

# Political socialisation of local body leaders: A study

\* V. Suresh<sup>1</sup> and K. Ramesh<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of Public Administration, Valluvar College of Science and Management, Karur 639 003, Tamilnadu, India

<sup>2</sup>Ph.D Research Scholar, Department of Politics and International Studies, Pondicherry University, Puducherry 605 014, India

## Abstract

This research paper attempts to analyze the political socialization process among gram Panchayat Sarpanches (Village Head). In turning the differences in their social backgrounds and their consequent life experiences to meaningful role perception, citizens consider many important issues while arriving at the threshold of decision-making. They consider (i) whether the influence exerted by social differences convey enough information for the individual to choose their preferences and/or applies pressure for compliance; (ii) whether social differences direct toward a broad social outcome or a particularized interest; (iii) whether the social differences generate intense or low degree of conflict; (iv) whether the amount of effort and initiative required to offset the social differences must be stupendous or negligible; and (v) whether the amount of co-operation with others requires retention of any group identity or obliteration of it. These considerations make the citizens choose between the widely differing social circumstances and the coherent new role perception.

**Keywords:** Political socialization, gram panchayat, and social circumstances

## INTRODUCTION

Most enquiries into the sources of political outlooks have focused on the influence of the family origin of children. The accident of birth places the individual into a particular family political environment, which nurtures political (or apolitical) outlooks early in life and locates the individual in a socio-political setting that may last a lifetime – other individuals may have profound influence on a person's political outlooks, but none of them is typically credited with as much influence as the child's parents (Acock and Vern, 1978; Argyle and Delin, 1965; Baker, 1971; Clausen, 1968; Dalton, 1982; Daries, 1965; Dennis, 1973; Hess, 1963; Jahoda, 1963; Lane, 1959).

Again, citizens live simultaneously in a variety of social worlds, and all of which might have important political consequences. At the same time, they are rooted socially in communities, neighborhoods, churches, clubs, associations and workplaces. Indeed, every citizen lies at the centre of a social experience produced by a series of intersecting, overlapping, and layered environments. Each of the environments, in turn, has potentially important consequences for politics because each serves to modify and deflect the opportunities and constraints that circumscribe social interaction that serves as a vehicle for the transmission of information and guidance.

More broadly, the literature on political socialization had long revolved around the question of the effects of early as opposed to late environmental forces. Early political socialization researchers (Easton and Dennis 1969, Greenstein 1960, Jennings and Niemi 1968 and Searing, Schwartz., and Lind 1973) and the authors of *The American Voter* (Campbell et al., 1960) presented arguments and evidence supporting the primacy of early events, Later researches,

however, questioned the value of early childhood socialization and provided evidence that judgments about more recent conditions and occurrences could dramatically alter preferences citizens might have held as children and adolescents (Fiorina 1981 : for good summaries of the debate over the relative importance of early and environmental events, Cook 1985; Merelman 1986 and Sears 1989).

## STUDY TECHNIQUES

Primary source for this paper is based on field survey research. It mainly focuses on the data collected by employing interview schedules from among the select Sarpanches of Gram Panchayats in Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh. Published materials including books, articles, reports, acts, manuals and monographs alongside the unpublished materials related to the study form the secondary sources for the study.

## Sample Selection

After completing the pilot study, the Interview Schedule has been modified taking into consideration the people's felt-needs as expressed by the Sarpanches. Thereupon, it was administered to the selected sample of the respondents. The total number of Gram Panchayats in Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh is 1024. A sample size of 20 per cent of GP's, which comes to 204, is selected for this study. By following the Stratified Random Sampling procedure, the respondents for the study have been selected. The data, thus collected, have been analysed by using SPSS 14.00.

## Influence of Family

Family is the basic social organization of human beings. From the stand point of the child, the family is important for role allocation, because of its role training provided through socialization, and because of the way the child is launched into the larger society through status placement. From the standpoint of the parents, the family is important for role allocation because of their multiple roles in the socialization of their children. From the standpoint of the society, the family is important, because it helps to achieve social reproduction and the integration of the various parts of the society (Acock and Vern, 1978; Beck and Jennings, 1991; Greenstain, 1970).

