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A STUDY ON CAREER DCISION MAKING AND SOCIAL MATURITY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

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Abstract:- The present study is on career decision making and social maturity of graduate students. Career decision making is a decision that the individual makes at a given moment in time. Social maturity is the process of appropriate attitudes for personal, interpersonal and social adequacies of an individual which are essential for functioning effectively in the society. This study was conducted in Karur district of Tamil Nadu and survey method was employed. 692 students were selected by adopting simple random sampling technique as sample, in which 228 were boys and 464 were girls, 280 students from arts and 412 students from science subject, 375 students from rural and 31 students from urban colleges. The investigator has found that the career decision making of graduate students is moderate level. Social maturity of graduate students is moderately mature. Also it reveals that there is no significant correlation exists between career decision making and social maturity.

Keywords: Career decision making, social maturity, graduate students, 't' test, 'F' test, Pearson's product moment coefficient.

INTRODUCTION:

Careers are a major component of modern life. In today's highly competitive environment, life revolves around work which provides people a sense of purpose, challenges, self-fulfilment, status and money. Of all the judgements that one makes in life, none is more important than seeking and selecting a career. One's decision of career has to be based on good and realistic decisions, made at a proper age. If done so, then the rest of life sails smoothly providing personal gratification, contentment and fulfilment of life. Only such persons who are able to pursue a career of their own decision according to their capabilities, abilities, potentials and propensities.

The decision he made determine the course of his life, it affects the social status, income, the style of living and friends he keeps. The nature of making career decision is influenced by several factors such as family environment, mental ability, social maturity, personality, economic, political and industrial policies of the country etc. Social maturity increases as age increases for normal human beings. They learn to be in a group, share and care for others, respect the norms and values of the society. The present curriculum does not have adequate scope for developing such qualities. It is only cognition-oriented. Therefore children do not know how to behave properly with their elders, family members and neighbourhood etc. The true education largely depends upon the minds of the learners with endless powers. If a person have well socially mature he had a potential to make decision about their career. Therefore the investigator aims to investigate career decision making and social maturity of graduate students in Karur district.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

G. Krishna, G. Visvanathan., (2014), aimed to investigate the self perception and career preference of the higher secondary students in Tamil Nadu. The findings of the study revealed that the higher secondary students have an average level of career preference in ten vocational fields. Also it is found that the higher secondary students in general have given first preference to education field and least preference to artistic and designing.

Ramalingam. P & Mani P., (2009), investigated the social maturity of elementary pupil teachers. From the results it was found that the social maturity of elementary pupil teachers were high and also there is a significant difference between the (i) male and female elementary pupil teachers, (ii) elementary pupil teachers from the religion of Hindu and Christian, (iii)

elementary pupil teachers from the religion of Muslim and Christian, (iv) elementary pupil teachers from backward community and most backward community, (v) elementary pupil teachers from joint family and nuclear family. Moreover, they found that there is no significant difference between the (i) elementary pupil teachers from the religion Hindu and Muslim, (ii) elementary pupil teachers from other community and most backward community, (iii) elementary pupil teachers from the other community and scheduled caste / scheduled tribe and (iv) elementary pupil teachers from most backward community and scheduled caste / scheduled tribe.

OBJECTIVES

1. To find out the level of career decision making and social maturity of graduate students.
2. To infer the difference, if any, in career decision making and social maturity scores between boys and girls, students of arts and science subject and students of rural and urban college.
3. To find out the significant relationship between career decision making and social maturity of graduate students.

HYPOTHESES

1. The level of career decision making of graduate students is high.
2. The level of social maturity of graduate students is high.
3. There is no significant difference between boys and girls, arts and science subject students and rural and urban college students in their mean career decision making scores.
4. There is no significant difference between boys and girls, arts and science subject students and rural and urban college students in their mean social maturity scores.
5. There is no significant relationship between career decision making and social maturity of graduate students.

METHODOLOGY

SAMPLE

The study was conducted in Karur district of Tamil Nadu and survey method was employed. The sample was divided into different categories on the basis of gender and subject and location of college. From 8 colleges 692 samples were selected. Out of these 692, 228 were boys and 464 were girls, 280 students belonging to arts subject and 412 students belonging to science subject, 375 students from rural and 317 students from urban colleges, were selected by simple random sampling technique.

