

**STUDY OF CRITERIA FOR SUBJECTS SELECTION BY THE ELEVENTH  
GRADERS STUDENTS OF STATEBOARD SCHOOLS OF BILASPUR DISTRICT**

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**Abstract**

Everyone has to make choices at different stages in their life. Some of the most crucial relate to their education, in particular what combination of subjects they decide to take for higher-level study. For most young people such choices take place between the ages of 14 and 18. There is a need to guide the adolescents in planning career and making mature decisions. Both family and the school hold the responsibility of assisting the students in making competent career decisions that they are appropriate to their abilities, aptitudes, interests and other personal characteristics. In planning the career, educational aspiration of adolescents is of paramount importance, one cannot ignore this aspect while opting for a career and hence to develop career maturity among adolescents is of great concern. An insight into the possible factors underlying career maturity would suggest the guidelines for planning various activities for the students. It may also help the teachers, parents and guidance workers for developing desirable attitude in children. Subject choice is an important event of present education system. How does a student decide his subjects? Does he give importance to his individuality? The present study throws a light on these factors and criteria.

**Keywords:** Criteria for Subjects selection, Eleventh Graders Students, School Boards



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**INTRODUCTION**

Everyone has to make choices at different stages in their life. Some of the most crucial relate to their education, in particular what combination of subjects they decide to take for higher-level study. For most young people such choices take place between the ages of 14 and 18. In Indian education system they are likely to be asked to make selections at 16, when they decide which courses they are to pursue, at 16 when they select their post-16 studies and then at 18 in deciding on higher or further education programme or their chosen area of employment. Education, Education System, Individuality, Family, Social and economic factors play important role in subject choice purpose of a student.

## **FACTOR INFLUENCE SUBJECT CHOICE**

The factors that have been considered to influence subject choice are listed below

- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Ability
- Socioeconomic status
- School/college size
- School type (single-sex/co-educational)
- School type (independent/local authority)
- School type (religious denomination)
- Geographical setting
- Qualifications of teaching staff
- Performance of school/college
- School status (degree of autonomy of school management)
- Gender ratio of staff
- Urban city

## **NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

At the time of entry into senior secondary stage, which is a stage of diversity of curriculum the adolescent has to select particular stream of studies: science, commerce, arts or vocational subjects. There is a need to guide the adolescents in planning career and making mature decisions. Both family and the school hold the responsibility of assisting the students in making competent career decisions that they are appropriate to their abilities, aptitudes, interests and other personal characteristics. Students should have multiple entry and exit options in the vocational educational stream (National Knowledge Commission, 2008). In planning the career, educational aspiration of adolescents is of paramount importance, one cannot ignore this aspect while opting for a career and hence to develop career maturity among adolescents is of great concern. An insight into the possible factors underlying career maturity would suggest the guidelines for planning various activities for the students. It may also help the teachers, parents and guidance workers for developing desirable attitude in children. Subject choice is an important an important event of present education system. How does a student decide his subjects? Does he give importance to his individuality? So, there felt a need to conduct study, which throws a light on these factors and criteria.

## **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

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### **OBJECTIVES**

- To study the criteria related to social economic status (SES) in subject selection.
- To study the criteria related to personal in subject selection.
- To study the criteria related to educational in subject selection.
- To study the criteria related to others in subject selection.

### **ASSUMPTION**

In consistent with objective following assumption were formed by the researcher-

- Personal criteria are dominant criteria in making a choice of subject.
- Educational criteria are prime base in making a choice of subject.
- Socio economic status is widely expected criteria in making a choice of a subject.
- There are many others criteria in making a choice of a subject.

### **DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

The present study was confined to the following:

1. The present study was delimited to 100 student boys and girls who studied in Government Secondary Schools of Bilaspur District only.
2. The present study was delimited to student boys and girls of eleventh grade studied in Government Secondary Schools in Bilaspur District.

### **POPULATION**

For this study the eleventh graders students studying in different Government schools of Bilaspur, were selected as a population.

### **SAMPLE OF THE STUDY**

As the present study was a survey type research, random sampling method was adopted to draw the sample from the population. Sample for proposed study was considered about 100 eleventh graders students boys and girls of different government schools. The schools were selected by random sampling technique. Also, samples were selected from the interviewed students by random sampling method..

### **TOOL**

For the present study the researcher used self-prepare tool to measure subject's choice criteria of eleventh graders students. The test items were designed on 4 different dimensions of subject's choice i.e., criteria. The criteria of subjects choice were personal factors,

educational factors, socio-economical and others factors. The tool consists of 20 items which were based on above factors on which child have to select the most appropriate answer according to their choice criteria for subject selection. The items of the tool were of multiple choices in nature. The responses were scored according to the scoring key developed by the researcher. In the last the percentage of each criteria were calculated to define objectives.

### **DATA ANALYSIS TECHNIQUE**

Data were analyzed with the help of percentage.

### **FINDINGS**

After data analysis findings reveals that, on the overall basis the major criterion in subject selection among eleventh graders happens to be the personal factor which comes about (29%) followed by social economic status (25%) then educational factors (24%) and lastly others which amount to (22%). This further proves that when it comes to subject selection the students take into account their personal preferences over all other criterions they give additional weightage to their own choices, the second dominant criterion is found to be of social economic status which further proves that it is their social and economic conditions which comes in the way of choosing any subject, further, we can say if the social and economic conditions permit they may go for any subject. The third preferred criterion is of educational factors in which items pertaining to good marks and better availability of academic staff were there, data shows that only 24% students preferred these factors for subject selection which further proves and it seems to be rather contrary to the set belief that marks and availability of good staff is hardly a matter of concern to the students. The least preferred criterion according to the findings is the others in which items related to guiding, advising etc were kept since the percentage amounts to the least among all it further shows that students don't give much attention to anybody's guidance or if they are told by others to choose on a subject, they decide the choices on their own.

### **EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

Normally it is seen that a lot depends on a subject selection if a student chooses a subject which is as per his/her choice he may achieve better in comparison to a subject which is imposed on him by others. Moreover education is all about drawing out the best in a child or developing his/her talents to the maximum capacity. This is possible only when he is given the liberty to choose a subject of his interest. Moreover the result of the present investigation further proves that students give maximum weightage to their own personal criterion when it comes to selecting a subject. This implies that students should be nurtured and guided in such a way that they can take good decisions about their subject choices. They should be

counseled right from the initial years in such a way so that they can clearly identify their strengths and can take decisions accordingly.

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