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\*Corresponding Author

V. Suresh

Assistant professor, Department of Public Administration , Valluvar College of Science And Management, Karur-639 003, Tamilnadu, India.

Tel: +91-9965309103

Email: [vadramsuresh@gmail.com](mailto:vadramsuresh@gmail.com)

With regard to family and role perception, their relationships may emerge at three levels, namely, top down, lateral, and bottom up possibilities. The tradition of father or mother may socialize the children into a particular political perception. There is also a strong possibility for role perception through wife, relatives, in the extended family. And the children of the family may force modernization and political perception in the family.

An individual acquires political values, develops political attitudes, shapes political orientations and increases his political awareness through various socializing agents like family, peer groups, education, mass-media, political parties, etc. The role of these various agencies in shaping political attitudes of an individual differs from family to family and community to community (Rush and Althoff, 1971).

The family is widely considered to be the most important agent in the transmission of political values to the children and adolescents. Jennings and Niemi, V.O. Key Jr. Gillespie and Allport stressed in their studies conducted between 1930-60 the importance of family in political socialization of children and adolescents. H.H. Hyman also recognized the importance of family in the inculcation of attitudes and values. According to him, foremost among agencies of socialization into politics is the family (Hyman, 1959). Family is not only one of the most important agencies of political socialization but also it constitutes the young child's primary and earliest reference groups and lays down the foundations of political belief. Robert Lane has suggested that there are three ways in which the foundations of political belief may be laid through the family: by overt and covert indoctrination, by placing the child in a particular social context and by moulding the child's personality and together these constitute what he has called "the Mendelian law of politics". James C. Davies has argued that the family's role in political socialization is based on its broader task of fulfilling the basic needs of the child. He also gets love and affection from his parents (Davies, 1965).

Hess and Torney further observed that school and colleges are the most important and effective instrument of political socialization. Thus education is an importance agent of political socialization as it helps in acquiring more political information processing a wider range of opinions on political matter providing greater opportunities to participate in the political sphere, becoming a member of and to

be active in caste association, expressing confidence in one's social environment and exhibiting feelings of trust (Almond and Verba, 1966).

### Influence of Community

In traditional, rural, and agrarian societies, traditional skills are passed on from one generation to another without significant social change. In dynamic, urban, industrial societies, the concept of progress and modernization inputs is urgency towards the learning of skills. Consequently, members of the society undertake formal and specialized education. People, who lack intellectual skills in modern societies, are apt to be a distinct disadvantage. Hence, formal education becomes a necessity for comfortable social life and for meaningful participation in political structures (Delli and Michaelo, 1982).

The community socializes the individuals hurriedly or with fewer paces depending upon the socio-economic life of the context. Schools, colleges, churches, religious organisations, mass media, books, authors, and a host of other agencies form part of the community in the socialization of the individual in the society (Almond and Verba, 1963; Wright and Turk, 1967).

There are three perspectives in the political socialization of the individual. The functional sociologists consider that the agencies of political socialization are so disorganized that they do not perform their functions well, because of the increasing demands placed before them. Socialization agencies confront so many difficulties and different tasks. They are not doing very well, and their efforts to achieve go waste. Hence, the functionalists advocate planning and co-ordination with other social institutions in order to reduce the problem of protest in political institutions. The conflict sociologists consider that socialization agencies do not give equal opportunity to all. They keep members of the subordinate groups at a lower place to help the ruling classes, thus initiating protest from the society. The social psychologists, however, concentrate on how an individual acquires knowledge and skills from socialization agencies and hope for offering a range of activities out of which individuals can choose between what serves their interests best (Himen, 1959, Inglehart and Barker, 2000; Jones, 1971; Lactane, 1981).

