

**DESCHOOLING:  
COVID 19, ONLINE TEACHING AND DIGITAL DIVIDE  
A CASE STUDY OF TRIBAL STUDENTS IN GOA**

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**Abstract**

*The Covid-19 pandemic is a transformational event, resulting in transitions in all the institutions of the society including education. No doubt, the era of 21<sup>st</sup> century has been denoted as the age of networks and massive digitalization but the inclusion of digital platforms in the educational institution has been a slow process in India. The global pandemic and the closure of all educational institutions forced the academic community to rethink and adapt to this transition and shift to online or digital learning platforms.*

*The Covid-19 has brought disruption in the so-called standard classroom structure. The classrooms were replaced by the emerging trends of online teaching where technology and platforms like Google Classroom, Zoom app, Cisco Webex, and other online platforms gained popularity. This arrangement was not face-to-face interaction between the teachers and the students; it was via these online platforms. These technological tools helped to disseminate knowledge, no doubt, but at the same time, we cannot ignore the digital divide it created between the haves and have not's.*

*On the one hand, when some students were able to exploit the online resources, there was a section of the population, especially the marginalized section like the tribal students, were not able to access these online resources. When there is a discussion on the emerging trends in online teaching, assessment, and learning, we should also highlight the most critical debate around the digital divide issues. Was this online teaching equal and accessible to all and what was its impact on the tribal students? What kind of other arrangements would have been equitable to all? Was Deschooling Society by Ivan Illich the better arrangement? These are the research questions which are answered in this research paper using questionnaire as tool of data collection.*

**Keywords:** Tribes, Covid-19, Deschooling, Digital Divide.



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