



**ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER**

**Psychology**

**PARENTAL ENCOURAGEMENT AND CAREER DECISION MAKING IN ADOLESCENCE DURING PANDEMIC**

**KEY WORDS:** Parental encouragement, Career decision making, Adolescence.

<b>Ayana.P</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> M.Sc Psychology Student, Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Science, Alagappa University.
<b>Dr. J. Sujathamalini*</b>	Professor & Head, Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Science, Alagappa University. *Corresponding Author
<b>Dr. K. Gunasekaran</b>	Assistant Professor, Department of Special Education And Rehabilitation Science, Alagappa University

**ABSTRACT**

This paper is an attempt to explore the role of parental encouragement in career decision making during pandemic. The parental influence are the most powerful determination in the process of career decision making as there is a silent effect on the offspring intention for the career. The effect can be seen on the way action, way of achieving goal and the final goal. But in this pandemic situation due to uncertainty of career opportunities the parents are in ambiguity to provide encouragement and guide their child with right career. During this period children are going through lot of difficulties like career selection, vagueness in academics etc. This article attempts to analyse the career decision making of prospective youth in today's competitive world and influence of parental encouragement among them during pandemic. This thematic paper applies content review methodology and had gone through the contents related to the topic and analytically summarised the ideas. Considering the importance of parent's participation and involvement in school activities, in this paper, analyse the positive effects of Parental encouragement, summarize parents role in career selection, tips to help your child's career development and recommendations. In addition, it will draw conclusion that the parental encouragement in career decision making of adolescence is very difficult during pandemic.

**INTRODUCTION**

The pandemic has brought with it a new challenge all over the people in the World. Pandemic makes the career decision-making process more difficult to consider of course the balance between choice or passion, sense of belonging, and risks involved. According to Hurlock, (1980) adolescence is a critical period in determining decisions related to their lives in the future, as the decision to continue education, work, or other options needed. According to Yusuf (2008), high school students are in the age group of 15-18 years which is the passage from childhood to adulthood is characterized by the process of searching for one's own identity. In general, high school students are confused about the requirements for self-acceptance, parenting, and the environment. A family is the basic unit of the society within which the newborn or neonate takes birth. It is the oldest and dearest social institution for nurturing and schooling children. Alder, the founder of individual psychology, believes that every child is unique and born within the innate social interests of others. He believed that children should be respected and supported in a democratic environment. Raising children is a project that aims to ensure the survival and development of children. As a parent, you give your child a good start in life, caring for him, protecting and guiding him. Family planning is a method that prepares your child to be independent. As your child grows and develops, there are things you can do to help your child. Child-rearing is a continuous process and each moment of a child's life they spend in contact with their parents has some effect on both present behaviour and potentiality for future action. Child-rearing is generally influenced by the characteristics of the way of thinking, feeling, and acting, prevalent in the cultural group to which the family belongs. During pandemic situations classes were on online mode, so there was a lack of direct communication between teachers and students that led to a situation where parents have to encourage the child as a teacher and a parent too. That made a lot of ambiguities in parents and obviously, children faced a huge problem in their career-oriented situations.

**PARENTAL ENCOURAGEMENT**

Sunitha (2005) opined that parental encouragement means helping and guiding their child and coaxing him not to feel

disheartened at a particular point of difficulty. Parental encouragement is one of the aspects of parental treatment patterns (Bhargava, 2012). If a child lives with encouragement, he/she learn to be confident. If a child with acceptance, he/she learns to Love. If a child with security he/she learns to have faith himself/herself. Parental encouragement may be in the form of asking the child if they want to modify his/her behaviour. In case it creates avoidance behaviour in the child that accounts to dis-encouragement

**CAREER DECISION MAKING**

Career decision-making is a process that explains the choices that a person makes when selecting a particular career. It is a complex phenomenon that has social, psychological (Aldona and Liuda, 2004). It helps to identify individual differences and various factors involved in an Individuals career decision-making (Hirschi and Lage, 2007). It also provides an understanding of the way these factors have an impact on their career decisions and choices (Ghuangpeng, 2011). Career decision-making is accurate knowledge and acceptance of one's own aptitude, abilities, needs, limitations, interests, values, and feelings. Career decided individual can be operationally defined as having certainly about future plans is confident of the decision taken, and knows how to implement these plans on the contrary inability of a person to choose a specific occupation to pursue is termed as career indecision. The construct of indecision purports to explain why some individuals are uncertain about their choices of a subject or career, whereas others are committed to their choices.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The aim of the study is to explore on parental encouragement and career decision making in adolescence during pandemic.