Table1.1 Age wise Gram Panchayat Sarpanches Political Socialization

Age Groups	Family Influence		Political Party Affiliation of the Parents		Political activities during School and College Days		Friends*		Caste Association		Religious Institution		Impact of Television		Impact of Radio Programs	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
25-35	17 (56.67)	13 (43.33)	12 (40.00)	18 (60.00)	16 (53.33)	14 (46.67)	22 (73.33)	8 (26.67)	9 (30.00)	21 (70.00)	20 (66.67)	10 (33.33)	7 (23.33)	23 (76.67)	24 (80.00)	6 (20.00)
35-45	90 (60.40)	59 (39.60)	87 (58.39)	62 (41.61)	130 (87.25)	19 (12.75)	99 (66.44)	50 (33.56)	82 (55.03)	67 (44.97)	100 (67.11)	49 (32.89)	90 (60.40)	59 (39.60)	72 (48.32)	77 (51.68)
45 and above	15 (60.00)	10 (40.00)	13 (52.00)	12 (48.00)	11 (44.00)	14 (56.00)	16 (64.00)	9 (36.00)	17 (68.00)	8 (32.00)	20 (80.00)	5 (20.00)	17 (68.00)	8 (32.00)	20 (80.00)	5 (20.00)
Total	122 (59.80)	82 (40.20)	112 (54.90)	92 (45.10)	157 (76.96)	47 (23.04)	137 (67.16)	67 (32.84)	108 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	140 (68.63)	64 (31.37)	114 (55.88)	90 (44.12)	116 (56.86)	88 (43.14)

Age Groups	Impact of Print Media		Political Party Membership		Acquaintance with Members of Legislative Member		Acquaintance with Member of Parliament		Total
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
25-35	11 (36.67)	19 (63.33)	24 (80.00)	6 (20.00)	9 (30.00)	21 (70.00)	18 (60.00)	12 (40.00)	30
35-45	82 (55.03)	67 (44.97)	79 (53.02)	70 (46.98)	80 (53.69)	69 (46.31)	82 (55.03)	67 (44.97)	149
45 and above	11 (44.00)	14 (56.00)	22 (88.00)	3 (12.00)	17 (68.00)	8 (32.00)	8 (32.00)	17 (68.00)	25
Total	104 (50.96)	100 (49.02)	125 (61.27)	79 (38.73)	108 (51.96)	96 (48.04)	108 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	204

Age Groups	Total Political Socialisation		Total Respondents
	Yes	No	
25-35	189 (52.50)	171 (47.50)	30
35-45	1073 (60.01)	715 (39.99)	149
45 and above	187	113	25

### Chi-square Summary Result

Chi square Calculated value	8.397
Degrees of freedom	2

Table 1.1 indicates the **Respondent's Age wise Political Socialization**. It can be assessed with the help of twelve factors. Viz. family influence, political party affiliation of the parents, political activities during school and college days, friends' influence, influence of caste association, influence of religious institutions, impact of television, radio programs and print media, influence of political party and acquaintance with the Member of Legislative Assembly and Member of Parliament.

It could be noted that out of the total 204 respondents 59.84 percent of them have family influence towards political socialization and the rest of them have no family influence in this regard. The political party affiliation of the parents enables 54.93 per cent of the respondents to become political socialized. It is observed that 76.96 per cent of the respondents have become politically socialized by the political activities during school and college days and the rest of them have no such influence. Out of the total 204 respondents 67.16 per cent of them have got friends' influence to become politically socialized and the rest of them have no such influence. The caste association has influenced 52.94 per cent of the respondents' political socialization and the rest of them have no such influence. Out of the total 204 respondents 68.63 per cent of them have got influence of religious institutions to become politically socialized and the rest of them have no such influence. The impact of television programs has politically socialized 55.88 per cent of the respondents and the rest of them have no such influence. The impact of radio programs has politically socialized 56.86 per cent of the respondents and the rest of them have no such influence. In this study the impact of print media has influenced 50.98 per cent of the respondent to become politically socialized and the rest of them have no such influence. The influence of political party membership has politically socialized 61.27 per cent of the respondents and the rest of them

have no such influence. The acquaintance with Member of Legislative Assembly has enabled 51.96 per cent of the respondents to become politically socialized and the rest of them have no such influence. Moreover, the acquaintance with Member of Parliament has enabled 52.94 per cent of the respondents to become politically socialized and the rest of them have no such influence.

