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Comparison of Perception Regarding Online Education and Traditional Offline Education During COVID-19 Pandemic Among The Students of SGT University

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ABSTRACT
A worldwide COVID-19 epidemic that started in 2020 had a negative impact on education in many different nations, colleges, and organizations that support the growth of online courses[1]. The purpose of the study was to examine how SGT University students perceived traditional offline education and online education during the COVID-19 epidemic. Self-administered questionnaire was administered online through Google forms to BSc. Nursing students of 2nd, 3rd and 4thyears of SGT University. Non-Probability Convenient Sampling Technique was used and total 250 responses were received.The most preferred device for online classes among students was smartphone which was 60%. Majority of students that is 62.8% used mobile data pack source for online classes, 34.8% of students used Wi-Fi as a source of internet and only 2.4% students used LAN for online classes. It also revealed that majority of students i.e., 62.8% had neutral perception regarding online education followed by 24.8% students who had positive perception. Whereas majority 49.2% of students had positive perception and 38% had neutral perception regarding traditional offline education.The study concluded that the mean perception regarding online education was neutral (31.996) whereas the mean perception regarding traditional offline education was positive (35.112).
Key Words: *Perception, online education, traditional offline education, students.*

INTRODUCTION
The teaching-learning process has changed as a result of the corona virus pandemic. Universities were forced to conduct all of their activities with students online due to the pandemic[2].Although online education is typically seen as a complement to traditional education, during in the corona virus epidemic it became crucial to sustaining school and university operations[3].Traditional education refers to learning via frequent physical interaction between a students and teachers in a setting that is typically a classroom or another place of study[4].To explain to their students various concepts within the curriculum, teachers are experimenting with a variety of technologies or tools[5].Virtual learning involves more than just having a Virtual classroom; it also involves getting the students interested in the relevant courses[6].

In light of the fact that schools and colleges will be closed indefinitely, both institutions of higher learning and student are experimenting with different ways to finish their required coursework within the deadlines set forth by the academic calendar[7].These procedures undoubtedly caused some discomfort, but they also led to new instances of innovative instructional practices involving digital interventions[8].This is a bright spot in an otherwise gloomy picture given the slow pace of improvements in higher education institutions, which continue to use outdated classrooms, institutional biases, and lecture-based teaching methods that date back millennia[9]. The classroom environment offers more inspiration, support, and guidance. Additionally, online learners are susceptible to distraction[10].

PROBLEM STATEMENT
Comparison of perception regarding online education and traditional offline education during covid-19 pandemic among the students of SGT University.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY
a. To assess the perception among the students regarding online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.

b. To compare the perception regarding online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.
c. To find the association between demographic variables and perception regarding online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.

Hypothesis

H_0: There is no significance difference between perception regarding online and traditional offline education among the students.

H_1: There is significance difference between perception regarding online and traditional offline education among the students.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Research Approach: Quantitative research approach was used.

Research Design: Research design ccomparative descriptive was used.

Research Variables: In the present study, the research variables under study are perception regarding online and offline education.

Demographic Variables are in the present study, there are 6 demographic variables; age, gender, year of study, area of residence, preferred device for online classes, source of internet.

Research Setting: SGT University, Gurugram, Haryana.

Study Population: The target population of this study was students of BSc. Nursing 2nd year, 3rd year and 4th year. The accessible population was the 1st year nursing students who were studying in Faculty of Nursing, SGT University, Gurugram, Haryana.

Samples: The samples were the 2nd year, 3rd year and 4th year students of BSc. Nursing, SGT University.

Sample Size: The sample size for present study was 250 nursing students of 2nd year, 3rd year and 4thyear BSc. Nursing, SGT University.

Sampling Technique: Non-probability Convenient sampling technique was being used for the present study.

Sample Selection Criteria

The criteria are as follow as:

Inclusive Criteria:

*   Students of SGT University
*   Students who are willing to participate in study.
*   Students who can understand English.

Exclusive criteria:

i.   Students who are not willing to participate in study.

Description of Tools

The tool in the present study consists of structured questionnaire with following sections:-

Section A-This section consist of 6 items for obtaining information on demographic variables such as age, gender, year of study, area of residence , preferred device for online classes, source of internet.

