

Determinants Influencing Career Choices of Senior High School Students of Cebu City Division

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Abstract: The study explored the determinants influencing career choices of senior high school students of Cebu City Division. In the interest of informed choice, the investigation sought to establish career guidance model that would facilitate career decisions among senior high schools. A mixed-method design that involved survey and interview was used in this study. Questionnaire and interview were used to collect data. Four hundred and thirteen respondents (413) participated in this research. The SPSS v. 20 was used to analyze the data using simple percentage, mean, standard deviation and chi-square test. The study reveals that school influence, peer influence and family influence are interpreted as moderately while gender influence is reported to be moderately low. The chi-square tests revealed that mother's education may marginally determine family and peer influence. Also, age may be perceived to be a significant determinant of gender influence. The test also demonstrated that the differences in school may mean differences in family, school, gender, and peer influences. These results were validated by challenges encountered by the parents, teachers, and school heads. These were the personality factors, maturation, time management, future planning, financial constraints, capability training for career guidance, and enhanced educational instruction. Finally, the study concluded that career decision-making is a complex phenomenon that requires support from teachers, school heads, and parents as well as understanding of the different dynamics of social influences. It is recommended that a proposed career guidance model as the output of the study must be implemented to help educators and parents address the concerns about the determinants influencing the career choices of the students in Cebu City Division.

Keywords: Guidance and Counseling, Career choice, Mixed method, Cebu, Philippines.

1. Introduction

Career preference is one of the maximum important decision a student or a professional has to make. Whether that choice is to pick a specialization, organization or profession, it needs to be made after cautious consideration of the internal and external environment. This choice is essential because it shall drive what's going to be the character's daily timetable for the rest of their lifestyles. Furthermore, it will have a direct effect on their different aspects of life including lifestyle, self-satisfaction, paintings-existence balance, and best of life.

In the country today, misfit graduates are one of the taken into consideration reasons why we have recorded high unemployment and underemployment rate. It is that during

January 2018, the Philippines has 7.1 percent unemployment rate, the highest among the international locations from Southeast Asia and from which, 16.9 percent of which can be university graduates. The reasons might be either that the produced path of graduates misfits the demand of the prevailing economy, or the graduates do not possess the traits required by the industries in need. This can be because of the incorrect choice of the path taken by a maximum of the college students introduced by means of unguided choice-making in choosing careers. This is visible through reviews that mentioned that an excessive percentage of unemployment and underemployment within the country is attributed to the inadequacy of abilities of a number of the graduates and not meeting the abilities wanted by various corporations. To be capable of locating ways to reduce misfit qualification of graduates to the needed personnel of corporations and institutions, the government, particularly the Department of Education unearth approaches to elevate the quality of graduates before even reaching the collegiate level. This is one of the motives why the government implemented the K-12 program in the educational system. One of the goals of the Department of Education's K-12 program is to supply graduates who are equipped with know-how and talents to be productive citizens and an extra work pressure to promote monetary development even after excessive college.

There are many elements taken into consideration by school administrators apart from the school curriculum or the academics to sell pupil educational success. Another perspective which is characterized with the aid of a differentiated view of training that promotes college students' fulfillment other than the student getting to know and educational engagement is the students' social engagement. Students' social engagement might also require different sources consisting of the counselors. One of the roles of guidance and counseling is to make it possible for a person to look and explore his or her unlimited endowed options.

Vocational guidance counseling, one of the principal services of guidance and counseling is to provide you with career improvement application which permits guidance counselors to assist people to identify and examine the abilities by means of which they may be more effective in making plans for and in selecting jobs, in making powerful transitions and changes to paintings and in managing their very own careers and profession transitions effectively. Sad to mention but very few

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studies are made to research the fulfillment of career direction used by the students of the Philippines, even the elements that affect the profession choice of Filipino college students. This gives us with limited data on how to help our students perceive the proper profession alternatives and route preferences they ought to pursue in their destiny. Students are not properly oriented as to what path to choose out in their hobbies and competencies because of the notion that these guides will provide jobs in their destiny. More so, students are not properly oriented to what career they assume will give them better-paying jobs within the future.

Given that the Philippines cannot offer sufficient jobs to preserve an educated body of workers, there are several demanding situations for career counseling inside the Philippines today. First, the matter of selecting a career within the Philippines is a circle of relative affairs. Filipino families firmly trust that schooling is the “amazing equalizer.” Approaching schooling as the “first-rate equalizer” presumes that the schooling machine is based totally on a meritocracy wherein ability, hard paintings, and “rugged individualism” can lead to achievement; this, without underscoring the proper profession direction with the intention to lead them to succeed (Malubay *et. al.*).