The age wise analysis reveals the following facts. The respondents in the age group 35 –45 years have been politically socialized by the influence of family, political party affiliation of the parents, political activities during school and college days, friends' influence and impact of mass media than those of others. The respondents in the age group 45 and above years have got more influence of family influence, friends' influence, influence of caste association, influence of religious institutions, impact of television, impact of radio programs, influence of political party membership and acquaintance with Member of Legislative Assembly towards the political socialization than those of others. The respondents in the age group 25-35 years have got major influence of friends, caste association, impact of radio programs, political party membership and Acquaintance with Member of Parliament towards their political socialization.

The chi square test is applied for further discussion. The computed chi square value is 8.397, which is greater than its tabulated value at 5 percent level of significance. Hence, there is an association between respondents of different age groups and their political socialization process. This association is statistically identified as significant. It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that, in general the respondents' political activities during their school and college days, influence of their peer group, caste and religious groups and their membership in political party were the major influencing factors of their political socialization.

Table 1.2 Sex wise Gram Panchayat Sarpanches Political Socialization

Sex	Family Influence		Political Party Affiliation of the Parents		Political activities during School and College Days		Friends'		Caste Association		Religious Institution		Impact of Television		Impact of Radio Programs	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
MALE	97 (74.62)	33 (25.38)	87 (66.92)	43 (33.08)	118 (90.77)	12 (9.23)	119 (91.54)	11 (8.46)	89 (68.46)	41 (31.54)	102 (78.46)	28 (21.54)	87 (66.92)	43 (33.08)	81 (62.31)	49 (37.69)
Female	25 (33.78)	49 (66.22)	25 (33.78)	49 (66.22)	39 (52.70)	35 (47.30)	18 (24.32)	56 (75.68)	19 (25.68)	55 (74.32)	38 (51.35)	36 (48.65)	27 (36.49)	47 (63.51)	35 (47.30)	39 (52.70)
Total	122 (59.80)	82 (40.20)	112 (54.90)	92 (45.10)	157 (76.96)	47 (23.04)	137 (67.16)	67 (32.84)	108 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	140 (68.63)	64 (31.37)	114 (55.88)	90 (44.12)	116 (56.86)	88 (43.14)

Sex	Impact of Print Media		Political Party Membership		Acquaintance with Members of Legislative Member		Acquaintance with Member of Parliament		Total
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
MALE	83 (63.85)	47 (36.15)	102 (78.46)	28 (21.54)	96 (73.85)	34 (26.15)	90 (69.23)	40 (30.77)	130
Female	21 (28.38)	53 (71.62)	23 (31.08)	51 (68.92)	20 (27.03)	56 (75.68)	18 (24.32)	56 (75.68)	74
Total	104 (50.98)	100 (49.02)	125 (61.27)	79 (38.73)	106 (51.96)	98 (48.04)	108 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	204

Sex	Total Political Socialization		Total Respondents
	Yes	No	
Male	1141 (73.61)	409 (26.39)	130
Female	308 (34.30)	590 (65.70)	74
Total	1449 (59.19)	999 (40.81)	204

Chi-square Summary Result

Chi square Calculated value	363.8
Degrees of freedom	1
Chi square table value 5%	3.84

Table 1.2 indicates the **Sex Wise Respondents' Political Socialization**. The male respondents have got major influence of Family, political party affiliation of the parents, political activities during school and college days, friends, caste association, religious

institutions, impact of television, radio programs and print media, influence of political party membership, acquaintance with Member of Legislative Assembly and Acquaintance with Member of Parliament towards their political socialization. In general female

respondents lag behind the male respondents in their political socialization process.