**METHODOLOGY**

This thematic paper applies content review methodology and had gone through the contents related to the topic and analytically summarised the ideas.

**DISCUSSION OF THE STUDY**

The study discussed about parental encouragement and

career decision making in adolescence during pandemic. During this period adolescence having so many difficulties in their career life because it is a transition period that searching for one's own identity. So this is the time they want to search or decide their career. In this situation, they want to help from parents for choosing the right career. Parental encouragement play a vital role in adolescent's decision making in their career. Parents are the integral part of the student's academic success. The paper indicates that parental influence seems to be very strong in career decision making.

**The parent's role in Career Selection**

Parents play a major influence in their children's career development and career decision-making. Parents want their children to live the happiest and most successful life and one factor which influences happiness and success is career choice. Research also indicates that when students feel cared for and loved by their parents, they have more confidence in their own capability to research careers and to choose a career that would be interesting and exciting. This is important because studies show that adolescents, who feel competent regarding career decision-making, tend to make more satisfying career choices later in life. (Keller 2004).

Parents should be careful not to belittle their children's dreams about their future careers. If they react negatively, it can stop the whole survey process. Otherwise, communication lines should remain open and encourage their children to gather as much information as possible about their areas of professional interest. The parent must realize that his role is simply to act as a facilitator on his children's career path and to enable independent career decisions is the young person's first real step towards adulthood. Parental encouragement plays an important role in decision-making among adolescents. Parental love, encouragement, cultural values, personal attitude, and career expectation influence individual career decision-making. If adolescence enjoys these facilities, they may be able for career-making.

**Tips to help your child's career development:**

- Encourage your children to get the highest education possible.
- To modify their knowledge of the world of work.
- Teach them to make decision
- Value cultural diversity and gender equity.
- To aware about several career resources, education and training opportunities.
- Observe the effects of work experience.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- In general, parents should be careful to set goals for their children so that they can lead. This is because young people need to know themselves.
- Parents need to respect their adolescent's differences. A family very environment that respects differences and independence would be useful for a child's career development.
- Parents need to show genuine interest and support in their teenagers' career plans.
- Parents should encourage children to explore career opportunities. This can be done through work, volunteering and participation time works.
- School counselors should collaborate and provide career guidance training for parents. This is because their education, skills and position in the school community place them in a unique position to assess the needs of young people and the skills and stressors of their parents.
- School counselors can help parents learn how to provide emotional support by helping them understand the emotions experienced by youth who are faced with difficult learning and career challenges, and by helping them talk to them about how exciting their future career will be.
- Although studies have shown that parental perceptions of

job satisfaction do not have a significant positive effect on adolescents' career aspirations, school counselors should encourage parents to share their experiences when considering adolescents' future learning and career opportunities.

- School counselors should help parents develop career-related modeling for young people by showing them how to talk to young people about their jobs and other careers they may find in the workplace.
- Attitude towards work will have a great influence on the career choice of young people.
- School counselors should work with parents to provide opportunities to develop hobbies in the subject and create an environment conducive to discovering talent for professional content

**CONCLUSION OF THE STUDY**

The study discussed about parental encouragement and career decision making in adolescence during pandemic. During this period adolescence having so many difficulties in their career life because it is a transition period that searching for one's own identity. So this is the time they want to search or decide their career. In this situation, they want to help from parents for choosing the right career. Parental encouragement plays a vital role in adolescent's decision making in their career. Parents are the integral part of the student's academic success. The paper indicates that parental influence seems to be very strong in career decision making. This article aims to understand the relationship between parental encouragement and career decision-making in adolescence during pandemic. Pandemic also create a crisis in the career-making decision like selection of career, ambiguity in academics, etc., Parental encouragement refers to the encouragement provided by the parents to children for their successful career life. Parental encouragement plays an important role in the formation of the life of children. Career decision Making is accurate knowledge and acceptance of ones' own aptitude, abilities, needs, limitations, interest, values, feelings. Adolescence is a critical period in determining decisions related to their lives in the future, as the decision to continue education, work, or other options needed. So the adolescence are experienced many problems related to their career. There are so many tips to help the career development like to encourage the children to get the highest education possible, modify their knowledge, to assess interest, personality, values and skills, aware about career planning, learning strategies, to provide information and guidance on career opportunities. This thematic paper also shows that when students feel that they are gaining the support and love of their parents, they become more confident in their ability to research careers and choose an interesting and exciting job. Such events provide a source of comfort to parents to alleviate pain and anxiety, to talk to their children to help alleviate their anxiety. It has been recommended that parents should be aware of how to provide emotional support to children at times of uncertainty. This paper helps the parents to understand how much their encouragement affects the future of their child.

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