

# College Life and Stress in Youth



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## Abstract

University students are a group particularly prone to anxiety related problems due to the transitional nature of university life. Anxiety is an unpleasant state that is associated with feelings of uneasiness, apprehension and heightened physiological arousal. According to researchers stress, expectations, and social media are putting more stress on today's college students. Marked levels of anxiety of students affect their academic performance. Adjustment with the university life is important as it is considered to be the indicator of student's ability to face the problems resulting from fulfilling his life's need. The present research was designed to study the difference between the anxiety and adjustment of day scholars and hostellers totalling 100 (50 day scholars, 50 hostellers) drawn by random sampling between the age group of 18-23, using State Trait Anxiety Test (STAT). The data was collected from various colleges. Mean, Standard Deviation and "t" test were the statistical methods used. The results indicated that the anxiety of day scholars and hostellers differed. Day Scholars were found to be more adjusted on all domains with low anxiety levels (both state and trait) as compared to the hostellers. Further research and limitations were discussed. Results indicated males had higher levels of state anxiety than females

**Keywords:** Anxiety, Hostellers, Day Scholars, State Anxiety, Trait Anxiety, Gender.

## Introduction

### Anxiety

Uneasiness is an obnoxious express that is related with sentiments of despondency, fear and increased physiological excitement.

The American Psychological alliance characterizes "Nervousness" as "a feeling described by sentiments of strains, stressed musings and physical changes like expanded circulatory strain. People with Anxiety Disorders typically have rehashing intruding thoughts or concerns". They may evade certain conditions out of stress. They may furthermore have physical signs, for instance, sweating, trembling, wooziness or a quick heartbeat".

### Anxiety Disorders

There are a couple sorts of anxiety issue, and each has its own specific arrangement of essential reactions:

#### Generalized Anxiety Disorder

Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD) is portrayed by extreme apprehension and worry over typical life events that is troublesome to control. .

#### Fear

A dread is an exaggerated anxiety of a specific article or situation (e.g. 8-legged creature, flying in a plane, encased spots, blood, statures, mutts, rainstorms). A dread may bring about a person to cut off oneself pointlessly in light of the pressure associated with the probability of encountering what is feared. Fears frequently begin in youth.

#### Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

The obsessions of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder are continuing on contemplations, pictures or inspirations that are disturbing. Typical examples of over the top contemplations are inquiries concerning having killed an electrical mechanical assembly or having darterd a portal, outlandish anxieties of germs, or aggravating thoughts of making harm to a companion or relative.

#### Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

PTSD may occur in the wake of a traumatic event, for instance, a bona fide incident, sexual or physical assault, or fight in war. Reactions may fuse avoidance or torment at signs of the injury, rehashing photos of the event, feeling dead or limited, crotchetiness, being easily startled, and having terrible dreams or other sleep challenges.

**Social Anxiety Disorder**

Social Anxiety Disorder is a stamped and decided worry of social or execution conditions in which there is prologue to new people or the probability of judgment by others. These conditions are avoided because of the anxiety of acting in a way that could humiliate. The moment that the conditions can't be avoided, physical symptoms of anxiety, for instance, trembling, blushing or ailment consistently happens. Various people experience some level of fear in social settings. Regardless, individuals who fight with Social Anxiety Disorder truly keep what they do to avoid new conditions or people, and their pressure ordinarily does not decrease when truly in the offensive situation.

**Types of Anxiety**

Nervousness has long history yet a short past. Amid this short past, beginning from Freud onwards, there have been endeavors to clarify singular contrasts in on edge reacting. Eysenck (1970) marked the propensity to react in an on edge path as Neuroticism, though Spielberger (1966) began the term characteristic tension.

**State Uneasiness**

State uneasiness (S-tension) can be characterized as dread, anxiety, inconvenience, and so on and the excitement of autonomic sensory system instigated by various circumstances that are seen as perilous. This kind of tension alludes all the more how a man is feeling at the season of an apparent risk and is viewed as impermanent.