Section B: - 20structured Perception questionnaire

Data Collection and Technique

The following data collection instruments were constructed in order to obtain data:

Tools and Techniques of Data Collection

SectionsSelf-Administered Questionnaire		Technique
Section1	Demographic variables	Online link shared through Google forms
Section2	Perception questionnaire(Five point Likert scale)	Online link shared through Google forms

Development and Description of Data Collection Tools

The following steps were followed in in order to construct and prepare the study's tools:

*   Tool planning required
*   A review of research and non-research literature
*   Objective wise tool required.

- Establishing validity and reliability of the tools regarding the clarity and appropriateness of tool.

Content Validity of Tools
- To ensure the content validity of the tool it was submitted to 6 experts for validation and to obtain their opinion and suggestions.
- Experts were requested to judge the items of tools for clarity, relevance, appropriateness, and meaningfulness for purpose of study and to give their opinion and suggestion.

Ethical Consideration
- Ethical approval was taken from the institutional ethical committee for conducting the study.
- Administrative approval was taken from the Dean, Faculty of Nursing.
- Prior to the collection of data, the study subjects' consent about their readiness to take part in the research project was obtained.
- The information's confidentiality was maintained.

Reliability of the Tool
After administering the tool to 250 children, reliability was computed by Mann Whitney method and it was found to be 0.84.

Procedure for Pilot Study
- After obtaining formal administrative approval from the Dean, Faculty of Nursing.
- Pilot study was conducted in the month of February, 2020 at Faculty of Nursing.
- The study subjects' permission to take part in the research project was obtained by consent.
- Research project purpose was explained to the participant and assurance for confidentiality was given.
- It was concluded from pilot study that it is feasible to carry out the final study.

Procedure for Final Data Collection
- A formal administrative approval was obtained from the Dean, Faculty of Nursing. Final study was conducted in the month of March 2021 SGT University, Gurugram.
- Students (N=250) were selected using convenient sampling technique.
- The samples were informed of the goal of the study, and the privacy of their responses was guaranteed.
- Informed consent was taken from the participants prior to study.
- The online link for google forms was shared with the students.
- Time taken to fill both the tools was 10- 12 minutes for each participant.

Plan for Data Analysis
Descriptive and inferential statistics were planned to be used to analyse the obtained data as shown below:
- Frequency (f) and percentage (%) distribution of students in terms of the selected variables
- Mean, frequency and percentage distribution of perception regarding online education and traditional offline education
- Mann Whitney test is used to compare the perception regarding online education and traditional offline education
- Chi square test is used for association of perception regarding online education and traditional offline education with selected demographic variables.

Organization of Data for Analysis
The findings of data are organized according to the objectives and presented in the sections listed;
Section A- Demographic variables distribution of Frequency and percentage
Section B- Frequency and percentage distribution of perception regarding online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.
   - Comparison of perception regarding online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.
Section C- Association between demographic variables and perception regarding online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.

RESULTS

Section –A

Table – 1; Demographic variables distribution of Frequency &percentage N=250

S.No	ITEMS		F	%
1.	**Age**			
	✓	17-19 years	58	23.2
	✓	20-22 years	168	67.2
	✓	Above 23 years	24	9.6
2.	**Gender**			
	✓	Male	71	28.4
	✓	Female	179	71.6
3.	**Area of residence**			
	✓	Urban	150	60
	✓	Rural	100	40
4.	**Year of study**			
	✓	II Year	92	36.8
	✓	III Year	100	40
	✓	IV Year	58	23.2
5.	**Preferred device for online classes**			
	✓	Smartphone	150	60
	✓	Laptop	28	11.2
	✓	Tablet	7	2.8
	✓	Both smartphone and laptop	65	26
6.	**Source of internet**			
	✓	Mobile data pack	157	62.8
	✓	Wi-Fi	87	34.8
	✓	LAN	6	2.4

Section B

This section assesses the perception regarding online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.

