

## **PERCEPTION STUDY ON GENDER FRIENDLINESS OF UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

**Background:** In most countries, students spend their maximum time in university campus. Along with traditional and academic learning, university campus is the place of learning with much broader duties, which go beyond the sphere of traditional learning. The university campus is an environment in which young people learn about social relationships, about norms, values and the 'do's' and 'don'ts'. In other words, it is the environment in which professionals work with young people in a responsible manner focusing on the transfer of knowledge, skills and behaviour. The university campus is also the environment in which students learn about their gender identity, the relationships between girls and boys, boys and boys and girls and girls. It is a process of learning 'who am I in relation to the others', and the environment of campus plays an important role in this process. The issue of gender identity is closely connected to gender equality and safety in university campus. This study focuses on a variety of factors that influence the perception of gender friendliness of University of Dhaka.

**Methods:** For conducting this research, a total number of 200 students were chosen as respondents. The students were from different faculties such as Science, Arts, Social Science, Business Studies and Fine Arts. They all were given a structured questionnaire. The questionnaire consisted of both open and close ended questions. This was done to bring out the perception of students regarding gender friendliness environment of Dhaka University Campus. These data were collected by all the group members. Then the gathered information was processed.

**Results:** Findings revealed that, in terms of physical, psychological and equal participation on different occasion the University of Dhaka is gender friendly. The university campus has almost equal participation in different cultural activities (odds ratio [OR]: .686; 95% confidence interval

[CL]: .383- 1.880). Moreover, the harassment during cultural program is very less findings was significant (Odds Ratio [OR]: .904; 95% confidence interval [CL]: .486- 1.684).

Conclusion: There were differences in the perception of male and female students. Opinions are also altered according to the faculty to which a student belonged. The outcome showed that Dhaka University campus is gender friendly.

**Keywords:** Gender friendliness, Gender friendliness campus, Perception of Student.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The psychological well-being and life satisfaction of any individual is largely depending on the interaction and support from university friends and colleagues (Demir and Davidson, 2013). Gender equality is considered as the heart of autonomous, equal and prosperous societies. It is expected that women and men should equally benefit from similar rights and chances (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, 2014). The learning and development outcome of student is largely reliant on the student experiences on their university campus (Pascarella & Terenzini, 1991, 2005).

The University or college campus where student continuously faces harassment or different forms of discrimination has detrimental effects on the learning process of student. On the contrary, the supportive environment of University campuses has positive impact on the positive outcomes of learning's (Milem, 2003; Pascarella & Terenzini, 1991, 2005; Reason, Terenzini, & Domingo, 2006, in press; Umbach & Kuh, 2006). Findings from recent research clearly indicates that student perception on campus environment has an impact on their intellectual advances, moreover the provocation which are largely based on different societal group for example gender, ethnicity and sexual orientation are largely hinder the student's positive outcomes on university and college learning (Rankin & Reason, 2005). Research also indicates that students experience campus climates differently based upon social group membership (Chang, 2003; Miller, Anderson, Cannon, Perez, & Moore, 1998). Furthermore, Sexual harassment in University campus becoming one of the raising concerns in recent times. Owuamanam (1995) stated that there are higher chances of sexual coercion in most of the public universities in Nigeria and she also reported that about 20% of graduate level student and 19% of students in undergraduate level having been harassed sexually.

Understanding how students from various social groups experience campus climate thus should be important to higher education professionals in designing interventions more effectively and removing obstacles to the success of all students.

Most of the recent research largely focusing on the student's perception on the campus environment based on differences of ethnic and racial; the differences which are gender related are getting ignored. Most of the existing research findings are focuses exclusively on perceptions of sexual harassment. The purpose of our study was to explore the experiences and perceptions of University of Dhaka student concerning gender friendliness environment.