State nervousness has been characterized as repulsive passionate reaction while adapting to undermining or hazardous circumstances (Spielberger, 1983), which fuses intellectual assessment of risk as a herald for its indication (Lazarus, 1991). With everything taken into account, states suggest any reliably measured trademark yet ordinarily, state factors all because of aware, verbally reportable qualities, for instance, personalities.

**Tests**

A youth feels anxious when opposed by an enormous, particular animal. An individual feels tense to get on a plane and fly some place in spite of any point of reference despite what might be expected

**Quality Nervousness**

Quality nervousness (T-tension) can be characterized as sentiments of stress, stress, distress and so on that one encounters on an everyday premise. This is generally seen as how individuals feel crosswise over average circumstances that everybody encounters once a day.

**Separation Anxiety**

Separation Anxiety Disorder is depicted by a lot of apprehension when separated from an individual or place that gives opinions of security or prosperity. Occasionally segment realizes free for all and it are seen as an issue when the response is over the top or classless.

**Choice or Decision Uneasiness**

Uneasiness incited by the need to pick between similar decisions is dynamically being recognized as an issue for individuals and for affiliations gone up against with more great choice,

more contention and less time to consider our decisions or hunt out the correct direction.

**Test and Execution Apprehension**

Test apprehension is the uneasiness, stress, or nervousness felt by learners who had an anxiety of failing an exam. Individuals who have test anxiety may experience any of the going with: the acquaintanceship of assessments with individual worth; fear of disgrace by an instructor; fear of separation from people or sidekicks; time weights; or feeling a disaster of control. Sweating, dazedness, headaches, hustling heartbeats, squeamishness, squirming, and drumming on a work region are all fundamental. Since test uneasiness relies on upon caution of negative evaluation, verbal showdown exists in the matter of whether test anxiety is itself a novel strain issue or whether it is a specific kind of social dread.

**Day Scholars and Hostel Students****Day Scholars**

Day scholars are characterized as people who go to class/school in morning and consequently to their own particular home in evening or night. Day researchers ordinarily live with their gatekeepers and don't oversee issues, for instance, achiness to visit the family, shocking food, budgetary issues et cetera being near the family gives a doubt that all is well and great and excited sponsorship to the day researchers.

**Hostellers**

Lodging is a place where for the most part where voyagers and understudies live in a directed situation. For the most part inns are utilized by the understudies who originate from inaccessible spots to acquire their degrees. Lodging life greatly affects the change of the understudies. A couple of learners change in accordance with the hotel condition easily and some don't. The reason is that a couple understudies don't feel incredible in lodgings and return home wiped out. Researchers living in hotels confront various difficulties due to venture hardships or home sickness yet in the meantime lock in and finish extraordinary assessment and eventually they stray as a result of nonattendance of fitting supervision and heading so by virtue of day researchers.

**Review of Literature**

Herring et.al (2017) They studied a large sample of anxiety and mood disorder patients, assessing differences in principal diagnoses and comorbidity patterns, clinicians' ratings, and questionnaire measures of negative affect and life dysfunction as they relate to a potential brain marker of pathology: the amplitude of the event-related potential (ERP) elicited by a startle-evoking stimulus. Patients seeking evaluation or treatment for anxiety and mood disorders ( $N= 208$ ) participated in two tasks at the University of Florida (Gainesville, FL): 1) imagining emotional and neutral events and 2) viewing emotional and neutral pictures while acoustic startle probes were presented and the ERP was recorded. For a comparison patient group ( $N= 120$ ), startle probes were administered and ERPs recorded at the University of Greifswald (Greifswald, Germany) while performing the same

imagery task. Reduced positive amplitude of a centroparietal startle-evoked ERP (156–352 ms after onset) significantly predicted higher questionnaire scores of anxiety/depression, reports of increased life dysfunction, greater comorbidity, and clinician ratings of heightened severity and poorer prognosis. The effect was general across principal diagnoses, found for both the Florida and German samples, and consistent in pattern despite differences in the tasks administered.

