

A Study on Occupational Aspiration of Higher Secondary Girls Students in Nagaon District

¹Archana Das, ²Nilima Bhagabati

¹Dept. of Education, ADP College, Nagaon, Assam, India

²Professor Education & Guide and Supervisor Research studies, PhD, FCCEAM

Abstract

Occupational aspiration means decision made by a student on his/her future work. Secondary Education is a crucial stage in the educational hierarchy as it prepares the students for higher education and also for the world of work. The common disparity in India is gender inequality in education and occupation which in turn have immense effect on the life chances of the girls. Women and men are equally treated in the eyes of the law. However our cultural conditioning is the main source of atrocities against women. The study will deal with the aspirations of girls in selection of their occupation. The sample of the study are 222 higher secondary girls' students. To select the sample stratified random sampling technique used. The findings of the study reveals that there is significant difference in occupational aspiration of different category girls.

Key words

Occupational aspiration, Higher Secondary Girls students

I. Introduction

An aspiration is a strong desire for high achievement and it is influenced by family background, and the ways in which family interacts, communicates, and behaves. Cooper, Arkelin and Tiebert (1994) defined aspirations as hopes and ambitions that influenced by intrapersonal and interpersonal factors. Aspiration is replicate of student hopes in term of educational attainment, expecting position as government employee, expecting position as private employee, and career after finishing their study. In today's world of competitiveness there is not a single person who is devoid of ambition. A great deal of individual variation is found with regard to ambition setting behavior, one may set it very high while the other very low, still other may set near to their performance level. Aspirations can have lifelong consequences as they are associated with significant later outcomes, such as where one works and lives, and the standard of living one attains. Occupational aspirations are "expressed career-related goals or choices" that provide important motivational momentum for career-related behaviors and future educational and career success (Rojewski, 2005, p. 132). It can be either idealized or realistic. Idealized aspirations are occupations one would like to have if there were no limitations on opportunity, finances or ability when selecting a career. Realistic aspirations, or expectations, on the other hand, are the occupations one expects to have, given perceived or real limitations (Rojewski, 2005). Both aspirations and expectations reflect attitudes and beliefs, and thus are cognitive constructs that are presumed to influence current behaviour as well as planning for the future.

The normal age group of the children in secondary classes is 15-16 whereas it is 16-18 for higher secondary classes. The rigor of the secondary and higher secondary stage, enables Indian students to compete successfully for education and for jobs globally. Inequality is a common phenomena in Indian society. It arises due to social context of class, caste and gender. Culturally, a woman in India is remain confined at home for internal domestic routine work and men on the other hand is the bread earner. Pattanayak Mauleena Bera & Naik P.K.(2014)found in their study students are influenced by gender role socialization, parental expectations, teacher attitudes .Adolescent girls are the most economically vulnerable groups. Adolescent girls typically lack access to financial capital and have more limited opportunities to gain the education, knowledge, and skills that can lead to economic advancement. Adolescent girls

often lack social support, and community social norms create barriers to their economic advancement.

Significance of the study

The female occupational status is a vital issue in 21st century. Female literacy rate has been improved from last few years, despite the improvement females are still under-represented in various employment sectors. Girls are still lagging behind in selection of their occupation. The searched literature reveals that the determinants of girls occupational aspirations Caste, class, personal aspirations and socio-economic factors. Very few research has been done on occupational aspirations of different categories of adolescent girls and influence of residential location on their aspirations. Hence in the present study the researcher is making an attempt to study the occupational aspiration of General, OBC, SC, ST and Minority community girls of Higher Secondary schools of Nagaon district. The study is significant from this perspective that the counselors will be aware the background variables of girls career choice. To overcome the inequalities the study will assistance create better curriculum and career opportunity programs.

Statement of the problem: The present study entitled as "A Study on Occupational Aspiration of Higher Secondary girl students in Nagaon District."

Occupational aspiration: Occupational aspiration are the thoughts, feelings, fantasies and goals that people have their work, that affect their motivation and decision making in respect of their occupational choice and subsequent participation in their occupation.