The chi square test is applied for further discussion. The computed chi square value is 363.8, which is greater than its tabulated value at 5 percent level of significance. Hence, there is an association between respondents of sex groups and their political

socialization process. This association is statistically identified as significant.

The above discussion reveals that in general female respondents lag behind male respondents in their political socialization.

Table1.3 Religion wise Gram Panchayat Sarpanches Political Socialization

Religion	Family Influence		Political Party Affiliation of the Parents		Political activities during School and College Days		Friends'		Caste Association		Religious Institution		Impact of Television		Impact of Radio Programs	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
HINDU	102 (62.96)	60 (37.04)	90 (55.56)	72 (44.44)	131 (80.86)	31 (19.14)	111 (68.52)	51 (31.48)	78 (48.15)	84 (51.85)	112 (69.14)	50 (30.86)	104 (64.20)	58 (35.80)	98 (60.49)	64 (39.51)
Muslim	10 (62.50)	6 (37.50)	8 (50.00)	8 (50.00)	11 (68.75)	5 (31.25)	7 (43.75)	9 (56.25)	12 (75.00)	4 (25.00)	10 (62.50)	6 (37.50)	3 (18.75)	13 (81.25)	5 (31.25)	11 (68.75)
Christian	10 (38.46)	16 (61.54)	14 (53.85)	12 (46.15)	15 (57.69)	11 (42.31)	19 (73.08)	7 (26.92)	18 (69.23)	8 (30.77)	18 (69.23)	8 (30.77)	26 (92.30)	7 (26.92)	19 (73.08)	13 (50.00)
Total	122 (59.80)	82 (40.20)	112 (54.90)	92 (45.10)	157 (76.96)	47 (23.04)	137 (67.16)	67 (32.84)	108 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	140 (68.63)	64 (31.37)	114 (55.88)	90 (44.12)	116 (56.86)	88 (43.14)

Religion	Impact of Print Media		Political Party Membership		Acquaintance with Members of Legislative Member		Acquaintance with Member of Parliament		Total
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
HINDU	92 (56.79)	70 (43.21)	103 (63.56)	59 (36.42)	89 (54.94)	73 (45.06)	90 (55.96)	72 (44.44)	162
Muslim	7 (43.75)	9 (56.25)	12 (75.00)	4 (25.00)	9 (56.25)	7 (43.75)	6 (37.50)	10 (62.50)	16
Christian	6 (19.23)	21 (80.77)	10 (38.46)	16 (61.54)	8 (30.77)	18 (69.23)	12 (46.15)	14 (53.85)	26
Total	104 (50.96)	100 (49.02)	125 (61.27)	79 (38.73)	106 (51.96)	96 (48.04)	108 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	204

Religion	Total Political Socialisation		Total Respondents
	Yes	No	
Hindu	1200 (61.73)	744 (38.27)	162
Muslim	100 (52.08)	92 (47.92)	16
Christian	149 (47.76)	163 (52.24)	26
Total	1449 (59.19)	999 (40.81)	204

Chi-square Summary Result

Chi square Calculated value	26.09
Degrees of freedom	2
Chi square table value 5%	5.99

Table 1.3 indicates the **Religion Wise Respondents' Political Socialization**. The Hindu respondents have got major influence of family, political party affiliation of the parents, political activities during school and college days, impact of television, radio programs, print media and Acquaintance with member of parliament towards their political socialization process. The Christian respondents have got major influence of friends towards their political socialization process. The Muslim respondents have got major influence of caste association, religious institutions, political party membership, and acquaintance with the Member of Legislative Assembly towards their political socialization process.

The chi square test is applied for further discussion. The computed chi square value is 26.09, which is greater than its tabulated value at 5 percent level of significance. Hence, there is an association between respondents of different religious groups and their political socialization process. This association is statistically identified as significant.

It is observed from the above discussion that Hindu respondents occupy the first position with respect to their overall influence of all factors of political socialization, Muslim and Christian respondents' political socialization factors were not as wider as Hindu respondents.

