



RESEARCH ARTICLE

A STUDY OF VOCATIONAL INTEREST OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH REGARD TO THEIR GENDER AND LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ASPIRATION

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ABSTRACT

India has huge population within its boundaries which will create more vocational problem than before. There are many examples of the persons doing jobs below their qualities, abilities, interest and aspirations. Everywhere we see the rush of unemployed persons but the other side of the coin is that there are many such vocations which are vacant for the eligible candidates. So it is very necessary that the interest of the person should be judged since the beginning stage of life. So the researcher tries to make an attempt to study the vocational interest with regard to gender and level of educational aspiration of secondary school students. Result of the study revealed that two groups of secondary level students namely boys group and girls group are found significantly difference on their vocational interest. On educational aspiration dimension students having average level of educational aspiration were not significantly different from the students having high level and low level of educational aspiration while the student having low level of educational aspiration were significantly different from the student having high level of educational aspiration.

INTRODUCTION

Education is the key to national prosperity and welfare (Ishrat, 2015). Modern societies cannot achieve their aims regarding economic growth and higher cultural standards, without making the effective and maximum use of the talents of their citizens. Jahan (1993) argued it is necessary that education should be provided according to the ability capability, and interest of the students. Therefore, our school or colleges should offer a diversity of educational programs suited to the varying aptitudes, interest and talents of the students. In this world there is lot of diversity in the imagination, likes dislikes, and thinking pattern of all human being about the particular thing so it is possible that different people have different views and choices about choosing their vocation. Sharma (2012) argued that vocation become much more than a mere means of producing necessities, comforts and luxuries. Different people hope for different vocation in accordance with their interests, aptitudes, values and level of aspiration (Singh, 2014). In other word several factors affect the vocational interest of the person such as intelligence, socio economic status level of aspiration etc. So, it is very much necessary that at early stage of his cognitive development, the vocational interest should be observed or tested for certifying wants to work. In this way the problem of suitable job can be reduced within the range of students' ability, vocation by own choice and accordance his level of aspiration in this way the students may be made able to hit at the eye of the fish.

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Objectives of the Study

The present study has been designed to realize the following objectives:

- To compare the vocational interest of Boys and Girls students of secondary level.
- To compare the vocational interest of secondary level students having Low and High level of educational aspiration.
- To compare the vocational interest of secondary level students having Average and Low level of educational aspiration.
- To compare the vocational interest of secondary level students having Average and High level of educational aspiration.

Hypotheses of the Study: To achieve the above discussed objectives the following hypotheses have been formulated:

- There is no significant difference between the vocational interest of Boys and Girls students of secondary level.
- There is no significant difference between the vocational interest of secondary level students having Low and High level of educational aspiration.
- There is no significant difference between the vocational interest of secondary level students having Average and Low level of educational aspiration.
- There is no significant difference between the vocational interest of secondary level students of Average and High level of educational aspiration.

METHOD OF THE STUDY

For the conduct of the present study “A study of vocational interest of secondary school students with regard to their gender and level of educational aspiration.” the investigator had selected normative survey method.

Population for the study: The population for the present study constitutes all the students studying at secondary level in Bijnore District.

Sampling: In the present study a representative sample of 100 students studying at secondary level was randomly selected. The randomization was exercised at two levels. First, at the level of selecting representative schools and the other level is when selecting subjects for the study. First of all a list of total Inter Colleges affiliated to U.P. Board in Bijnore city was prepared. It was decided to take 2 schools from all, thinking that these schools will be able to provide the representative sample and lottery method was used for selecting schools. As there were 2 schools and from each school 50 students (25 Boys and 25 Girls) were selected through systematic random sampling technique.

Variables used in the study: The study was titled as “A study of vocational interest of secondary school students with regard to their gender and level of educational aspiration.” Obviously the following variables are involved in it-

- Vocational Interest
- Level of Educational Aspiration

Data Gathering Instruments

For the purpose of collection of data related to the present study, the following tools were employed.

