

## ATTITUDE OF PARENTS FOR OPTING TO EDUCATE THEIR CHILDREN IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS RATHER THAN IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ANJU VERMA

Assistant Professor, Department of Education, School of Professional Studies,  
Sikkim University (A Central University), Sikkim, India

### ABSTRACT

Education is the process of facilitating learning, for the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, beliefs, and habits. Education is a well-defined process for the development of desirable attitude in the overall development of children. Attitudes are actually the Projection of emotionalized mental state is actually what we may say attitude is. It is an underlying disposition, which influences a variety of behaviors towards an object. Attitude should not be thought of temporary in nature in the character of a person. Attitudes have been defined in a number of the ways. Attitude is positive or negative feeling that an individual holds about objects, persons or ideas. Positive attitude towards schooling and education enhances parental involvement in children's present as well as future. Parents' positive attitude is the strongest predictor of child's educational outcomes. Everyone now a day's nos that private schools have more facilities, better teaching staff, better equipment, buildings, etc. but it has a heavy study load of students as well as the teaching staff is overloaded with extra works. In Government schools the facilities, Infrastructure, equipment, etc. which is being provided in these schools does not satisfy the demands of the parents present. This study will help the researcher why parents chose private schools. The purpose of this study was to understand the reasons parents chose to send their children to private schools rather than in Public schools.

**KEYWORDS:** Attitude, Parents, Student, Public School & Private School

### INTRODUCTION

The word 'education' has a very wide connotation. It is hard to define. There is no single objective which can cover the entire life with its various manifestations. Education is a well-defined process for the development of desirable attitude in the overall development of children. Attitudes are actually the Projection of emotionalized mental state is actually what we may say attitude is. It is an underlying disposition, which influences a variety of behaviors towards an object. Attitude should not be thought of temporary in nature in the character of a person. Attitudes have been defined in a number of the ways. Attitude is positive or negative feeling that an individual holds about objects, persons or ideas. They are generally regarded as enduring thought modifiable by experience and persuasions and as learned rather than innate.

Positive attitudes of parents towards their child's education are very important for the academic achievement of the child. Positive attitude towards schooling and education enhances parental involvement in children's present as well as future. Parents' positive attitude is the strongest predictor of child's educational outcomes. It motivates the children to learn, persist, and help in improving different skills and to achieve their ultimate goals.

Each and every parent now a day is preparing to admit his or her child to private schools. Private schools are run by Private agencies or by NGOs. Education is the most important edifice upon which the future of a child depends, so it becomes a vital decision for parents to choose between the two types of schools that is a weather Public school or Private school. However, there are some basic differences that are non to every parent and based upon which it becomes easy to choose one of the two types of schools. It is clear to everyone now a day that private schools have more facilities, better teaching staff, better equipment, buildings, etc. but it has a heavy study load of students as well as the teaching staff is overloaded with extra works.

The Government schools are totally funded by the Central Government or State Government of any country. The facilities, Infrastructure, equipment, etc. which is being provided in these schools does not satisfy the demands of the parents present. To send their child in Government school is against their social status. So in the present scenario, if the parent is earning a good salary they are eager to send their child in Private school rather than in Public school. So in the present work it is being decided to know about the attitude of parents of the east district of Sikkim for opting to educate their children in Private schools rather than in Public schools.

**Attitude:** Attitude is positive or negative feeling that an individual holds about objects, persons or ideas. For this purpose a self-constructed questionnaire is being used.

**Parents:** Parents whose children are studying in private school or in the public schools of the East District of Sikkim.

**Public Schools:** In the present study public schools refers to the Government schools situated in the Eastern District of Sikkim.

**Private Schools:** In the present study private schools refer to the private schools situated in the Eastern District of Sikkim.

## OBJECTIVES

- To study the present choices of parents.
- To study the attitude of parents to educate their children in private school rather than public school.
- To study about what influence parents to send their children to private schools.
- To study about the reasons which parents give for choosing to send their children to private schools.

## RESEARCH METHOD

The descriptive survey method was considered appropriate for gathering data about the attitude of parents for opting to educate their children in private schools rather than in public schools.

### Population

The entire aggregation of items or group of individuals from which samples can be drawn is known as population. It consists of all aspects of individuals of their attributes that can be described as having as unique type characteristics or qualities. In the present study, the parents from both government schools and private schools constituted the population of the study.