The profession desire choice is additionally hard now not just because of the variety of career options available to a character within the present-day surroundings, however having a good enough understanding of a profession without stepping into it. Too often, handiest after someone has made sustainable commitments in time, strength, and money or has cut off different opportunities by means of taking steps to enter a profession, does he or she find that it is not what was expected or wanted.

Another problem lies in having a clear perception; occupational choice testing, steerage counseling, and revel in activities related to the career are all assets for making this choice. Making a career preference requires getting in touch with ourselves and our surroundings. There are actually two ways of searching at and assessing alternatives. On one hand it's far approximately intuition and listening to the heart, which helps us create an imaginative and prescient of what one wishes to accomplish in lifestyles and the way we affect the world. On the other hand, it's far about the assessment of the inner- self and the surroundings and uses the brain to assess what choice is the most suitable one. The former assessment is usually made in a relaxing environment each bodily and mentally. The latter involves thinking about the professionals and cons of every one of the alternatives that come from the first component. Having a painting-existence balance involves willpower and persistence while searching ahead and at the same time being not hugely essential of the past and enjoying the accomplishments and achievements.

Career selection is one among many essential picks college students will make in determining future plans. This decision will impact them during their lives. The essence of who the student is will revolve around what the pupil wants to do with their existence-long work. Every pupil carries a unique history in their past and this determines how they view the world. That

record created, in component with the aid of the student's environment, personality, and possibility, will decide how students make professional choices. It then follows that how the scholar perceives their surroundings, personality, and opportunity also will determine the profession selections students make.

The right career desire for the students getting into the expert education is vital having an excessive impact on their professional existence and future achievement. This is the turning point: it cannot be left, on instinct, preconceived notions, wild imaginations, or popular concepts. A misperceived professional preference directs all character efforts and assets in the wrong direction, when not aligned with the expectations; would no longer only be frustrating but instead draining of the man or woman's electricity and wastage of assets. The re-alignment is possible, but it has serious implications in phrases of time, cash, and motivation. The profession preference of the students must need to be based on; sturdy understanding, complete facts, and as it should be guided, matching character personality kind and different intrinsic and extrinsic elements. The students want to be oriented on new emerging tendencies, destiny possibilities and challenges inside the context of profession preference options. They want to recognize the typical market traits and practices and job situations of diverse sectors.

To the information of the researcher, most of the studies done in the Philippines thus far have focused on guidance and counseling in general. This study, on the opposite hand, concentrated on the determinants that influence career picks as opposed to on steering and counseling. The present study seeks to investigate determinants that influence the choice of career amongst Senior High School students who are enrolled in Humanities and Social Sciences strand in various public High Schools in Cebu City Division.

2. Methodology

This part of the paper gives an outline of research methods that were followed in the study. It provides information on the participants, that is, the criteria for inclusion in the study, who the participants were and how they were sampled. The researcher describes the research design that was chosen for the purpose of this study and the reasons for this choice. The instrument that was used for data collection is also described and the procedures that were followed to carry out this study are included. The researcher also discusses the methods used to analyze the data. Lastly, the ethical issues that were followed in the process are also discussed.

A. Design

This research study utilized mixed method using qualitative and quantitative approach where the questionnaire was used as the main tool in the data collection and triangulation process was used as well to validate data.

For the purpose of this study, the research paradigm that was followed is of qualitative nature, using semi-structured interviews as discussed later in the chapter. Creswell (2015) explains that qualitative research is based on the belief that first-

hand experience provides the most meaningful data. It is also believed that qualitative data gives large volumes of quality data from a limited number of people. It is aimed at understanding the world of participants from their frame of reference (Creswell, 2015). It would have been impossible to make a quantitative evaluation on this study because it is based on the perception of people and cannot be scientifically measured.

McInerney *et al.*, 2018 suggests that since incest is a complex subject, the suitable method for data collection would be a qualitative one because of its ability to bring out experiences of the participants in both exploratory and descriptive forms.

In qualitative research, the researcher is in continuous interaction with the participant in an attempt to discover the participants meaning of his/her life world (Mashinge *et al.*, 2016).

