



**STUDY OF EDUCATIONAL CHOICES OF XI CLASS STUDENTS AS A
DETERMINANT OF THEIR VOCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT.**

Meenakshi Bhargava

Research Scholar, B.U. Bhopal

Abstract

Development of a human being depends upon surroundings in which he is nurtured. Environment forms base of personality and plays a major role in framing perceptions and actions of a person. Education also depends on the environment and its interpretation by the individual. Vocational Environment is a combination of many factors and aspects, which influences an individual's academic performances. An individual always learns from his/her past experience, which he has seen around, his surroundings, and consequently he forms a concept about things and matter. Thinking and conceptualization is affected by environment of the individual so the present study attempts to know the vocational environment of students of different streams and its relation with educational choices. For collection of data standardized tool (VES) is used and mean, S.D. and t-scores are calculated to analyze the data.

Introduction

Education is one of the major means available to a civilized society for improving and developing its members. Education and teacher is responsible for shaping mind and environment of an individual. The environment being a suitable one creates a perfect personality and a fruitful member of society. One way of becoming a productive member of the society for an individual is through self-realization. The major avenue for self-realization is through one's work, which can be fulfilled by selecting a suitable occupation. So selection of a right job is a significant process for every individual. The choice of an individual depends on numerous variables-educational, social and personnel. These variables play on vital role in the making of educational choices. Vocational choice is now considered to be one aspect of vocational development. It is

more a process than an event. Vocational development of a child depends on many factors. Two categories of factors can be thought of factual and perceptual. Factual factors mostly refer to the physical reality, as it exists, whereas perceptual factors relate to the favorable or unfavorable perception of the same environment by an individual.

There are various factors, which are responsible for vocational development and making of vocational environment. The environmental factors are provided by the external reality conditions. These environmental variables are the products of many specific sub-environment that are likely to be related to the growth of the individual person in many aspects such as educational, social, emotional, intellectual and vocational. Hence to study and reveal the base of educational and occupational choices of students and a deep analysis of their vocational environment is necessary.

Need of the Study

An individual's personality and his mental set up reflects his life style and background. All the decisional choices an individual makes are the consequences of his basic environment. To know the all aspects a person's developmental processes we must learn about the influence of various types of environment on the growth and development. In order to know how and why an individual forms his assumptions and makes the educational professional choice we have to study the environmental factors influencing him.

To make all realize the importance of environment and its influxes we have study the vocational environment and explore the formation of thoughts and conditions, which influence educational choices. This study will be useful in suggesting possible techniques for improving school motivation and developing realistic occupational aspirations.

There must be some link between educational choices and occupational planning so that an individual can reach his/her destination in an appropriate manner .It is environment which forms the basis of education and frames the perception about the choices.

Operational Definitions

Educational Choices: Traditionally 'Choice' is a decision, which the individual makes at a given moment in time. It is a basic assumption of all but one of the theories of vocational choice that individual systematically chooses the curriculum or occupation he intends to enter. Educational choices are operationally defined as the elective subject groups which the boys and girls have taken up in their eleventh class of higher secondary schools.

Vocational Environment: Vocational Environment is a complex structure said to be composed of all specific environmental factors responsible for one's vocational development and decisions for the purpose of this study all the aspects of environment related to the vocational development of the individual may be called vocational environment.

Review of Related Literature

Grewal J.S.(1980) conducted a research considering the relationship of the vocational environment to educational choice and vocational preference of eleventh class students .Impact of environment intelligence and social interaction on mental state of students were studied and analyzed as factors of vocational development.

Mehta(1960) conducted a study on employment pattern survey of the Alumni of Delhi University. The main findings were that about 30 percent entered a career without developing any aim.

Objectives

To study the relationship between the nature of Educational choices and the index of vocational environment.

To study the difference in perception of vocational environment in boys and girls.

To study the difference in perception of vocational environment in science and arts students.

To study the difference in respect of the perception of vocational environment due to the occupational areas of choices.

Hypothesis

There is no significant difference between the indexes of vocational environment of students of different educational choice areas.

There is no significant difference in perception of vocational environment of boys and girls of different educational choice areas.

There is no significant difference between perception of vocational environment of science and arts students.

There is no significant difference between perceptions of vocational environment due to preferred educational choice areas.

Methodology

Sample: Students of eleventh class from 4 CBSE schools were taken as the sample of the study.

Variable: Vocational Environment is considered as independent variable and Educational choice is dependent variable.

Tools: Vocational Environment Scale

Data analysis: The data was analyzed through mean, S.D. and t-scores.

Table : 1. Composite Index of Vocational Environment

Category of Subjects	N	Σfx	Σfd^2	M	S.D.
Science Boys	25	1915	4396.84	76.6	13.26
Science Girls	25	1845	3492.28	73.8	11.8
Arts Boys	25	1814	5079.1	73.64	14.25
Arts Girls	25	1845	6876.8	73.8	16.03

Table : 2. Table for Comparison with t-scores. Difference in Perceptions of the Vocational Environment

Category of Subjects	N	Mean (IVE) in %	S.D.	T-value
Science Boys	25	76.6	13.6	
Arts Boys	25	73.64	14.25	0.75
Science Girls	25	73.8	11.8	
Arts Girls	25	73.8	16.6	4.07
Science Boys	25	76.6	13.6	
Science Girls	25	73.8	11.8	3.59
Arts Boys	25	73.64	14.25	
Arts Girls	25	73.8	16.6	4.37

Analysis and Findings

Objective 1 To study the relationship between the nature of Educational choices and the index of vocational environment. The fact that the students studying science differ significantly arts in the perception of vocational environment is not supported in the study as there is slight difference in composite index of Vocational Environment of students. So we can infer that there is a not significant relationship between educational choices and vocational environment.

Objective 2 To study the difference in perception of vocational environment in boys and girls. It is clear from the comparison table that perception of boys differs very much from the perception of girls. Hence there is significant difference in vocational environment of boys and girls.

Objective 3 To study the difference in perception of vocational environment in science and arts students. The choices and vocational environment of science students and arts students differ very much and this thought is supported by the results of the comparison as shown in the table.

Objective 4 To study the difference in respect of the perception of vocational environment due to the occupational areas of choices. The concept of vocational environment is framed on the basis of areas selected by the student. The results in the table number one show that there is difference in the perception due to influence of their educational choice areas.

Conclusion

The present study indicates strong relationship between the two variables. The vocational environment and educational choices are interrelated to each other and influence each other naturally. As it is clear from the analysis of table that students from different streams differ in composite vocational environment index, which shows that educational choices influence and depicts perception of vocational environment. Educational environment hence influences intellectual and academic efficiency of an individual. Students need proper guidance and direction to utilize their potential in the suitable area.

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