

Research Article

**Attitude of Students to Smoking: A Study of Post-Graduate Students of
Osmania University, Hyderabad, India.**

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Smoking is one of the most addictive habits and the most preventable cause of death and disease.

Objective: the researcher wants to study the some of the factors or backgrounds that related to smoking and have caused that students tend to smoking.

Method: Survey method was applied for this study; the study included 490 post-graduate students who were studying in Osmania University; Hyderabad in India that value of students (universe) was selected by Cochran's formula. Sampling has been done by multi-stage method, it means: 4 colleges have been selected from 9 colleges after that 20 departments have been specified from 4 colleges and at the end; samples have been selected on the basis on the population of each department by random.

Conclusion: Male students are different from female students in attitude toward smoking, And those Students who are older, their inclinations to Smoking is more than other Students. According this research, the Family's Income of the Students and Mass Media are not effective on inclination of the Students toward Smoking.

Key words: smoking, gender, students, health.

INTRODUCTION:

Smoking is one of the most addictive habits and the most preventable cause of death and disease. There are four million smoking-related deaths in the world annually, and 30% of all human cancer is linked to smoking. The battle against smoking takes place in various places including dental practice. Dentists have a special role in identifying smokers: odor, tooth staining and poor oral hygiene are immediate revealing signs for a dentist. Smoking is a significant public health burden and cigarette smoking is responsible for 75 percent of deaths resulting from oral and pharyngeal cancer. Beyond that, Hungary is one of the leading countries in prevalence of lung, mouth, esophageal, and laryngeal cancer in Europe. In terms of oral health risks, smoking is well documented as a significant risk factor for oral diseases such as

periodontal disease, keratosis and coronal and root caries (Antal 2012).

Tobacco smoking is a global epidemic. The World Health Organization has estimated that tobacco and its products kill over 3.5 million people worldwide every year and it is extrapolated that by the decade 2020- 2030, tobacco will kill 10 million people a year. Specifically, smoking rates remain high in the European Union (EU), especially in Central and Eastern European countries, in particular, data from 2012 showed that 24.6% of Italian men and 17.2% of women were daily cigarette users (Ferrante 2013). Musmar (2012) in an research showed that rate of smokers (cigarette or water pipe smokers) was higher among males than females (52.7% versus 16.5%). In logistic regression analysis, sex (male), type of college

(humanities), older age and higher family income were predictors of current smoking status. Antal (2012) believed that the family and general medical practitioner still play the major role in support for the individual's decision to quit smoking but dental professionals in Hungary are assumed to represent another increasingly important source of support for giving up smoking. The latter may be achieved by promotion of the knowledge among dentists and students about tobacco use and related health hazards and including methods and guidelines for assisting tobacco cessation both in the stemmatological and undergraduate medical education curriculum. Seo (2011) in a research proved that students exposed to the smoke-free campus policy demonstrated significant favourable changes in smoking behaviour (16.5% to 12.8%, $p < 0.001$), perceptions of peer tobacco use (73.6% to 66.8%, $p < 0.001$), and smoking norms (45.5% to 40.4%, $p < 0.001$) compared to students on the control campus. In the longitudinal analyses, students exposed to the smoke-free campus policy demonstrated these changes plus significant favourable changes in attitudes toward regulation of tobacco (83.2% to 89.9%, $p < 0.01$). Conclusions. The implementation of a smoke-free campus policy may be an effective intervention for reducing tobacco use among college students. Ross (2009) after survey on the students at the College of Charleston, South Carolina, asking about their attitudes toward smoking and, if they smoked, about their smoking habits, reasons that revealed that gender affected the likelihood that a student smoked and was also associated with differences in attitudes toward smoking. There were also several significant differences between smokers and non-smokers. Caliskan (2009) proved that the factors that have significant impact on the probability of smoking are gender, graduation from higher education, coming to the age of 50 or over, presence of smoking persons among housemates, and income level at or more than 2.000 TLs. Saki et al (2011) in a research has revealed that there is no relationship between gender, marital status, rice, level of education, religious ideas and tendency to smoking.

Gunther et al (2006) in a research on the title "Presumed Influence on Peer Norms: How Mass Media Indirectly Affect Adolescent Smoking" has found that both pro- and antismoking messages indirectly influenced smoking susceptibility through their perceived effect on peers. However, this indirect effect was significantly stronger for pro-smoking messages than for antismoking messages, an outcome that most likely increases adolescents' susceptibility to cigarettes. Christian (2014) has found that There is no association between knowledge and attitude regarding cigarette smoking. Association between knowledge regarding cigarette smoking with age and mother's education of the participants was found. There is significant association between father's education and occupation, income and type of family with attitude of the students. On the basis of above statement, the researcher want to study the some of the factors or backgrounds that related to smoking and have caused that students tend to smoking.

