

Career choice of adolescents in relation to sex differences

INDU BANSAL¹, RADHA RANI SAXENA² AND DEEPIKA SHARMA³

¹Professor & Dean and ³Research Scholar

^{1&3}Banasthali University, Banasthali (Rajasthan) India

²Faculty of B.Ed., Gyan Vihar University, Jaipur (Rajasthan) India

ABSTRACT

The aim of the present study is to examine empirically that whether gender work independently in career choice in case of Indian adolescents studying in class 9th and 11th. The two levels of gender, *i.e.* boys and girls were manipulated in the study. Employing the random sampling technique, finally 500 students of class 9th and 11th (256 boys and 244 girls) from different schools of Moradabad city of Uttar Pradesh state to serve as subjects in the present study. All two independent variables were found to be potential enough in gender variance in career choice. Barring few exceptions, the first order interactions were significant whereas the second order interactions were not significant for almost all the components of career choice.

Key Words : Career choice, Adolescents, Sex, Gender variance

INTRODUCTION

In present context the career choice has become very important aspect and topic of key interest for educationists as well as psychologists for their study and researches.

During the period of adolescence, many changes occur that strongly influence the development of career preferences and aspirations. Puberty and emerging sexuality, including a growing interest in heterosexual relationship, irritate an intensification of gender role identity. A greater awareness of their skills and interests become more realistic as the adolescents gain career options and choices. Career preferences are formed early in adolescence and are heavily influenced by gender role socialization for both girls and boys, one of the earliest and thus it is the most powerful forms of socialization. The strength of this socialization basically creates a narrow and gender based range of career options (Mc Mohan and Patton, 1997). Sex-role socialization and opportunity for men/women are deciding factor for career choice (Astin, 1984)

Career Orientation and Career Choice reciprocally predict for each other. Variables ability and agentic Characteristics are important to predict the Career Choice and sex role

attitudes predict Career Orientation (Fassinger, 1990).

Compatibility between parent and youth values, aspirations and plans across gender, race are also important specific career development attitudes and behaviors (Luther, 2000).

Salami (2010) in this study emotional intelligence with career development and the moderating role of gender indicated that emotional intelligence and gender predicted career development and gender moderated the relationship between emotional intelligence and career development.

Soon *et al.* (2015) in a study on relationship between parents, friends and teacher attachment and career maturity for adolescents mediating role of self-efficacy reported that parents and friends attachment, self-efficacy and career maturity showed linear development whereas over four years, teacher attachment showed non-linear development.

As evident from the most of the literature there are pros and cons of career choice. Most of the studies tend to concentrate on why adolescents have problems in career choice. These studies reveal that there are two types of factors: risk factors (that have a negative effect) and protective factors (that exert a positive influence).

Statement of the problem :

Very few studies highlight the importance of support factor in selection of career choice and consequences of career choice. This difference in career choice would not be complete without clarifying these factors which may have an important role in the adjustment of adolescents, and also to prevent further problems in the development and career in later life, against this backdrop this research has been undertaken:

“Career choice of adolescents in relation to sex differences” :

With the objective of studying sex difference in career choice of adolescents. Gender is one of these important factors.

Hypothesis :

– There is no significant difference between the career choice of adolescents boys and girls.

METHODOLOGY

The normative survey method is adopted for the study.

Population and sample :

This study was conducted in sr. secondary schools from Moradabad district of U.P. Multistage random sampling technique was used to selection of sample. Moradabad city was divided in five zones. Twenty five schools (five schools from each zones) were randomly selected. Twenty students from each school were selected for the purpose. The total sample comprised of 500 students (256 boys and 244 girls).

Sampling :

Random sampling used to select the sample.

Nature of data :

Quantitative data was used in this study.

Tools for data collection :

Career preference record (CPR) constructed by Vivek Bhargava and Rajshree Bhargava was used. CPR covers following 10 main areas of vocation interest-

1. Mass Media and Journalism (MMJ)
2. Artistic and Designing (AD)
3. Science and Technology (ScT)
4. Agricultural (AG)
5. Commerce and Management (CM)
6. Medical (M)
7. Defense (D)
8. Tourism and Hospitality Industry (TH)
9. Law and Order (LO)
10. Education (E)

Statistical analysis :

Means, S.D., t-values has been calculated to find out significance of difference between means of two factors.

Delimitations of the study :

- Gov. and private (Only recognized) private schools are selected.
- Navodaya schools are not selected for study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

As evident from the above Table 1, out of 10 t-values calculated from different areas of career preferences. Four t-values are significant for- Artistic and Designing, Defense, Law and Order and Education. All the t-values are not significant at .05 level. Hence it may be

Careers	Boys (N=256)		Girls (N=244)		M.D.	t-test
	Mean	S.D.	Mean	S.D.		
Mass media and journalism	10.18	3.801	9.57	3.703	0.606	1.806
Artistic and designing	10.93	4.308	10.11	4.399	0.823	2.113*
Science and technology (ScT)	9.89	3.950	9.58	4.122	0.309	.854
Agriculture	8.65	3.429	8.14	3.577	0.513	1.636
Commerce and management	9.45	3.324	9.02	3.524	0.429	1.397
Medical	8.97	4.084	8.63	4.084	0.338	0.927
Defense	9.19	3.700	8.09	3.927	1.097	3.212*
Tourism and hospitality industry	9.16	3.677	8.62	4.021	0.541	1.568
Law and order	9.95	3.667	8.87	3.599	1.080	3.324*
Education	10.63	4.097	8.95	4.140	1.678	3.840*

*Significant at .05 level

concluded that for- Mass Media and Journalism, Science and Technology, Agriculture, Commerce and Management, Medical and Tourism and Hospitality Industry, there is no significant difference.

When compared for means of boys and girls in all the factors. Means of boys are higher than girls have indicate that as- Artistic and Designing, Defense, Law and order and Education.

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