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

This focus of the study was to determine the student perception concerning the gender friendliness of the campus. Data were mostly collected from primary sources. Based on the study objectives data collection methods were varied. The information sought being of sensitive nature, we adopted both quantitative and qualitative approach and the stratified sampling techniques. The purpose of stratification is to figure out the gender friendliness environment in different faculty. Data were collected through survey questionnaire (Table 2), In-depth Interviews and focused group discussion with student from different faculty (Table 1).

**Table 1: Respondents for In-depth Interview and FGD**

Study Area	Stratum	No of Respondents	
		In-depth Interview	FGD
University of Dhaka	Faculty of Science	4	4
	Faculty of Social Science	4	4
	Faculty of Arts	4	4
	Business Faculty	4	4
	Fine Arts	4	4
Total in Individual Group		20	20
Total no of Participants in Both groups		40	

## **2.1. Survey Questionnaire**

In questionnaire survey, we prepared a questionnaire with some important and reliable questions which were asked to 160 students of Dhaka University. Among them the male and female students' ratio was 50:50. A structured questionnaire with close and open-ended questions was made in this case. This method helped us to collect analyse reliable, quantitative and primary data both from male and female students.

## **2.2. In-depth Interviews**

In this study, to collect more opinion elaborately we followed interview method. We selected some students and asked them about their opinions on gender friendliness in Dhaka University campus. As we were looking for people's opinion, the survey questionnaires were not enough to figure out the actual factors. The in-depth personal interview gave the respondents freedom to share their opinion and judgments.

## **2.3. Focus Group Discussion**

Structured group of students were brought together to discuss about the topic during specific period of time. We requested that all participants would respect each other's privacy by keeping what they heard in the focus group confidential. In our focus group discussion, there were 20 students and it included both the male and female students.

## **3. RESULTS**

The quantitative findings were obtained from survey questionnaire of student from different faculty. There were some core issues which mainly focused on the study some of the issues are mentioned below:

### **3.1 Descriptive Statistics**

The numbers of male and female students vary from faculty to faculty (Table 1), it is evident from Table 1 that in Faculty of Science, there are 66.6% male students whereas 33.4% are female. In Faculty of Arts, this percentage is 69.1 and 30.9 perspective. In Faculty of Social Science, percentage of male students is 78.8 and percentage of female student is 21.2. In Faculty of Business Studies, male students are 69.6% and female students are 30.4%. Faculty of Fine Arts contains 48.1% male and 51.9% female students.

<b>Table 2: Descriptive analysis (N=160)</b>				
<b>Characteristics</b>		<b>Sexual Identity</b>		<b>Total (%)</b>
		<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	
<b>No of Students Faculty wise</b>				
Faculty of Science		16	16	32
		20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
Faculty of Social Science		16	16	32
		20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
Faculty of Arts		16	16	32
		20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
Faculty of Business		16	16	32
		20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
Fine Arts		16	16	32
		20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
<b>Separate Washroom Facility</b>				
Yes		80	80	80
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
<b>Common Room Facility</b>				
No		64	64	128
		80.0%	80.0%	80.0%
Yes		16	16	32
		20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
<b>Child Care facility</b>				
No Idea		62	61	123
		77.5%	76.3%	76.9%
Yes		5	9	14
		6.3%	11.3%	8.8%
No		13	10	23
		16.3%	12.5%	14.4%
No Idea		62	61	123

<b>Environment of the University Students Hall</b>				
Resident Unfriendly		21	9	30
		26.3%	11.3%	18.8%
Resident Friendly		59	71	130
		73.8%	88.8%	81.3%
<b>Sharing View Point During Political Meeting</b>				
No		48	55	103
		60.0%	68.8%	64.4%
Yes		32	25	57
		40.0%	31.3%	35.6%
<b>Equal Participation in Cultural Program</b>				
No		16	14	30
		20.0%	17.5%	18.8%
Yes		64	66	130
		80.0%	82.5%	81.3%
<b>Harassment During Cultural Program</b>				
No		44	42	86
		55.0%	52.5%	53.8%
Yes		36	38	74
		45.0%	47.5%	46.3%
<b>Equal Participation in Extracurricular Activities</b>				
No		25	19	44
		31.3%	23.8%	27.5%
Yes		55	61	116
		68.8%	76.3%	72.5%
<b>Male Student Attitude towards Female</b>				
Unfriendly		0	6	6
		.0%	7.5%	3.8%
Friendly		78	65	143
		97.5%	81.3%	89.4%
Domination		2	9	11
		2.5%	11.3%	6.9%

