

CAREER PREFERENCES ON SENIOR SECONDARY LEVEL STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

Decisions about what job path to choose in senior high school are among the most difficult for students in junior high. As a reaction, the research's aims were to examine the job choices of junior high school students, as well as the factors that may impact their future choice. Group I, n=119 girls and Group II, n=74 boys from private and service backgrounds studying in government or private schools in both rural and urban areas were included in the study's (n=193) sample. In order to make sense of the data, percentages were used. This study employed the Career Choice Scale to collect data. Women preferred Human Services and Education, while men preferred Business Management and Administration, according to an analysis of the data. There are a number of elements that influence a student's job choice, including gender, parental occupation, kind of school, and residential surroundings, according to research.

Keywords:

Career Choice, Factors Affecting Career Choice and School Counsellors.

Introduction

One of the most significant decisions a student will face in the rest of his or her life is deciding on a career. For the rest of their lives, they will be influenced by this decision. To put it simply, a person's career has a huge impact on their life since it impacts how much money they make, how they think about their own lives, and how they view the world. As a result, a successful career is a lifelong goal. ^[1]

It is the order in which a person holds the most important roles in his or her life. The phrase "career" encompasses a person's entire life, including the roles they play as a student, parent, employee, retiree, and employer. Her (1973) argues that a person's career is the sum total of all of the experiences he or she has had as he or she learns about and prepares for employment. Essentially, one's career is the sum total of all the labour he or she undertakes in order to make a living. As a result, it is a good idea to go as far as possible in the pursuit of this fit. As a result, deciding on a career is critical for everyone. ^[2]

Career selection is said to be receiving more consideration in the workplace (Kulshrestha, 1979). Human resources must be utilized to the utmost extent possible in today's technologically

and scientifically advanced society, with its division of labour and specialization of activities. As a nation, we face a compelling need to increase the efficiency with which human capital may be utilized. ^[3]

Literature Review

Professor Krishan Gopal Kansal, as well as Dr. Asha Yadav (2021) The data was gathered using the investigator's Career Preference Inventory. Percentage statistics and a t-test were employed to analyse the data. Secondary school students' top three profession choices are the military (20.00 percent), teaching & training (19.82 percent), and law enforcement & administrative services (19.82 percent). / / (11.25 percent). Secondary school kids' career interests in Law Enforcement and Administrative varied significantly based on parental engagement, according to the study. Every parent should support and urge their child to select appropriate courses, according to experts. ^[4]

Mahdia Gholami, Younes Ghoreshi, Ronald C. Gorter, & Simin Z. Mohebbi, as well as Mostafa Chegini, Mostafa Chegini, and Hoda Bahramian (2021) All human actions, including learning,

are motivated by motivation, and a lack of drive can have a negative impact on productivity. Senior dental students were surveyed for their level of academic burnout and their level of career drive. ^[5]

Dr. Pauline Ekpang, Dr. Stella Esuabana, and their colleagues (2019) set out to discover whether students' upbringing in Akamkpa, Cross River State, Nigeria, had an impact on their career choices in high school. Accordingly, the investigation was guided by three hypotheses. Various academic sources were examined to find out more about the variables under consideration here. The study used an exposed facto research design. Two hundred (200) students were chosen at random for the study's population. Random sampling was used to make the final selections. In order to collect data, the questionnaire was the primary tool. ^[6]

Both Okwulehie Chiamaka and Maxwell D. Eremie (2019) An investigation of factors influencing the profession choices of high school students in Rivers State, Nigeria, was the focus of the study. More than 1,000 pupils from eight high schools participated in the study. Using a basic random sampling method, 112 students were selected. A descriptive survey method was used in the investigation. "Factors

Affecting Students' Career Choices" was the name of the data gathering instrument (FASCC). The test-retest technique yielded a reliability coefficient of 0.88. Three hypotheses were proposed and tested in this study, two of which were confirmed as true and two of which were not. In order to evaluate the three hypotheses for significance, we used the t-test statistic. ^[7]

Olivia Almario and Ryan Dao (2017) when it comes to course and school preferences, this work used descriptive research methods to gather information. During the second semester of the 2017-2018 academic year, 2,231 grade 12 students at La Consolacion University Philippines (LCUP) were asked to participate in a survey. Results showed that the three most popular majors were accounting, education, and hotel and restaurant management. LCUP, on the other hand, was not the most popular option among respondents. Only three board courses make up more than half of LCUP's most popular offerings. ^[8]

Types of Career Patterns

- **The Stable Career Pattern**

It's a tendency where students move straight into a career after high school or college and stick with it for the rest of their lives.

- **The Convectional Career Pattern**

This pattern depicts a person's progression through the process of deciding on a career. Before settling into a career, a person may try out a number of different ones (defence services, banking, civil services etc.).

