



ECONOMIC FACTORS INFLUENCING SCHOOL DROPOUTS: A CASE STUDY ON THEIR PARENTAL OCCUPATION

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ABSTRACT

Students who drop out of school face a difficult future in employment and overall development. They are more likely to be unemployed and also become problem making in society. Their dropout rate is may be likely influenced by their family income. However, families are playing an important role in school going students. In the present study we had examined their parental occupation and find out whether there is relation between parents occupation and high school dropouts. We took about 50 high school students who became dropout during 2015-16, in and around Tirupati schools. From field survey we had observed that there is a key role of parent's occupation influencing school dropouts.

KEYWORDS : School dropouts, Parents occupation, Tirupati

INTRODUCTION

A school dropout is someone who has left school before completing their studies. Alfred Marshall goes a step further and stresses the real importance of investing in human beings as "the most valuable of all capital", and points out that "skill is the base for the production and education is the ways and means of bringing economic development. Karl Marx also believes that education is a corrective to the inequality and exploitation created by the division of labour. Success of a nation is determined by the quality of its citizens. Nations are not built by bricks and mortars but by the quality of men. It does not require any evidence to say that society and its development are positively correlated to the development of education. Education plays prime role in economic and social development.

It is crucial four building human capability and for opportunities. The most significant that determines the quality of people is education. Unfortunately a large bulk if Indian population is still semi-literate or illiterate. Dropping out of school impacts student's self esteem and psychological well-being, faced with the reality that they lack skills and knowledge to fulfill their desires. The occupation of parents plays a major role in school dropouts. The poor and unstable income levels of parents are influencing their children freedom to study in school. The purpose of the current study was to establish parental roles in influencing high school dropout

METHODOLOGY:

The study is based on both source of data i.e., secondary and primary sources of data. Under secondary sources of data, high schools have been selected and also collected data on dropouts from 6th class to 10th class. The reasons for dropouts are analyzed. Under primary sources of data 50 school dropouts covering dropouts from rural areas and from urban areas in and around Tirupati. The primary data collected through a specially designed schedule, covering the aspects of social economic aspects and causes of school dropouts.

RESULT:

Table:1 Parents occupation of school dropouts

S.No	Parents Occupation	No. of Parents		Grand total	% Total
		Rural	Urban		
1	Farmers	6	-	6	12
2	Agricultural labour	8	-	8	16
3	Auto & car driver	1	3	4	8
4	Mechanic	3	6	9	18
5	Construction workers	1	7	8	16
6	Hotel workers	2	6	8	16
7	Tailor	-	4	4	8
8	Mobile vendors	-	3	3	6
	Total	21	29	50	100

It is seen from the table that the sample respondent's parents have taken up various Occupations both in rural and urban areas. 18 % of dropout parents have taken up the Occupations of mechanic followed by construction workers, Hotel workers, agricultural Labour (16.00%), followed by farmers(12.00%), followed by Auto & car driver, Tailor (8.00%) and Mobile vendors (6.00%).

DISCUSSION

It is, thus, seen that parents and students have to become conscious of the economics of education: "Expenditures on education constitute an important form of investment in economic development. The development of human resources is the cardinal objective of education in a developing economy. It is this which makes education an investment and it is the maximization of returns from this investment that determines its Countries all over the world have come to realize the importance contribution to the development of human resources and therefore to economic and social grow. of human factor in economic growth and development. In the matter of development of human resources, it is education which holds the key to human progress. Hence, education is regarded as the basis of all-development of a nation. There is a high correlation between education and human resource development in particular and economic development in general. The students are future human resource which influences the nation in turn. As its important to study why the school students are becoming dropouts. In the above data obtained we can find out majority of school dropouts were from mechanic occupation of parents, we can draw out as the parents may use their children in doing job part time by sharing their work and it begins to have breaks in school. Here in these students this part time or leisure time working makes them to have money and pride in their family so gradually they are becoming victims as school dropouts. The parents having occupation as construction workers, Hotel workers, agricultural Labour, farmers, auto & car drivers think that when work is there they can use their children to help them and drag them to become dropouts. Here we can observe that mobile vendors children are having less high school dropout ratio compared to all may be due to their children in very young age are becoming school dropouts without even enrolling to school or even stepping to school. It is clear that parents occupational pattern influencing school dropouts. Temporary and low income occupational parent's children shows common tendency to withdraw their children from schools.

CONCLUSION:

From the above study we had concluded that parent's occupation is playing a major role in the High school dropouts. The students are becoming unmotivated to come to school as they are getting their identity in the society by working in their parents work. Sometimes the low economic conditions of the family are dragging them to become high school dropouts. The peer group of these students were also attracted and motivated to become dropouts.