



VOCATIONAL INTEREST AMONG HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

**H. U. Sivashanmuganathan And **Dr. R. Diane Joseph*

**Assistant Professor, Venkateswara College of education, Puducherry*

***Principal, Venkateswara College of education, Puducherry*

Abstract :

Vocational interest is pertaining to the interest of the students towards the choice of field. It is related to the interest towards the work. Interest towards work will increase the aptitude and future performance of students towards job.

In the present article an empirical study has been made to find out the level of vocational interest and the influence of the personal variables like gender and standard of study over the research variable namely vocational interest. Findings reveal that vocational interest among higher secondary school students is average and the personal variables namely gender and standard of study doesn't influence the vocational interest of the higher secondary school students.

Keywords: *Vocational Interest, Gender, Standard of study.*

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Introduction :

For the development and maturation of behaviour, vocational development is a necessary condition, (Crites 1969). The changes which take place in the choice behaviour over time must be orderly and patterned for development to occur (Sharma 1977). The changes must be inter-related and helpful to an end-product and they must proceed in certain sequence and according to established principles. As an aspect of the development process, vocational development has also a definite form and content.

The behaviour stock /collection is increased and modified through mastery of the successive development tasks faced by an individual. The changes that occur in the behavioural repertoire and descriptive of the process of development are process of interaction, compromise or synthesis. According to Super et. al. (1957) The dynamics of the process may viewed as follows : (i) the individual is faced with new task of vocational development; (ii) he brings to bear upon that task as per his potential and his repertoire of behaviour; (iii) he has some degree of success or failure in handling the task; (iv) he uses his learning to add or to modify his existing repertoire. In this way, the behavioural repertoire is modified or expanded. Many repetitions of this sequence throughout the life span represent the process of vocational development.



Vocational Interest :

Super (1950) classified interests into expressed, manifest, tested and inventoried. Expressed Interest is the verbal expression of interests. Manifest Interest is participation in an activity, task or occupation. Tested Interest refers to interests as measured by objective tests. Inventoried Interests are assessed by means of questionnaire or inventories, etc.

Each occupation requires its own particular pattern of abilities and interests. Development of interest through certain distinct ages of (i) growth, (ii) exploration, (iii) establishment, (iv) maintenance and (v) decline. An individuals' career is determined by factors such as ability, opportunity and socio - economic level etc.”

Vocational interest is defined as one's own pattern of preferences, aptitudes, likes and dislikes preferred in any manner wisely or unwisely for a given vocational area. Vocational interests are similar to preferences expect that they are usually more realistic.

Need and Significance of the Study :

Students at the higher secondary stage are a very crucial age. It is the age wherein they are prepared for the future vocations. A clear understanding of what they are good at and what aptitude they really possess is very important. The future of the students lies in the way their natural interests are explored and accordingly the skills are developed. Keeping this in view, the present study aims to find out the vocational interest of higher secondary students. The researcher tries to explore the influence of background variables like: gender and standard, over the vocational interest of higher secondary school students.

Objectives of the Study :

The following are the objectives of the present study

1. To find out the level of vocational interest among higher secondary school students.
2. To find out the mean difference among male and female higher secondary school students in their vocational interest.
3. To find out the significant mean difference among 11th and 12th students in their vocational interest.

Hypotheses of the Study :

The following are the hypotheses of the study:

1. The level of vocational interest among higher secondary school students is high.
2. There is no significant mean difference among male and female higher secondary school students in their vocational interest.
3. There is no significant mean difference among 11th and 12th students in their vocational interest.
4. There is no significant mean difference among different mothers education of students in vocational interest.

Tools used in the Study :

The following are the details of the tools used in the present study:



Vocational interest schedule :

Based on the type of sample and the relevance of study the following tools were used in the present investigation. For assessing the variable vocational interest, Vocational interest scale by Prof. V. P. Bansal and Prof. D. N. Srivastava was employed. This tool measures the vocational interest of the subjects in the following areas namely: agriculture, Artist, Commercial, Executive, House Hold, Literacy, Scientific and Social

Sample : Random sampling method is employed and a sample of 250 higher secondary school students constituted the sample of the present study.

Analysis and Interpretation :

Table 1 : Showing Mean and Standard deviation of vocational interest

Variables	N	Max. Scores	Whole sample	
			Mean	S.D
Vocational interest	250	120	63.60	11.19

From the table 1 is found that the mean value of vocational interest is 63.60 and hence the selected sample of higher secondary first year student exhibits average vocational interest.

Table 2 : Showing Mean and Standard deviation of vocational interest with respect to the background variables

Personal variables	Category	N	%	Vocational interest		T test	Significance at 0.05
				Mean	S.D		
Gender	Male	164	65.60	63.66	12.74	1.066	Not significance
	Female	86	34.40	63.48	10.34		
Standard	11 th	63	25.20	63.71	9.90	.874	Not significance
	12 th	187	74.80	63.56	12.61		

From the table 2 it is found that the male and female students don't slightly differ in their mean. 11th and 12th students do not differ much in their mean value.

Findings of the Study :

1. The level of vocational interest among higher secondary school students is average.
2. There is no significant mean difference among male and female higher secondary school students in their vocational interest.
3. There is no significant mean difference among 11th and 12th students in their vocational interest.

Recommendations of the Study :

Following are the recommendations of the present study:



1. Career counseling must be conducted in school once in a year.
2. Students must be checked for their vocational interest at the stage of completing their higher secondary and accordingly they must be guided to chose a particular filed.
3. Inputs on career fair must be conducted in school to give awareness on the different types of jobs available in the market.
4. Vocational guidance and counseling must be practiced in the school.

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