- **The Unstable Career Pattern**

Careers are taken up, but the person then moves on to the next one after a while. This trial-stable-trial process is repeated over and over again (dance, music, fashion technology).

- **The Multiple Trail Career Pattern**

Changing jobs so frequently that no single career can be identified as the person's permanent one is known as the "job-hopping" trend.

Need of Career Planning

There have been psychologists for many years who have recognized the need of assessing one's own psychological constitution as well as the influence that others play in influencing one's conduct.

Choosing a career path for today's youngsters is more difficult than ever before, thanks in part to the rapid advancements in science, technology, and the internet age. While a person's abilities, potentials, skills, cognitive structure, interest patterns, value systems, and personality dispositions are taken into account when choosing a vocation, they can achieve their full potential while also feeling highly satisfied. Choosing a career is an important step in an individual's long-term career and social planning, thus one should take it very seriously.

A young person's and their parents' primary concern in adulthood is figuring out what they want to do with their lives, which is understandable given the gravity of the situation. Choosing a career that will lead to a happy and fulfilling life is vital. Planning should take into account the limitations and potentials of the individual's physical capabilities.

Material And Method

Sample

The sample for this study was drawn from



students in their senior year of high school via an online survey. Group I (n= 74) comprised of (n= 193) male participants, and Group II (n= 76) consisted of female participants. There were 119 girls in this group. Students from both private and public schools were included in the study's sample. Data for the sample was drawn from students in both rural and urban locations.

Procedure

The purpose of the research was to look into the job preferences of 193 students who were randomly chosen from a variety of high schools. All students completed the Career Interest Scale. Only students in high school were included in the study. In order to get children to fill out the survey and then participate in an online study to look at their demographic data, such as age, gender, school type, residential setting, and father's occupation, a rapport was built with some of the subjects and teachers. In the course of the research, this demographic data was compiled together with their stated career preferences.

Statistical Analysis

Simple Percentage was used to analyse the data. But in contrast, the most popular career path for males is a career in accountancy (74.34%), advertising management (66.22%), statistician

Result & Discussion

The result of present study has been given below and consecutively discussed.

Sample Characteristics

In terms of gender distribution, 38.34% of the participants were men, while 61.65% of the participants were women. 93.29 percent of the subjects are taught in private schools, whereas just 6.18 percent are taught in public schools. 50.51 percent of the subjects had fathers who worked in business, whereas 37.62 percent had fathers who served in the military. Urban residents made up 93.29% of the subjects, while rural residents made up 6.18%. The same number of students attend private and public schools, whether they are located in urban or rural locations, after examining socio-demographic data is astounding.

Close examination of the (table 1) shows that 79.11 percent of females chose a career in the Arts, Technology & Communication, while males chose a career in the arts and technology with a preference of 64.45 percent.

(66.22%) or some other business-related field where they are more likely to lead, evaluate, and guide the operations of the company than for



females (66.22%).

It has been found that female firms are less successful than their male counterparts due to reasons such as lower initial capital, a lack of prior knowledge, and a lack of past experience.

Mechanical engineering, on the other hand, has a huge gender disparity, with 74.22 percent of men and 47.31 percent of women working in the

sector, indicating that men place a higher value on practical application than do women. The examination of the residential setting shows that students from both urban and rural areas have roughly the same preference in the field of business, management, and administration, which is 75.45 percent rural to 74.33 percent urban.

Table 1- Showing the Comparison of Percentage Distribution of Career Preference Areas Among Rural, Urban and Male, Female of Senior Secondary School Students

Areas	Gender	No (%)	RS	No (%)
A (Arts, A/V Technology and Communication)	Male	48(64.45%)	Rural	5(41.23%)
	Female	95(79.11%)	Urban	81(44.66%)
B (Science, Technology, Engineering and mathematics)	Male	41(54.22%)	Rural	4(33.11%)
	Female	61(51.45%)	Urban	82(45.45%)
C (Law, Public safety, Corrections and security)	Male	33(44.56%)	Rural	5(41.56%)
	Female	74(62.56%)	Urban	86(47.67%)
D (Mechanical Manufacturing)	Male	54(74.22%)	Rural	8(66.56%)
	Female	56(47.31%)	Urban	107(59.23%)
E (Industrial Manufacturing)	Male	42(56.11%)	Rural	5(41.00%)
	Female	36(30.23%)	Urban	73(40.34%)
F (Business, Management and Administration)	Male	55(74.34%)	Rural	9(75.45%)
	Female	79(66.22%)	Urban	134(74.33%)
G (Marketing, Sales and Services)	Male	37(50.09%)	Rural	2(16.16%)
	Female	41(34.44%)	Urban	86(47.12%)
H (Hospitality and Tourism)	Male	42(56.45%)	Rural	6(50.67%)
	Female	78(65.00%)	Urban	109(60.34%)
I (Human Services)	Male	46(62.78%)	Rural	7(58.00%)
	Female	87(73.23%)	Urban	122(67.45%)
J (Government and Public Administration)	Male	37(50.22%)	Rural	6(50.26%)
	Female	70(58.21%)	Urban	85(46.11%)
K (Architecture, Design and Construction)	Male	37(50.45%)	Rural	6(50.34%)
	Female	70(58.45%)	Urban	100(55.00%)
L (Education and Training)	Male	38(51.34%)	Rural	7(58.00%)
	Female	88(73.23%)	Urban	83(45.34%)