Table 1.4 Caste wise Gram Panchayat Sarpanches Political Socialization

Caste	Family Influence		Political Party Affiliation of the Parents		Political activities during School and College Days		Friends'		Caste Association		Religious Institution		Impact of Television		Impact of Radio Programs	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
FC	61 (58.65)	43 (41.35)	35 (37.50)	65 (62.50)	92 (88.46)	12 (11.54)	62 (59.62)	42 (40.38)	48 (46.15)	56 (53.85)	92 (88.46)	12 (11.54)	65 (62.50)	35 (37.50)	70 (67.31)	34 (32.69)
BC	30 (63.83)	17 (36.17)	39 (82.98)	8 (17.02)	30 (63.83)	17 (36.17)	38 (80.85)	9 (19.15)	27 (57.45)	20 (42.55)	25 (53.19)	22 (46.81)	23 (48.94)	24 (51.06)	18 (38.30)	29 (61.70)
SC	20 (62.50)	12 (37.50)	21 (65.63)	11 (34.38)	20 (62.50)	12 (37.50)	25 (78.13)	7 (21.88)	23 (71.88)	9 (28.13)	18 (56.25)	14 (43.75)	19 (59.38)	13 (40.63)	19 (59.38)	13 (40.63)
ST	11 (52.38)	10 (47.62)	13 (61.90)	8 (38.10)	15 (71.43)	6 (28.57)	12 (57.14)	9 (42.86)	10 (47.62)	11 (52.38)	5 (23.81)	16 (76.19)	7 (33.33)	14 (66.67)	9 (42.86)	12 (57.14)
Total	122 (59.80)	82 (40.20)	112 (54.90)	92 (45.10)	157 (76.96)	47 (23.04)	137 (67.16)	67 (32.84)	108 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	140 (68.63)	64 (31.37)	114 (55.88)	90 (44.12)	116 (56.86)	88 (43.14)

Caste	Impact of Print Media		Political Party Membership		Acquaintance with Members of Legislative Member		Acquaintance with Member of Parliament		Total
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
FC	39 (37.50)	65 (62.50)	71 (68.27)	33 (31.73)	55 (62.58)	49 (47.42)	63 (65.38)	36 (34.62)	104
BC	25 (61.70)	15 (38.30)	24 (61.05)	14 (34.94)	22 (48.81)	25 (53.19)	17 (36.17)	30 (63.83)	47
SC	22 (68.75)	10 (31.25)	18 (56.25)	14 (43.75)	16 (80.00)	12 (60.00)	12 (62.50)	7 (37.50)	32
ST	14 (66.67)	7 (33.33)	12 (57.14)	9 (42.86)	10 (61.90)	11 (52.38)	5 (23.81)	16 (76.19)	21
Total	104 (50.96)	100 (49.02)	125 (61.27)	79 (38.73)	106 (51.96)	96 (48.04)	108 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	204

Caste	Total Political Socialisation		Total Respondents
	Yes	No	
FC	762 (61.06)	486 (38.94)	104
BC	322 (57.09)	242 (42.91)	47
SC	233 (60.68)	151 (39.32)	32
ST	132 (52.38)	120 (47.62)	21
Total	1449 (59.19)	999 (40.81)	204

Chi-square Summary Result

Chi square Calculated value	8.018
Degrees of freedom	3
Chi square table value 5%	7.81



Table 1.4 indicates the **Caste Wise Respondents' Political Socialization**. The forward caste respondents have got major influence of Political activities during school and college days, religious institutions, impact of television and radio programs, political party membership, acquaintance with Member of Legislative Assembly and acquaintance with Member of Parliament towards their political socialization. The backward caste respondents have got major influence of family, political party affiliation of the parents and caste association towards their political socialization.

The chi square test is applied for further discussion. The

computed chi square value is 8.01, which is greater than its tabulated value at 5 percent level of significance. Hence, there is an association between respondents of different caste groups and their political socialization process. This association is statistically identified as significant.

