

# Effect of Immediacy on Teacher's Acceptance in University Students

**Afifa Khanam\***

Lahore College for Women University

“Immediacy” refers to actions or words that encourage a feeling of physical or psychological closeness between people. Teachers who show immediacy to their students tend to enhance likeliness, motivation, confidence, enthusiasm and better learning achievement in students. Immediacy is categorized in two types; non-verbal immediacy that includes overt behaviors like smiling, gesturing, maintaining eye contact, having relaxed body position and verbal immediacy refers to calling students by name, using humor and encouraging student's responses in the class etc. The present study aims to investigate how university students with high self-esteem and independent style of learning, accept and like their teachers the most, and why and how teachers become favorite ones? A survey questionnaire having 30 items was used to collect students' opinion about the immediacy characteristics of their favorite teachers. Two hundred students from three public and private universities were randomly selected as a sample of the study. The major findings of the study were that the teachers who used relaxed body posture, smiled at students, moved around the class for closeness, spoke softly, used positive and frequent facial and body expressions, encouraged students' responses by appropriate nods, were liked more by the students. They felt free to see them before and after the class. They were not happy with the teachers who didn't call them with their names, were indifferent, and did not maintain an eye contact with them.

*Keywords:* Immediacy, verbal gestures, nonverbal gestures, teacher's acceptance

---

\* Correspondence concerning to this article should be addressed to Afifa Khanum Assistant Professor  
Institute of Education, Lahore College for Women University Email: dr.khanum.watto@gmail.com