

# DEVELOPMENT AND STANDARDISATION OF ATTITUDE TOWARDS REGIONALISM SCALE (ATRS)

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## INTRODUCTION

The term 'regionalism' has two connotations. In the negative sense, it implies excessive attachment to one's region in preference to the country or the state. In the positive sense it is a political attribute associated with people's love for their region, culture, language, etc. with a view to maintaining their independent identity. While positive regionalism is a welcome thing insofar as it encourages the people to develop a sense of brotherhood and commonness on the basis of common language, religion or historical background, the negative sense regionalism is a great threat to the unity and integrity of the country. In the Indian context generally the term regionalism has been used in the negative sense. The feeling of regionalism may arise either due to the continuous neglect of a particular area or region by the ruling authorities or it may spring up as a result of increasing political awareness of backward people that have been discriminated against. Quite often some political leaders encourage the feeling of regionalism to maintain their hold over a particular area or group of people.

Emst B.Hass defined stressed the need to distinguish the notions of regional cooperation, regional system, regional organization and regional integration and regionalism.

Region can be denoted as the principle or system of dividing a city, state, etc., into separate administrative regions on the basis of a speech form, expression, custom or other features peculiar to or characteristic of a particular area.

Regionalism in India has assumed various forms like :

**a) Demand for State Autonomy :** Regionalism has often led to the demand by states for greater autonomy from the center. Increasing interference by the Centre in the affairs of the states has led to regional feelings. Demand for autonomy has also been raised by regions within some states of the Indian federation.

**(b) Secession from the Union:** This is a dangerous form of regionalism. It emerges when states demand separation from the Centre and try to establish an independent identity of their own. Disputes between states over the sharing of river water, primacy given by the states to the language of the majority and to people of their own states in job opportunities have also given rise to feelings of regionalism. Migration of people from a backward state to a developed state for employment opportunities has often resulted in a hostile attitude against the migrants. We can cite for example, problems faced by Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

## REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Andrew Hurrel and Louise Fawcett, [1995] Oxford University, in their study concluded that order is increasingly held to involve. The creation of rules affects very deeply the domestic structures and organization of state that invest individuals and groups within states with rights and duties, and which seek to embody some notion of a common good (human rights, democratization, the environment, the construction of a more elaborate and intrusive interstate security order)

## NEED AND IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

Now the feeling of regionalism is very important as the political environment makes the people to adopt regionalism and the researcher feels that it is the right time to make a study on it. Secular attitude has to be practised in all levels of the education system, whether it is primary or elementary or secondary or higher secondary or higher studies. The secular attitudes which have been said in theory and practice have to be inculcated

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in the minds of students. Only then it will reflect in their walks of life. In this present study it is decided to find out the attitude towards regionalism of college students.

### ATTITUDE TOWARDS REGIONALISM SCALE (ATRS)

The attitude towards regionalism scale constructed by the investigators is a scale having 100 statements of which 71 are positive statements and 29 are negative statements. Each statement is set against a five point scale of "strongly agree", "agree", "undecided", "disagree", "strongly disagree" and a weight of 5,4,3,2 and 1 is given in that order for the positive statements and the scaling is reversed for the negative statements. An individual score is the sum of all the scores for the 100 items.

### PILOT STUDY

To standardize this scale a pilot study was conducted to a sample of as many as 150 college students studying in the arts and science colleges and also in the colleges of education situated in the northern districts of Tamilnadu, selected through the cluster sampling technique.

### ITEM ANALYSIS

The next step in the standardization of the attitude towards regionalism scale after the pilot study was to find out the 't' value of each statement which forms the basis for item selection in order to build up the final scale. The

individual attitude towards regionalism scale scores for all the college students (both from arts and science colleges and also from colleges of education) were found out and they were valued from the highest to the lowest scorer. Then 27% of the subjects (high) with the highest total scores and 27% of the subjects (medium) with medium total scores and 27% of the subjects (low) with the lowest total scores were sorted out for the purpose of item selection. The high and low groups thus selected, formed the criterion groups and each group was made up of 41 college students. Each statement was taken individually and the number of college students who responded from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree" was found out in both the high and the low group separately. A separate worksheet was prepared for each statement for the calculation of 't' values.

### SELECTION OF ITEM

The value of 't' is a measure of the extent to which a given statement differentiates between the high and low groups. If the 't' value is equal to or greater than 1.75, it indicates that the average response of the high and low groups to the statement differs significantly. As many as 84 statements having 't' values greater than or equal to 1.98 were chosen in order to form the final scale. The items in the scale were randomized so that that the positive and negative statements were distributed throughout the scale.

