A Study On Absenteeism Among College Students With Reference To Coimbatore City

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Abstract- *This study looks into absenteeism among college students in Coimbatore City, focusing on why it happens and how it affects academic performance. Regular attendance is essential for learning, as being present in class allows students to engage with the material and participate in discussions. The research reveals several reasons for absenteeism, including personal issues, health problems, and the effectiveness of teaching methods. These absences can lead to lower grades and a less fulfilling educational experience, which can have long-term consequences for students' careers and opportunities. By understanding the factors that contribute to absenteeism, this study aims to help colleges develop better strategies to encourage attendance and improve student success. Addressing absenteeism is crucial for enhancing the educational experience in Coimbatore.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Education is regarded as the highest and richest treasure of human life social and biological. Absenteeism is a common feature in all colleges. It is the number of students absent in the daily class.

The classroom is the primary place for teaching and knowledge gaining. In the classroom, information is exchanged and disseminated, and ideas are critized and analyzed. Students need to attend college daily to succeed. Lack of attendance affects the student's standards and marks. Educational institutes need to work on the platform to better results with achievements. The act of routine of the pupil is referred to as absenteeism. The common behavior of a college student is marked as absenteeism. Although many elements affect student performance,which is related to the placement of instruction or personal life,the result of student absenteeism in college leads to a lack of performance.The Students who attend college but do not attend the class are also marked as absentees. In my opinion, the overall performance is an activity of resources and means,that set for him or on that set for himself.A student will not be present in class if he or she is not informed beforehand and the student does not show up.

Statement of the problem:

Student absenteeism is an acknowledged problem in many colleges. Long leave of students createsan impact on their academic performance. Most of the students take leave because of some reasons like boring classes, laziness to attend class, some of them going to the cinema rather than entering the class.however, they do not think about and recognize their future.

Objectives of the study:

- To examine the reason behind absenteeism.
- To determine the factor that is causing the absenteeism.
- To analyze which gender is more absent.

II. REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

1. According to Grabs (2005), 6 posted a piece of writing about "voluntary use of onlinelecture notes: a correlate of word use and word use as an opportunity to elegance attendance".
2. According to Bowen, (2005)5 published titled Improving the Quantity and Quality of Attendance Data to Enhance Students Retentions". Attitude to absenteeism amongst degree nursing college students in Ireland exploratory descriptive...
3. According to Gump, (2002) four analysed "Attitude to absenteeism amongst degree nursing college students in Ireland-an exploratory descriptive survey".
4. According to Friedman (2001) studied: why should not show interest in attending classes: They found that certain course uniqueness affected student presence.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

❖ **Research Design**:

The study is descriptive in nature, assess and describe the reason for absenteeism among the college students.

❖ **Population** :

The overall data are collected among college students with reference to Coimbatore city.

❖ **Sample Size:**

A Sample size of 130 were collected with the questionnaire and responses were collected.

❖ **Data Collection:**

1. **Primary data :**The study was based on primary data. A questionnaire has been prepared and data collected from the college students of age group of 19-25 who are youngsters. Convenience sampling has collected.

2. **Secondary data:**Journals, articles, websites, provides insights about the various reason about absenteeism.

❖ **Tools used:**

1. **Simple percentage method**:The percentage method has been used to analyse and interpretation of the data.
2. **Chi-square Test:**The chi-square test will be applied to check for significant relationship between categorical variables,agegroup,gender,and reason for absenteeism among the college students.

IV. ANALYSIS

Table 01 - Age group of respondents

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	19-20	56	43%
2	20-21	53	41%
3	21-23	11	8%
4	ABOVE 25	10	8%
	Total	130	100%

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 43% of the respondents are 19-20 age group , 41% are 20-21,8 % of the respondents are 21-23age group and 8 pre cent of the respondent are above 25 age out of 100 %. This concludes that there is no difference in age group in taking leaves.

Table 02- Genderof respondents

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Female	43	33%
2	Male	87	67%
	Total	130	100%

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 33% of the respondents are female and 67% are male out of 100%. This concludes that there is no difference in gender in taking leaves.

Table 03- Area of specialization

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	ARTS	77	59%
2	SCIENCE	53	41%
	Total	130	100%

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 59% of the respondents from arts field and 41% are from science field out of 100%. This concludes that there is no difference in field of education in taking leaves.

Table 04-Education Pursuing of the respondent

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	UG	100	77%
2	PG	30	23%
	Total	130	100%

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table show0s that the 77% of the respondents are pursuing ug and 23 % are pursuing out of 100%. This concludes that there is no difference in levels of education in taking leaves in taking leaves.

Table 05-Residence Area

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Urban	95	73%
2	Rural	35	27%
	Total	130	100%

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 73% of the respondents are from urban area and 27% are from rural area out of 100%. This concludes that there is no relationship between residential area of the respondents and absenteeism.