**Sample**

A sample is a subset of a population, items, or events that is being used to represent the entire group of people as a whole. The population of the study includes 100 parents whose children were studying in government schools as well as private schools

**Instrumentation**

To measure the attitude of parents towards private school or government school self-made “questionnaire to attitude parents for opting to educate their children in private schools rather than in public schools” was used for the study which consists of 25 items. Each item on the response sheet has a response which is categorized as yes or no.

**Procedure for Data Collection**

Firstly the sample was selected using appropriate sampling techniques. Permissions were asked and then the tool was administered on the sample and data collected from 100 parents. The parents were asked to respond to all items. The investigator at the time of data collection also explained and clarified the response procedure. All items were verbally communicated also. The data collected was organized in a table and appropriate percentage wise analysis as per objective was computed. The scoring was done according to percentage wise procedure. Thus, all the precautions and procedure of data collection were followed by the investigator. Therefore, the interpretation and discussion of the findings have been discussed in the light of previous studies.

**Statistical Technique Used**

The main objective of the study is to study the attitude of parents towards school education. The study of the technique is therefore testing through a questionnaire / statement. Scoring is done through percentage wise analysis for each of the items present in the questionnaire in order to test the attitude of the parents towards school education.

**Analysis and Interpretation of Data**

Analysis and interpretation considered as the vital part of the research work. It is associated with the drawing of inference from the collected facts after an analytical study. Analysis of data means studying the organized material in order to discover inherent facts. These data are studied from various angles in accordance with the objectives of the study either to explore new facts or to interpret already existed facts. The utility of collecting information is in its proper analysis and interpretation.

**Percentage Wise Analysis of 25 Items**

The attitude of parents of government schools as well as private schools towards their child education was assessed by means of developing and administering the statements/questionnaire. As such, the attitude among parents towards their child education is analyzed with respect to the different items included in it.

**Item No. 1. Private Schools Provides Better Infrastructure than Public Schools****Table 1: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	75%	25%

In the above table 1 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 75% responded as yes, that “Private schools provides better infrastructure than public schools” and 25% of the parents responded as no that “Private schools do not provide better infrastructure than public schools”.

**Item No. 2. Private Schools Have Strong Administration System****Table 2: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	82%	18%

In the above table 2 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 82% responded as yes, that “Private schools have strong administration system” and 18% of the parents responded as no that “Private schools do not have strong administration system”.

**Item No. 3. Private Schools are Much Maintained than Public School****Table 3: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	85%	15%

In the above table 3 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 85% responded as yes, that “Private schools are much maintained than public schools” and 15% of the parents responded as no that “Private schools are not much maintained than public schools”.

**Item No. 4. Teachers in Private Schools are More Dedicated than Public Schools****Table 4: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	71%	29%

In the above table 4 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 71% responded as yes, that “teachers in private schools are more dedicated than public schools” and 29% of the students responded as no that “teachers in private schools are not more dedicated than public schools”.

**Item No. 5. Private Schools Provide Advance Methodology****Table 5: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	71%	29%

In the above table 5 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 71% responded as yes, that “private schools provide advance methodology” and 29% of the parents responded as no that “private schools do not provide advance methodology”.

**Item No. 6. Private Schools are Stricter and Well Disciplined****Table 6: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	85%	15%

In the above table 6 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 85% responded as yes, that “private schools are stricter and well disciplined” and 15% of the Parents responded as no that “private schools are not stricter and well disciplined”.

**Item No. 7. Extracurricular Activities Including Academic Programs have also been established Well****Table 7: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	94%	06%

In the above table 7 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 94% responded as yes, that “Extracurricular activities including academic programs are also established, well” and 06% of the parents responded as no that “Extracurricular activities including academic programs are also not established well”.

**Item No. 8. Private Schools, Teachers give Individual Attention to Students****Table 8: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	92%	08%

In the above table 8 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 92% responded as yes, that “private school teachers give individual attention to students” and 08% of the parents responded as no that “private school teachers does not give individual attention to students”.

**Item No. 9. Private Schools Can Sponsor More Activities****Table 9: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	90%	10%

In the above table 9 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 90% responded as yes, that “private schools can sponsor more activities” and 10% of the parents responded as no that “private schools does not sponsor more activities”.

