

IMPACT OF SELF-ESTEEM ON SELF-CONCEPT AMONG PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS

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ABSTRACT

Various researches have shown the importance of enhancing self-esteem with several cognitive factors, such as self-concept. Several studies also revealed a strong causal relationship between self-esteem and self-concept in Mathematics. However, none or little has been known about how self – esteem can affect self-concept in Mathematics among preservice teachers. As future educators, developing positive self – esteem and positive self – concept in Mathematics during the preservice teaching period are encouraged since learning Mathematics provides foundational knowledge in teaching other school subjects, such as Engineering, Science, Art, Music, Electronics and various fields and disciplines. This study therefore investigated the impact of self-esteem on the self-concept in Mathematics among preservice teachers. Three research questions and one hypothesis guided this study. This utilized descriptive survey design and data were obtained online thru Google Forms. A sample of 135 preservice teachers from a selected university in Zamboanga City was chosen randomly through proportionate and systematic sampling procedures. This study adapted Math – Specific Self-Esteem questionnaire by Reyna (2000) and the Self-Description Questionnaire by Marsh, et. al (1985). This was validated by the research instructor and subject matter experts, and both attained acceptable reliability coefficients during the pilot testing based on the computed Cronbach's alpha. Frequency tables, mean, standard deviation, Pearson – r correlation was utilized to analyze the data. Findings revealed that preservice teachers had moderate self-esteem and self-concept level. Results also showed that there was a significant positive correlation between the two variables. This study recommends that math teachers in higher education create learning activities that can foster positive self-esteem and self-concept in Mathematics among preservice teachers.

Keywords: Self - esteem, Self – concept, Mathematics and Preservice Teachers