Objectives

1. To study the occupational aspirations of XIth and XIIth grade girls of Higher secondary schools.
2. To study the occupational aspirations of higher secondary girls students in regards to rural and urban area schools.
3. To study and compare occupational aspirations of Higher secondary girls students in regards to caste .

Hypotheses:

1. There is no significant difference between occupational

- aspiration of XIth and XIIth grade girls student.
- There is no significant difference between occupational aspiration of girls of rural and urban area schools.
 - There is no significant difference between occupational aspiration of various category girls.

Delimitation

- The present study was confine only Higher Secondary girls students of Nagaon District.
- The study was restricted only provincialised and Govt.Higher secondary schools of Nagaon District.

II. Methodology

The present study has been fall under Descriptive Survey method.

Population

The population of the present study are the girls students of provincialised and Govt.Higher secondary schools in Nagaon District.

Sample

Stratified random sampling technique have been adopted to select the sample of the study. The sample of the study are 222 girls students from XIth and XIIth class selected from 17 Higher secondary schools which is located in rural and urban area of Nagaon District.

Tool used

- One information schedule was prepared .
- For the purpose of data collection the investigator used Occupational Aspiration Scale developed and standardized by J.S.Grewal(1998).

Statistical Techniques

To analyzing and interpreting the data following statistical techniques are used

- Percentage
- t-test
- ANOVA

III. Analysis and Interpretation of Data

Objective 1:-To study the occupational aspirations of XIth and XIIth grade girls of Higher secondary schools.

Table:1- Percentage of Level of Occupational Aspiration of XIth and XIIth Class Girls

Level	XI th grade		XII th grade		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
High Occupational Aspiration	33	14.9	13	5.9	46	20.7
Moderate Occupational Aspiration	67	30.2	78	35.1	145	65.3
Low Occupational Aspiration	17	7.7	14	6.3	31	14.0
Total	117	52.7	105	47.3	222	100.0

The above table shows that the percentage of XIth grade girls is higher than the XIIth grade girls in the level of high occupational aspirations i.e 14.9%and 5.9%. Maximum number of girls response indicated that they have moderate level of occupational aspirations .Girls of XIth grade have 30.2% and girls from XIIth grade have 35.1%moderate level of occupational aspirations, 7.7% girls and 6.3% girls from both classes stated low level of occupational aspirations.

Table: 2 - t-test of occupational aspiration of XIth and XIIth class girls

Class	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t	df	Sig(2-tailed)
XI th class	117	47.20	9.771	2.130	220	.034
XII th class	105	44.66	7.740			

The above table depict that there is significant differences between occupational aspiration of XIth and XIIth class girls. The mean score of XIth class are higher than mean of XIIth class girls.Hence the null hypothesis is reject at0 .05 level of significance.

Objective 2:- To study the occupational aspirations of higher secondary girls students in regards to rural and urban area schools.

Table:3- Percentage of Level of Occupational Aspiration of Girls of rural and urban area

Level	Rural		Urban		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
High Occupational Aspiration	32	14.4	14	6.3	46	20.7
Moderate Occupational Aspiration	113	50.9	32	14.4	145	65.3
Low Occupational Aspiration	21	9.5	10	4.5	31	14.0
Total	166	74.8	56	25.2	222	100.0

Table No 3 shows that in rural area14.4% girls have High, 50.9% have Moderate,9.5%have Low occupational aspiration and in urban area 6.3%have High, 14.4%have Moderate and4.5% girls have low occupational aspirations.The total percentage in different level shows that maximum percentage i.e 65.3% girls have Moderate level of occupational aspirations.

Table:4- t-test of occupational aspiration of urban and rural area

Class	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t	df	Sig(2-tailed)
RURAL	166	46.02	8.955	.065	220	.949
URBAN	56	45.93	8.974			

From the above table it has been observed that the mean score and standard deviation of rural girls (N=166) 46.02 and 8.955 again mean score and standard deviation of urban girls (N=56)45.93 and 8.974 and t ratio .065 at degrees of freedom of 220. Which is

not significant at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the difference between the two group means is not significant at 0.05 level. So the hypothesis “There is no significant difference between occupational

aspiration of girls of rural and urban area” is retain.