Table-2; Frequency and Percentage distribution of perception regarding online education and traditional offline education *n=250*

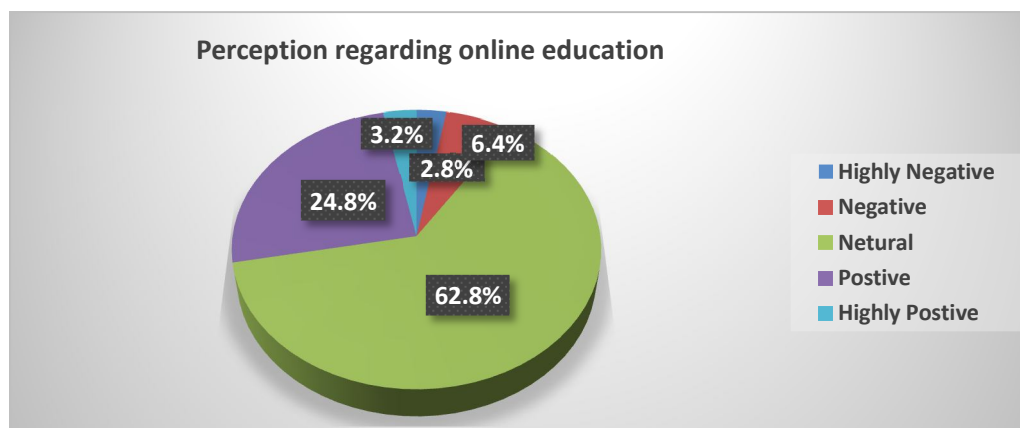| Category	Range	Perception regarding online education		Perception regarding traditional offline	
		Frequency	Percentage %	Frequency	Percentage %
Highly Negative	10-18	7	2.8	3	1.2
Negative	19-26	16	6.4	11	4.4
Neutral	27-34	157	62.8	95	38
Positive	35-42	62	24.8	123	49.2
Highly Positive	43-50	8	3.2	18	7.2

Figure-1; Pie chart showing Percentage distribution of perception regarding online education
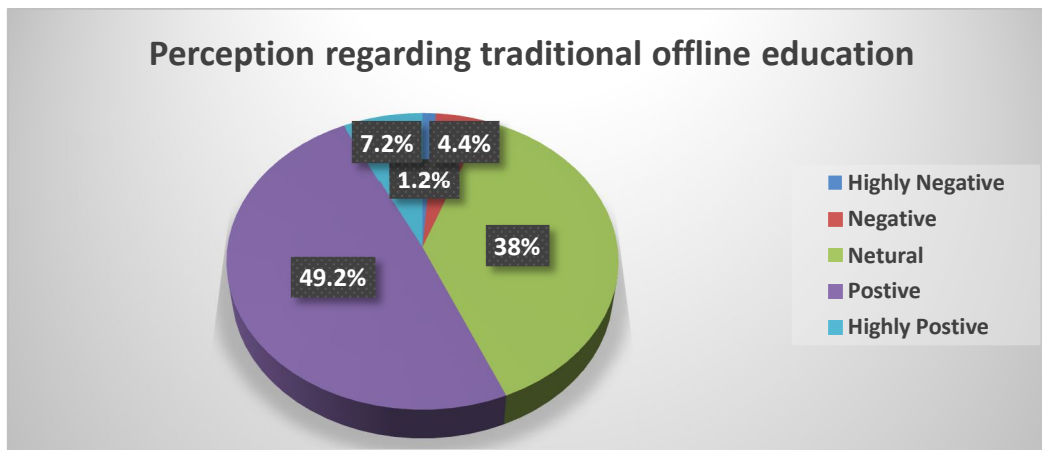
Figure-2; Pie chart showing Percentage distribution of perception regarding traditional offline education

Table-3: Comparison of perception regarding online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the student

S.No	Perception regarding Online teaching			Perception regarding Traditional offline teaching		
	n	Mean	SD	n	Mean	SD
1	250	31.996	5.388	250	35.112	5.694

Table-4; Comparison of perception online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.

	Perception regarding Online teaching	Perception regarding Traditional offline teaching
Mann-Whitney U	19990	19990
Wilcoxon W	1.500	1.000
Z	-6.97029	-6.97029

Table-4 Therefore, there is significant difference between perception regarding online and traditional offline education during Covid-19 pandemic among students.

Section C

Table-5; Association between demographic variables and perception regarding online education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.

