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## **GENDER DIFFERENCES IN BIG FIVE PERSONALITY TRAITS OF PARTICIPANTS IN KASABEC KABATAAN-BIÑAN CITY: AS A BASIS FOR EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF EXTENSION PROGRAMS**

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### **Abstract**

*This study aimed to assess the gender differences in big five personality traits as a basis for effective implementation of extension programs. Descriptive research design was employed in this study. The respondents of the study were 115 participants of extension program in Biñan City. The results revealed that female respondents were about average in terms of openness, conscientiousness, and agreeableness while they were relatively low in terms of extraversion and neuroticism, whereas male were relatively low in terms of openness and conscientiousness while about average in extraversion, agreeableness, and neuroticism. The researchers concluded that gender differences in most of the big five personality traits found significant difference except from agreeableness which did not find a significance, it somehow contradicted to the study of*

*Weisberg, Y., et.al. 2011 wherein their study did not find a significant gender difference in big five personality traits and found significance only in terms of agreeableness. Based on the results of this study the researchers recommended to assess the gender differences of the participants in terms of knowledge, abilities, and skills since abilities and skills are a key element along with the knowledge for the consideration of the skills and qualifications for workers and entrepreneurs.*

## **Keywords**

Gender Differences, Big Five Personality Traits, Kasabec-Kabataan

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## **1. Introduction**

Gender differences have been documented for a number of personality traits. Most meta-analyses and reviews examine gender differences in self-reports of personality on questionnaires that measure the Big Five, as well as facets within each (Feingold, 1994; Costa et al., 2001; Lippa, 2010).

The study of personality is particularly useful in attempting to examine psychological differences between genders. Personality is often conceptualized as the extent to which someone displays high or low levels of specific traits. Traits are the consistent patterns of thoughts, feelings, motives, and behaviors that a person exhibits across situations (Fleeson and Gallagher, 2009).

It have long been identified that Big Five Personality factors is a strong predictors of subjective wellbeing, and however studies on subjective wellbeing have been focused on the affective aspect of personality to the neglect of other dimensions, (Mayungbo,2016).

### **1.1 Big Five Personality Traits**

Openness/Intellect is connected to the ability and interest in attending to and processing complex stimuli for it reflects imagination, creativity, intellectual curiosity, and appreciation of esthetic experiences. No significant gender differences are typically found on Openness/Intellect at the domain level. For example, men have been found to score higher on the Ideas facet (Costa et al., 2001), whereas women tend to score higher than men on the facets of Esthetics and Feelings (Feingold, 1994; Costa et al., 2001).

Conscientiousness, such as order, dutifulness, and self-discipline, it describes traits related to self-discipline, organization, and the control of impulses, and appears to reflect the ability to exert self-control in order to follow rules or maintain goal pursuit. Women score

somewhat higher than men on some facets of, but not consistently, sometimes men have higher score than women in this trait (Feingold, 1994; Costa et al., 2001).

Gender differences are small on the overall domain of extraversion, for extraversion reflects sociability, Assertiveness, and positive emotionality, all of which have been linked to sensitivity to rewards (Depue and Collins, 1999; DeYoung and Gray, 2009). Women tend to score higher than men on Warmth, Gregariousness, and Positive Emotions, whereas men score higher than women on Assertiveness and Excitement Seeking (Feingold, 1994; Costa et al., 2001).

Agreeableness involves the tendency toward cooperation, maintenance of social harmony, and consideration of the concerns of others (as opposed to exploitation or victimization of others), and comprises traits relating to altruism, such as empathy and kindness. Women consistently score higher than men on agreeableness and related measures, such as tender-mindedness (Feingold, 1994; Costa et al., 2001).

Women have found to have higher score in neuroticism than men. Neuroticism include negative emotion like anxiety, depression, anger, self-consciousness, and emotional liability, it describes the tendency of an individual to experience negative emotion and related processes in response to perceived threat and punishment, (Costa et.al., 2001).

Two of the Big Five traits, conscientiousness and agreeableness, were positively related with four learning styles such as synthesis analysis, methodical study, fact retention, and elaborative processing, while neuroticism was negatively related with the said styles. Extraversion and openness were positively related with elaborative processing. Thus this shows the relationship between openness and GPA was mediated by reflective learning styles, (Komarraju, et.al, 2011).