Singh (2013) examined the effect of anxiety and overall adjustment among high and low academic achievers in hostels. 100 tribal university students (50 high and 50 low achieves) were selected randomly from final year graduation students of university in Ranchi. Both anxiety scale and Adjustment inventory were used to reach the goal of the research. The results indicated that the magnitude of anxiety level was significantly higher among higher achievers and significantly better in terms of their level of adjustment. Inverse but relationship between anxiety and adjustment was found significant to both groups of university students.

Hamaideh (2013) A research study conducted by aimed to identify stressors and reactions to stressors among university students, and to examine the correlations between student stressors and study variables. A correlation descriptive design was used. Student-life Stress Inventory (SSI) was used to measure the stressors and reactions to stressors. Stratified random sampling was employed to recruit participants. The final sample consisted of 877 participants (students). Results indicated that the highest group of stressors experienced by students were self-imposed stressors followed by pressures. Cognitive responses were found to be the highest responses to stressors experienced by students. Negative correlations were found with perception of health, and father's and mother's level of education.

Horikawa , Yagi(2012) The present study examined how the level of trait anxiety, which is a personality characteristic, influences state anxiety and penalty shoot-out performance under pressure by instruction. The high and low trait anxiety groups were selected by using Spielberger's Trait Anxiety Scale, with trait anxiety scores, and control and pressure conditions manipulated by instructions. The participants were two groups of eight university male soccer players. They individually performed 20 shots from the penalty shoot-out point, aiming at the top right and top left corner areas in the soccer goal. Each condition had 10 trials in a within-subject design. The dependent measures comprised the number of successful goals and the state anxiety scores under each instructional condition. The result showed a significant main effect of instruction. State anxiety scores increased more and the number of successful goals decreased more in high trait anxiety groups than in low trait anxiety groups under pressure instructional condition. These findings suggest that players with higher trait anxiety scores tend to experience increased state anxiety under a pressure-laden condition, and higher state anxiety interferes with goal performance.

Jacobson (2017), The current study undertook a systematic review and meta-analysis of 66 studies involving 88,336 persons examining the prospective relationship between anxiety and depression at both symptom and disorder levels. Using mixed-effect models, results suggested that all types of anxiety symptoms predicted later depressive symptoms ( $r = .34$ ), and all types of depressive symptoms predicted later anxiety symptoms ( $r = .31$ ). Although anxiety symptoms more strongly predicted depressive symptoms than vice versa, the difference in effect size for this analysis was very small and likely not clinically meaningful. Additionally, all types of diagnosed anxiety disorders predicted all types of later depressive disorders ( $OR = 2.77$ ), and all depressive disorders predicted later anxiety disorders ( $OR = 2.73$ ). Most anxiety and depressive disorders predicted each other with similar degrees of strength, but depressive disorders more strongly predicted social anxiety disorder ( $OR = 6.05$ ) and specific phobia ( $OR = 2.93$ ) than vice versa. Contrary to conclusions of prior reviews, our findings suggest that depressive disorders may be prodromes for social and specific phobia, whereas other anxiety and depressive disorders are bidirectional risk factors for one another

Misra et.al (2012) published a review paper on social support regarding the adjustment issues experienced by international students across U.S campuses. The study explored relationship among 4 constructs with respect to international students namely life stress, academic stressors, perceived social support, and adjustment. Result findings indicated that higher levels of academic stress for international students were predicted by higher level of life stress and by lower level of social support.

Thurber (2012) studied the transition from school and home to university for young adults. Sufferers typically international students who reported anxiety, withdrawn behaviour and difficulty focussing on topics unrelated to home. For domestic and international students, intense homesickness was seen to be problematic which can also exacerbate existing moods and anxiety disorders, precipitate mental and physical health problems and further lead to withdrawal from studies, the research points to promising prevention and treatment strategies for homesick students leading to healthy, gratifying and productive educational experience.

