



Impact of Problem Solving Ability and Parenting Style on Career Decision Making Ability among senior secondary school students

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ABSTRACT

The technology prone world, it becomes quite challenging for adolescents to Decide the future career. The thought process of career selection starts at the early age and gradually increases at the adolescence stage. The current research was done to investigate the impact of problem solving ability and parenting style on career decision making ability among senior secondary school students. In this study problem solving ability and parenting style has been treated as independent variables where as career decision making ability has been treated as depended variable. Method of current study was descriptive survey .600 senior secondary school students of rural and urban area were chosen by random sampling. Career Decision Making scale by Singh (2014), problem solving ability Dr.L.N.Dubey(2012), Parenting style Dr.MadhuGupta and DMehtani(2017) was used to compile the data for analysis.

Keywords:-*Career decision making ability, Problem solving ability, Parenting style, Senior secondary school students.*

INTRODUCTION.

“Each man owns his own life. I only hope that he is the architect of his future as he lives it.”

Adolescence is both an exciting and challenging stage of human life. Life of an individual is on its climax at this stage. Stanley Hall described adolescence as „new birth“, „storm and stress“, „erratic“, „emotional“, „unstable“ and „unpredictable“. Adolescents have to face various challenges e.g. change in their physical structure, puberty, social education, transition from elementary to secondary schools. One of the major challenges at this stage is; selection of a life long career. Decision making starts at the adolescence period; a struggle starts to balance between obedience and independence. With the development of other skills, decision making skills need to be developed among the adolescents. Erickson (as cited in Landline, 2013) late adolescence is the time when ideological and occupational commitment is the key task. Savickas (as cited in Landline, 2013) spoke of the need for students to „look ahead“. He advocated the development of competencies of self knowledge, occupational information, decision making, planning, and problem solving etc. Selecting one’s career depends on what one wants to do. It is becoming more and more

complex due to fluid character of the world of work. Career choice and planning has become important as globalization and current vocational choices have created an unprecedented war for talents (Smith, 2011). Technological advancement and rapid growth in India too has made the decision making process more complex. It involves not only one decision, but a large number of decisions over a considerable period of time. Career decisions are based on the interaction of maturity with regards to career, self-concept, intelligence, one's aptitude and attitude, gender, social background, home, family environment and parenting style along with many other psychological and environmental factors. Hoyt (1991) the total constellation of psychological, sociological, educational, economic, physical and chance factors shape the most important and unavoidable factor which influences the decision making process of an individual is parenting style. Parents' attitude, encouragement, involvement and behaviour towards the child, has strong impact on his decision making process. Parents are the primary source of information for their children and develop the attitude of taking decisions. Parents' encouragement, involvement and their style to nurture them affects their career choices. Parenting style influences the attitude of a child towards life. Social Learning Theory highlights the influence that the family can have on adolescents' career development. Parents can have an influence on their child's career development by positively developing or punishing certain behaviours that can encourage or discourage certain interests or abilities. Studies revealed out that it is almost impossible to make a decision completely independent of our families. Roe's theory of career choice focuses on the relationship between genetic factors and different child rearing practices and their influence on young individual personalities and styles. These styles in turn influence a variety of vocational behaviours (Roe and Siegelman, 1964). Not only parents' behaviour but one's concept about oneself also determines his career. Super (1951) self concept, having accurate knowledge of self, is most likely to make sound career decisions. Therefore the present study is an attempt to understand how career decision making is influenced by personal and environmental factors. The present study is conducted with the objective to study the relationship between career decision making and personal factor that effects the decision making process of an individual i.e. gender and self concept, and environmental factors i.e. locality and parenting style. It also aims at finding the effect of independent variable problem solving ability and parenting style) on the dependent variable (career decision making ability)

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To compare career decision making ability of senior secondary school students on different levels of problem solving ability.
- To compare career decision making ability of senior secondary school students on different levels of parenting style.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY.

