

A study on level of educational aspiration of high school students

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Abstract

The investigator has conducted on level of educational aspiration of high school students and has used normative survey method and simple random sampling technique for selecting 819 samples from Villupuram district in Tamilnadu. He has analysed the data with help of SPSS and Descriptive analysis, Differential analysis and ANOVA statistical techniques have utilized in the present study. The present researcher found that male and female school student is not significant difference in the level of educational aspiration and no significant difference among the community (OC/BC/MBC/SC&ST) in the level of educational aspiration of high school students.

Key Words: *Level of Educational Aspiration, Educational Status of Parents, Rural and Urban.*

1. Introduction

Educational aspiration is an essential variable in predicting achievement and may be seen as an element in academic achievement motivation, focusing as they do on the strong desire for success and the development of goals to succeed in particular educational areas or to gain a particular grade. There are different theoretical perspectives on the explanation of educational aspiration and its consequence for the future behavior. The Dominant Model is the sociological theory of status attainment, which stresses aspiration as a cognitive state that motivates or drives adolescents to strive for academic success (Khoo and Ainsley, 2005). The model recognizes that both personal dimension (e.g. the impact of others or students perception of their own personal attributes) and social dimension (e.g.

quality of schooling or parental social class) are important transferring factors. Parents, in particular, have been seen as the most significant in shaping aspirations because they provide the opportunities, encouragement and support for their children's learning (Garg, Kauppi, Lewko, Urajnik, 2002). However in economic models, the problem of educational aspiration is viewed from a different perspective. They interpret educational aspiration as a purely rational assessment of students' economic and social circumstances.

The term "Level of educational aspirations," as used in this study, refers to the desires individuals have to attain some future state for themselves and smart class room activities are impacted or not for his studies. By this definition, the researcher assumes that some students attain higher educational levels to satisfy the desires of parents and significant others through academic and social integration into campus life. In the study by Sewell and Hauser (1980), it showed that men's educational aspirations are more influenced by ability, by high school grades, and by the support and example of significant others.

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. In this study, aspiration is replicate of student hopes in term of educational attainment and influences of smart class room to attain the future goals and career after finishing their study

2. Definition of Level of Educational Aspiration

The level of aspiration is an individual's expectations or ambition. It refers to the estimate of one's future performance in a given task. According to Boyd (1952) "Level of aspiration means an individual's ambition in a dynamic situation that is it is an individual's goals or expectation in regard to the goodness of his own future performance for a given task".

3. Review of Related Literature

Rajesh and Chandrasekaran (2014) had studied that Educational Aspiration of high school students in relation to certain personal and demographic variables. The result shows significant difference in high school students Educational Aspiration with respect to their Gender, Class Studying, Medium of Instruction, Residential Locality, Type of Family and Occupation of Mother.

Binda Kumari (2015) has found that the significant role played by home in shaping students' Level of Aspiration, no matter what the income level or background of the family is.

Kounsar Jan (2016) study revealed that there is a significant difference between children of working and non-working mothers on composite score of working and non-working mothers and also found that children of non-working mothers are high in level of aspiration towards their children as compared to children of working mothers.

Gupta, S. and Bashir, L. (2017) explored that the level of parental encouragement, school environment and educational aspiration of students and to examine the prediction of parental encouragement and school environment on educational aspiration of students. The methodology adopts a descriptive survey study, four hundred students from two districts of Kashmir division of India. About 24%, 50.25%, 25.75% secondary school students exhibited high, average and low level of school environment, 21.75%, 51% and 27.25% secondary school students exhibited high, average and low level of parental encouragement and 18%, 55% and 27% secondary school students exhibited high, average and low level of educational aspiration.

4. Objectives of the Study

1. To study the level of educational aspiration of high school students.
2. To find out whether there is any significant difference in the level of educational aspiration of high school students with respect to their: Gender, Community

5. Hypotheses of the Study

1. The level of educational aspirations of high school students is average.
2. There is no significant difference among the high school students level of educational aspirations with respect to their: Gender, Community

6. Methods of Techniques and Tools

Normative survey method has utilized for the present study. The investigator has utilized Simple random sampling procedures to select samples from the population of high school students in Villupuram district in Tamil Nadu. The investigator has used level of educational aspiration research tool for his research work. It was constructed and standardized by Yasmin Ghani Khan (2011) and reliability and validity was checked by the present researcher. Therefore, the investigator has used for this tool to collect data for his study and he has collected 819 samples from the population.