<b>Attitude of Official Staff</b>				
Biased		44	12	56
		55.0%	15.0%	35.0%
Good		36	68	104
		45.0%	85.0%	65.0%
<b>Equal Scholarship Opportunity</b>				
No		4	7	11
		5.0%	8.8%	6.9%
Yes		9	3	12
		11.3%	3.8%	7.5%
Merit Based		67	70	137
		83.8%	87.5%	85.6%

80 male respondents and 80 female respondents from different faculties stated that there are separate wash room facilities for male and female students. No one provide negative answer. It is clear that the percentage is 100% regarding positive answer for having separate washroom for both male and female students.

In Faculty of Science all the 16 male and 16 female respondents answered that there is no separate common room. In Faculty of Arts, all the 32 respondents answered negatively that there is no separate common room for the male students. In faculty of Social Science, all the 16 male respondents as well as 16 female respondents answered negatively that there is no separate common room for male students. In Faculty of Fine Arts, the scenario is completely same. But in Faculty of Business studies, all the 32 respondents answered that there is separate common room for both male and female students.

32 male respondents from 5 faculties have answered that they think both genders get same dignity during giving opinion in political meetings. 25 female respondents from 5 faculties have also answered in positive. That means total 57 respondents among 160 have answered in positive in this regard, altogether 35.6% respondents think that both genders get same dignity during giving opinion in political meetings. 48 male respondents have answered that they do not think both genders get same dignity during giving opinion in political meeting. 55 female respondents have answered this question in a negative way. They do not think that female students get that dignity alike male students. That means total 103 respondents gave a negative answer which accounts about 64.4% of total respondents.

We can see that 58 male respondents out of 80 have said that both male and female residential halls are gender friendly in inside of hall as well as outside of hall. 72 female respondents out of 80 have also given positive answer regarding residential friendliness of inside and outside of male and female halls. That means total 130 respondents out of 160 think that the environment of residential halls are gender friendly. On the other hand 22 male respondents and 8 female respondents that means total 30 respondents out of 160 think that the residential environment is not gender friendly.

We can see that 64 male respondents out of 80 have said that both male and female students participate in various cultural programs like Rag Day, Pahela Baishakh and many other traditional programs. 66 female respondents out of 80 have also answered in positive. On the other hand, 16 out of 80 male respondents have said that they don't think both genders participate equally in such kind of programs. 14 female respondents also said the same. That means, 130 respondents out of 160 have given positive answer and only 30 respondents have given negative answer.

We can see that 36 out of 80 male respondents have said that, during cultural programs, female students face gender violence randomly. 38 out of 80 female respondents have also stand for this answer. On the contrary, 44 out of 80 male respondents have said that they don't think female students face gender violence during any cultural program. 42 female respondents out of 80 have also said the same thing. So total 74 respondents out of 160 have given positive answer and 86 out of 160 respondents have given negative answer.

About 47% respondents gave a positive answer that female students often face gender violence during cultural programs. On the contrary, about 53% respondents think that the cultural environment is friendly and that's why female students do not face any kind of gender violence during any cultural programs. So, it is positively related with the variable Cultural Environment.

55 out of 80 male respondents have said that, Dhaka University campus has gender friendly clubs such as debating club, career club where participation of both male and female students is equal. 61 out of 80 female respondents have also given positive answer about this. That means 116 respondents out of 160 have given positive answer. On the contrary, 25 out of 80 male respondents have said that they don't think male and female students participate equally in different clubs of Dhaka University because they think these clubs are not gender friendly. 19 female respondents out of 80 have also said the same thing. So, total 44 respondents out of 160 have given negative answer. About 73% respondents have given a positive answer and 27% respondents have given a negative answer regarding gender friendly participation in various clubs and sporting system of Dhaka University. So, it is positively related with the variable Gender Friendly Environment for Extracurricular Activities.