- There is no significant difference in career decision making ability of senior secondary school students on different levels of problem solving ability
- There is no significant difference in career decision making ability of senior secondary school students on different levels of parenting style.

DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY :-

Research is an academic activity in order to discover answers to questions through the applications of scientific procedures. There are many methods of educational research that are very commonly used in the field. The differences in the methods are mainly due to differences in purposes and approaches only. Research methods are classified and categorised in several ways. There is no definite and natural way of such classification. It differs with different educationist. Best has mentioned three methods of Educational Research namely, (i) Historical, (ii) Survey, and (iii) Experimental. (iv) Case study. The current piece of work is an attempt to study the Career decision skills among senior sec. school teachers in relation to parental encouragement and self confidence. This research needs a survey method to collecting the data for these variables. This method offers the possibilities in describing research and interpreting what exist now and is about conditions, belief, practices, relationships, attitudes that provides the trends and the processes which are developing. Thus, a Descriptive Survey Method of research is used to conduct this study.

POPULATION AND SAMPLE

The large number of items of units of particular characteristic is called population. In the present study, senior sec. students of Bhiwani, CharkhiDadri and Rohtak District studying in senior sec. school constitutes the population.

A small set of convenient size is generally considered as sample. Samples are chosen appropriately and information is derived from that sample about the whole population. Therefore, the researcher must select the sample members who have the characteristics of the universe. According to Mildred Parton (1950) Sampling is the process of drawing a countable number of the individuals from the particular population for investigation or research purpose. In the present study, 600 students (boys and girls) of Bhiwani, CharkhiDadri and Rohtak District studying in senior sec, school constitutes the sample.

TOOLS USED

A researcher requires many data – gathering tools or techniques. Tests are the tools of measurement and it guides the researcher in data collection and also in evaluation. According to Best & Kahn (2006), “Like the tools in carpenter’s box, each research tool is appropriate in a given situation to accomplish a given purpose.” For the present study, the following tools were accordingly chosen, adapted and standardized in Indian conditions as per the need of the investigation:

Standardized Tools

Career Decision Making scale by Singh (2014)

Problem Solving Ability Dr L.N. Dubey (2012)

Parenting style, DrMadhu Gupta and D Mehtani (2017)

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES USED

To learn the dynamics of the information Mean, Standard deviation and T-test statistical methods were used in the research.

Data analysis and interpretation

Mean, Standard Deviation and ‘t’ values of career decision making ability of senior secondary school students having low and high problem solving ability

Problem Solving Ability Level	Number	Mean	S.D.	‘t’	Level of Significance
Students with low problem solving ability	183	27.63	5.36	18.714	Significant at 0.01 level
Students with high problem solving ability	336	38.40	3.18		

