



## **A Comparative Study of Computer Phobia Among Private Senior Secondary School Teachers**

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### **Abstract**

The present study entitled as “A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF COMPUTER PHOBIA AMONG PRIVATE SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS”. In the present study, Computer Phobia Scale by Prof. s. Rajasekar & Varyapuri Raja P. has used. Now-a-days, Most of the work which was earlier done manually is now being done through computers. For example: railway reservation system, billing system, banking etc... This is because of the various advantages computers have over manual work. It saves time and makes work more genuine and dependable. Some people are afraid to use computers as they think that computers are very complex to use. They do not understand how to use computers. To combat these fears, computer hardware and software designers have attempted to make more user-friendly computers. So, the researcher was selected this topic. From this study, the researcher has found the significant difference between private senior secondary school female and male teachers in relation to Computer Phobia.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Computers are being used by most people in every sector of life. Computers have become an inseparable part of human life and occupy an important place in our life. Whether at home or workplace, people are gradually getting dependent on computers. They have their own PC to work regularly. Now-a-days, Most of the work which was earlier done manually is now being done through computers. For example: railway reservation system, billing system, banking etc... This is because of the various advantages computers have over manual work. It saves time and makes work more genuine and dependable. But the dark side of the coin is that a large part of our population is not using the computers due to lack of knowledge or a hidden fear of causing damage to the computer.

### **Computer in School:**

The educational authorities have provided for enough facilities at school and college level for use of computers in education, but the fact is that most of the teachers fear technology. They stick to the traditional ways of teaching and do not want to change their ways of working. They fear that technology might replace them or they might cause damage to the computers if the mishandle them. This has caused a big constraint in the way of use of technology in the classrooms.

### **Computer in class room teacher:**

It is a well established fact that in this technological era with the help of computers we can improve the classroom teaching also. By using computers, the teachers can totally transform the way they handle the students while teaching in the classroom. It is also helpful for the teachers in keeping the records of their students (Grades, Marks, Attendance). If they use the computer in the class room the student will give more attention towards studies. This will also create competitive spirit in the students and prepare them for the global competition. They will be able to stand the pressure of the current technological advancement in all spheres of life. The fear of using the computers can only be overcome if the teachers are willing to experiment with them in the classroom. These days' maximum public and private schools are using computers. 'SMART CLASS' in the schools have revolutionized the whole education process. We know that use of visual senses has more impact on retention. So when teachers teach their students by using computers or projects then students can easily grasp the content and this also increases interest among students. It also makes concepts clear and easy.

In CBSE schools, Continuous, comprehensive evaluation has been introduced. In this system, teachers have to maintain records of marks. So teachers can save these data by creating file on the computers. Results can be prepared easily and it saves time and energy.



As one knows that in this communication age, computers are being used in every walk of life widely and education is not an exception in this regard. So the teacher should use computers in their day-to-day teaching. But irony of our fate is that some of the teachers do not want to change themselves with the time. They have a fear in using the computers; they can also use computers in their school routine work. In psychological terms, we call it as 'computer anxiety' or 'computer phobia'.

### **CONCEPT OF COMPUTER PHOBIA**

Computer phobia mainly implies the fear of computers, of using computers, and of technology in general. The term may be used to refer to two very different fears: the fear of actually using computers and the Internet or the fear that computers in general will make human life less meaningful and more dangerous.

Some people are afraid to use computers as they think that computers are very complex to use. They do not understand how to use computers. To combat these fears, computer hardware and software designers have attempted to make more user-friendly computers. Such advances as plug and play (the ability of a computer to automatically detect and set up hardware, without much intervention from the user) and graphical interfaces, such as that of Windows, have been created in order to help those who worried that they would need programmer-like skills in order to use a computer.

In its other meaning, computer phobia is often used interchangeably with technophobia. This version of computer phobia sees computers as complicating machines that eliminate jobs and teach people to be impatient. These computer phobic people fear that computers are leading us into a future where those in power will use technology against us.

### **NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The purpose of the study is to examine potential relationship between computer phobia and ways of designing computer based training in the workplace specially classroom situations. This assumes a great importance in the present context because the whole education system has been affected by the use of technology.

Computer skills are pre requisites to effective working and we should understand at least the basic principles of using computer because the whole world is becoming computer oriented. Since our future is based on how well we are able to handle the computer, we have to gear ourselves up as soon as possible. Some teachers have hidden fears in their minds regarding the use of computers. They have a fear of damaging the machine & erasing important information. But this relates to their 'Lack of Knowledge'. Teachers, who have little knowledge about computers are likely to have an anxiety about them; Computer Phobia can disrupt normal life and working in the school and also in the society. Computer Anxiety should be identified, measured and prevented in order to facilitate the successful education and socialization of those affected by it. So, there is an urgent need to measure the computer phobia among the teachers for the purpose to remove the phobia among the teachers. This will also provide useful data about how much effort is required to cope with the problem.

