

A Study of Parents' Perception towards Private Schools in Jalandhar City

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Abstract: Education is that constructive process which draws a person out from poverty and darkness, leads him on the path of enlightenment and prosperity. Education is an essential base for good life. It is to humanize humanity. It is the apprenticeship of life. In Private Schools- Features Academic Excellence- Private schools have reputation for academic excellence in many communities. Private school students generally perform better than public school students on standardized achievement tests.

Keyword: Academic Excellence, Educational system, Private School Features,

I. Introduction

“This world would have enveloped in intellectual darkness, if it had not been illumined by the light of education (Kavyadarsha).” Education is that constructive process which draws a person out from poverty and darkness, leads him on the path of enlightenment and prosperity. Education is an essential base for good life. It is to humanize humanity. It is the apprenticeship of life. Kothari Education Commission (1964-66) highlighted that “Education ought to be related to the life needs and aspirations of the people and thereby made powerful tool of social, cultural and economic transformation.”

1.1 Private Schools

Private schools are run by some charities and trusts. They also provide primary education, middle education, secondary education and senior secondary education. They have their own trustees who take all the decisions regarding the school. They have their own fee criteria, rules and regulations. According to recent estimates, 25% of all enrollment in primary education in India is in privately managed schools. In Jalandhar city, there are 130 private schools approximately.

1.2 Private Schools- Features

There are certain features of private schools which make them best and these features are following:-

- **Academic Excellence-** Private Schools have reputation for academic excellence in many communities. Private school students generally perform better than public school students on standardized achievement tests.
- **Emphasis on Discipline-** Private schools offer a more consistent approach to student discipline than public schools.
- **Higher Standard-** Graduation requirements and coursework levels are higher at private schools.
- **Individual Attention-** Restricted enrollment allows private schools to focus on every aspect of students' performance.
- **Controlled class size-** Controlling class size is a special characteristic of private schools.
- **Parental involvement-** Private schools have open communication between parents and administration of school, and they on priority basis involve parents in the community.
- **Community environment-** According to recent survey, 63% of parents with children in the private school believe their school's environment is supportive and motivating.

1.3 Private schools drawbacks

Inspire of the features of the private schools, we have some drawbacks regarding private schools as follows:-

- **High Cost-** The main drawback of private schools is higher cost and this is out of reach of common people.
- **Diversity-** The exclusiveness of private education may limit child's exposure to children from different family backgrounds and socio-economic groups.
- **No Guarantee-** It is not guaranteed that private school education may lead to good academic results.

II. Private Education In India

According to the current estimates, nearly 80% of all schools are government schools, making the government major education provider of education. On the contrary, more than 50% children enrolling in private schools in cities, the balance has already tilted towards private schooling in urban areas. The competition in the school market is very high, but still most of schools are making profit. Even the poor people send their children to private schools despite the fact that in government schools education is free. Some studies found that 65.5% of school children in HYDERABAD's SLUM attend private schools.

III. Review of Literature

Desai(2008)studied parents 'perception towards private schools found that private schooling in India has mushroomed rapidly in the past two decades. Using data from the recently collected India Human Development Survey, this paper seeks to provide description of private schooling in India and also highlighted the parentsfavour towards private school education. The result suggests that children in private schools have higher reading and arithmetic skills than those in government schools and there are other so many facilities provided. Due to all these factors, parents prefer to admit their children in private schools. According to parents, a child can have a bright future only in private schools as compared to government schools.

Adebayo(2009) studied parents' perception towards private schools found this study which examined the phenomenon of parental preference for private schools in Nigeria. The population consisted all the parents and guardians of children in various private schools during the Parents-Teacher Association(PTA) meeting.The findings revealed some factors such as teacher quality and quantity, facilities, class size, curriculum practices, stability of academic activities, disciplinary concerns, cost effectiveness and overall output quality as responsible concepts preference to private schools. Some of the recommendations made were curriculum implementation should be more targeted and student specific in public schools, public school administrators are encouraged to learn from best practices that makes private secondary school such an attractive option for both students and parents.

Baird(May,2009) studied parents' perception towards private schools found this study which states that private schooling in India is demand-driven. Parents choose private education because they believe they provide better education and future opportunities for their children than the government schools. Supply-side factors have little statistical relationship to private schools; private schools exist because parents demand them. The popularity of private schooling as a choice for low-income parents suggests that private education is likely to be prevalent throughout the developing world, not just in India. However, existing literature and this report do little to explore private school quality-the most pressing future research need is measuring school quality and communicating it to parents.

Sandars(February,2009) studied parents' perception towards private schools found this study analyzing survey data from 423 parents at six private schools in Maryland(USA)two rural, two urban and two sub-urban. Multiple regression analysis was used in this. The findings of the study reveals that private schools provide so many programmes to make healthy relation with the parents by the parents teachers meetings and by other activities and all this lead to make the positive perspective of the parents towards private schools. The parents are most strongly Influenced by private school practices. The authors conclude that private schools develop such strong programs for education that are likely to improve parental attitudes toward the private schools.

