



“Effect of Age and Gender on Social Loafing of State Level Cricket Players”

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Abstract:

The purpose of the study to examine effect of age and gender on social loafing of state level cricket players. Social loafing scale by Q.G.Alam and Dr. Ramji Srivastava (1990). Besides a PDS was used to get other necessary information about the state level cricket players. Hypotheses of the study 1. Younger state level cricket players exhibiting significantly more social loafing than older state level cricket players. 2. Males state level cricket players would exhibit more social loafing than female state level cricket players. The finding confirmed the hypotheses. It was concluded that younger state level cricket players exhibiting significantly more social loafing than older state level cricket players. Second hypothesis is the results showed there were no significant gender differences in social loafing.

INTRODUCTION:

In the [social psychology](#) of groups, social loafing is the phenomenon of people exerting less effort to achieve a goal when they work in a than when they work alone. This is seen as one of the main reasons groups are sometimes less productive than the combined performance of their members working as individuals, but should be distinguished from the coordination problems that groups sometime experience. Social loafing is also associated with two concepts that are typically used to explain why it occurs: The ["free-rider" theory](#) and the resulting "sucker effect", which is an individual's reduction in effort in order to avoid pulling the weight of a fellow group member. Research on social loafing began with rope pulling experiments by Ringelmann, who found that members of a group tended to exert less effort into pulling a rope than did individuals alone. In more recent research, studies involving modern technology, such as online and distributed groups, has also shown clear evidence of social loafing. Many of the causes of social loafing stem from an individual feeling that his or her effort will not matter to the group.

Although studies justify the notion that people often do not to contribute online communities, some research shows that older adults are actually more likely to participate in online communities than younger people because different generations tend to use the internet differently. For example, "older adults are more likely to seek health information, make purchases, and obtain religious information, but less likely to watch videos, download music, play games, and read blogs online." This is perhaps due in part to the fact that some online communities cater to older generations. The content of the website often determines what age group will use or visit the site, and because many forms of online communities appear on sites that focus their attention on older adults, participation is generally higher. Additionally, the ease and availability of operating the websites that host the online community may play a role in the age group that is most likely to participate. For example, some online communities geared toward older adults have simplified the design

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of their sites in order to enhance their look and usability for older adults.

Social loafing also depends on gender and culture. It occurs more strongly in all-male groups than in all-female or mixed-sex groups, possibly because women may be more concerned about group outcomes than are men.

According to gender stereotype research, men were expected to have high levels of independence and assertiveness whereas women were expected to be pleasant, thoughtful and caring toward others (Karau & Williams, 1993). Thus, men were expected to be more individualistic in pursuit of their goals as opposed to women who were expected to be more collaborative. Watson and Blanchard-Fields (1998) found that women tended, in general, to seek support from others more than men. Women were also found to be less self centered when approaching interpersonal problems than men (Watson & Blanchard-Fields, 1998). Karau and Williams (1993) found social loafing was greater in studies with samples of only males than either mixed samples of males and females, or of solely females. Males were also found in Karau and Williams' (1993) meta-analysis to be more sensitive to group size and social loafing in respect to being particularly aware of the decreased value of their contributions when working in larger groups.

Objective and aim of the study:

The main objective and aim of the present study examine the effect of age and gender on social loafing of state level cricket players.

Hypothesis:

- 1) Younger state level cricket players exhibiting significantly more social loafing than older state level cricket players.
- 2) Males state level cricket players would exhibit more social loafing than female state level cricket players.

Method:

Sample:

For the present study 200 Sample were selected from Maharashtra State, India. The effective sample consisted of 200 subjects, 100 subjects were male state level cricket players and 100 subjects were female state level cricket players. The age range of subjects was 18-35years (Younger group 18-25year and older group 26-35 years) Ratio were 1:1, as well as ratio of male and female were 1:1.

Tools:

PDS:

Personal data information sheet was used for collecting necessary information about the players.

Social Loafing:

Group conformity scale by Q.G.Alam and Dr. Ramji Srivastava (1990). The responses obtained on a three point scale were scored as 0, 1, and 2. An individual subject could secure a minimum of zero and a maximum of 30 marks in either of the conditions individual or group a – 0 mark, b – 1 mark, c – 2 mark. The reliability and validity of social loafing scale was determined. The test-retest reliability was .74 which means sufficient reliance can be placed on it.

Procedures of data collection:

For data collection first permission has been taken from respective sources than the despondence has been selected for data collection. Personal data sheet (PDS) has been given to collect the primary information with respect to subject’s related variables then standardized test administer to the subjects. Before that rapport was established with subjects. And the have been told that their responses was kept confidential and the information is used for research purpose only.

Variables:

Independent variable: 1) **Age** a) 18-25y b) 26-35y
 2) **Gender** a) Male b) Female

Dependant variable: 1) Social Loafing

Research Design:

2x2 Way ANOVA was used.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Summary of Two Way ANOVAs (2x2) of male state level cricket players and female state level cricket players dimension of social loafing

Source	SS	df	MS	F	P
A	182.41	1	182.41	32.79	P < 0.01
B	1.45	1	1.45	0.26	NS
AXB	63.83	1	63.83	11.47	P < 0.01
Error	1090.46	196	5.56		
Total	1338.16	200			

Shown the table and hypothesis have been recorded. Mean of social loafing score of the younger state level cricket players and older state level cricket players F values is 32.79** significant at 0.01 level. And hypothesis has been accepted confirmed, younger state level cricket players going students have significantly high social loafing than the older state level cricket players.

Mean of social loafing score of the male state level cricket players and older state level cricket players F values is 0.26 is not significant at both levels. And hypothesis has been rejected, there were no significant gender differences in social loafing. This expectation was formed from gender stereotype research which suggested that women were more concerned with group goals than men who tended to be more individualistic in their goals (Karau & Williams, 1993). Since women were more collectively oriented and were therefore committed to group goals they were expected to show less social loafing than men

(Karau & Williams, 1993). Furthermore men were anticipated to be more sensitive to group size and social loafing than women since men tend to be more aware of the decreased value of their contributions when working in larger groups (Karau & Williams, 1993). And interaction is significant at 0.01 level ($F = 11.47$)

RESULTS:

- 1) Younger state level cricket players exhibiting significantly more social loafing than older state level cricket players.
- 2) There are no significant gender differences in social loafing.

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