**Rank order of the items in attitude scale based on their 't' values**

Rank order	Nature of the statement	't' value	Original serial number in pilot scale
1	F	19.72	71
2	UF	14.62	52
3	UF	10.68	31
4	UF	10.57	24
5	UF	9.94	39
6	F	9.29	72
7	UF	9.20	53
8	F	8.62	82
9	UF	8.39	100
10	UF	8.11	37
11	UF	8	38
12	F	7.67	55

13	UF	7.66	40
14	F	7.58	73
15	F	7.50	17
16	F	7.46	74
17	F	7.38	56
18	UF	7.33	25
19	UF	7.26	96
20	F	7.10	34
21	F	7.04	58
22	UF	6.99	94
23	F	6.99	48
24	F	6.95	57
25	UF	6.76	23
26	F	6.66	29
27	F	6.54	90
28	F	6.15	47

Rank order	Nature of the statement	't' value	Original serial number in pilot scale
29	F	5.82	27
30	F	5.77	92
31	F	5.70	49
32	F	5.25	79
33	F	5.18	86
34	F	5.16	91
35	F	4.96	11
36	UF	4.88	22
37	F	4.79	69
38	F	4.76	13
39	UF	4.66	36
40	UF	4.55	95
41	UF	4.27	88
42	F	4.22	54
43	F	4.20	83
44	F	4.13	46
45	F	4.06	4
46	F	4.01	6
47	F	4	35
48	F	3.95	14
49	F	3.94	81
50	F	3.94	85
51	F	3.88	16
52	F	3.85	28
53	UF	3.84	65
54	UF	3.81	32
55	UF	3.77	97
56	F	3.71	50
57	F	3.62	33
58	F	3.55	18
59	F	3.54	19
60	UF	3.51	89
61	F	3.50	8
62	F	3.48	99
63	UF	3.45	45
64	UF	3.43	68
65	F	3.43	78
66	F	3.31	15
67	UF	3.12	20
68	UF	3.01	44
69	F	2.98	62
70	F	2.95	41
71	F	2.91	7

Rank order	Nature of the statement	't' value	Original serial number in pilot scale
72	F	2.86	9
73	F	2.66	60
74	F	2.63	67
75	F	2.58	66
76	F	2.46	64
77	F	2.44	70
78	F	2.41	2
79	F	2.37	87
80	F	2.36	75
81	F	2.35	61
82	F	2.25	80
83	F	2.20	84
84	F	2.18	51
85	F	1.92	12
86	UF	1.84	42
87	F	1.79	43
88	F	1.77	98
89	F	1.73	76
90	F	1.72	77
91	F	0.82	5
92	UF	0.75	10
93	F	0.45	63
94	F	0.28	3
95	F	0.07	21
96	F	-0.21	19
97	F	-0.22	20
98	UF	-1.02	30
99	F	-1.13	93
100	UF	-1.85	26

#### RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY OF THE SCALE

The reliability of attitude towards regionalism scale was established by the split half method (odd-even numbered) using pearson product moment correlation. This gave the reliability of half the scale and hence the co efficient of the reliability of the full scale was determined by using Spearman Brown prophecy formula and it was found to be 0.785 and the intrinsic validity was established by taking the square root of the reliability coefficient i.e. =0.88. Thus from the two coefficients, it was inferred that this scale is highly reliable and valid. The final version of the

ATRS was prepared with 84 valid items. The maximum possible score will be 420 and the minimum will be 84. Higher score indicates the favorable attitude towards regionalism.

The pilot study scale had 100 statements and final study scale had 84 statements.

### ATTITUDE TOWARDS REGIONALISM SCALE

Direction: The purpose of the scale is to find out

the students' attitude towards regionalism. The attitude scale consists of 84 statements. It provides five columns bearing the headings 'Strongly agree', 'Agree', 'Undecided', 'Disagree', 'Strongly disagree' against the statements. Read each statement carefully and place a (tic) mark against it in the appropriate column. You are requested to give your responses to all the statements.