It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that forward caste respondents occupy the first position with respect to overall influence of all factors of political socialization, schedule caste respondents the second, backward caste respondents the third and schedule tribes the last.

Table 1.5 Education wise Gram Panchayat Sarpanches Political Socialization

Education	Family Influence		Political Party Affiliation of the Parents		Political activities during School and College Days		Friends'		Caste Association		Religious Institution		Impact of Television		Impact of Radio Programs	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
U.G	21 (51.22)	20 (48.78)	35 (85.37)	6 (14.63)	16 (39.02)	25 (60.98)	19 (46.34)	22 (53.66)	23 (56.10)	18 (43.90)	30 (73.17)	11 (26.83)	20 (48.78)	21 (51.22)	28 (68.29)	13 (31.71)
Secondary	85 (59.86)	57 (40.14)	63 (44.37)	79 (55.63)	133 (93.66)	9 (6.34)	109 (76.76)	33 (23.24)	77 (54.23)	65 (45.77)	99 (69.72)	43 (30.28)	82 (57.75)	60 (42.25)	82 (57.75)	60 (42.25)
Primary	16 (76.19)	5 (23.81)	14 (66.67)	7 (33.33)	8 (38.10)	13 (61.90)	9 (42.86)	12 (57.14)	8 (38.10)	13 (61.90)	11 (52.38)	10 (47.62)	12 (57.14)	9 (42.86)	6 (28.57)	15 (71.43)
Total	122 (59.80)	82 (40.20)	112 (54.90)	92 (45.10)	157 (76.96)	47 (23.04)	137 (67.16)	67 (32.84)	108 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	140 (68.63)	64 (31.37)	114 (55.88)	90 (44.12)	116 (56.86)	88 (43.14)

Education	Impact of Print Media		Political Party Membership		Acquaintance with Members of Legislative Member		Acquaintance with Member of Parliament		Total
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
U.G	14 (34.15)	27 (65.85)	16 (39.02)	25 (60.98)	28 (68.29)	13 (31.71)	17 (41.45)	24 (58.54)	41
Secondary	85 (59.86)	57 (40.14)	92 (64.79)	50 (35.21)	69 (48.59)	73 (51.41)	84 (59.15)	58 (40.85)	142
Primary	5 (23.81)	16 (76.19)	17 (80.95)	4 (19.05)	9 (42.86)	12 (57.14)	7 (33.33)	14 (66.67)	21
Total	104 (50.96)	100 (49.02)	125 (61.27)	79 (38.73)	106 (51.96)	96 (48.04)	106 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	204

Education	Total Political Socialisation		Total Respondents
	Yes	No	
U.G	207 (54.27)	225 (45.73)	41
Secondary	1060 (62.21)	644 (37.79)	142
Primary	122 (48.41)	130 (51.59)	21
Total	1449 (59.19)	995 (40.81)	204

#### Chi-square Summary Result

Chi square Calculated value	23.47
Degrees of freedom	2
Chi square table value 5%	5.99

Table 1.5 indicates the **Education Wise Respondents' Political Socialization**. The undergraduate level educated respondents have got major influence of Political party affiliation of the parents, caste association, religious institutions, impact of radio programs and acquaintance with Member of Legislative Assembly towards their Political socialization. The secondary level educated respondents have got major influence of political activities during school and college days, friends, impact of television and radio programs and Acquaintance with Member of Parliament towards their political socialization. The primary level educated respondents have got major influence of Family and political party membership towards their political socialization.

The chi square test is applied for further discussion. The computed chi square value is 23.47, which is greater than its tabulated value at 5 percent level of significance. Hence, there is an association between respondents of different education groups and their political socialization process. This association is statistically identified as significant.

It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that secondary level educated respondents occupy the first position with respect to overall influence of all factors of political socialization, undergraduate level educated respondents the second, and primary level educated respondents the last.