We can see that 78 out of 80 male respondents have said that, their behaviour is friendly with their female friends. 65 out of 80 female respondents have said that their male friends behave friendly with them. That means 143 respondents out of 160 have given positive answer regarding friendly behaviour of male students with their female friends. On the contrary, only 6 female respondents out of 80 said that their male friends do not behave friendly with them. That means only 6 out of 160 respondents have given negative answer regarding this. Beside this, 2 male and 9 female respondents that mean 11 out of 160 respondents have answered that male students dominate over their female friends. About 89% respondents have told that behaviour of male students with their female friends is friendly whereas 4.1% said that behaviour is unfriendly and 6.9% have said that behaviour is dominating. So, this is positively related with the variables.

We can see that 36 out of 80 male respondents have said that, department office staffs behave same with male and female students and there is no biasness in their behaviour. 68 out of 80 female respondents have said the same thing. So, 104 respondents out of 160 have given positive answer regarding gender bias less behaviour of office staffs with male as well as female students. On the contrary, 44 out of 80 male respondents and 12 out of 80 female respondents have told that office staffs do different behaviour with male and female students separately. So, 56 respondents have said that office staffs show biased attitude with male and female students. 65% respondents have told that behaviour of office staffs is not gender biased whereas 35% said that their behaviour is totally gender biased. So, this is positively related with the variables.

We can see that 9 out of 80 male respondents have said that, male and female students get equal scholarship facilities in Dhaka University. 3 out of 80 female respondents have said the same thing. So, 12 respondents out of 160 have given positive answer regarding having equal scholarship facility. On the contrary, 4 out of 80 male respondents and 7 out of 80 female respondents have told that male and female students do not get equal scholarship facility in Dhaka University. So, 11 respondents have given negative answer. 67 male and 70 female respondents have said that scholarship facilities are given on the basis of merit. So, it is seen that 137 out of 160 respondents answered that scholarships are merit based.

About, 8% respondents have given positive answer, 7% respondents have given negative answer and remaining 85% have told that scholarships are given on the basis of merit. So, this is positively related with the variable Gender Friendly Educational Development.

### **Association between different variables with gender friendliness environment**

Out of all variables significant relationship has found in between very few variables and gender friendliness environment. Females has (odds ratio [OR]: 1.46; 95% confidence interval [CL]: .765-2.812) opportunity to share their view points in different political session and meeting at

University campus environment (Table 3). Participation in cultural program female has (odds ratio [OR]: .686; 95% confidence interval [CL]: .383- 1.880). Female harassment during cultural program (Odds Ratio [OR]: .904; 95% confidence interval [CL]: .486- 1.684) and finally the University official and administrative staff attitudes towards female has program (Odds Ratio [OR]: .144; 95% confidence interval [CL]: .068- .307) (Table 3).

#### **4. THE QUALITATIVE FINDINGS OBTAINED THROUGH IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW PROCESS AND FOCUSED GROUP DISCUSSION OF DIFFERENT FACULTY STUDENTS.**

The core purpose of the in-depth interviews and focused group discussion is to further dig down the student of different faculties viewpoints concerning gender friendliness of Physical & Psychological wellbeing which includes the equal participation on different events of university campus.

##### **4.1. Physical environment of university campus and gender friendliness**

Many male and female interviewees have told many positive and negative comments regarding psychosocial supports of Dhaka University campus. They told that there is separate time for male and female in psychotherapy centres and there are separate psychotherapists available if needed. There are also student advisers in every department which is good for both male and female students. According to female interviewees, some of them most of the time feel awkward to go to psychotherapists and some females even don't know about having psychotherapy centers.