**Item No. 10. Private Schools, Teachers are Highly Qualified and More Knowledgeable than Public Schools****Table 10: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	24%	76%

In the above table 10 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 24% responded as yes, that “Private school teachers are more highly qualified and knowledgeable than public schools” and 76% of the parents responded as no that

“Private school teachers are not highly qualified and not more knowledgeable than public schools”.

**Item No. 11. Private Schools, Mold the Students According to the Needs of Present Era**

**Table 11: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	72%	28%

In the above table 11 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 72% responded as yes, that “Private school mold the students according to the needs of the present era” and 28% of the parents responded as no that “Private schools does not mold the students according to the needs of present era”.

**Item No. 12. In Public Schools, Teachers are Normally not Too Much Devoted to Their Work**

**Table 12: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	44%	56%

In the above table 12 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 44% responded as yes, that “In public school teachers are normally not too much devoted to their work” and 56% of the parents responded as no that “In public school teachers are normally much devoted to their work”.

**Item No. 13. Private Schools are Much Concern Regarding Hygienic Environment rather than Public Schools**

**Table 13: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	80%	20%

In the above table 13 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 80% responded as yes, that “Private schools are much concern regarding hygienic environment than public schools” and 20% of the parents responded as no that “Private schools are not much concern regarding hygienic environment than public schools”.

**Item No. 14. Private Schools Develop Child’s Abilities and Teach them how to Formally Behave in Different Social Situations**

**Table 14: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	72%	28%

In the above table 14 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 72% responded as yes, that “Private schools develops the child’s abilities and teach them how to formally behave in different social situations and 28% of the parents responded as no that “Private schools does not develops child’s abilities and teach them how to formally behave in different social situations”.

**Item No. 15. In Private Schools More Work Load is given to the Teachers so that Students will be More Benefited**

**Table 15: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	83%	17%

In the above table 15 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 83% responded as yes, that “In private

schools more workload is given to the teachers so that students will be more benefited” and 17% of the parents responded as no that “In private schools, not much work load is given to the teachers so that students will be more benefited”.

#### **Item No. 16. Private Schools give Much Importance to the Child’s Overall Development**

**Table 16: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	94%	06%

In the above table 16 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 94% responded as yes, that “Private schools give much importance to the child’s overall development” and 6% of the parents responded as no that “Private schools does not give much importance to the child’s overall development”.

#### **Item No. 17. Vocabulary of Private School Students is much better than Public School Students**

**Table 17: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	100%	00%

In the above table 17 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 100% responded as yes, that “vocabulary of private school students is much better than public school students” and 00% of the parents responded as no that “vocabulary of private school students is not much better than public school students”.

#### **Item No. 18. Private School Teachers are More Experienced than Public School Teachers**

**Table 18: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	31%	69%

In the above table 18 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 31% responded as yes, that “Private school teachers were more experienced than public school teachers” and 69% of the parents responded as no that “Private school teachers are not more experienced than public school teachers”.

#### **Item No. 19. Private Schools are Functioning Properly and Effectively**

**Table 19: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	85%	15%

In the above table 19 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 85% responded as yes, that “Private schools are functioning properly and effectively” and 15% of the parents responded as no that “Private schools are not functioning properly and effectively”.

#### **Item No. 20. Private School Provides better Sports Activities and Equipment’s for the Physical Development of the Children**

**Table 20: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	85%	15%

In the above table 20 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 85% responded as yes, that “Private schools provides better sports activities and equipment’s for the physical development of the children” and 15% of the parents responded as no that “Private schools does not provide better sports activities and equipment’s for the physical development of the children”.

**Item No. 21. The relationship between Teachers and Students are Friendly in Private Schools**

**Table 21: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	83%	17%

In the above table 21 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 83% responded as yes, that “relationship between teachers and students are friendly in private schools” and 17% of the parents responded as no that “relationship between teachers and students are not friendly in private schools”.

**Item No. 22. School and Parents are Much Connected in Private Schools**

**Table 22: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	85%	15%

In the above table 22 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 85% responded as yes, that “school and parents are much connected in private schools” and 15% of the parents responded as no that “school and parents are not much connected in private schools”.

**Item No. 23. Private Schools, Teachers have More Influence on Students and Parents in Relation to Their Attitude**

**Table 23: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	85%	15%

In the above table 23 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents 85% responded as yes that “Private schools teachers have more influence on students and parents in relation to their attitude” and 15% of the parents responded as no that “Private schools teachers does not have more influence on students and parents in relation to their attitude”.