- (A) Vocational Interest Record developed by Dr. S. P. Kulshrestha.
- (B) Level of Educational Aspiration Test developed by Dr. Yasmin Ghani Khan.

Statistical Techniques used in the study: The Mean, Standard Deviation (S.D.) and ‘t’ test was used to analysis the whole data. It has been used to analysis the data that allows the investigator to compare two means to determine probability that the difference between the means is real difference rather than a chance difference.

Interpretation and Discussion of Result: The data is being analyzed and interpreted in the light of set hypotheses.

Hypothesis-1 States that there is no significant difference between the vocational interest of Boys and Girls students of secondary level.

Table 1.

Vocational interest area	Male		Female		Calculated ‘t’ value
	Mean	S.D.	Mean	S.D.	
Literary	7.40	3.77	8.1	4.57	.32
Scientific	11.36	4.5	8.7	4.10	3.47**
Executive	11.46	4.38	10.1	4.82	4.71**
Commercial	8.3	3.68	7.1	4.27	1.41
Constructive	5.96	3.64	6	4.40	.26
Artistic	8.6	3.89	9.7	5.43	3.90**
Agricultural	7.83	3.80	6.4	4.64	1.97
Persuasive	9.93	3.48	9.6	4.26	.35
Social	11.4	3.67	9.7	4.39	2.11***
Household	8.5	4.05	9.1	4.71	1.59

** Significant at 0.01 level of significance
 ** Significant at 0.05 level off significance
 All others were not significant at 0.05 level

Discussion

The above analysis in the table no.1 indicates that two groups of secondary level students namely boys group and girls group are found significantly difference on their vocational interest. If we analyze dimensions vise the result show that girls and boys students of secondary level are significantly different on scientific, executive and artistic vocational area only and girls and boys students of secondary level have same vocational interest on the other studied vocational areas like literary, constructive etc. The reason for this can be the girls and boys students of secondary level have different opportunities to select their education for the future career. Singh (2014) found in his study that the boys of secondary level were slightly more interested in scientific and executive vocational fields, while the girls of secondary level were slightly interested in literary, commercial and artistic vocational fields.

Hypothesis-2 States that there is no significant difference between the vocational interests of secondary level students having High and Low level of educational aspiration.

Table 2.

Vocational interest area	High L.E.A.* (N-33)		Low L.E.A.* (N-30)		Calculated ‘t’ value
	Mean	S.D.	Mean	S.D.	
Literary	6.3	2.59	4.1	1.96	3.82
Scientific	7.56	3.55	5.3	1.13	3.46
Executive	13.5	4.21	7.5	2.54	6.86
Commercial	7.63	2.19	9.57	3.48	2.62
Constructive	.81	.57	.64	.48	1.28**
Artistic	3.55	2.81	6.84	3.41	4.15
Agricultural	1.73	.96	5.4	2.94	6.33
Persuasive	6.35	2.64	6.9	1.64	.96**
Social	5.55	1.74	3.9	1.43	4.12
Household	7.18	2.65	8.1	2.26	1.48**

*L.E.A.= Level of Educational Aspiration
 ** Not significant at 0.05 level of significance
 All others were significant at 0.01 level of significance

Discussion

The above analysis from the table no. 2 indicates that two groups of secondary level students namely High LEA group and Low LEA group are found significantly difference on their vocational interest. If we analyze dimension vise the result show that High LEA group and Low LEA group are not significantly different on Persuasive, Constructive, Commercial and household vocational area only and High LEA group and Low LEA group are significantly different on vocational interest on the other studied vocational areas like literary, scientific, executive etc. The reason for this can be that, the students who had low level of aspiration were not so conscious about the vocation and the students who had high level of aspiration made unique choices in the vocational area.

Hypothesis-3 States that there is no significant difference between the vocational interest of secondary level students having Average and Low level of educational aspiration.

Table 3.