Note: Students with average problem solving ability were not taken

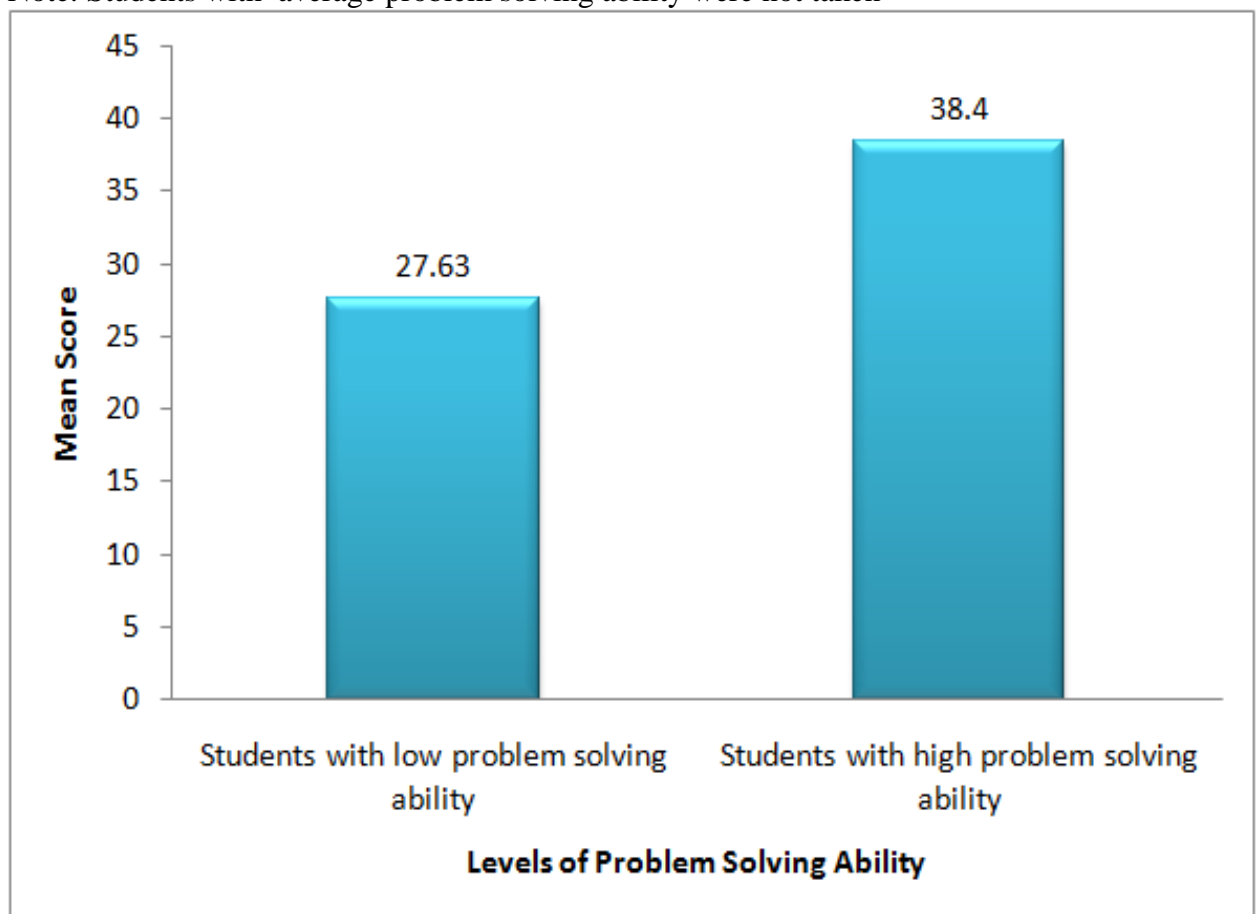


Table , it is clear that the mean score of career decision making ability of senior secondary school students having low and high problem solving ability are 27.63 & 38.40 respectively.

The calculated ‘t’ value for 517 degree of freedom is 18.714 which is more than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 and 2.58 at 0.01 level of significance. It means that there is a significant difference among senior secondary school students having low and high problem solving ability on career decision making ability. Hence the null hypothesis, “There is no significant difference in career decision making ability of senior secondary school students on different levels of problem solving ability” not retained. The higher mean score of students having high problem solving ability shows that they have better career decision making ability than those students having low level of problem solving ability. The second objective of the study is to compare the career decision making ability of senior secondary school students having different parenting styles. To find out the difference, ‘ANOVA’ test was employed on data given in table below:

Table :Descriptive statistics of Career decision making ability in relation to different parenting styles

Parenting Styles	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Democratic parenting style	239	38.38	3.112
Autocratic parenting style	149	28.78	4.760
Permissive parenting style	123	38.67	3.156
Uninvolved parenting style	89	27.51	5.966
Total	600	34.44	6.456