B. Flow of the Study

The research process showed the step-by-step progress about this study. It showed a graphical symbolic presentation of a process that consisted of the input, the process, and the action plan.

The Input showed that researcher determined the empirical evidence as determinant that influence the career choices among Senior High School students who enrolled in Humanities and Social Sciences strand in various public high schools of Cebu City Division. Moreover, these determinants are anchored with theories and legal basis.

Furthermore, this study seeks to determine whether there is a significance relationship between profile of the respondents and the determinants of career choice.

The Process is the second phase of the flow which involved the formulation, finalization, distribution, and retrieval of the questionnaires.

C. Environment

The study was conducted in different Senior High schools offering Humanities and Social Sciences Strand in various Public High Schools of Cebu City Division. Its office is located in New Imus Avenue, Brgy. Day-as, Cebu City. Under Cebu City Division, there are fifty-seven (57) public secondary high schools with only twelve (12) schools offering Senior High School with a strand of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Agsungot NHS formerly is a DepEd managed monograde public secondary school located in the 3rd district of Cebu City, Basak Community High School is a public secondary educational institution located in Cabreros St., Basak San Nicolas, Cebu City, Camp Lapu-Lapu NHS is located in the 2nd district of Cebu City, City Central NHS formerly known as City Central Night High School is a day and night secondary school located in Osmeña Blvd., Barangay Sambang I, Cebu City, Don Vicente Rama NHS is the first national high school in the south district of Cebu City was opened on June 7, 1993 and acquired its name as Cebu City Don Carlos A. Gothong Memorial National High School-Basak Extension through DECS Order No. 5, series of 1989 and was converted to its current name

though Sanguniang Panlungsod resolution in 2004, Don Carlos Gothong Memorial NHS located in C. Padilla St., Cebu City, Mambaling NHS located in Tabada St., Cebu City, Mabolo NHS located in Juan Luna Ave., Cebu City, Pasil NHS located in L. Flores St., Pasil, Cebu City, Pit-os NHS located in the 3rd district part of Cebu City, Pit-os, Tisa High School located in Francisco Llamas St., Cebu city, and lastly, Zapatera National High School located in 284 Sikatuna St., Cebu City.

D. Participants

For this study, the random sampling and pilot testing technique were used. The population included 413 Senior High School students who are enrolled in Humanities and Social Sciences Strand in various public high schools of Cebu City Division and randomly chosen teachers, parents and school heads.

E. Instrument

For the purpose of this study, the researcher used a questionnaire and conducted interview to collect the data. The authors and categories of questionnaire items that were formulated to collect data on the determinants that influence the choices of career amongst public high school students of Cebu City Division who are enrolled in the Humanities and Social Sciences strand.

The questionnaire contained two (2) parts: The first a part used to accumulate the demographic statistics about the respondents that includes: age, sex, type of family, father's educational level, mother's educational level, father's occupation, mother's occupation, and number of friends.

For the latter a part of the questionnaire the respondents had been ask to scale some popular career desire decisions primarily based on the influencing elements emerging in the literature. The questionnaire consisted of objects that searching for two; firstly, assess the extent of have an effect on of own family on their children's career picks. Secondly, the questionnaire included gadgets that determine the extent of impact of school on students' career choices and, thirdly, the objects inside the questionnaire examine the level of influence of gender on Senior High School college students' career alternatives. Lastly, there had been items on the influence of friends on career choices.

F. Data Gathering Procedure

Written permission was taken from all relevant authorities such as the DepEd Schools Superintendent-Cebu City Division, faculty most important, assisting principal and classroom teachers. After sampling, the researcher will go to every lecture room to perform the study. Schedule for questionnaire distribution had been placed in advance. Collection of the instruments was on the same time after the distribution. The participants might be advised that responses and statistics collected may be saved in a safe area wherein the researcher alone could get right of entry to them.

The researcher used questionnaire with items that had been clean and use the language in an effort to be understood by all the participants. An only item that involves elements that influence the selection of careers (family, schools, gender, and

peers) was considered inside the present study.

The data obtained were tallied by the researcher and tabulated for analysis and interpretation.

G. Ethical Considerations – Informed Consent

In carrying out this analysis, the investigator took recognition of the ethical pointers with a read to defend the contributors and therefore the researcher himself. Researcher made informed consent form was distributed to the participants for awareness purposes what should be the studies involves and the way they're planning to enjoy the analysis. Parents, teachers and school heads are given time to stay in mind the risks and blessings of worrying during this analysis and verify whether or not to require half while not being coerced. Participants are conjointly knowledgeable of all the benefits and risks of the study. The participants signed the consent paperwork.

