

Environmental Education and Water Representation Among High School Students: A Case Study of Rajasthan (Jaipur Area)

Surender Singh Chauhan

KEY WORDS Water, Magic Fluid, Causal Relationship.

ABSTRACT This paper reports how high school students represent water and its interactions with nature and contemporary society. The study was planned and implemented within the framework of Environmental Education and involved the participation of 342 high school students attending government and public schools in Rajasthan (Jaipur area). The results of the investigation indicated that the majority of the students represent water as a “magic fluid”, the water cycle in a deficient way, and the relationships between water and contemporary society in a limited and simplistic way. Their capability to construct causal relationship is limited. Because of these representations, in conjunction with their limited capability to construct causal relationships, students find it difficult to comprehend the complex environmental problems which are linked to water.

Author's Address: Surender Singh Chauhan, Department of Environmental Science, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur 302 004, Rajasthan, India