About, 70% interviewees have said that psychosocial supports of Dhaka University campus is gender friendly and remaining 30% interviewees have told that psychosocial supports of Dhaka University campus is gender unfriendly. So, this is positively related with the variable Psychosocial Support.

Dhaka University is considered as the hub of student politics and most of the central leaders are elected from Dhaka University. So we asked the interviewees what they think about choosing their career in politics on equal basis for both male and female.

Many male and female interviewees have told many positive and negative comments regarding political environment of Dhaka University campus. They told that political meeting is open for both male and female and female stay in front of political procession. But higher posts are not given to female students and female are feared of assaulted by male counterpart. Followers treat the female students as showpiece during any political procession.

About 41% interviewees have said positive answer and remaining 59% interviewees have given negative answer regarding political environment of Dhaka University campus. So, it is negatively related with the variable Political Environment. Which is also aligned with our quantitative findings.

Another physical environment is the existing situation of University's gymnasium and swimming pool is very poor as it is running out of contemporary instrument for both male and female students. So, we asked our interviewees what they think about involving in extracurricular activities of Dhaka University. Most of the interviewees told that both male and female take part in programs and clubs of Dhaka University. Some male interviewees said that, sometimes female students are more involved in extracurricular activities in compare with male students. Female students said that they feel insecure when they stay in campus during midnight for arranging any program or the night before that program. Approximately 65% interviewees have said positive answer and remaining 35% interviewees have given negative answer regarding environment for extracurricular activities of Dhaka University campus. So, it is positively related with the variable.

Another important aspect of gender friendliness environment is the provision of equal opportunity to the student in this regard, our interviewees were asked whether the university scholarships opportunity is merit based, or gender biased. The students view towards this question pretty much straight forward and they explain that it is merit based. They also said that there are equal scholarship facilities from both male and female halls.

We have taken 20 members for our focus group discussion and these 20 students were divided into 2 groups. Each group contained 10 male and 10 female students. We have questioned them keeping our main theme is minds. The Physical, Psychological and equal opportunity provision regarding different opportunity.

Firstly, we have questioned them about psychical facilities of Dhaka university campus to know about whether the campus is gender friendly or not. Most of the male students responded negatively as there is no common room for boys. On the other hand, most of the female students responded positively as they have full facility regarding common room. Though male students have the facility of separate toilet and washroom facility but most of the washrooms are unhygienic. we have told them to let us know about their residential environment. From the male students we have had some demoralizing information like- to retain all the male student's university does not have adequate hall, therefore, hall authorities are forced to accommodate male students in a crowd situation. As a result, most of the time washroom and toilet remain busy and dinning is overly crowd while having food. Beside this, there is extra political pressure on male students. On the contrary, female students get tremendous advantages from hall

as they do not have any over crowded problem. In addition to that they do not have extra political pressure. But for female students there is serious problem as most of the hall officials are male and they are not allowed to stay outside of the hall after 9.30pm. Beside this male student can stay in hall after they are graduated but for the female students it is quite impossible.

Secondly, we have asked them about psychosocial facilities of the university but surprisingly most the both male and female students do not have clear information about whether university provides any psychological treatment or not. Very few of them know about this facility and they told us that both male and female students are treated separately. All the male students are treated by male psychologists and female students are treated by female students. But sometimes there are some female students who feel hesitation regarding their problems. In terms of relationship with male counterparts and vice versa all the students are very positive regarding friendship. But they tend to be rather free with their like mined friends. On the other hand, official staffs of the offices give extra privilege to female students rather than male students.

To determine the equal opportunity of male and female during different occasion we have had our queries about political environment of Dhaka university to know if all male and female students are equally treated in politics or not. Unfortunately, the response is very gloomy and frustrating for the male students as most the male students who have residence facilities in hall are most of the time forced to join in any kind of political programs and demonstrations. On the contrary, female students who live in hall are not forced to join in any kind of political precession. Few of them engage themselves in politics willingly. But the real scenario is rather tough as they most of the time are treated as show piece for any kind of demonstration. They are kept in front line in any political programs for showing off but in terms of decision making they hardly have any influence.

