

A Study of Relationship Between Emotional Intelligence and Social Awareness of Secondary School Students

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Abstract: *In the present educational context, the aim of schooling is not confined to academic achievement alone. Education is increasingly expected to nurture emotionally balanced, socially responsible, and ethically aware individuals. Emotional intelligence is one of the most significant psychological constructs influencing students' behaviour, interpersonal adjustment, communication patterns, and social participation. At the same time, social awareness has emerged as an essential competency for harmonious living in a diverse society, as it enables students to understand others' feelings, social situations, values, and responsibilities.*

The present study examines the relationship between emotional intelligence and social awareness among secondary school students. The study is based on the assumption that students who are emotionally intelligent are more likely to demonstrate empathy, cooperation, sensitivity, and socially appropriate behaviour in school and community settings. Emotional intelligence supports self-awareness, emotional regulation, empathy, motivation, and social skills, all of which contribute to the development of social awareness.

A descriptive and correlational research design was adopted for the study. A sample of 250 secondary school students was selected through random sampling. Standardized tools were used to measure emotional intelligence and social awareness. The collected data were analysed using suitable statistical techniques, namely mean and Pearson's correlation coefficient.

The findings of the study revealed a strong positive correlation between emotional intelligence and social awareness ($r = 0.76$). This indicates that students with higher emotional intelligence tend to exhibit a greater understanding of social situations, stronger empathy, better interpersonal relations, and improved social adjustment. The study emphasizes the need to integrate emotional and social learning within school education.

The study is significant for teachers, school administrators, parents, and curriculum planners because it provides evidence that emotional competencies and social sensitivity are closely linked. The findings suggest that schools should not focus only on academic success, but also on emotional and social development for the holistic growth of learners..

Keywords: Emotional Intelligence, Social Awareness, Secondary School Students, Empathy, Social Skills, Adolescents, Emotional Development, Interpersonal Relationships, School Education, Holistic Development