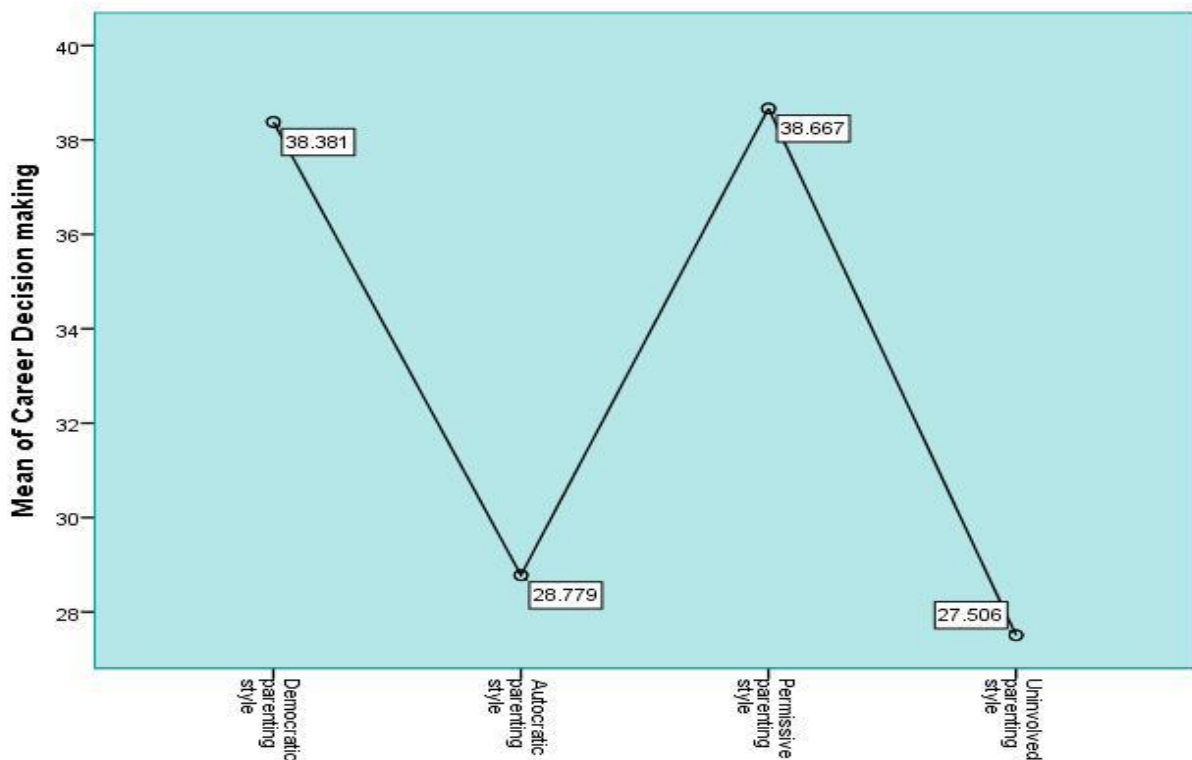


Fig. Mean values of career decision making ability of senior secondary school students having different types of parenting style

Table ANOVA table of career decision making ability of senior secondary school students having different types of parenting style

	Sum of Square	Df	Mean Square	“F”	Significance
Between groups	14964.335	3	4988.112	297.124	.000
Within Groups	10005.623	596	16.788		
Total	24969.958	599			

It is apparent from table that the F value (297.124) with df (3, 596) is found significant at .01 level. It may also be seen that there is a significant difference in career decision making ability among students having different parenting styles. This suggests that different groups do not concern to the same population regarding their mean score.

CONCLUSION

The study further stated that there is a significant difference among senior secondary school students having low and high problem solving ability on career decision making ability. Students having high problem solving ability shows that they have better career decision making ability than those students having low level of problem solving ability. It was also noted from the study that there is a significant difference in career decision making ability among students having different parenting style. Students with permissive and democratic parenting style had better career decision making ability than those students who have uninvolved and autocratic parenting style.

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