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Comparative Study of Socio-Economic Status of Elderly Male and Female of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh State

*The main objective of the study was to compare the Socio-economic status of elderly male and female of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh State. 2000 sample were selected on the bases of simple random method viz: 1000 of each State. 500 male and 500 female gender wise categories were selected of each state. V. Kuopuswami standardized scale (SES) was used for data collection. The percentage and Chi square method (χ^2) were used for analysis of the data. The Chi Square (\div^2) approved significant difference in socio-economic status of male and female of both states, as the calculated χ^2 74.91 and 38.13 is found significant at 0.05 level of significance. **Key Words** : Socio-economic Status, Elderly Male and Female Citizens.*

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Introduction :

Socioeconomic status (SES) is defined as a measure of one's combined economic and social status and tends to be positively associated with better health. This entry focuses on the three common measures of socioeconomic status; education, income, and occupation. I include definitions, theoretical background, and empirical support for each of these SES indicators and their relationship with health. SES is generally thought to influence health through three avenues : (1) SES influences health through the ability to purchase health promoting resources and treatments; (2) socialization of early health habits and continuing socialization of health habits differs by SES; and (3) it has been posited that, rather than SES influencing health, health influences SES less healthy individuals complete fewer years of school, miss more work, and earn lower incomes. Caroline T.M. et al (2000) investigated the relationship in between socioeconomic status and mortality in Dutch elderly people. The study was performed on 4,878 women and 3,105 men having age above 55 years of Ommoord, a district of Rotterdam, the Netherlands. The findings in this study indicate that for men (mean age at baseline of 69 ± 9 years), differences in mortality exist for all three indicators of socioeconomic status. Mortality risks were higher for lower educated men, unskilled manual workers and those with a lower equivalent household income. For women (mean age 72 ± 10 years), the relative risks of mortality were also higher for lower educated groups, but lower equivalent household income and occupational status appeared not to be related

to mortality. Conclusions: In elderly Dutch people, there are clear differences in mortality across groups of different socioeconomic status.

Objective of the Study :

The main objective of the study was to compare the Socio-economic status of elderly male and female of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh State.

Hypothesis of the Study :

It was hypothesized that there will be significant difference in Socio Economic Status of elderly male and female of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh State."

Methodology :

The researcher used simple random sampling method for the selection of 2000 subjects (elderly citizens) for the present study. 100 Male and 100 Female were taken together from each district taken for the present study of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh State. For measuring the Socio-Economic Status of elderly of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh State Kuppuswamy's Socio-Economic Standardized scale was used for the Investigation.

Statistical Analysis and Interpretations of the Data :

The table I clearly reveals that most of the male and female senior citizens of both states have been in the lower middle (H.P.: M-45% & F-33.6% and U.P.: M-40% & F-36%) and upper lower (H.P.: M-17.6% & F: 33.2% and U.P. M: 22% & F: 23%) socio-economic status classes respectively.

Table shows that male and female senior citizens of U.P. have higher socio-economic status than their counterparts of Himachal Pradesh, as the calculated

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Table No. I : Table Showing the State wise Socio-economic Status (SES) of elderly Male and Female of H.P & U.P State

SES	H. P.	U. P.	H. P.	U. P.
	Male	Male	Female	Female
Upper	30 (6)	60 (12)	19 (3.8)	20 (4)
Middle	79 (15.8)	120 (24)	23 (4.6)	75 (15)
Lower Middle	225 (45)	200 (40)	168 (33.6)	180 (36)
Upper Lower	88 (17.6)	110 (22)	166 (33.2)	115 (23)
Lower	78 (15.6)	10 (2)	124 (24.8)	110 (22)
Total (N)	N=500	N=500	N=500	N=500
Chi Square (χ^2)	74.91*		38.13*	

df. = 4

tab. = 9.488 at 0.05 level of significance

percentages for middle (H.P.: M-15.8% & F-4.6% and U.P.: M-24% & F-15%.) and Upper class (H.P.: M-6% & F-3.8% and U.P.: M-12% & F-4%) is in favor of male and female Senior citizens of U.P.

The table also shows that 15.6% male of H.P. were found in Lower class, while in U.P. only 2% male senior citizens were found in Lower class. In case of female senior citizens, some surprising finding was reported that female of both states have similar socio-economic status as the calculated percentages of lower, upper lower, lower middle class was almost same.

The female have been still lagging behind in respect to their socio-economic status than male in both states.

Findings of the Study :

The overall findings also suggests that male and female of U.P. were found better in socio-economic status than male and female of H.P. During comparison of socioeconomic status on statistical basis, it has been found that calculated $\chi^2 = 74.91$ for male and 38.13 for female is much higher than the tabulated values at 0.05 level of significance, which lead to the conclusion that male and female of both states differed significantly in respect to their socio economic status.

Conclusion :

The elderly citizens either male or female of Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh differed significantly in respect of their Socio-economic Status. While the elderly citizens of Uttar Pradesh were found slightly better in than Himachali counterparts in respect to socio-economic status.

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