survey method was used. Beforehand Permission was asked from the institution formally for the purpose of collecting data. The samples were told about the purpose of data collection. Then Students were told that the data collected from them will be used for the research purpose alone and also confidentiality will be maintained. The samples were given the questionnaire (Dimension of friendship scale and Sense of Humour Questionnaire) along with demographic details sheet and was asked to fill it. Then they were given instructions to read the questions carefully and make appropriate responses, whichever is suitable for them. They were also instructed not to omit any questions.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS:

Mean, Standard deviation, Correlation were used for analysing the collected data. The statistical analyses were done by using SPSS.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The analysis of data is the most skilled task in the research process. It involves breaking the existing complex factors into simpler parts and putting the parts together in new arrangements for the purpose of the preparation.

Table 1: Showing the correlation between Friendship Scale and Sense of Humour Scales

DIMENSIONS	Cognitive Dimension	Social Dimension	Affective Dimension
Enjoyment	0.117	-0.036	0.118
Acceptance	0.024	0.026	-0.168
Trust	0.120	0.120	0.151
Respect	0.113	-0.098	-0.047
Mutual Assistance	-0.160	0.097	0.002
Confiding	-0.030	0.091	0.057
Understanding	0.038	-0.038	-0.034
Spontaneity	0.130	0.192	0.038

Table 4.1 shows that there is no significant relationship between Enjoyment, Acceptance, Trust, Respect, Mutual Assistance, Confiding, Understanding, Spontaneity and Cognitive, Social and Affective Dimensions. There is no correlation between any of these dimensions, this may be because there is no previous study supporting these two variables Sense of Humour and Friendship.

Table 2: Showing the mean, Standard deviation and t-score for Friendship Scale

Group Statistics					
	Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	T test
ENJOYMENT	Male	50	4.94	1.778	2.673(0.009)
	Female	50	4.06	1.504	
ACCEPTANCE	Male	50	4.40	1.429	1.489(0.140)
	Female	50	3.98	1.392	
TRUST	Male	50	3.82	1.587	-0.194(0.847)
	Female	50	3.88	1.507	
RESPECT	Male	50	3.54	1.581	-0.065(0.948)
	Female	50	3.56	1.487	
MUTUAL ASSISTANT	Male	50	4.56	1.631	-3.128(0.002)
	Female	50	5.58	1.630	
CONFINDING	Male	50	3.44	1.631	-0.689(0.492)
	Female	50	3.66	1.560	
UNDERSTANDING	Male	50	3.56	1.459	0.943(0.348)
	Female	50	3.26	1.712	
SPONTANEITY	Male	50	3.66	1.465	0.787(0.433)
	Female	50	3.44	1.327	

Table No 4.2 Shows the mean, standard deviation and t-score for the scale friendship, It shows that there is significant difference between the Mutual Assistance in terms of gender ($t = -3.128$; $p = 0.002$). However there is no existence of significant different between males and females in term of Enjoyment, Acceptance, Respect, Confiding, Understanding and Spontaneity.

Table 3: Showing the Mean value, Standard deviation and t-score for the scale Sense of Humour

Group Statistics					
	Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	T test
COGNITIVE DIMENSION	Male	50	5.68	1.301	0.468(0.641)
	Female	50	5.56	1.264	
SOCIAL DIMENSION	Male	50	6.64	1.651	0.406(0.686)
	Female	50	6.50	1.799	
AFFECTIVE DIMENSION	Male	50	5.50	1.619	0.123(0.902)
	Female	50	5.46	1.631	

Table No 4.3 shows the Mean value, Standard deviation and t-score value for the scale sense of humour. There exist no significant difference between males and females in terms of cognitive, social and affective dimension.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:

- The findings of this study reveals that there was no significant difference between Friendship and Sense of Humour. And Gender difference exist only in the dimension Mutual Assistance and not in other Dimensions.
- There was no significant relationship between Social dimension, Enjoyment and Mutual Assistance and no high level of Cognitive dimension and Understanding was found in this study.

4. CONCLUSION

The conclusion of this study reveals that there is no relationship between friendship and sense of humour. This shows that the role of Humour in friendship is not much important as other factors. Gender difference in the dimension Mutual Assistance reveals that females tend to involve more in helping each other in friendship than males.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDIES:

- The current study was done only by using the minimum number of sample size so for further studies the sample size can be extended

- Some other different tool can be used to measure Friendship and Sense of Humour
- Samples were collected from a particular place so for further studies samples from different places can be considered
- Different age group people can be selected for the study
- The study can also be Qualitative for a better result.

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