7. Variables of the present Study

- **Main variable:** Level of Educational Aspiration
- **Background Variables:** Gender, Community

8. Statistical Techniques

Data calculated and interpreted with SPSS and the following Statistical techniques has used in the present research work:

- Descriptive Statistics
- Differential Statistics
- ANOVA Statistics

9. Findings and Discussions

9.1 Descriptive Analysis – Level of Educational Aspiration

It's the second objectives of the present study and to find out the level of educational aspirations of high school students.

In the below table 4.4 indicates the level of educational aspirations scores of the entire sample and its sub-sample were computed. It is seen from table-4.4 that the means range from 22.82 to 23.58 and the standard deviations are seen to range from 1.60 to 2.49 and it's not wide interval. Hence, I suggest that the nature of the group is similar.

The mean of the total sample is found to be 23.13. Its Median is found to be 23. Its Mode is 23. Because all these three are very close to each other the distribution can be considered nearly normal.

In the level of educational aspirations scale which is meant for high school students, one can score as a minimum of 0 and maximum of 30. The Mean value of the entire sample of the score is 23.13. In the study results shows that 0% of students low level of educational aspirations and 30% of students average level of educational aspirations and remaining 70% of students shows high level of educational aspirations. However, in this study found that which school for teaching and learning with smart classroom these high school students is high level of educational aspirations.

In the study describes the level of educational aspirations of male students means score (M= 23.10) and it is similar for female students means score (M= 23.17).

High school students are belonging various community ie., OC/BC/MBC/SC&ST. BC students means score (M= 23.29) and it is higher than others communities (OC – M= 23.01; MBC-M=23.01; SC&ST- M=23.20).

Between the sub- samples, the mean values of the level of educational aspirations of rural students (M=23.06) and urban students (M=23.16). In this result indicates nothing different between rural and urban school students.

The level of educational aspirations students of parents in higher education their means score is 23.29. It is similar to other two groups of students of parents education (School education = 22.98 and illiterate=23.34).

The level of educational aspirations students of parents involves in other occupations means score (M=23.58), other students of parents are belonging various occupations were got low mean scores ie., Farmers M= 22.87; Private M=22.89; and Government M=23.16.

In this study describes parent’s monthly income of students as five categories. Students of parents monthly income below 5000 the mean value is 22.82, and students of parents whose monthly income from 5200 to 20200 the level of educational aspirations mean score is 23.01, and students of parents whose monthly income from 9300 to 34800 the level of educational aspirations mean score is 23.52, it is the similar means score for all categories. Students of parents whose monthly income from 15600 to 39100 the mean score is 23.26 and students of parents whose monthly income from 37400 and above the mean score is 23.13.

Hypothesis - 1

“There is no significant difference between male and female students in their level of educational aspiration.”

Table – 1: LEAT - Gender – “t” test

Variable	Sample	N	Mean	S.D	‘t’ value	Remarks
Level of Educational Aspiration	Male	420	23.10	1.97	0.50	Not Significant at 0.05 level
	Female	399	23.17	2.00		

The mean scores of the level of educational aspiration of male and female students of high schools are 23.10 and 23.17 and Standard deviations are 1.97 and 2.00 respectively.

The calculated ‘t’ value, 0.50, is lower than the table value 1.96, that is, no significant difference between the two mean scores at 0.05 level of significance and the null hypothesis is accepted. **Rajesh and Chandrasekaran (2014)** showed that there is no significant difference in aspiration by gender. It supplements the present findings.

Null Hypothesis- 2

There is no significant difference among the high school students level of educational aspiration with respect to their Community (OC/BC/MBC/SC&ST).

Table -2: LEAT - Students Community – ANOVA

Variable	Sample	Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	df	Mean squares	‘F’ ratio	Remarks
Level of Educational Aspiration	OC/BC/ MBC/	Between Groups	11.829	3	3.943	1.001	Not Significant at 0.05 level
		Within Groups	2310.664	815	3.939		
	SC&ST	Total	3222.493	818			

Data with respect to the above hypothesis is analysed using one way ANOVA. The ‘F’ ratio obtained is 1.001. From the ‘F’ value table it was found that the value required for significance is 2.60. The obtained ‘F’ value is lower than the table value for no significance at 0.05 levels. The null hypothesis is accepted. So, the researcher doesn’t go to further test’.

10. Educational Implications

The school teachers should give special attention to students whose have below average and average of the students (30% percentage) with high educational aspiration to enhance performance in academic. The school teachers must be involved in students learning process and he/she follows different teaching styles that it is more interesting and very effective to attract and fill the mind gap of the students. It is observed from the result that

students have average educational aspiration. The teacher utilizes suitable strategies to increase the students' educational aspiration.

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