

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH CAREER CHOICE OF GRADE 12 STUDENTS

by:

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One of the common challenges that students consider today is to choose a course in college in which they develop their love, passion, and interest with. A course where students reflect on their own future selves, and realize their full human potential to become graduates who are internationally competitive and accomplish their life objectives. One of the responsibilities of schools and guidance counselors is to assist students, especially seniors in high school, in selecting the appropriate college courses to enroll in.

Many factors influence students' career choices when choosing courses in college, according to Santiago (2015), while deciding which courses to attend in college, students must evaluate their talents, financial condition, desires, and the benefit of society, among other things. In addition, Okiror, J.J. D. Otabong, D. (2015) revealed four crucial elements to consider while choosing a college: first and foremost, the quality of education provided by the institution. The second factor is the student's financial position, and whether or not they can afford the education given by the institution. Finally, how close is the school environment? When you go to your school, think about how the facilities are, whether it provides real-life circumstances, and so on. Last but not least is your desire and want to be in the future. Similarly, Nunez (2015) stated that career counseling is important in assisting students in deciding which topic to study in college. Career counseling influenced students' career selections, professional comprehension, and job-related adjustments in a good way. Additionally, when students are not guided in their job

search, they are unsure of what is best for them or even what they want. As a result, students may make poor choices and enroll in courses about which they know very little.

Moreover, academic achievement is another important consideration while selecting a vocation or study in college. According to a study by Meddour, A. Majid, A. and Aman (2016), good high school grade point averages are evidence that students have the potential to excel in the field. He claimed that students who can manage demanding academic loads are more likely to choose a professional route that would lead to a position requiring a lot of education. Students with poor intellectual ability, on the other hand, may be better suited for occupations demanding less time-consuming and hard academic work, such as vocational courses that need less demand and pressure in academia. Moreover, Golimlim (2016) identified curiosity as one of the personality factors that has a substantial effect on professional decision-making. Individuals who pursue a profession that they are passionate about are likely to be happier and more motivated. Having professional intentions, making career plans, and choosing a career path to follow are all goals backed by interests. Furthermore, parents have an important role in shaping their children's personalities as they get older. They can affect students' motivation, work ethics, and educational ambitions because they are the primary source of support for them.

Moreso, according to Sibayan (2018), peer buddies are an important part of the socialization process, and their influence and pressure in shaping an individual's trajectory are well accepted. It helps young people explore their employment possibilities and make decisions. Adolescents in the Philippines cannot usually make autonomous decisions. Advice is frequently sought from parents, instructors, acquaintances, and classmates. This factor is also considered in determining the career choice of the students.

Therefore, making the right professional decision affects society as a whole as well as the lives of the individual. K-12 studies have been the subject of several recent publications and researchers, but studies in the Philippines focused mostly on evaluating

the program and its difficulties, but not on the variables influencing the career track choice of the students which is very rare and limited. An investigation into these issues may help this educational reform to be successful. the program performance, school and facilities, career guidance strategies, aptitude service training, physical environment, social factor (peers, parents), job opportunities, economic factor, and personal interest are just a few of the external and internal factors based on the relevant literature that should be taken into account when choosing courses in college.

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