H. Treatment of the Data

The Statistical Package for the Social Sciences version 20 was utilized to analyze the data.

To analyze the profile of the respondents, descriptive statistics using frequency, sample percentage, and mean were used.

To answer the level of the determinants of career choices, weighted mean and standard deviation were utilized.

To test the significant relationship between the intervening variables, the Chi-square test of independence and Cramer’s V Analysis were used.

Scoring Procedure:

To interpret the gathered data on the level of determinants of career choices, the following scales were used by the researcher.

Four (4) Point Likert Scale:

Weight	Mean	Description	Verbal Interpretation
4	3.25 - 4.00	Strongly Agree	Highly Influential
3	2.50 – 3.24	Agree	Moderately High Influential
2	1.75 – 2.49	Disagree	Moderately Low Influential
1	1.00 – 1.74	Strongly Disagree	Low influential

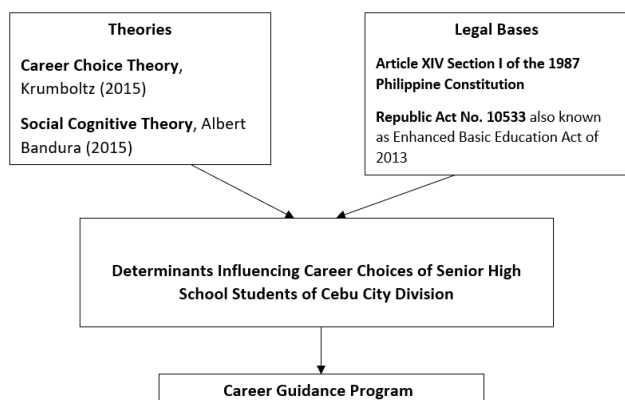


Fig. 1. Theoretical framework of the study

The survey is design on the way to be completed in about 10-15 minutes. Directions were provided by the researcher to guide

the respondents on how to go about each of the item. Oral instructions were also given to ensure clarity and aid understanding.

3. Results and Discussion

The study reveals that school influence, peer influence and family influence are interpreted as moderately while, gender influence is reported to be moderately low. The chi-square tests revealed that mother’s education may marginally determine family and peer influence. Also, age may be perceived to be a significant determinant of gender influence. The test also demonstrated that the differences in school may mean differences in family, school, gender and peer influences. These results were validated by challenges encountered by the parents, teachers and school heads. These were the personality factors, maturation, time management, future planning, financial constraints, capability trainings for career guidance and enhanced educational instruction. Finally, the study showed that career decision-making is a complex phenomenon that requires support from teachers, school heads and parents as well as understanding the different dynamics of social influences.

4. Conclusion

The goal of the study was to determine the factors that influence students' profession choices in Cebu City Division Senior High Schools. As a result of the study's findings, making a career decision is a fluid process. It is a crucial aspect of teenage decision-making as they shift to becoming role-driven persons. The dynamic process of decision-making involves the interaction of many complicated components. While parents have previously been demonstrated to be influential, the findings suggest that moms have a higher influence on their children's profession choices. This could imply that moms' presence is vital in their children's critical decision-making. With their parents looking after them and providing not only their necessities, the family, particularly mothers, plays an essential role in assisting senior high school students in making life-changing decisions. Students in senior high school have a strong sense of sexual identity and believe that their sexual identities influence their job choices. While they are biologically different, the sexual identities associated with those characteristics transcend the roles they may play in the future. Peers have some power, but not nearly as much as others. This could indicate that senior high school students make their own decisions, not influenced by friends but rather by themselves and their parents. This demonstrates the family-centric mentality of Filipinos and Cebuanos, who make decisions based on their parents' generosity rather than their friends'. While western society sometimes connotes greater compassion and approval from peers, Cebu SHS students continue to believe that significant decisions, such as career choices, are best handled by themselves and their parents. Like peer impact, school influence may not have had a significant role. This could be because schools haven't put as much significance in terms of advancement when it comes to making important professional selections. Schools are intended to be a

source of optimism for kids, especially when it comes to making gradual decisions. It did not play as important a role in encouraging people to enroll in college and seek better work opportunities outside of their home regions. Alternatively, the school may not have been as successful in changing present mindsets by encouraging SHS students to actively pursue actions that would result in progress from their current position.

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