Objective 3:-To study and compare occupational aspirations of girls in regards to caste .

Table:5-Percentage of Level of Occupational Aspiration of Girls of different caste

Level	General		OBC		SC		ST		Minority		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
High	11	5.0	10	4.5	8	3.6	5	2.3	12	5.4	46	20.7
Moderate	33	14.9	39	17.6	21	9.5	16	7.2	36	16.2	145	65.3
Low	7	3.2	6	2.7	7	3.2	7	3.2	4	1.8	31	14.0
Total	51	23.0	55	24.8	36	16.2	28	12.6	52	23.4	222	100.0

From the table it has been observed that 5.0% General, 4.5% OBC, 3.6% SC, 2.3% ST and 5.4% Minority girls have High occupational aspirations. Again 14.9% General 17.6% OBC 9.5% SC 7.2% ST and 16.2% Minority girls having Moderate level of occupational aspiration and only 3.2% girls from General, 2.7% OBC, 3.2% SC, 3.2% ST and 1.8% Minority girls have Low occupational aspiration. In case of total percentage at different level 20.7% have High occupational aspiration 65.3% girls have Moderate occupational aspiration and 14.0% girls have Low occupational aspiration. The table reveals that most of the girls have medium level of occupational aspiration.

Table:6--ANOVA of occupational aspiration of different categories girl

Sources of Variation	Sum of Square	df	Mean Square	F	Sig
Between groups	799.667	4	199.971	2.573	.039
Within groups	16861.329	217	77.702		
Total	17660.995	221			

The obtained F value 2.573 is significant at 0.05 level of significance. Hence it can be said that there are significant difference in occupational aspiration of different category girls. So our hypotheses “There is no significant difference in occupational aspiration of girl students among the various categories” is reject at 0.05 Significant level .

Findings of the study

1. Findings revealed that maximum percentage of girls from XIth and XIIth classes have moderate level of occupational aspirations.
2. It has been found that there are difference between occupational aspiration of XIth and XIIth grade girls. Hence the formulated hypothesis “there is no significant difference between occupational aspiration of girls of XIth and XIIth grade” is rejected.
3. From the analysis it has been observed that no significant difference found in occupational aspirations of girls from

rural and urban area.

4. From the study it has been found that the maximum number (65.3%) of girls from different caste have moderate level of occupational aspiration.
5. The study found that there is significant difference between occupational aspiration of General, OBC, SC, ST and Minority category girls. Here difference have been found in occupational aspiration of girls hence the formulated null hypotheses is rejected.

IV. Conclusion

The paper discusses the study of occupational aspirations of higher secondary girls with regards to their location and caste. The study also shows that girls from rural and urban area significantly not different in occupational aspirations. Applying ANNOVA test revealed that significant difference in occupational aspiration of girls. However at the higher secondary stage of education especial provisions of relevant information, career guidance and counseling, role models deliberately encouraging the girls to take right decision to choose right occupation.

Acknowledgement

The author will like to acknowledge all the schools where data were collected and also like to acknowledge Education Dept Gauhati University and A.D.P.College, Nagaon.

References

[1]. Ahuja, R., (2005): "Research Methods." New Delhi: Rawat Publications.
 [2]. Debi, R., (1994): "Women of Assam." New Delhi: Omsons publications.
 [3]. Koul, L., (1997): "Methodology of Educational Research." New Delhi. Vikas publishing house.
 [4]. Pattanayak, Mauleena B. & Naik, P.K. (2014): "Career Aspirations and Career Development Barriers of Tribal Students in The Salboni Block of Jangal Mahal." Journal of International Academic Research for Multidisciplinary 2(3), pp.655-668.
 [5]. Panigrahy R.L. & Nayak S.S. (2008): "Economic Empowerment of Women." Delhi-92: Discovery Publishing House.
 [6]. Singh Kulbir S., (1987): "Methodology Of Research in Education." New Delhi: Sterling publishers