

## CAREER CHOICE AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS

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## ABSTRACT

*Career choice of students plays a pivot role in every ones' life and a turning point of youngster's life. Proper career choice decision leads to a person becomes successful human being in his life. Nowadays, many of the problems arising only because of wrong career guidance and choice. The present study helps the college students and parents to choose the right career choice. The factors influencing the career choice the students also analyzed. The primary data has been used to collect information regarding career from 120 students of a particular college. The collected data were analyzed by using simple percentage and Chi-square. the findings reveled that students' career choice was influenced by present educational status, occupation of father and mother, number of earning members in family, being first generation graduate of family have significantly associated with level of career choice preference variables.*

**Keywords:** Career, guidance, career choice, influencing variables

## INTRODUCTION:

According to Arnold (1997:21), a career is a sequence of employment related positions, roles, actions and experiences. A career defines how one sees oneself in the context of one's social environment, in terms of one's future plans, one's past accomplishments or failures and one's present competences and attributes (Raynor & Entin, 1982:262). The average age of India will be just 27 in 2020, which means that the majority of the country will comprise young students and youth. But even now with the clock ticking, the unemployment crisis is raging the country the main reason behind this problem is that there are a huge number of youth passing out from schools and colleges every year, and there are many new career options and job roles being added to various industries in well and a recent survey said that, an

online career-counseling platform, has proved that the majority of Indian students are aware of just several career paths, even though there are 250 career options that can be pursued in India -- most new and in-demand. But they focus only on the certain career path only. They are accounts and finance, medicine, law, management, engineering, computer application and IT.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

**Asma Shahid Kazi** (2017) studied about the "Factors affecting students' career choice" The purpose of this research was to see the factors which affect the choice of career among students. The investigated the influence of several factors such as parental education, profession and income on the career decisions of 432 students from two public sector universities in Lahore city. The sample size is 432 students were selected from two

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public sector universities chosen purposively. Data was collected with the means of a questionnaire. The ANOVA was reveals no significant effect of independent variable such as father's and mother's profession and total household income of the students' career choices. The t-test was conducted to explore the impact of gender on students' career choice, which was founded significant for the category of peer influence (.001) and overall (.015) reasons of career choice by gender.

### **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:**

The background of the study revealed that college students are lacking their career choice decisions. Failure by students to make the right choices may lead to unhappiness and disapproval by society (Maluwa-Banda, 1998:294). It leads to negatives perspectives to the society and to the family. Now a day's college students have no own ideas towards choosing their career and they are not satisfied with the present course. So this study would helpful for college students' to determine their own career path and the factors influencing the career choice among college students.

### **OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

In order to analyze the factors influencing the career choice of students the following objectives has been framed.

- To know the students socio economic profile of the students.
- To measure the influencing factors of present career choice.

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:**

The materials and methods used in the study are explained in the following paragraphs.

#### **Data collection:**

For the purpose of this study primary data has been collected.

#### **Sample size:**

120 samples are collected randomly and information has been gathered through distribution of questionnaires.

### **Tools used:**

For analyzing primary data, statistical tool like simple average, and chi-square analysis have been used.

### **SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY:**

- This research study would help college students to choose their own career path without influence of their parent and teachers.
- This research study would even help teachers to know the mindset of their students so, that accordingly they can provide career counseling programs to each student.

### **LIMITATION:**

- This study restricted to 120 sample questionnaire.
- The students belong to only particular area in Pollachi only.

### **FINDINGS:**

The main objective of the study is to determine the level of college students' preference on career choice. Data collected from 120 students were used for the study questionnaire is divided into 3 parts and third part containing 18 questions is allowed to assess the level of college students preference on choosing their career. 5 point likert scale has been used. Hence the maximum score of each student may touch up to 86. The individual's score of each college students are converted into an index called 'Career Choice Preference index'.

Based on the standard deviation (7) and average (79) the students are grouped into three. College students whose index value is below 72 is treated as college students with low level of preference, college students whose index range between 73 to 85 is treated as college students with medium level of preference and whose index value is above 86 is treated as college students with high level of preference. Chi-square analysis has been implemented to test the association between the selected variables and college students' Career Choice Preference Index.

## DISCUSSION:

Majority of female students (62.5%) are (18-21) years (70.8%) who are doing undergraduate programme (27.5%) residing rural (51.7%) area. They are from English medium (83.3%) of studying. Their father's and mother's are having higher secondary education (60%) and (61.7%) respectively. Majority of them are with nuclear family (76.7%) and fathers are agriculturist (34.2%) and mothers are house wives (55%). Majority of family having (57.5%) 3-5 members with up to two member's earnings (65.8%). Majority of female students are not a first generation graduate (53.3%) and presently studying in private institutions and they are satisfied with the present course study.

From the table it is inferred that the calculated  $\chi^2$  value of educational qualification, occupation of father and mother, number of earning members, first generation graduate of the family are greater than the table value at 10% level. There exist an association between present educational status, occupation of father and mother, number of earning members, first generation graduate of the family and level of preference. The null hypothesis has been rejected.

## CONCLUSION:

This study is for college students in order to choose a right career. But, many students are not able to find their passion or interest and at last they find their career which is not related to their passion and interest. Hence, the career choice must be brought into a clear focus, starting with present educational status, occupation of father and mother, number of earning member, first generation graduate have a significant association with career choice among college students.

## SUGGESTION:

- Parents should realize that their values and expectations influence the career choice to a great extent. In this respect it is recommended that parents should deliberately communicate their expectations to their children without being overly persuasive.

- A strong parent-child relationship is essential in shaping the students career choice. In this regard, it is recommended that parents should take time to discuss different career choice with their children. Whenever necessary, the parents should express satisfaction with the child's decision.

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