**Item No. 24. Environment in Private Schools is Hygienic**

**Table 24: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	92%	08%

In the above table 24 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 92% responded as yes, that “environment in private schools is hygienic” and 8% of the parents responded as no that “environment in private schools is not hygienic”.

**Item No. 25. Overall Performance of Students is Good in Private Schools**

**Table 25: The Data Pertaining to this Item has been Presented**

Category	No.	Yes	No
Parents	100	89%	11%



In the above table 25 it indicates that on this item out of 100 parents, 89% responded as yes, that “overall performance of students is good in private schools” and 11% of the parents responded as no that “overall performance of students is not good in private schools”.

## FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

On the basis of the percentage wise analysis the investigator has arrived on the following findings:

- 75% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that “the private school provides better infrastructure than public schools”.
- 82% of the parents of both private schools and public school have strong favour of the item that “private schools have strong administration system”.
- 85% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that “private schools are much maintained than public schools”.
- 71% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have a strong favour of the item that “teachers in private schools are more dedicated than public schools”.
- 71% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that “private schools provide advanced teaching methodology”.
- 85% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that “private schools are stricter and well discipline”.
- 94% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that “extracurricular activities including academic programmes are also established well”.
- 92% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that “private schools teachers give individual attention to students”.
- 90% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that “private schools can sponsor more activities”.
- 76% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strongly disagreed of the item that “private schools teachers are highly qualified and more knowledgeable than public schools”.
- 72% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that “private schools mould the students according to the needs of present era”.
- 56% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong disagreed of the item that “in public school teachers are normally not too much devoted to their work”.
- 80% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that “private schools are much concern regarding hygiene environment rather than public schools”.
- 72% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that “private schools

develop child's abilities and teach them how to formally behave in different social institutions".

- 83% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that "In private schools more work load is given to the teachers so that students will be more benefited".
- 94% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that "private schools give bigger importance to the child's overall development".
- 100% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that "vocabulary of private school students is much better than public schools students".
- 69% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong disagreed of the item that "private school teachers were more experienced than public school teachers".
- 85% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that "private schools are functioning properly and effectively".
- 85% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that "private school provides better sports activities and equipment for the physical development of the children".
- 83% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that "relationship between teachers and students are friendly in private schools".
- 85% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that "schools and parents are much connected in private schools".
- 85% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that "private school teachers have more influence on students and parents in relation to their attitude".
- 92% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that "environment in private schools is hygienic".
- 89% of the parents of both private schools and public schools have strong favour of the item that "overall development of students is good in private schools".

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH**

In the view of the findings of the study, the investigator inclined to give the following recommendations:

- Further research is needed to discover if parents choose private schools based on specific educational reasons or for personal, family preferences.
- Also, additional research is needed to determine if the size of the private school and the services provided has an influence on parents' decisions.
- Further research is needed to determine what public school parents expect from their schools.
- A comparative research could be conducted on taking different districts and states.
- In this study, the investigator has taken 100 parents as sample for the study of government as well as private

schools east district of Sikkim.

- In this connection for ensuring better sampling more parents can be taken from more schools institutions or colleges on district, state or country wise basis if possible.
- This study is conducted on parents from government and private schools. The further study can be conducted by taking colleges or universities parents also.

## CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of this research was to understand the reasons parents choose to send their children to private schools. The findings revealed that many parents are searching for a better academic environment that considers their children's individual needs. The findings of this study further conclude that religious and nonreligious educational settings are chosen for the same reasons. Parents and students in smaller schools mentioned one-on-one teacher assistance; whereas, students who attended larger schools did not find this a priority. The outcome of this study affirms that academic excellence outweighs learning environment and extracurricular activities. Overall, the perceived school characteristics exceeded all other reasons for attending private institutions. It was unclear, however, if the status of attending private school was an influencing factor for parents or students. Private schools play a vital role for providing proper knowledge and skills to the student and it is also helpful for enhancing the quality of education and enhancing the quality of student. Therefore the parents want to educate their children in private schools rather than in public schools. Private schools will develop the students according to the needs of present era. The students from private schools are more benefited in every field of education as compare to public schools. Hence, the private schools contribute more than public school in order to increase the quality of education.

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