Vocational interest area	Average L.E.A.* (N-37)		Low L.E.A.* (N-30)		Calculated ‘t’ value
	Mean	S.D.	Mean	S.D.	
Literary	5.06	2.01	4.1	1.96	1.95**
Scientific	8.93	3.27	5.3	1.13	6.30
Executive	12.01	3.76	7.5	2.54	5.83
Commercial	8.37	1.19	9.58	3.49	1.81**
Constructive	.61	.44	.64	.48	.26*
Artistic	4.33	1.92	6.84	3.41	3.59
Agricultural	2.63	1.77	5.3	2.69	3.54
Persuasive	8.54	2.08	6.9	1.64	3.60
Social	3.53	1.95	3.9	1.43	.89**
Household	6.28	2.35	8.1	2.26	3.21

*L.E.A.= Level of Educational Aspiration
 ** Not significant at 0.05 level of significance
 All others were significant at 0.01 level of significance

Discussion

The above analysis from the table no 3 indicates that two groups of secondary level students namely Average LEA group and Low LEA group are found significantly difference on their vocational interest. If we analyze dimension wise the result show that Average LEA group and Low LEA group are not significantly different on Literary, Constructive, Commercial and social vocational area only and High LEA group and Low LEA group are significantly different on vocational interest on the other studied vocational areas like Executive, Scientific, Persuasive etc. Chandel (2001) also found in his study that the students who had low level of aspiration were not so conscious about the vocation and the students who had average level of aspiration made at least some choices in the vocational area.

Hypothesis-4 States that there is no significant difference between the vocational interest of secondary level students having Average and High level of educational aspiration.

Table 4.

Vocational interest area	Average (N=37)		High L.E.A.* (N=33)		Calculated 't' value
	Mean	S.D.	Mean	S.D.	
Literary	5.06	2.01	6.3	2.59	2.21
Scientific	8.93	3.27	7.56	3.55	1.67
Executive	12.01	3.76	13.5	4.21	1.50
Commercial	8.37	1.19	7.63	2.19	1.72
Constructive	.61	.44	.81	.57	1.62
Artistic	4.33	1.92	3.55	2.81	3.90
Agricultural	2.63	1.77	1.73	.96	2.67
Persuasive	8.54	2.08	6.35	2.64	3.79
Social	3.53	1.95	5.55	1.74	4.58
Household	6.28	2.35	7.18	2.65	1.49

*L.E.A.= Level of Educational Aspiration

** Not significant at 0.05 level of significance

All others were significant at 0.01 level of significance

Discussion

The above analysis from the table no 4.0 to 4.10 indicates that two groups of secondary level student namely Average LEA group and High LEA group are found not significantly difference on their vocational interest. If we analyze dimension wise the result show that Average LEA group and High LEA group are significantly different on Agriculture, Persuasive and Social vocational area only and High LEA group and Low LEA group are not significantly different on the other studied vocational areas like Executive, Scientific, Persuasive etc. The reason for this can be the that the students who had Average level of aspiration were little conscious about the vocation and made at least some choices in the vocational area while the students who had high level of aspiration made unique choices in the vocational area and they have the clear cut goal for their life.

Educational implication of the study: The content and theme of the study has vital importance for the teachers, parents and career counselors.

It is also important to know as what should be done to help the students to choose the right stream of education according to their vocational interest. This study will provide an opportunity to teachers, parents and career counselors to guide students towards right selection of vocations and subjects in accordance with their vocational interest and level of educational aspiration. The findings of this study is helpful to connect the vocational interest of the students with the education for which teachers, principals, parents, counselors, career masters, members of community and other agencies ought to play important roles for the overall vocational development of the student in a particular subject and above all, with their own vocational interest and level of educational aspiration. The present study also has its implication for the adolescent students who are the future of nation. By this study the result has come out that, students of different level of educational aspiration having different vocational interest. Every students has its own aspirations and it is believed widely that level of aspirations have a great effect on human being which plays a vital role in the making of persons' personality i.e. ones' attitude interest and many other traits. Aspiration level is one of the key determinants of students' education and vocational achievement. The study has yielded certain results which seem to have serious implications in the field of education.

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