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S.No	Statement	Strongly Agree (SA)	Agree (A)	Uncertain (U)	Disagree (D)	Strongly Disagree (SD)
1	People from other states come to many famous summer resorts in my state					
2	I don't feel proud when other state people praise my state.					
3	My state alone has an autocratic style of administration.					
4	I don't like to converse with the people of other states.					
5	I feel anguished when I read about the conditions of the people of my state in newspapers.					
6	People of my state are getting annoyed towards political parties as they are losing confidence in politicians.					
7	The people of my state indulge in unlawful activities.					
8	The number of beneficiaries of good literature is getting reduced in my state.					
9	The progress of my state is affected by political interference.					
10	Educated youth are of no use in my state.					
11	Illiterate parents are in no way affecting my state.					
12	It is regrettable that the level of good conduct among the people of my state is getting worse.					
13	A wrong thing committed by one may not affect all the people of my state.					
14	The youth of my state are getting entangled in the web of false civilization.					
15	My state is in the forefront in the whole of our country.					
16	The respect and confidence of the youth of my state towards older persons is declining.					
17	In my state protection to the ancient places are getting reduced.					
18	The progress of my state is not in the hands of youth.					
19	I don't like to live in my state.					
20	The people of the neighboring states feel jealous on seeing the progress of my state.					
21	My state the forerunner for the free schemes followed by the other states.					
22	I don't have freedom in my state.					
23	It is a pride that the world famous Thirukkural is written in my state language.					

24	I feel proud that I was born in the state where the great leader Kamaraj was born.					
25	The absence of the quality of brotherhood among the people of my state makes me unhappy.					
26	My state has more number of bridges and dams.					
27	The pride of my state is unity in diversity.					
28	The increase in crime rate in my state is because of the negligence of the police department.					
29	The fact that my state is undergoing cultural change because of modernization makes me unhappy.					
30	Equal rights are being given to people of all religions in my state					
31	I consider my state as a secular one.					
32	Tamil literature keeps my state language young.					
33	People below poverty line are less in number in my state.					
34	Hospitality is the speciality of my state					
35	The police department of my state stands first in our country.					
36	Betrayal is the speciality of my state					
37	The temples in my state are examples of sculpture.					
38	My state has the distinction of reserving seats in buses for the elderly and the physically challenged.					
39	The neighboring states should take the responsibility for the people who migrate to my state.					
40	It is difficult for me to involve myself in my state culture.					
41	It is wrong to permit other state persons to live in my state.					
42	It is a pride that my state has more number of students with patriotism.					
43	The rivers running in my state belong to us.					
44	I feel proud that Major Saravanan who was killed in the Kargil war belongs to my state.					
45	I feel proud that Oscar award winner A.R.Rehman belongs to my state.					
46	My state stands first in literacy rate.					
47	It is painful to note that the unity among the people of my state is steadily getting reduced.					
48	Several great people and freedom fighters were born in my state.					
49	There is exploitation of people of my state taking advantage of their innocence and poor condition.					
50	There is a sense of national integration in the people of my state					
51	My state is rich in natural resources.					
52	I feel proud to consider all the people of my state as brothers and sisters.					

53	I feel happy that the people of my state hold certain superstitious beliefs.					
54	The migration of the people of neighbouring states to my state is a painful affair.					
55	People with money power are given priority in my state.					
56	It is my state which has donated lot of funds for the Kargil war.					
57	There is no place for women slavery in my state.					
58	The people of my state have the courtesy of respecting the people of other states.					
59	The very long Marina beach adds beauty to my state.					
60	I don't feel proud for having been born in my state.					
61	Women are given equal rights in my state.					
62	The people of my state join together to celebrate national festivals.					
63	The condition of farmers in my state has not improved.					
64	The people of my state have not understood true democracy.					
65	The atomic stations and other industries help in the economic development of my state.					
66	My state stands first in medical and technical education.					
67	The people of other states do not reciprocate our love.					
68	I feel anguished that the women of my state have not achieved cent percent literacy.					
69	I feel proud that my country has elected two teachers for the post of President of our country.					
70	I feel proud that the world chess champion Viswanathan Anand belongs to my state.					
71	The speciality of my state is to provide facilities for life to all those who come from outside.					
72	There is no place for corruption in my state.					
73	The neighboring states stand in the way of development of my state					
74	There is less affinity on mother tongue and more craze for English among the people of my state.					
75	There is a possibility of danger because of privatization.					
76	It is sad that the former Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi was killed in a bomb blast in my state.					
77	The life style of the people of my state is a mixture of the old and the new.					
78	My state is known for its sculptures and paintings.					
79	Respecting freedom fighters is a part of the culture of my state.					
80	The youth of my state believe that television and movie are their lives.					
81	My state has more number of anti social elements.					
82	People from other states are coming to the capital of my state to start industries.					
83	My state is known for its peace.					
84	It is my state which extends help at the first instance wherever there is a natural disaster.					

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