Table 06 - Occupation of the respondents

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Student	80	62%
2	Student / Part Time Worker	50	38%
	Total	**130**	**100%**

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 62% of the respondents are students and 38% are students and part time workers out of 100%. This concludes that there is no relationship between the respondents of students and students doing part time work and absenteeism.

Table 07- The percentage of mark you secured

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	50%-60%	17	13%
2	60%-70%	33	25%
3	70%-80%	60	46%
4	Above 80%	20	15%
	Total	**130**	**100%**

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 13% of the respondents secured 50-60 % of marks, 25 % of the respondents secured 60-70% of marks,46 % of the respondents secured 70-80 % marks and 15 % of the respondents secured above 80 % of marks out of 100 %.so there is no relationship between marks secured by an individual and leaves taken by them.

Table 08- How many classes do you miss in a month

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	0-2 Classes	46	35%
2	3-5Classes	50	38%
3	6-10Classes	21	16%
4	More Than 12 Classes	13	10%
	Total	**130**	**100%**

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 35% of the respondents are missing 0-2 calsses in a month,38 % of the respondents are missing 3-5 classes in a month ,16 % of the respondents are missing 6-10 classes in a month and 10% of the respondents are missing more than 12 classes in a month out of 100 %. This concludes that usually respondents misses only less than 3 clasess in month.

Table 09- Availing leave due to stress or anxiety

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Rarely	56	43%
2	Sometimes	42	32%
3	Often	4	3%
4	Never	28	22%
	Total	**130**	**100%**

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 43% of the respondents skip classes rarely, 32 % of the respondent skip classes sometimes, 3 % of the respondents skip classes often and 22 % of the respondents never skip classes due to stress and anxiety out of 100 %. This concludes that stress and anxiety also may be a reason for absenteeism.

Table 10- Period of availing leave

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Below 4 Times	53	41%
2	5 Times	46	35%
3	7 Times	23	18%
4	More Than 10 Times	8	6%
	Total	**130**	**100%**

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 41% of the respondents are taking less than 4 leaves in amonth,35 % of the respondents are taking 5 leaves in a month, 18 % of the respondents are taking 7 leaves in a month and 6 % of the respondents are taking more than 10 leaves in a month out of 100 %.This concludes that leaves taken by the college students are less than 4 in a months.

Table 11- Most common reason for absenteeism among college student

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Health Issue	43	33%
2	Lack Of Interest In Studies	28	22%
3	Lack Of Engagement In Class	48	37%
4	Family Responsibilities	11	8%
	Total	130	100%

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 33% of the respondents are absent due to health issue, 22 % of the respondents are absent due to lack of interest in studies, 37 % of the respondents are absent due to lack of engagement in class, and 8 % of respondents are absent due to family responsibilities out of 100 %. This concludes that lack of engagement in class and health issue is a major common reason for absenteeism among college student.

Table 12- Mode of communication for students when they need to inform about their absence

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Text Message	52	40%
2	Phone Call	58	45%
3	Email	10	8%
4	Leave Letter	10	8%
	Total	130	100%

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 40% of the respondents are used text message as communication ,45 % of the respondents are used phone call as communication ,8 % of the respondents are used email as communication and 8 % of the respondents are used leave letter as their mode of communication out of 100 %. This concludes that phone call is the common mode of communication.

Table 13- Mental issue contribute to absenteeism among student

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Minor Contributor	38	29%
2	Moderate Contributor	30	23%
3	Major Contributor	46	35%
4	No Contribution	16	12%
	Total	130	100%

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 29% of the respondents says that there is a minor contributor to mental issues,23% of the respondents says that there is a moderate contributor to mental issues,35 % of the respondents says that there is a major contributor to mental issues and 12 % of the respondents says that there is no contribution to mental issues out of 100 %. This concludes that mental issue is a major contributor among the students .

Table 14- Attendance is overall academic success?

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Somewhat Important	61	47%
2	Not Very Important	30	23%
3	Very Important	35	27%
4	Not Important At All	4	3%
	Total	130	100%

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 47% of the respondents says attendance is somewhat important,23 % of the respondents says attendance is not very important,27 % of the respondents says attendance is very important and 3 % of the respondents says attendance is not important at all out of 100 %. This concludes that attendance is somewhat important for college students.

Table 15- Skipping class for personal reasons

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Sometimes	62	48%
2	Never	14	11%
3	Often	20	15%
4	Rarely	34	26%
	Total	**130**	**100%**

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 48% of the respondents sometimesskipn classes ,11 % of the respondents never skip classes ,15 % of the respondents often skip classes and 26 % of the respondents rarely skip classes due to personal reasons out of 100 %. This concludes that sometimes they skip classes due to personal reasons.

Table 16-Transporation plays in student absenteeism

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Minor Role	48	37%
2	No Role	14	11%
3	Somewhat Significant Role	34	26%
4	Significant Role	34	26%
	Total	**130**	**100%**

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 37% of the respondents thinks transporation is a minor role,11 % of the respondents thinks transporation has no role,26 % of the respondents thinks transporation is somewhat significant role and 26 % of the respondents thinks transporation is significant role for absenteeism. This concludes that transporation plays a minor role in student absenteeism.