Computer anxiety or computer phobia is defined as the fear of using computer. This fear is created by people who link computer anxiety with computer training in a negative manner. Computers are becoming more & more prevalent in the workplace and in education as well. In the workplace avoidance lowers performance in the business environment and ultimately reduces the chance for career advancement and Avoidance can seriously affect some student's academic progress.

The computer is the second most common place of equipment in the workplace. This new technology requires workers to gain new skills and competencies in order to be effective. Thus providing effective computer based training to the teachers is vital to the student's success.

This fear leads to aversion to the learning programs, which subsequently leads to poor performance. In a post secondary education use' and that the further leads to poor test scores on the subject taught. Thus, both the organizational educator and the classical educator benefit from the study's analysis of computer anxiety.



To avoid the lower performance in education and workplace, it is more and more important to use computers in this field. Specifically in the field of education and teacher education, educators sometimes suffer from computer anxiety due to unavailability of proper computer training provided to them. Thus, the researcher finds a scope to undertake presence study to find out the causes and sources of computer phobia among senior secondary school teachers.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

1. To study the level of computer phobia among private senior secondary school female and male teachers.
2. To compare the level of computer phobia between rural female and rural male private senior secondary school teachers.
3. To compare the level of computer phobia between urban female and urban male private senior secondary school teachers.

#### **HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY**

1. There exists no significant difference between private senior secondary school female and male teachers in relation to computer phobia.
2. There exists no significant difference between rural female and rural male private senior secondary school teachers in relation to computer phobia.
3. There exists no significant difference between urban female and urban male private senior secondary school teachers in relation to computer phobia.

#### **DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

Present study is delimited to 100 private senior secondary school teachers from Narwana block in Jind District.

#### **SAMPLE OF THE STUDY**

The sample of the present study consists of 100 private senior secondary school teachers from Narwana block through simple random sampling technique in which 50 male & 50 female teachers has taken from urban and rural areas.

#### **TOOLS USED**

In the present study, **Computer Phobia Scale** by Prof. s. Rajasekar & Varyapuri Raja P. has used.

#### **STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES USED**

Mean, Standard Deviation (S.D.) and t-test has used for the present study.

#### **DATA ANALYSIS**

1. There exists no significant difference between private senior secondary school female and male teachers in relation to computer phobia.

**Table- 1**

Sample	No. of Teachers	Mean	S.D.	t-test	Level of Significance	Remarks
Private Female Teachers	50	65.86	10.69	4.26	0.01 and 0.05	Significant difference
Private Male Teachers	50	55.7	13.05			

In Table-1, the Mean score of Private female teachers is 65.86 and the Mean score of Private male teachers is 55.7. The Value of t-test is 4.26 which are more than table value (1.96 and 2.58). So, we reject the Null Hypothesis.

2. There exists no significant difference between rural female and rural male private senior secondary school teachers in relation to computer phobia.

**Table- 2**

Sample	No. of Teachers	Mean	S.D.	t-test	Level of Significance	Remarks
Private Rural Female	25	56.08	12.78	0.73	0.01 and 0.05	



Private Rural Male	25	58.52	10.59			No Significant difference
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The Mean score of Rural Female teachers are 56.08 and the Mean score of Rural Male teachers are 58.52. The Value of t-test is 0.73 which is less than table value (1.96 and 2.58). So, we accept null hypothesis.

- There exists no significant difference between urban female and urban male private senior secondary school teachers in relation to computer phobia.

**Table-3**

Sample	No. of Teachers	Mean	S.D.	t-test	Level of Significance	Remarks
Private Urban Female	25	63.8	12.78	2.55	0.01 and 0.05	Significant difference at the level 0.01 but no significant difference at the level 0.05
Private Urban Male	25	53.28	16.17			

The Mean score of Urban Female teachers are 63.8 and the Mean score of Urban Male teachers are 53.28. The Value of t-test is 2.55 which is more than table value 1.96 at the level of 0.05 but it is 2.55 which is less than the table value 2.58 at the level of 0.01. So we accept the null hypothesis at the level of 0.05 but, we reject the null hypothesis at the level 0.01.

## FINDINGS

- ✓ In the present study, the researcher has found the significant difference between private senior secondary school female and male teachers in relation to computer phobia.
- ✓ The researcher has found no significant difference between rural female and rural male private senior secondary school teachers in relation to computer phobia.
- ✓ The researcher has found the significant difference between urban female and urban male private senior secondary school teachers in relation to computer phobia.

## CONCLUSION

The present study has accessed to computer phobia among secondary school teachers. In this technological era with the help of computers we can improve the class rooms teaching also. By using computers, in the class we can give the number of information to the students. It is also helpful for the teachers in keeping the records. It also benefited for our society and educational environment. But mostly teachers are not using the computers due to the lack of knowledge or a hidden fear of damage of computer called computer phobia. Further research focusing on this aspect could yield useful information in determining how to reduce cultural influence impacting computer access. A study of this single factor alone as a source of computer anxiety could yield a wealth of data about the potential relationship between cognitive factors and computer anxiety and how to overcome that anxiety.

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