Bhattacharyya (2012) The study aimed to study adjustment and anxiety among girl students living in hostels (group-I) in Kolkata and compare them with those living with parents (Group-II). The data was collected using the Adjustment inventory for university students (AICS) and State-Trait Anxiety test (STAT) and was statistically analyzed. Significant difference was found between the two groups in the areas of health and educational adjustment. The result of Anxiety test revealed significant difference in the dimensions of guilt proneness and self control.

Ozen (2010) the research provided insight into the prevalence and correlates of anxiety among international university students in Bursa, Turkey. A total of 4850 students participated in the study.

Students completed Spielberger's State-Trait Anxiety inventory, as well as a questionnaire designed to determine risk factors of anxiety. About 29.6% and 36.7% of the understudies in the review announced state and attribute uneasiness scores of more than 45 focuses, individually. Controlling for sexual orientation and family financial status, the accompanying attributes foresee both state and characteristic tension; the status of family connections, trouble understanding addresses, trouble adjusting to college life, solving issues autonomously, a dream of independence in critical thinking, negative educational experience, and fulfillment with their division of study. The accompanying components are prescient of just state nervousness; boarding conditions, having a ceaseless ailment, and exam periods. The hazard components for attribute uneasiness scores incorporate the accompanying; nervousness about the future, arrangement for work life, class of study, private connections, and demeanor of the family toward their youngster. Families, auxiliary instruction organizations, and colleges ought to coordinate to take out hazard variables for nervousness among college understudies.

Singh (2009) look into with an endeavor to analyze the impact of nervousness and general conformity among high and low scholastic achievers. 100 tribal college understudies (50 high and 50 low achievers) were chosen haphazardly. The choice was made last year graduation understudies of the college in Ranchi town. Tension scale and change stock was utilized for the review. Result demonstrated that the greatness of nervousness was altogether higher among the high achievers, and fundamentally better regarding their level of modification. Be that as it may, opposite yet relationship amongst nervousness and conformity were discovered noteworthy for both the gatherings of college understudies.

Wen Huang (2009) directed an examination study that inspected attributes and tension levels of Korean universal theological school understudies (n=61) living in the U.S and contrasted them and Korean local theological college understudies (n=120) living in Korea utilizing the State-Trait nervousness Inventory (Form Y) (Spielberger, 1983). Worldwide understudies confront exceptional issues, including tension while changing in accordance with social new and scholarly difficulties. The outcomes: the Pearson relationship showed that the state uneasiness scores and quality tension scores were fundamentally related. Korean worldwide theological college understudies had measurably altogether higher mean scores on state and characteristic nervousness than Korean household theological school understudies. The 2x2x2 ANOVA uncovered that critical contrasts were found for area and conjugal status, yet not for sexual orientation. In demonstrating that among Korean International understudies some require more watch over the administration of uneasiness than others.

Sumer et al (2008) detailed that nervousness was contrarily corresponded with social support; that is understudies who had bring down levels of social support had indicated more elevated amounts of

uneasiness. Additionally, the review demonstrated that understudies with more elevated amounts of social bolster detailed larger amounts of capability in English. The review revealed that English example was adversely connected with age and examples of social contact, and decidedly related with social support; that is more youthful understudies announced higher English capability than more established understudies, and understudies who mingled fundamentally with non American understudies detailed lower English capability than did understudies who mingled principally with American understudies.

#### **Discussion**

In the following chapter the interpretation and discussion of the results obtained are given with reasoning to support the hypotheses mentioned in the study. The aim of the study was to compare the anxiety levels in day scholars and hostellers between the age of 18 to 23 years. The example size comprised of 50 day scholars and 50 hostellers. State Trait Anxiety Test (STAT) was the psychological tool utilized. There were in total 5 hypotheses that will be discussed following with the interpretation. The results yielded significant difference between the anxiety level of day scholars and hostellers.