Table 1.6 Income wise Gram Panchayat Sarpanches Political Socialization

Income	Family Influence		Political Party Affiliation of the Parents		Political activities during School and College Days		Friends'		Caste Association		Religious Institution		Impact of Television		Impact of Radio Programs	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
25,000-50,000	64 (63.37)	37 (36.63)	49 (48.51)	51 (51.49)	20 (20.20)	79 (79.80)	32 (31.68)	62 (61.32)	39 (38.61)	29 (28.39)	79 (78.22)	22 (21.79)	76 (75.29)	25 (24.75)	59 (58.43)	42 (41.56)
50,000-75,000	58 (56.31)	45 (43.69)	63 (61.17)	40 (38.83)	76 (73.79)	27 (26.21)	68 (66.02)	35 (33.98)	46 (44.66)	57 (55.33)	61 (59.22)	43 (41.74)	38 (36.89)	65 (63.10)	57 (55.33)	46 (44.66)
Total	122 (59.80)	82 (40.20)	112 (54.90)	92 (45.10)	157 (76.96)	47 (23.04)	137 (67.16)	67 (32.84)	108 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	140 (68.63)	64 (31.37)	114 (55.88)	90 (44.12)	116 (56.86)	88 (43.14)

Income	Impact of Print Media		Political Party Membership		Acquaintance with Members of Legislative Member		Acquaintance with Member of Parliament		Total
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
25,000-50,000	59 (58.42)	42 (41.58)	73 (72.28)	28 (27.72)	69 (68.32)	32 (31.68)	65 (64.36)	36 (35.64)	101
50,000-75,000	45 (43.69)	58 (56.31)	52 (50.48)	51 (49.51)	37 (35.92)	66 (64.08)	43 (41.75)	60 (58.25)	103
Total	104 (50.96)	100 (49.02)	125 (61.27)	79 (38.73)	106 (51.96)	96 (48.04)	106 (52.94)	96 (47.06)	204

Income	Total Political Socialisation		Total Respondents
	Yes	No	
25,000-50,000	805 (66.42)	407 (33.58)	101
50,000-75,000	844 (52.10)	592 (47.90)	103
Total	1449 (59.19)	995 (40.81)	204

#### Chi-square Summary Result

Chi square Calculated value	51.92
Degrees of freedom	1
Chi square table value 5%	3.84

Table 1.6 indicates the **Income Wise Respondents' Political Socialization**. The respondents in the income group 25,000-50,000 have got major influence of family, political activities during School and college days, friends, caste association, religious institutions, impact of television and radio programs, print media, political party membership, acquaintance with Member of Legislative Assembly and acquaintance with Member of Parliament towards their political socialization. In general respondents in the income group Rs.50,000-75,000 lag behind with the respondents of the low-income group in respect of their overall factors of political socialization.

The chi square test is applied for further discussion. The computed chi square value is 51.92, which is greater than its tabulated value at 5 percent level of significance. Hence, there is an association between respondents of income groups and their political socialization process. This association is statistically identified as significant.

It is learnt from the above discussion that the respondents in the income group Rs. 50,000-75,000 lag behind with the respondents of the low income group in respect of their overall factors of political socialization.

## CONCLUSION

Citizens consider many political socialization issues while arriving at the threshold of political perception and decision-making. A systematic review of the political socialization agencies, viz., family, community, peer groups, education, mass media, political parties, etc. suggests that the role of these various agencies in shaping political attitudes of an individual differs from family to family, community to community. The respondents amongst the gram panchayat sarpanches have shown the following characteristics:

- (i) Under compulsions of patriarchy, the earlier generation is decreasing in importance, and the posterity is gaining ascendancy in politically orienting the respondents.
- (ii) Where as schools and other community sources are able to process much political socialization impact on the respondents. The role of mass media, especially, television, is extremely powerful.
- (iii) In the vicinity of membership of political party and friends receive much attention from the respondents in guiding their political influences.

Amongst respondents in 35-45 age group, males, secondary education, Hindu religion, other (forward) Castes and 50,000- 75,000 income group respondents show more receptivity to political socialization agencies than to others.

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