

# Psycho-social problems among the adolescent girls experiencing sexual harassment in Punjab

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■ **ABSTRACT :** The present study to determine the differences in anxiety, security-insecurity and emotional maturity among rural school going adolescent girls was taken up in one block of Ludhiana district of Punjab state. The sample consisted of 200 respondents who were in the age range of 16-18 years. A Comprehensive Anxiety Test developed by Sharma (1992), an adapted version of Security-insecurity Scale developed by Shah (1989) and Emotional Maturity Scale developed by Singh and Bhargav (1990) were used to assess the level of anxiety, security and emotional maturity, respectively. Sexually harassed adolescents were found to be having medium and high level of anxiety compared to sexually non-harassed adolescents. Statistically also there were highly significant differences. None of the adolescents belonging to sexually harassed group had low level of anxiety. None of the adolescents belonging to sexually non-harassed group had low level of security whereas only one adolescent girl in sexually harassed group was found to be having high level of security. Sexually harassed adolescents were found to have unstable emotional maturity whereas majority of the sexually non-harassed adolescents were having stable emotional maturity. Statistically also there were highly significant differences.

■ **KEY WORDS:** Adolescent, Indicator, Non-verbal, Physical, Sexual harassment, Verbal

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