The Big Five personality traits, also known as the five factor model (FFM), is a model based on common language descriptors of personality. When factor analysis (a statistical technique) is applied to personality survey data, some words used to describe aspects of personality are often applied to the same person. Someone described as "conscientious" is more likely to be described as "always prepared" rather than "messy". This theory is based therefore on the association between words but not on neuropsychological experiments.

This theory uses descriptors of common language and therefore suggests five broad dimensions commonly used to describe the human personality and psyche. The five factors have

been defined as openness to experience, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness, and neuroticism, often represented by the acronyms OCEAN or CANOE.

Moral and spiritual values identify different personality traits of a human being. These personality traits in the study of Mohammed Chowdhury (2006) students really differ in their personal values; they received information and respond on it differently; their personality trait is different same with their understanding. It is often discussed that a blend of personality characteristics is needed by people to be successful in their field, (Tamban & Maningas , 2016).

## **2. Method**

### **2.1 Design**

The study design is a quantitative research design. The independent variables of the study are openness, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness, and neuroticism which comprises of high and low. The dependent variable is the gender differences which comprises of male and female.

### **2.2 Research Setting**

This study was conducted in Brgy. Malaban and Sto Domingo, Biñan City as part of extension program of the College of Teacher Education, Laguna State Polytechnic University, Los Baños, Laguna.

### **2.3 Sampling Procedure**

Purposive sampling was applied in this study since the respondents of the study were only the participants of extension program.

### **2.4 Participants**

A total of 115 respondents which consist 37 or 32% males, and 78 or 62% females, which were the participants of extension program KASABEC-Kabataan of Biñan City.

### **2.5 Research Instrument**

The researchers used the adapted survey questionnaire of the big five personality test from Mohammed, C. & Mohammed A.N., (2006).

### **2.6 Research Procedure**

The researchers administered the survey questionnaires before the implementation of extension activity to all of the participants of Kasabec-Kabataan extension program which

consist of different activities to enhance communication skill, mathematical skill, personality development, and livelihood skills of the participants.

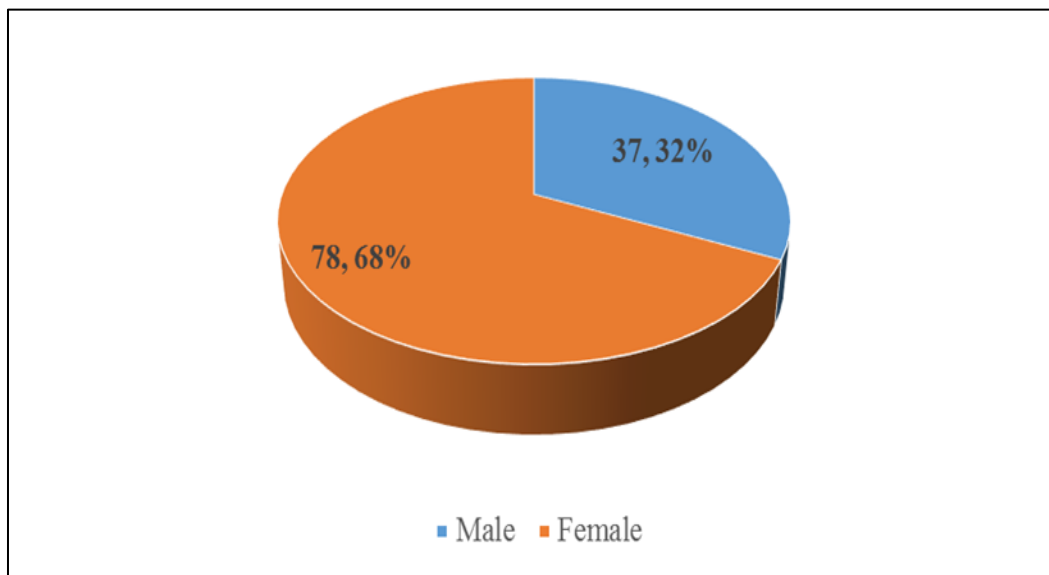
### 2.7 Statistical Analysis

Mean and Standard deviation were applied in determining the big five personality traits of the respondents while t-test was applied in determining the significance difference between male and female big five personality traits.

### 3. Results

It was shown in figure 1 that most of the respondents were female with 78 or 68% out of 115, while 37 or 32% were male.

This shows that most of the dominant respondents of this study in terms of gender was female.