HYPOTHESIS:

- There is significant relationship between Gender of students and Tendency of the them to Smoking.
- There is relationship between age of students and Inclinations of them to Smoking.
- There is significant relationship between Students' family Income and attitude of them to smoking.
- There is significant relationship between the rate of time that students spend in utilizing Mass Media (T.V, Radio, and Satellite and internet) daily and tendency of them to smoking.

METHODS:

Survey method was applied for this study; the study included 490 post-graduate students who were studying in Osmania University; Hyderabad in India that value of students (universe) was selected by Cochran's formula. Sampling has been done by multi-stage method, it means: 4 colleges have been selected from 9 colleges after that 20 departments have been specified from 4 colleges and at the end;

samples have been selected on the basis on the population of each department by random. Validity has been obtained by content validity and a pilot has been taken for reliability of questionnaire before the start of the project that

was 0.83 on the basis on Cronbach’s alpha, therefore the validity of questionnaire is high. Data has been analysed by SPSS 22 software after data collection, and in this study has used Chi-Square and Pearson Tests,

RESULT AND DISCUSSION:

Table-1: the relationship between independent variables and dependent variable(smoking).

Tests	Value	df	Sig.
Chi-Square Test for relation of Gender and Tendency of the Students to Smoking.	16.322	3	0.001
Pearson Test for relation between age of students and Inclinations of the Students to Smoking.	.124	0.006
Pearson Tests for relation between Students’ family Income and Attitude of them to Smoking.	0.049	...	0.283
Pearson Test for relation between The time of the Students that spend in utilizing Mass Media (T.V, Radio, and Satellite and internet) daily and Tendency of them to Smoking.	0.082	0.071

On the basis on above table (No.1), the value of Sig. In the first line (**Chi-Square Tests for relation of Gender and Tendency of the Students to Smoking**) is 0.001, thus there is significant relation between gender and attitude toward smoking. This is abreast to Musmar (2012), Ross (2009) and Caliskan (2009) theories and in opposite to Saki et al (2011) theory.

Table-2; Kruskal-Wallis Test for kind of Gender of students and Attitude to Smoking.

gender	N	Mean Rank
males	273	256.08
females	217	232.19
Total	490	

According to table No.2, the Mean Rank of males is 256.08 and Mean Rank of females is 232.19. It can be concluded that male student’s attitude to Smoking more than female students. Thus, kind of gender is effective on the inclinations of students, in other words gender makes a background for tendency toward smoking. Also, that table (second line) shows that the value of pearson Test is 0.124 and sig. is 0.006. In other Words, the value of sig. is less than 0.05 (P<0.05), therefore there is significance relation age of students and Inclinations of them to Smoking, and this relation is positive, or with addition of age, Tendency of students to smoking is added. This finding is in line Christian (2014) and Musmar (2012) theories, may be the older age attitude to smoking for sedition. According to third line of Table-1, for relation between Students’ family Income and Attitude of them to Smoking, the value of Pearson test is 0.049, and significance value is 0.283 (P>0.05). Therefore there is no significant difference between Students’ family Income and Attitude of them to Smoking. In

other words, family Income is not effective on tendency of the Students toward Smoking; the result of this research is abreast to theory of Musmar (2012), because those persons who are poor or low income, cannot provide the expenditure of smoking. vice versa, the above table shows that there is no significant relation between The time of the Students that spend in utilizing Mass Media (T.V, Radio, and Satellite and internet) in day and Inclinations of them toward Smoking, because the value of significant of Chi-Square Tests is 0.071 (P>0.05). It means there is no significant difference between observed values and expected values. In other words, the spending time in utilizing mass media don’t effect on tendency to smoking, this isin opposite of Gunther et al (2006) theory.

CONCLUSION:

Male students are different from female students in attitude toward smoking, in other words, males students tend toward smoking more than female students. Therefore kind of gender

impact on tendency of students toward smoking. In this research has been proved that those Students who are older, their inclinations to Smoking is more than other Students. Thus, it can be concluded that age, customs and norms are important in tendencies of students to smoking. According to this research, the Family's Income of the Students is not effective on inclination of the Students toward Smoking. Therefore the Family's Income has not interference in attitude of the Students to smoking. This research shows that Mass Media is not effective on tendency of students toward smoking. On the basis of this research, the value of time that Students use in utilizing of T.V, Internet, Radio, Newspaper and so on, cannot be a reason that Students tend toward Smoking more.

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