We have questioned them about the extra-curricular activities for male and female students. All of them expressed their contentment about the organizational entrance for enhancing their extra - curricular activities. Especially they mentioned some organizations which ensure equal participation for both male and female students like- Dhaka University model united nations association, Dhaka university tourism society, Dhaka university photographic society, Dhaka university information and technology society, Dhaka university debating club and so on. But there is some discontentment regarding Dhaka university gymnasium and swimming pool as the gymnasium and swimming pool of Dhaka University are not up the standard. They threw some recommendations to improve the facility of these. During any cultural programs organized by department most of the female students cannot stay outside their home and hall at late night, some of the female students raised their voice against this problem.

## **5. DISCUSSION**

The paper aims to explore whether the University of Dhaka campus has gender friendly environment in terms of its physical structure, psychological wellbeing of students and the equal participation of the students on different events and program that offered by university. The findings were quite similar and aligned with several findings of relevant studies that has been done in similar settings.

The results of the study provide, in terms of physical environment the university of Dhaka is gender friendly, though there are some issues which are need no rectify. The University of Dhaka has 23 residence halls for the students and a number of dormitories for the teachers as well as for the officials of the university. It has also some separate common room for female students in every faculty. The University Library, housed in three separate buildings, is the biggest in Bangladesh. The Dhaka University Library comprises three buildings: The administrative building, the main library building, and the science library building. While questioning the students about the hall and library facilities through questionnaire and interview, most of the male students show their frustration about all the facilities they are used to get form both hall and library. Most the male students told that every hall has more personnel to tidy up the hall but the condition of halls is very miserable as most of the personnel do not maintain their regular duty according to their responsibilities. Beside this, all the halls for male students are overcrowded as there are no sufficient accommodation facilities for the male students. In addition to that most of the rooms of every hall are occupied by political leaders though they are no more valid students of the university. On the contrary, female students responded more positively about their hall facilities. They have no scope to stay in hall after they complete their graduation. Our finding is quite similar with the findings of National University Council (NUC), 2003 where they stated that, the hotels in the Federal Universities in Nigeria and North Central in particular are not measuring up to the needs of the students due to the age of the hostel buildings and the annual increase in student population. Consequently, public universities, especially those in the north central region of Nigeria have not been able to provide hostel accommodations while the existing hostels are in poor conditions due to the student population.

In other case the physical environment of Dhaka University is rather positive compared to any places of the country. Most of the students are really very gender friendly and they are enough cautious about the gender equality.

<b>Table 3: adjusted ORs and 95% CIs for association between gender friendliness environment of the University Dhaka campus and other variables (N=160)</b>				
<b>OR (95% CI)</b>				
	<b>Sharing View Point During Political Meeting</b>	<b>Equal Participation in Cultural Program</b>	<b>Harassment During Cultural Program</b>	<b>Attitude of Official Staff towards female</b>
Gender				
Male	1	1	1	1
Female	1.46 (.765-2.812)	.686 (.383- 1.880)	.904 (.486-1.684)	.144** (.068-.307)

One of the major hitches of Dhaka University is Teachers and Students politics. Politics is directly affecting quality education of Dhaka University. Though the participation in politics are mainly dominated by the male , the female has limited opportunity to express their views concerning different issues of politics in different political meetings and seminars , our findings shows that male are almost two times more likely to share their view points during political events and seminar’s compare to female (odds ratio [OR]: 1.46; 95% confidence interval [CL]: .765-2.812), besides that , In FGD on the political environment, we asked both male and female students from three faculties that ‘do you feel disturbed with Political influence on your quality education or not? “A conclusion has been found that the male students from arts and social science faculties face 80% political influence and female students from these two faculties face 20% political influence in their faculty. These findings are also similar with the study conducted by Altbach, 1993; Glazer, 1968; Hamilton, 1968 stated that students’ participation with different political party and unions has an impact on the university learning environment.