M (Finance, banking, Investments, and insurance)	Male	31(41.44%)	Rural	5(41.12%)
	Female	54(45.11%)	Urban	59(32.22%)
N (Health science, care and prevention)	Male	33(44.21%)	Rural	4(33.23%)
	Female	64(53.67%)	Urban	96(53.55%)
O (Information Technology)	Male	53(71.00%)	Rural	8(66.67%)
	Female	77(64.34%)	Urban	113(62.44%)

Data analysis (Table 2) showed that 79% of private school students and 66.66% of government schools were interested in hospitality tourism, which includes jobs such as chef and dinner cook, tour guide, travel agent, and hotel manager; when results are critically examined though (Table 3), the results show that only 53% of private school students and 83.33% of government school students are similarly interested.

According to this data, there is a significant variation in the type of school that students prefer to attend when it comes to their preferred career path in the field of architecture, design, and construction.

From 60.7 percent in private schools to 83.33% in government schools, the percentages in architecture design/construction and education/training are quite wide-ranging.

According to another variable, students who have parents in the service industry prefer education and training more than those who have parents in the business sector, with 84.93% of students in the service sector preferring education and training over 61.22 percent of students from business families, while 75.51% of students from a business family prefer business administration and human services. More than 75.51 percent of students from business families and 76.71 percent of students from service households desire to give back to the community to the same extent.

Table 2- Showing the Comparison of Percentage Distribution of Career Preference Areas Among Service, Businessman and Private, Government Senior Secondary School Students

Areas	Type Of School	No (%)	Father's Occupation	No (%)
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A (Arts, A/V Technology and Communication)	Private	141(77.9)	Business	70(71.42)
	Government	7(58.00)	Service	60(82.19)
B (Science, Technology, Engineering and mathematics)	Private	111(61.3)	Business	66(67.34)
	Government	9(75.00)	Service	57(78.08)
C (Law, Public safety, Corrections and security)	Private	74(40.8)	Business	56(57.14)
	Government	6(50.00)	Service	51(69.86)
D (Mechanical Manufacturing)	Private	97(53.03)	Business	63(64.28)
	Government	10(83.33)	Service	38(52.05)
E (Industrial Manufacturing)	Private	66(36.46)	Business	44(44.89)
	Government	3(25.00)	Service	24(32.87)
F (Business, Management and Administration)	Private	150(82.87)	Business	74(75.51)
	Government	11(91.6)	Service	47(64.38)
G (Marketing, Sales and Services)	Private	96(53.03)	Business	50(51.02)
	Government	10(83.33)	Service	30(41.09)
H (Hospitality and Tourism)	Private	143(79.00)	Business	41(41.83)
	Government	8(66.66)	Service	49(67.12)
I (Human Services)	Private	139(76.79)	Business	74(75.51)
	Government	9(75.00)	Service	56(76.71)
J (Government and Public Administration)	Private	106(58.56)	Business	57(58.16)
	Government	9(75.00)	Service	42(57.53)
K (Architecture, Design and Construction)	Private	110(60.7)	Business	64(65.30)
	Government	10(83.33)	Service	28(38.35)
L (Education and Training)	Private	126(69.61)	Business	60(61.22)
	Government	10(83.33)	Service	62(84.93)
M (Finance, banking, Investments, and insurance)	Private	95(52.48)	Business	57(58.16)
	Government	7(58.33)	Service	35(47.9)
N (Health science, care and prevention)	Private	105(58.01)	Business	56(57.14)
	Government	3(25.00)	Service	44(60.27)
O (Information Technology)	Private	118(65.19)	Business	75(76.53)
	Government	6(50.00)	Service	49(67.12)

Conclusion

Choosing a profession is an essential step for students, and as everyone has different interests

and preferences, their job choice is affected by a variety of circumstances. According to studies, there are differences in profession

preferences based on gender, however the study also found that an individual's place of residence had little impact on career choices. Senior secondary students' employment preferences differ significantly from those of their parents, according to the research. Also, the sort of school (private or public) from which a kid receives education has little bearing on the student's future profession choice.

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