CAREER MATURITY OF HIGHER SECONDARY STUDENTS

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(Received 4th March 2016, Revised 7th March 2016, Accepted 10th March 2016)

Abstract
The aim of the study is to find the Career Maturity of higher secondary school students. For that the researcher framed suitable objectives and hypotheses. The sampling method for the study is simple random sampling technique. The size of the sample is 384. After collecting the data, they were analysed by using statistical techniques. The result concluded that the Career Maturity of higher secondary school students is average.

Key words: Career Maturity and Higher secondary school students.

Introduction
Education refers to the process by which society, through its different institutions, deliberately transmits its cultural heritage to its young, its accumulated values, knowledge and skill from one generation to another. The main account in education should be on the awakening of curiosity, the stimulation of creativity, the development of proper interests, attitudes and values and the building of essential skills such as independent study and capacity to think and judge for oneself.

Career choice is the most important event in an individual’s life. Person’s success and consequently, satisfaction and happiness depend on how accurately he chooses his Career. Improper selection of the Career or frequently changing the Career is very harmful for psychological health. Once we invest time, money and effort in moving along a particular career path it may not be easy to change the path. Students who have gone through comprehensive career counselling are discerning in their career choices. Students, who make career choices without adequate and accurate counselling and guidance, are at risk of being impelled to choose careers that are not suitable for them. In Indian settings, there is scanty research on the influences of various factors on career decision making among adolescent girls and boys. Therefore, the researcher has decided to undertake this research.

Need for the Study
The study mainly focused on Career Maturity of higher secondary students in Cuddalore District. The present research is highly useful to identify the gap related to this area and also the influence of demographic character related to Career Maturity. Thus the study is highly useful to the educational institution to improve the higher secondary students capability in their all round development and excellent in their education. So the study is significant to the education field. As the quality performance is the determinant for success in every growing competitive world, everyone desires a high level of achievement. Career Maturity are dynamically interactive and reciprocal, it is mutually reinforcing to the extent that a positive or negative change in the other. So the investigator proposed to study the Career Maturity of higher secondary students.

Objectives of the study
1. To find out the Career Maturity of Higher Secondary Students.
2. To find out the significant difference between Career Maturity of higher secondary students based on Gender, Type of school, Location of the school and Study of subject.
Hypotheses of the study

1. The higher secondary students Career Maturity is low.
2. There is no significant difference between Boys and Girls in their Career Maturity.
3. There is no significant difference between Government and Private school students in their Career Maturity.
4. There is no significant difference between Rural and Urban school students in their Career Maturity.
5. There is no significant difference between Arts and Science school students in their Career Maturity.

Method of the Study

Normative Survey method was adopted for the study. Random sampling Technique was used in the selection of sample of 384 students of XI from Cuddalore District, have been chosen of the area of the population for studies. Out of 384 students, 286 were from government schools students, 98 were from private school students. The number of boys students were 191 and girls students were 193.

Tools used for the study

In order to collect the necessary data to achieve the objectives of the study the psychological tool mentioned below was used.

- Career Maturity inventory developed by John O. Crites & Mark L. Savickas (2011)

Analysis and Interpretation of the data

Means and standard deviations of the Career Maturity of Higher Secondary School Students were calculated.

Hypothesis - 1

The higher secondary students Career Maturity is moderate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Groups</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entire Total</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>30.62</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows Mean, standard deviation of Career Maturity among higher secondary school students. The Career Maturity for the whole sample is at average level of 30.62.

Hypothesis - 2

There is no significant difference between Boys and Girls in their Career Maturity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>t-value</th>
<th>Significant at 0.05 level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>30.08</td>
<td>6.12</td>
<td>1.72</td>
<td>Not Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>31.16</td>
<td>6.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows that the t-value is found to be (1.72) and it is less than the table value. Here null hypothesis is accepted. Hence higher secondary school boys and girls students do not differ significantly in their Career Maturity.

Hypothesis - 3

There is no significant difference between Government and Private school students in their Career Maturity.
Table - 3
Mean, standard deviation and t-value for the Career Maturity on the basis of type of school

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of School</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>t-value</th>
<th>Significant at 0.05 level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>31.07</td>
<td>5.97</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>39.32</td>
<td>6.59</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows that the t-value is found to be (2.33) and it is greater than the table value. Here null hypothesis is rejected and research hypothesis is accepted. The higher secondary students studying in government and private schools differ significantly in their Career Maturity.  

Hypothesis - 4

Table - 4
Mean, standard deviation and t-value for the Career Maturity on the basis of location of school

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of school</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>t-value</th>
<th>Significant at 0.05 level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>30.96</td>
<td>5.98</td>
<td>1.72</td>
<td>Not Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>39.69</td>
<td>6.62</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows that the t-value is found to be (1.72) and it is less than the table value. Here null hypothesis is accepted. The higher secondary school from rural and urban students do not differ significantly in their Career Maturity.  

Hypothesis - 5

There is no significant difference between Arts and Science school students in their Career Maturity.

Table - 5
Mean, standard deviation and t-value for the Career Maturity on the basis of subject

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>t-value</th>
<th>Significant at 0.05 level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>36.92</td>
<td>6.64</td>
<td>3.72</td>
<td>Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>32.23</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows that the t-value is found to be (3.72) and it is greater than the table value. Here null hypothesis is rejected and research hypothesis is accepted. The higher secondary students studying Arts and Science subject differ significantly in their Career Maturity.

Findings of the Study
1. The higher secondary students Career Maturity is average.
2. There is no significant difference between Boys and Girls in their Career Maturity.
3. There is significant difference between Government and Private school students in their Career Maturity.
4. There is no significant difference between Rural and Urban school students in their Career Maturity.
5. There is significant difference between Arts and Science school students in their Career Maturity.

Conclusion
The study is aimed of studying the Career Maturity of higher secondary students. For that the researcher framed suitable objectives and hypotheses. The sampling method for the study is simple random sampling. The size of the sample is 384. After collecting the data, they were analysed by using statistical techniques. The result concluded that the Career Maturity of higher secondary school students is average.

References