TOOLS

Career decision making scale constructed and validated by the investigator was used in the present investigation. It consists of 14 statements with ten alternatives. The total score is the sum of the scores for each of the 14 questions. An individual's score for the whole scale ranges from 0 to 126. High score indicates high career decision making. Social maturity scale was constructed and standardized by Nalini Rao (1971) was used for the present study to measure social maturity of graduate students. The questionnaire consists of 90 statements. The scores ranged from 0 to 4 per item. The score range is 90-360. Higher score indicates socially mature.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUE

For analysing data, mean and standard deviation, 't' test, and Pearson product moment correlation were computed.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS

Mean and standard deviation for career decision making and social maturity of whole sample were analysed and the details are given in Table 1

Table 1
Mean and standard deviation for career decision making and social maturity of whole sample

| S.No | Group | Variable | M | SD |
|------|------------------------|------------------------|--------|-------|
| 1. | Entire sample (692) | Career decision making | 82.46 | 15.21 |
| 2. | | Social maturity | 242.45 | 23.14 |

From the Table 1 it is found that career decision making mean score of graduate students is 82.46 and standard deviation is 15.21, which indicates moderate level of career decision making. Social maturity mean score of graduate students is 242.45 and standard deviation is 23.14, which shows graduate students have obtained socially moderate mature.

DIFFERENTIAL ANALYSIS

In order to find out the significant difference between the career decision making scores of boys and girls, arts and science, rural and urban college students, 't' test was applied and the results are given in Table 2

Table 2
't' Value for the Career Decision Making Mean Score of Boys and Girls, Arts and Science Rural and Urban College Students

| Sub variable | N | M | SD | t-value | Level of significance |
|--------------|-----|-------|-------|---------|-----------------------|
| Boys | 228 | 77.79 | 17.09 | 5.785 | S at 0.01 |
| Girls | 464 | 84.75 | 13.65 | | |
| Arts | 280 | 84.56 | 14.07 | 3.023 | S at 0.01 |
| Science | 412 | 81.02 | 15.80 | | |
| Rural | 375 | 82.37 | 15.10 | 0.159 | Ns at 0.05 |
| Urban | 317 | 82.56 | 15.36 | | |

It is evident from table 2 that boys and girls graduate students differ significantly in their career decision making scores.

It is clear from Table 2 that arts and science graduate students differ significantly in their career decision making scores.

It is also clear from table 2 that rural and urban college students do not differ significantly in their career decision making scores.

To find out the significant difference between the social maturity scores of boys and girls, arts and science, rural and urban college students, 't' test was computed and the details are given in Table 3

Table 3
't' Value for the Social Maturity Mean Score of Boys and Girls, Arts and science, Rural and Urban College Students

| Variables | N | M | SD | t-value | Level of significance |
|-----------|-----|--------|-------|---------|-----------------------|
| Boys | 228 | 243.25 | 21.86 | 0.478 | NS at 0.05 |
| Girls | 464 | 242.16 | 23.76 | | |
| Arts | 280 | 244.71 | 25.63 | 2.125 | S at 0.05 |
| Science | 412 | 240.92 | 21.18 | | |
| Rural | 375 | 241.73 | 24.58 | 0.895 | Ns at 0.05 |
| Urban | 317 | 243.31 | 21.32 | | |

Table 3 indicates that boys and girls do not differ significantly in their social maturity scores. Table 3 indicates that arts and science students differ significantly in their social maturity scores.

Table 3 also indicates that rural and urban college students do not differ significantly in their social maturity scores.

CORRELATION ANALYSIS

Career decision making and social maturity of graduate students were correlated and the results are presented in Table 4

Table 4
Correlation Co-Efficient for Pro-social Behaviour and Stress Perception

| Variables | r- value | Report |
|------------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| Career decision making | 0.029 | Not Significant at 0.05 |
| Social maturity | | |

Table 4 revealed that there is no significant correlation exists between career decision making and social maturity of graduate students.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. Career decision making of graduate students is moderate.
2. Social maturity of graduate students is moderately mature.
3. Boys and girls differ significantly in their mean career decision making score.
4. Arts and science subject students differ significantly in their mean career decision making score.
5. Rural and urban college students do not differ significantly in their mean career decision making scores.
6. Boys and girls do not differ significantly in their mean social maturity scores.
7. Arts and science subject students differ significantly in their mean social maturity scores.
8. Rural and urban college students do not differ significantly in their mean social maturity scores.
9. There is no significant relationship between career decision making and social maturity of graduate students.

CONCLUSION

It is clear from this investigation that the career decision making of graduate students is moderate level. Social maturity of graduate students is moderately mature. Also it reveals that there is no significant correlation exists between career decision making and social maturity of graduate students. Graduate students to make suitable decision about their career each colleges may be established career guidance cell with generalized career counsellor. Teachers should motivate the students towards various career awareness. Parents must provide a suitable environment to become a socially mature for their children. Co-curricular activities such as tours etc; give students opportunities to understand each other and improve the social maturity

of the college students.

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