

PHYSICAL APPEARANCE AND ATTRACTION: A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN BOYS AND GIRLS

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ABSTRACT

Physical characteristics define features or characteristics of the body. These are the aspects that we see visually and know nothing else about the person. The first thing you see when you look at someone is their hair, clothes, nose, body type, etc. These are all examples of physical properties.

Physical attractiveness is the degree to which a person's physical characteristics are considered aesthetic or beautiful. Physical qualities that increase attractiveness include youthfulness, symmetry, averageness, masculinity in men, and femininity in women. Positive expressions and behaviors also increase a person's attractiveness. Cultural, cognitive, evolutionary, and hypergeneric explanations have been offered to explain why we find certain people attractive. Our natural tendency is to judge people by their appearance and prefer beautiful people. The attractiveness of people's faces, bodies, and voices not only influences their choice of romantic partners, but also their impressions of their characteristics and important social achievements in areas unrelated to romance.

It's no surprise that attraction is important in romantic settings, but its benefits are seen in many other social areas. More attractive people are perceived more positively based on a variety of traits are considered smarter, healthier, more trustworthy and more sociable.

More positive impressions of those judged facially attractive are shown across many cultures, even within an isolated indigenous tribe in the Bolivian rainforest (Zebrowitz et al., 2012). More attractive job applicants are preferred in hiring decisions for a variety of jobs, and attractive people receive higher salaries (Dipboye et al.,). Body attractiveness also contributes to social outcomes. A smaller percentage of overweight than normal-weight college applicants are admitted despite similar high school records (Canning & Mayer, 1966). Parents are less likely to pay for the education of their heavier weight children (Crandall, 1991),

OBJECTIVES

To study the levels of physical attractiveness among students of age group 18-25 years.

HYPOTHESIS

Level of physical attraction will be same in boys and girls.

VARIABLE

In the present study, independent variable is physical characteristics and dependent variable is girls and boys. The total participants in the study consists of 20 girls and 20 boys, which were selected by purposive random sampling method. Subjects who gave consent were only chosen for the research. They were told about the study beforehand. All participants had similar type of socio – economic status.

TOOLS USED -

The study of attraction by SHERRYN J. Perry scale (1998) was used for the purpose. This contained the Attraction Scale, which included 30 questions and asked the participants to indicate their feelings (from "elated" to "repulsed") about taking part in various activities with the person of opposite sex. The Attraction Scale is a self-report instrument designed specifically for this experiment

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS -

For finding out the significant difference between students 't' test is used.

| | N | M | Sd | Df | T |
|------|----|-------|-------|--|-------|
| Boys | 20 | 56.60 | 12.4 | 40-2=38 | 0.624 |
| Girl | 20 | 58.95 | 10.63 | It was found that non significant at both levels | |

DISCUSSION-

The aim of the research was to study physical attraction on the basis of physical appearance. The “t” score was found to be 0.624 which shows non-significant at both level. Swami furham in psychology of physical attraction writes that a wider Waist to height Ratio, high voice, healthy hair, smile, less makeup also determines the attraction towards women by men. Joseph Moore in style craze writes about the girl who is charming, kindhearted Ambitious, consistent competitive& understanding is mostly liked by men.

Nishat Fatima told that men’s clothes, personality, shoes, hands, hair are mostly liked by women in men. Ashley Weston wrote the physical stature, appearance, attractiveness, smile, humor, and are constituted by the females to be at least by men.

In the present study, it clearly indicates that boys mean is 56.6 and girls’s mean is 58.95 which is also in the line of previous studies. Which shows that there is no gender differences as far as the physical attraction is considered.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of upper findings, it is concluded that physical attraction has similar kind of attractiveness in boys and girls. eye tracking studies show that people look longer at images that portray the opposite sex and limit their viewing of the face when the image contains erotic content (Lykinset et al , 2007).

Several studies on physical appearance have shown that similarity in physical attractiveness or a ranking of one's own physical attractiveness is related to the formation of likelihood towards the person (Folkes, 1982).

Researchers have recently shown a great interest in this feature because it is assumed to be associated with corporal asymmetry, which is the result of failure to resist environmental disturbance during development (Leary & Allendorf, 1989; Palmer & Strobeck, 1986).

Developmental and evolutionary research suggests that greater body symmetry in general, and facial symmetry in particular, can serve as an indication of genotypic quality, youth, and attractiveness (Farkas & Cheung, 1981; Gangestad, Thornhill, & Yeo, 1994). Men who see themselves as more attractive more often cooperate than other men, while women who see themselves as more attractive less often cooperate than other women. In addition, subjects who rate themselves as highly attractive are more likely to cooperate with others they see as also highly attractive. Subjects expect others whom they see as attractive to cooperate more often. At the same time, the effect of perceived attractiveness on choice is independent of these expectations, supporting the hypothesis that attractiveness is a "taste" or "benefit" for actors in exchange relationships Matthew mulford et al. (1998).

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