

# **Adolescence and Extracurricular Activities:**

## **A Study of Select Schools in Kolkata**

### **ABSTRACT**

Exploring Adolescence in the sub-field of extracurricular, this study methodologically engaged with several methods that informed an aesthetically-experiential ethnography. Impact of globalization and neoliberalism has been deeply felt in the last century, and education is no exception in that case. The activities that take place under the banner of extracurricular also manifests these changes, transforming and revising the parenting, and pedagogic styles and forms. The adolescent through their conscious and often ritualistic practices in the domain of extracurricular seek to negotiate ways of learning and self-grooming. Thereby, a fresh enquiry into the role of extracurricular activities entails contextualizing the action (institutionalized forms) and act (particularistic negotiations) in a distinct social setup to understand both—the point of convergence and recent divergent offshoots. Social context redefined the relationship between extracurricular activities, associated values and adolescent identity. Adolescents' activity-based identities that are nurtured by community and school-based value system became susceptible to change with regard to the transformations in economic, social and cultural conditions. Thus family and peer influences, that are considered as the backbone supporting the adolescent, found new vigour within the education system and its changing forms at the brink of an exceedingly anxious and risk-prone social milieu.