#### **Comparison between Anxiety Level of Day Scholars and Hostellers**

Results indicated that the total raw scores on anxiety level of day scholars and hostellers differed. The day scholars had higher anxiety levels as compared to the hostellers. When students enter university, they leave behind the comfort that their parents and home provide them. In a place where everything is new right from room to person, the anxiety of new environment and academic performance add to their homesickness, which is known as separation anxiety in college students, where they find it difficult to share with another person. This condition predisposes students to a lot of psychosocial, mental and physical stress.

In prior study of self concept by Nagaon (2012) hostellers had higher levels of anxiety as compared to non hostellers. Another research by Singh (2009) examined anxiety and adjustment in low and high academic achievers in hostel, results indicated higher magnitude of anxiety in high achievers. Wen Huang (2009) conducted a research study that examined characteristics and anxiety levels of Korean international seminary students (n=61) living in the U.S and compared them with Korean domestic seminary students (n=120) living in Korea using the State-Trait anxiety Inventory (Form Y) (Spielberger, 1983). International students face unique issues, including anxiety while adjusting to cultural unfamiliar and academic challenges. The results: the Pearson correlation indicated that the state anxiety scores and trait anxiety scores were significantly related. Korean international seminary students had statistically significantly higher mean scores on state and trait anxiety than Korean domestic seminary students. The 2x2x2 ANOVA revealed that significant differences were found for location and marital status, but not for gender. In

indicating that among Korean International students some require more care and support for the management of anxiety than others.

Research study by Ozen (2010) indicated high state and trait anxiety levels in international students because of various factors such as difficulty understanding lectures, difficulty adapting to university life, anxiety about the future preparation of work life, private relationship problems etc. A research study by Basco (2013) showed moderate results of state and trait anxiety level in day scholars and hostellers. There was no significant difference between the two groups.

#### **Comparison between State Anxiety of Day Scholars and Hostellers**

Results indicated that the total raw scores on anxiety of day scholars and hostellers differed. The day scholars had state anxiety scores (higher) as compared to the hostellers. In prior study by Singh (2013) found that magnitude of anxiety level was significantly higher among higher achievers and significantly better in terms of their level of adjustment. Inverse but relationship between anxiety and adjustment was found significant to both groups college students. Another study by Sharma (2012) found undergraduate hostellers were less emotionally mature, and had difficulty in adjusting emotionally and socially to the changing demands of the environment and faced more academic difficulty as compared to day scholars.

#### **Comparison in the Level of Trait Anxiety of Day Scholars and Hostellers**

Results indicated that day scholars had a higher level of trait anxiety than hostellers in prior study.

#### **Comparison of the Level of State Anxiety In Males And Females**

Results indicated males had higher levels of state anxiety than females. In prior study Singh (2003) found that the magnitude of anxiety level was significantly higher among higher achievers and significantly better in terms of their level of adjustment.

#### **Conclusion**

This chapter consists of the summary of the present study, its limitations, conclusion and even the future recommendations. The findings of this study are briefly discussed in this chapter along with its suggestions.

The aim of the research was to find out the difference between the day scholars and hostellers on anxiety levels as the main variables. This study consisted of adults between the ages of 18-23 as varying age sample. A sample of 50 day scholars and 50 hostellers were taken. There were 5 main hypotheses that were formed. The hypotheses stated that there will be a significant difference between the anxiety levels of day scholars and hostellers, various research studies supporting the findings were also quoted in chapter 3 and 5. Hence to conclude day scholars showed more levels of anxiety than hostellers.

#### **Practical Implications**

Throughout the study a few impediments were experienced which are as takes after:

1. The sample size should have been bigger to have a true representative of the population.
2. The sampling technique used for this study was random sampling, which was uneconomical and time consuming.
3. One major limitation of this study is the probability of the sample not truthful enough in giving responses, even after ensuring confidentiality.

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