**Figure 1:** Respondents' Gender

It was shown in table 1, that female respondents were about average in terms of openness, conscientiousness, and agreeableness while male were relatively low in terms of openness, conscientiousness and they were the same description only with female in terms of agreeableness.

It was also shown that female were relatively low in terms of extraversion and neuroticism while male were about average.

**Table 1: Respondents' Level of Big Five Personality Traits**

Big Five Personality Traits	Mean		SD		Description/Interpretation	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Openness	18.62	28.32	2.42	1.67	Relatively Low	About Average
Conscientiousness	20.19	26.23	2.03	2.09	Relatively Low	About Average
Extraversion	26.25	21.39	3.43	3.14	About Average	Relatively Low
Agreeableness	26.02	26.23	1.36	2.09	About Average	About Average
Neuroticism	28.05	19.07	1.10	1.87	About Average	Relatively Low

The results of t-test analysis is presented in table 2, that there is significant gender difference on big five personality traits of the respondents which consist of openness (t-value (113)=13.879;  $p < .01$ ), conscientiousness (t-value (113)=10.983;  $p < .01$ ), extraversion (t-value (113)=22.076;  $p < .05$ ), neuroticism (t-value (113)=14.43;  $p < .01$ ) except from agreeableness (t-value (113)=4.31;  $p > .05$ ).

**Table 2: Analysis on the Gender Difference on the Level of Big Five Personality Traits**

Variables	t-test Analysis		
	Computed t-value	Degree of freedom	p-value
Openness & Gender Difference	13.879	113	0.000**
Conscientiousness & Gender Difference	10.893		0.000**
Extraversion & Gender Difference	22.076		0.029*
Agreeableness & Gender Difference	4.31		0.670
Neuroticism & Gender Difference	14.43		0.003**

\*p-value < 0.05 & \*\* p-value < 0.01 Significance Level

## **4. Discussion**

The results revealed that there is significant gender difference on big five personality traits of the respondents except from agreeableness which somehow contradicted to the study of Weisberg, Y., et. al. 2011 wherein their study did not find a significant gender difference in big five personality traits and found significant difference only in terms of agreeableness.

As openness/intellect is connected to the ability and interest in attending to and processing complex stimuli for it reflects imagination, creativity, intellectual curiosity, and appreciation of esthetic experiences. Women score somewhat higher than men on some facets of conscientiousness, but not consistently, sometimes men have higher score than women in this trait (Feingold, 1994; Costa et al., 2001). Gender differences are small on the overall domain of extraversion, for extraversion reflects sociability, assertiveness, and positive emotionality, all of which have been linked to sensitivity to rewards (De Young & Gray, 2009). Women tend to score higher than men on warmth, gregariousness, and positive emotions, whereas men score higher than women on assertiveness and excitement. Women consistently score higher than men on agreeableness and related measures, such as tender-mindedness, and they have found to have higher score in neuroticism than men. Neuroticism include negative emotion like anxiety, depression, anger, self-consciousness, and emotional liability (Feingold, 1994; Costa et al., 2001).

### **4.1 Conclusion**

This study determined that gender differences in big five personality traits in all aspects found significant difference except from agreeableness which did not find a significant difference. It somehow contradicted to the study of Weisberg, Y., et.al. 2011 wherein their study did not find a significant gender difference in big five personality traits and found significant difference only in terms of agreeableness.

Between the respondents' sex and openness to experience, conscientiousness, and extraversion, there is statistically significant difference. It was observed that there's no significant difference between the respondents' sex and agreeableness and neuroticism, (Mendoza, D. B., & Lacap, J. P., 2015)

### **4.2 Implication and Recommendation**

This study has shown that there were gender differences on big five personality traits as revealed that male respondents were relatively low in openness and conscientiousness while

female were about average. In terms of extraversion, and neuroticism, male respondents were about average, while female respondents were relatively low while they were both about average in agreeableness.

Based on the results of this study, the researcher recommended to assess the gender differences of the participants in terms of knowledge, abilities, and skills since abilities and skills are a key element along with the knowledge for the consideration of the skills and thus the qualifications for workers and entrepreneurs.

### **Limitation and Suggestion for Future Studies**

The respondents of this study were limited only to the participants of Kasabec Kabataan extension program, further studies should attempt a broader scope and should also take into consideration the other types of personality traits since this study was covered only the Big Five Personality Traits.

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