Sullivan(2010) studied parents' perception towards private schools found this report from the survey which shows that the majority of parents were satisfied with their children's education and the services they received in private schools. Most parents felt that their child was welcomed at school and their needs were being met in private schools. The findings however, also showed a number of areas where parents had concerns about certain aspects of the education service provided by private schools. These areas included: getting their child's special need accepted or diagnosed; the process of applying for supports or resources; the length of time taken to get support; and a perceived lack of resources. These issues and the recommendations from the authors will now be carefully considered by the NCSE in its work to improve the delivery of special education services in private schools.

Kelly(November,2013) studied parents'perception towards private schools found this analysis which is based upon the survey held in 2013, and surveyed 754 parents whose children received scholarships to attend the private schools of their choice under the Georgia GOAL Scholarship Program(GOAL)USA. This study reveals that most of the parents nowadays, send their children to the private schools and there are top five reasons of parents choosing a private school for their children i.e, school climate in classroom management including "better students discipline"(50.9%), "better learning environment"(50.8 %), "Smaller class sizes"(48.9 %), "improved student safety"(46.8 %), and "more individual attention for the child"(39.3 %). Moreover,

parents choose the private schools on the information basis which is provided by the private schools' managements. Public schools are not able to provide genuine information about their schools so it leads to the less preference by the parents.

Komanduri(April,2013) studied parents perception towards private schools found this paper which presents an analysis of the role of parental aspirations in determining private school choice in Andhra Pradesh, India, using quantitative and qualitative data from the Young Lives cohort study over two rounds. We find robustly, across all measures of aspirations and different empirical specifications, those parental aspirations have significant positive impact on the probability that the child is enrolled in a private school. This finding is further supported by qualitative evidence that also suggests that higher parental aspirations for the future situations of their child will lead to higher investment in education because parents perceive education as key to future success.

IV. Delimitation of the Study

The present study will be confined to parents whose children are studying in middle classes(6th to 8th) in private schools of Jalandhar City.

- Statistical analysis used in the study
- Data collected will be tabulated.
- Suitable statistical techniques will be employed for the analysis of data.
- Pie charts and bar graphs with percentage will be used for the better analysis of data.
- Analyzed data will be interpreted.
- Suitable results will be drawn.

A conclusion is the last part of something, its end or result. When you write a paper, you always end by summing up your arguments and drawing a conclusion about what you've been writing about. The phrase conclusion means "finally, to sum up," and is used to introduce some final comments at the end of a speech or piece of writing.F.M. Urban has rightly said "Keep close to experience, add a little of your own as possible, if you have to add something, be mindful to give an account of every step you take".Emerson is of the view, "We are as much gainful by finding a new property in the old earth as by acquiring a new plant".The idea of appending conclusion to a research project is to enable the casual reader who may not be prepared to go through the whole of the research project, to know the findings of the study in a systematic manner.

V. Findings of the Study

- This study has revealed that parents perception is high towards the private schools.
- The parents want the bright future of their children so that they are in favour of private schooling.
- The private schools keep a proper vigil over the students.
- The private schools follow the contemporary system of education as they are having the better facilities.
- The private schools are regarded as a status symbol also.
- The private schools are having better education system, extracurricular activities, personality development programmers, English medium, good infrastructure andwell-qualified faculty etc.
- The parents have a high opinion regarding private schools and they think that private schools are giving them the best value for their money.
- The parents are get involved and attached with the schools activities related to their children through parents students associations.
- The parents have abolished the concept of public sector schooling from their minds as they regard it as sub-standard.
- The private schools are enhancing the scope of discrimination at some extent.

VI. Educational Implications

- The private schools are doing better so far as compared to public sector schools. They are acting as a protagonist in the field of education.
- They are boosting up the students to the positivity and to the various directions with complete guidance.
- The private schools have completely changed the scenario of education in India. They should be upgraded highly.
- The public schools should follow the aspects of private schools and should work as same as the private schools are working.

VII. Limitations of the Study

- The area of the study was limited i.e, Jalandhar city.
- The time period of the research was limited.
- The respondents had not shown so much interest in filling the questionnaire.
- Some of the respondents have not given the genuine information due to lack of interest.

VIII. Suggestion for the Future Research

The area of the research should not be limited. The schools of other cities can be taken for research and for comparison.

- The time period of the research should not be limited.
- The comparison between private schools and public schools can be drawn for better results.
- Some other statistical techniques can be used.
- The sample size can be enhancing for better results.

IX. Conclusion

It Conclude that depends on where you live but in our area the private schools and most public schools are on par with each other. You will see a few higher performing students at some private schools but the mass population is about the same. I would say that the higher performing students are such because of genetics vs school and that in many cases, around here anyway, would probably achieve MORE in the better public schools simply because they have more classes to offer (high levels of math, science, etc.) simply because they are bigger. Now, in some states, the public schools are downright dismal and then you will see better educational opportunities in the private schools. You also have to factor in the lack or very small percentage if special ed students in private schools.

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