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A study of factors affecting the occupational aspiration of students of senior secondary level

Pawan Sharma

Research scholar, School of education, Suresh Gyan Vihar University, Jaipur

Dr. Mahendra Kumar Dhakar

Research Supervisor & Assistant Professor, School of education, Suresh Gyan Vihar University, Jaipur

Abstract---The purpose of present paper is to study the factors affecting the occupational aspiration of students. A descriptive survey method has been used in this study. A total sample of 150 students were selected. The findings of present study revealed that most of the students believe that parents and family, socio-economic status & friends and peer group are major factors which have been affecting the occupational aspiration.

Keywords---Occupational aspiration, Senior Secondary Level, aspiration of students.

Introduction

Education is an essential part in today's modern and technological era. Just as a creature becomes non-existent in the world, similarly an illiterate person becomes non-existent in this modern age. This is to say that education is extremely important for humans. Due to education, man has become aware of his rights and has been able to establish himself more in the society. With all the people educated, there is all-round development of the society and the nation and only a fully educated nation can develop economically. Education has special significance in a person's life. Education changes the standard of living of a person. An educated person, using his intellect, is the carrier of the progress of society and nation. If the education is in the interest of the person, that is he should be provided the same type of education in the field in which he wants to make his future, then he can contribute to the development of the country by doing good work in that area. As a result of science and technical researches, human life has become rich and dynamic on one hand and on the other hand many mental, social and economic problems have also taken birth. Many inconveniences and complications are experienced by secondary level student during their studies. One of them is occupational aspiration.

Generally we use the word aspiration as a synonym for objective, ambition, goals, dreams, desires etc. Aspiration motivates any person to do best in the present and become superior. The aspiration of any person towards occupation is called occupational aspiration. Occupational aspiration is an individual's expressed career related goals or choice and it is also a dream job and an ideal career, which is a person likely to choose. To run life smoothly, every person has to do some work. Not every person gets the work according to his wish. The aspiration of all individuals are different, hence their action also vary. The differences in intellectual and mental levels of individuals are also clearly visible. Life building of a person is influenced by aspiration level of his. We know what we are in the present, but we are not able to ascertain what may happen in the future. What does a person want to be? Who wants to achieve success in this direction? It depends on the aspiration level of that person. This aspiration also determine the goal of the person. The most difficult task for secondary level students is to choose an occupation for their life. Because he is unable to adjust his values, interest, opportunities available for occupation and his abilities. Student's occupational aspiration have a great importance in choosing their occupation. There are three types of occupational aspiration of students. First student whose aspiration level is high, second those students whose occupational aspiration is compatible with their level. Both these types of students recognize their abilities and choose their occupation. Third are students who have low occupational aspiration. If seen in practical terms, when it comes time to choose occupation, then these type of students face the problem of which occupation to choose. They do not have the right knowledge of their abilities. He does not know what kind of work he would like to do or what kind of work he has the ability to do. Such students choose an occupation that does not suit their interest and satisfaction. That is why their occupational development is not possible in future. They face many difficulties. Some factors affect the occupational aspiration of such students.

Related Studies

Lalrintluangi (2019) examined the occupational aspiration level of higher secondary school students of Aizawl District in relation to parental education and gender. This study was tries to find out the impact of parents education on the higher secondary school children aspiration level, and the possible influence of variation in their locality and gender on occupational aspiration. The study reveals that most of the respondents have average occupational aspiration and there is evidence that parental education has positive influence on the youth career preference. There is no significant difference on the basis of the respondent's gender.

Vijayan, Jyothy G (2017) examined the influence of occupational aspiration on the academic achievement of institutionalized adolescent orphans in Kerala. The objective of the study was to determine the relationship between occupational aspiration and academic achievement of institutionalized adolescent orphans in Kerala. Multiple regression analysis indicated that occupational aspiration was related to academic achievement of institutionalized adolescent orphans. A

significant relationship between occupational aspiration and academic achievement of the orphans.

Objective of the Study

- To study the factors affecting the occupational aspiration of students.
- To study the opinion of students towards the factors affecting the occupational aspiration of students.

Research Methodology

A descriptive survey method has been used in present study. The present study has been envisaged on a sample of 150 students of senior secondary level. A self-constructed questionnaire has been used to collect the data.

Finding and Discussion

Objective 1: To study the factors affecting the occupational aspiration of students.