Traditionally Dhaka University is far rich with its cultural heritage. Most of the students expressed their positive satisfaction with the gender friendly cultural environment. Beside this Dhaka University nurtures various cultural organizations to flourish the students’ hidden potentialities. “Teacher students’ centre” of Dhaka University is regarded as the hub of this cultural function. Every cultural organization has equal participation of female and male members. Findings was not much different the university campus has almost equal participation in different cultural activities (odds ratio [OR]: .686; 95% confidence interval [CL]: .383- 1.880).



Moreover, the harassment during cultural program is very less findings was significant (Odds Ratio [OR]: .904; 95% confidence interval [CL]: .486- 1.684).

The research and scholarship opportunity are merit based, female students comparatively are ahead of male students which denotes that the authority is very much gender friendly so is university. The University contains about 220 trusts and foundations offering scholarships and medals to meritorious students of the University. Besides, a large number of scholarships are also offered by the University, Dhaka University Alumni Association and the Government. Even in most of the department female students comparatively excel in academic results which also indicate that university supports gender friendly environment and opposes any kind of discrimination.

The administrative staffs and official staffs shows neutral and positive attitudes towards females the findings from our research shows that (Odds Ratio [OR]: .144; 95% confidence interval [CL]: .068- .307), there is very less chances to shows biased attitudes towards female.

Nevertheless, in summary more than half of the students think that Dhaka university campus is gender friendly and both the male and female students are treated equally. Rest of the students thinks that the environment of Dhaka University could have been more positive and gender friendly. Some variables which have been used in this research should be given more priority.

## **6. POLICY RECOMMENDATION**

To solve the existing problem and to improve the present situation for attaining a suitable in university of Dhaka, both the university authorities and students need to be cautious about the current deterioration of the ambience of university premises and status. Recommendations for improving the analysed existing problems are suggested below in brief.

University authority as well as government should take efficient measures irrespective of any political ideology to prevent illogical and illegal influence of 'students' politics' on general students. Most of the General students should be concerned about these inconsistencies and raise their voice against it with the aegis of hall authority and the authority should also ensure that no female students will be exploited politically. Few of them engage themselves in politics willingly. But the real scenario is rather tough as they most of the time are treated as show piece for any kind of demonstration. This mind setup should be changed for promoting gender equality and to perpetuate our democratic value.

University authority should monitor the staffs concerned with cleaning to ensure that they do their duty properly so that hygienic condition remains in washroom. The students should also be sensible in using washroom for maintaining a healthy condition there.

Another important recommendation is that child care centre for female students' children need to be ensured as like female teachers' children.

University authority has to be strong and sincere during the time of cultural program because all the female students responded that as in very occasion university remains over crowded with huge population so they do not feel comfort to roam around the campus on that special occasion. So, this should be ensured for a gender friendliness campus.

Most important recommendation is that female students feel insecure when they stay in campus during midnight for arranging any program. So proper security should be ensured by university authority.

Dhaka University has a separate arrangement for both male and female students in using swimming pool. But the university does not ensure this separate arrangement for both male and female students in the gymnasium rather there is no arrangement for female students for physical fitness. This is one the most recommendation to the university authority to make a separate arrangement for female students in university gymnasium.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

The students are the future of the country; especially the students of the Dhaka University are the future leaders of the nation. It is the responsibility of the University authority as well as the government to provide a suitable condition for their proper development of physical and mental ability so that they can lead and serve the nation to the way of prosperity and glory. The research is a little effort to describe and assess the current situation of gender friendliness of university of Dhaka, to identify the key issues and to explore solutions for the specific problems. It is also confessed that due to lack of time covering the whole scenario of the research topic could not be possible. But this research is fair enough to measure the total scenario to assess if the premise of Dhaka University is gender friendly or not. Highest effort to reveal the real situation has been given as the research subsumes students from each and every faculty.

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