S. No.	Demographic variables	Perception regarding online teaching					χ2 value Calculated	df	p	inference
		Highly negative	Negative	Neutral	Positive	Highly positive				
1.	**Age**									
	17-19 years	1	2	40	11	4	8.443	8	.391	NS
	20-22 years	6	13	102	44	3				
	Above 23 years	0	1	14	8	1				
2.	**Gender**									
	Male	1	5	44	16	5	5.607	4	.231	NS
	Female	6	11	112	47	3				
3.	**Area of residence**									
	Urban	4	10	95	38	3	1.808	4	.771	NS
	Rural	3	6	61	25	5				
4.	**Year of study**									
	II Year	4	4	57	22	5	5.578	8	.694	NS
	III Year	1	8	62	27	2				
	IV Year	2	4	37	14	1				
5.	**Preferred device for online classes**									
	Smartphone	6	11	98	31	4	15.874	12	.197	NS
	Laptop	0	0	17	9	2				

		Highly negative	Negative	Neutral	Positive	Highly positive				
	Tablet	0	0	2	5	0				
	Both smartphone and laptop	1	5	39	18	2				
6.	**Source of internet**									
	Mobile data pack	6	11	98	36	6	4.874	8	.771	NS
	Wi-Fi__33	1	5	55	24	2				
	LAN	0	0	3	3	0				

Chi-square test   significance level at p=0.05

NOTE: NS: Not significant (p> 0.05), *: Significant (p< 0.05)

There was no statistically significant correlation between demographic factors and students' perceptions of online education.

Table-5; Association between demographic variables and perception regarding traditional offline education among the students.

S No	Demographic variables	Perception regarding traditional offline teaching					χ2 value Calculated	df	p	inference
		Highly negative	Negative	Neutral	Positive	Highly positive				
1.	**Age**									
	17-19 years	0	3	21	31	3	6.285	8	.615	NS
	20-22 years	2	14	62	84	14				
	Above 23 years	0	1	13	8	1				
2.	**Gender**									
	Male	0	3	33	29	6	4.108	4	.392	NS
	Female	2	8	63	94	12				
3.	**Area of residence**									
	Urban	1	7	49	81	12	5.443	4	.245	NS
	Rural	1	4	47	42	6				
4.	**Year of study**									
	II Year	1	3	37	40	11	23.176	8	.003	*
	III Year	0	6	26	62	6				
	IV Year	1	2	33	21	1				
5.	**Preferred device for online classes**									
	Smartphone	1	9	59	69	12	8.610	12	.736	NS
	Laptop	0	2	8	15	3				
	Tablet	0	0	3	4	0				
	Both smartphone and laptop	1	0	26	35	3				
6.	**Source of internet**									
	Mobile data pack	1	9	56	77	14	4.801	8	.779	NS
	WIFI	1	2	37	43	4				
	LAN	0	0	3	3	0				

Chi-square test   significance level at p=0.05

NOTE: NS: Not significant (p> 0.05), *: Significant (p< 0.05)

No significant association found between year of student and perception regarding traditional offline education among the students.

DISCUSSION

To assess the perception among the students regarding online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.

The data has revealed that majority of students i.e, 62.8% had neutral perception regarding online education, 24.8% students had positive perception, 6.4% had negative perception, 3.2% were highly positive and only 2.8% were highly negative regarding online education. In contrast, the statistics showed that 49.2percent of the total of students had a good opinion of offline marketing education, 38% had a neutral opinion, 7.2% of students had a strongly positive opinion, 4.4% had a negative opinion, and just 1.2% had a highly negative opinion. Online live-streaming teaching has a favourable and significant impact on raising teaching quality, according to a related study by Yun Hong (2020). However, they also concur that traditional classroom settings are preferred for teaching and that online classes are inferior to them[6].

To compare the perception regarding online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.

Revealed that the mean perception regarding online education was 31.996 (neutral) and for traditional offline education among the students 35.112 (positive). Thus, there is significance difference between

perception regarding online and traditional offline education among the students. Hence research hypothesis (H$_1$) is accepted. One of the study was conducted by T.Muthuprasa(2021) conclude thatWhile 30% of respondents proposed delaying lessons or giving reading materials until the lockdown is lifted, the majority of participants favored online classes to keep up with the syllabus in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Analyzing the respondents' perceptions of online classes was necessary to delve deeper into this issue[7].

To find the association between demographic variables and perception regarding online education and traditional offline education during COVID-19 pandemic among the students.
There was no significant association between demographic variables and perception regarding online education among the students on the other hand there was significant association between year of student and perception regarding traditional offline education among the students.

CONCLUSION
The study reveals that students are more comfortable with traditional offline education. But in future, we can add latest technology in our traditional offline education to make it more beneficial for the students so that they can take more and more advantage of it.

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