Table 17-College students miss the classes

S.no	Particulars	No of repondents	Percentage
1	Very Often	45	35%
2	Frequently	32	25%
3	Occasionally	40	31%
4	Rarely	13	10%
	Total	**130**	**100%**

Source: Primary Data

Interpretation:

The above table shows that the 35% of the respondents feels very often miss the classes,25 percent of the respondents feels frequently miss the classes ,31 % of the respondents feels occasionally miss the classes and 10 % of the respondents feels rarely miss the classes out of 100 %. This concludes that college students miss the classes very often.

Chi-square test

Age and most common reason for absenteeism among college students

H0 (Null hypothesis): Age and most common reason for absenteeism among college students are independent

H1 (Alternative hypothesis): Age and most common reason for absenteeism among college students are dependent

Particulars	Health issues	Lack of engagement in class	Lack of interest in studies	Family responsibility	Total
19-20	23	18	10	5	56
20-21	13	25	11	4	53
21-23	1	2	7	1	11
above 25	6	3	0	1	10
Total	43	48	28	11	130

Chi – Square Value	Degree of Freedom	P- value	Significant / Not Significant	Null Hypothesis
21.0599	9	0.012387	Significant	Accepted

Interpretation:

From the above table it was identified the hypothesis is significant thus hypothesis is accpected.

V. FINDINGS

- 43% of the respondents are 19-20 of age group.
- 67% of the respondents are male.
- 59% of the respondents belongs to arts field.
- 77% of the respondents are pursuing UG.
- 73% of the respondents are belongs to urban area.
- 62% of the respondents are students.
- 46% of the respondents secured 70%-80% of marks.
- 38% of the respondents they miss 3-5 classes in a month.
- 43% of the respondents says that they skip classes due to stress and anxiety.

- 40% of the respondents used to take below 4 leaves in a month.
- 36% of the respondents state major reason for absenteeism is lack of engagement in class.
- 33% of the respondents prefer health issue as major reason for absenteeism.
- 44% of the respondents usally informed their absenteeism through phone call and 40% by text messages.
- 35% of the respondents consider that mental issue is a major contribution for absenteeism.
- 47% of the respondents thinks that attendance is somewhat importants for overall academic success.
- 48% of the respondents says sometimes they skip classes for personal reasons .
- 37% of the respondents states that there is a minor role of transporation plays in student absenteeism.
- 35% of the respondents feels that very often college student miss the classes.
- Chi square-test- the hypothesis is accepted as there is a significant relationship between Age and reason for absenteeism among college students.

VI. SUGGESTIONS

Higher education indicators indicate that frequent absenteeism can result in students leaving their educational pursuits. Regular attendance is vital as it provides students with access to essential knowledge, resources, and relationships that significantly impact their learning journey.

Students with inconsistent attendance often struggle with lower grades, which is why many educational institutions recognize the importance of consistent class attendance for better academic results. Furthermore, the relationship that students who skip classes have with their school is a crucial factor influencing their attendance. The encouraging news is that the implementation of cloud and mobile-based attendance management systems in educational institutions can lead to improved student attendance. Schools, colleges, and higher education institutions can adopt these innovative solutions to ensure high attendance rates in their classrooms.

VII. CONCLUSION

The issue of student absenteeism is really complex and involves several different factors. First, there are student-centered reasons. This includes things like health problems, lack of motivation , or even mental health issues. If a student is feeling unwell or just isn't interested in college, they're more likely to skip classes.

Next, we have academic-related factors. Sometimes, the way subjects are taught can make students feel disengaged. If they find the teaching methods boring or the classroom environment isn't supportive, they might choose not to attend. Additionally, the pressure from assignments and exams can be overwhelming, leading to avoidance.

Then, there are home-related factors. A student's background plays a huge role. For instance, those from lower-income families might have to deal with financial stress or family issues that make it hard for them to focus on college. Responsibilities at home can also take precedence over attending classes.

Finally, we have society-related factors. Peer influence and distractions outside of college can lead students to prioritize other activities over their education. Sometimes, the company they keep can pull them away from their studies.

In summary, absenteeism is not just about students skipping college; it's about a mix of personal, academic, home, and societal influences. To tackle this issue effectively, we need to look at all these factors together and find ways to support students in a more holistic manner.

REFERENCES

[1] According to Grabs (2005), 6 posted a piece of writing about "voluntary use of online lecture notes: a correlate of word use and word use as an opportunity to elegance attendance".

[2] According to Bowen, (2005)5 published titled Improving the Quantity and Quality of Attendance Data to Enhance Students Retentions". Attitude to absenteeism amongst degree nursing college students in Ireland exploratory descriptive...

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[4] According to Friedman (2001) studied: why should not show interest in attending classes: They found that certain course uniqueness affected student presence.

[5] According to Saranya-Deepika(2022) published titled "A Study on absenteeism among the college students with references to Coimbatore city".

[6] www.google.com

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