On the basis of opinion of students there are various factors which have been affected their occupational aspiration. In which some major factors are as follows-

1. Parents and family- Parents, family members and family business greatly influence children's occupational aspiration. When Parents have prestigious jobs in the society like principal, judge, police, lawyer, officer, doctor, teacher etc. these are ideal for children. In such a situation the students inspired by his parents, starts to show his interest in the same occupation.
2. School environment- Good and bad experiences gained in school also affect the occupational aspiration of the student. The teachers in the school recognize the interest and abilities of the students and impart vocational education to them and workshop are also organized to give a proper shape to their future. Vocational counselling is also provide to the students in the school. All of these develop an occupational aspiration of students.
3. Social expectations- Social expectations also affect the student's occupational aspiration. Some occupation leave indelible impression on the student's mind. Therefore most of the students choose such occupation in which manual labour is least and there is more opportunity to show wisdom tact. Sometimes, personal interest or more satisfaction or more money gains also affect occupational aspiration.
4. Socio-economic status- Everyone likes to get up and down among people of equal or higher socio-economic status. Every child wants to achieve a higher position in his life and he also strives for it. Hence, the student's aspiration for a more profitable occupation is demonstrated. A student whose socio-economic status is high, his occupational aspiration is according to his skill, interest and ability. Conversely, students of lower socio-economic status do not have the facility, they lack information, due to which the occupational aspiration are also affected.
5. Prestige- The prestige and respect received in any field also affects the occupational aspiration of the students. Students wants to choose a popular occupation with high reputation, but choosing any occupation only affected

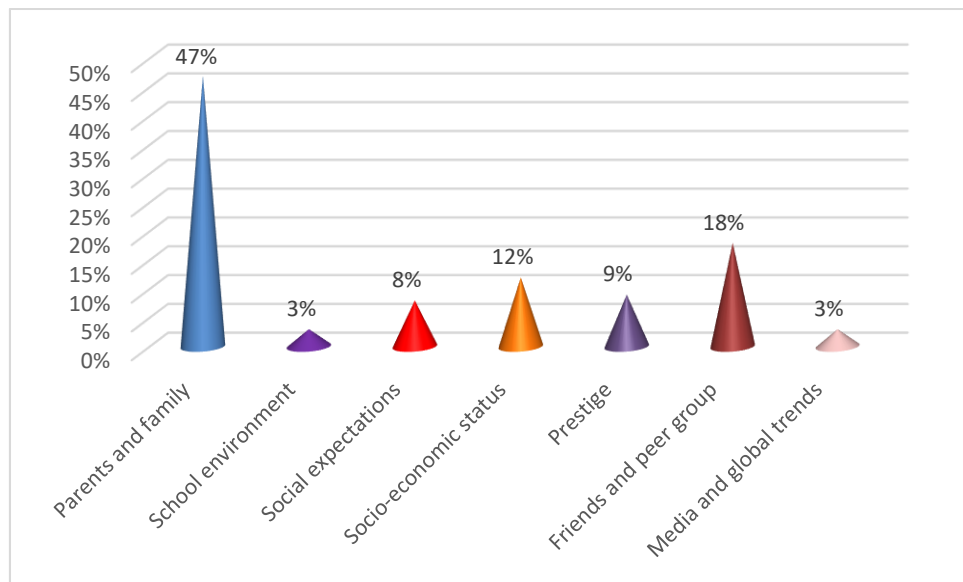
by the upper flare sometimes proves fatal in future. Because it is not necessary for everyone to get a reputation in particular occupation.

6. Friends and peer group- Many times students also show their occupational aspiration on the basis of the aspiration of their friends and peer group. Such students are influenced by other, disregarding their abilities.
7. Media and global trends- In the present time, the importance of media such as television, internet etc. cannot be underestimated in motivating the occupational aspiration of the students. Because of this, the student gets to know about the new occupation emerging in the country and abroad.

Objective 2: To study the opinion of students towards the factors affecting the occupational aspiration of students

S. No.	Factors	Opinion of Students (Percentage) (N= 150)
1	Parents and family	47 %
2	School environment	3 %
3	Social expectations	8 %
4	Socio-economic status	12 %
5	Prestige	9 %
6	Friends and peer group	18 %
7	Media and global trends	3 %

- It is clear from above table out of 150 students, 47 % of students believe that parents and family have an influence on their occupational aspirations.
- Only 3 % of students believe that Social Environment have an influence on their occupational aspirations.
- 8 % of students believe that Social Expectations have an influence on their occupational aspirations.
- 12 % of students believe that Socio-economic status have an influence on their occupational aspirations.
- 9 % of students believe that Prestige have an influence on their occupational aspirations.
- 18 % of students believe that Friends and Peer group have an influence on their occupational aspirations.
- Only 3 % of students believe that Media and global trends have an influence on their occupational aspirations.



According to above discussion it is clear that most of the students believe that parents and family, socio-economic status & friends and peer group are major factors which have been affecting the occupational aspiration.

Conclusion

Thus many factors affect the occupational aspiration of the secondary level students. The occupational aspiration of the student should be in according with his interest, skills and abilities. Parents, teachers, elder siblings and the school should help them to provide the right direction to the aspiration of the students. They should be informed about the employment opportunities and availability so that in future they can choose the right occupation according to their ability and can develop themselves and the country properly.

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