



The Effect of Parental Influence on the Choice of Careers and Roles Played in Academic Performance of Students-Bangladeshi Perspective.

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Abstract:

Parents' influence in Children's academic and career life is more than teachers, friends, relatives or other sources. As children get their primary education from their parents, they are grown up with the motif which their parents put into their mind from their childhood. This paper discusses about the role of parents in educative level and deciding career for their children and how much their roles are effective. From the students of secondary level and tertiary level, feedbacks are collected. From those feedbacks, it is really matter of joy that parents are engaging themselves in discussion in choosing major or subjects for their children. It is apprehensible from this research that a very less percentage of parents do not show much curiosity in the matter of their children. Among them some are cautious with their study, aim and some are not much interested. The purpose of this paper is to establish a clear idea how parents engagement is significant for their children both in their academic and career betterment.

Keywords: Parental involvement, Students' performances, Effects of parents' role, Electing Subjects or major, Discussion among Parents and children, Role of parents.

Introduction:

The effect of parents' role in choosing the career and subjects for the children has dyad dimensions. From infancy to adult life parents play a vital role for the educative level and careers of their children. There seems to have different kinds of opinion of students. But positivity is much seen among the children as their parents have the positive sense. There seemed to be three categories of parents. Parents who are literate working as the foundation of acquiring good education by creating a perfect environment for education. There are some parents who enforce their children to achieve the results whatever they want. They are not bothered what their Children want. Lastly, parents who are not educated, they do not understand what they should exactly do to get better result in the education of their children. Parents not only support in the education level of the students but also support in choosing their careers. After research positivity can be found among the students. At current situation, 80% parents agree with their children's desire and this attitude create a positive impact on students which helps to get better results in both academy and career. 20% parents somehow show their inactivity in performing their roles in education curriculum and choosing careers of their children. In case of this, the effect sometimes becomes wonderful if the children have interest to develop their career and establish themselves. But most of the students leave their education in the middle way because of the unawareness of the parents. It also happens because of less earnings of the parents. Parents and their children forcefully have to leave their education because of financial problem. Parents cautiousness is the most momentous thing for their children from an early age because the children got primary education from parents and home environment is needed for study otherwise the children do not want to give their concentration. Encouragement of parents must be need to get proper effect in the sectors of education which support the children to get a good result and they try to build up their career properly. Enforcement of something is not liked by the children brings positive and negative effect. It depends on the children's mentality that they are taking the pressure in a positive way or negative way. So the effect of parental role in children life is really inexplicable. In this article, the effect of parental activity in the sectors of career and choosing subjects for their children will be described according to the research.

Literature Review:

Home- biased involvement includes communication between parents and children about school, establishing a learning environment at e.g. making educational material like books and newspaper accessible exposing children to educationally stimulating activities and experiences (e.g. museums, libraries etc) and monitoring and supporting homework (Hill and Tyson 2009). In order to understand the mechanisms or underlying processes behind the relation between family characteristics and dropout risk, studies in the field have focused on parents' involvement in their children's education (e.g. Rumberger 1995; Rumberger et al. 1990; Zaff et al. 2017). Research indicates that children and adolescents are more likely to perform well in school and graduate when their parents are involved in their schooling (Hill and Tyson 2009; Rumberger et al. 1990, Siraj and Mayo 2014; Zaff et al. 2017). Parental advice was also sought frequently and was useful when making job, career and course decisions compared to advice sought from teachers and friends

(Cridge and Cridge, 2015, Milward et al. 2006, Nugent et al. 2015, Shahin et al. 2015, White and Harrison, 2012). Parents who are successful in influencing their children's career choices are those who have sufficient information, share that information with their children and help their children in the process of making people career and courses decisions (Lukas, 2015). However, there are parents who put high hopes on and aim for their children to grow up into individuals who are popular, thus forcing them to study in a field that is neither of their children's choice nor interest. This in turn decreases their thinking ability and their motivation to study. (Yahya & Ismail, 2011). Previous research showed that during early child age, parents serve as the most important motivation factor in their children's lives and this includes career decisions. Previous findings also showed that the parents' level of education has a significant correlation with students' ambition. During early child age, parents provide guidance to their children to tuition classes in order to improve their achievement in science and mathematics during the early education stage (Cridge & Cridge, 2015).

Sawitri, Creed and Zimmer- Gemback (2014) examined the longitudinal relationships among social intellectual career variables during high school years which is known as a dynamic phase of career decision making. They examined two important factors that have been found to influence, individual career advance. The first was parental career expectations which can have an effect upon choices identified regarding educational and occupational goals, occupational choice, level of commitment and exertion (Fouad et. Al. 2008). The second parental contextual variable was parental support which incorporates encouragement, modeling desired behaviors and enthusiastic backing. Both cross-sectional and longitudinal studies with particular studies with participants from collectivist societies have shown that parental support influences children's career selection (Garcia et al. 2012, Sawitri et. al, 2014).

When children begin their secondary education, parents influence their career decision making by providing financial support to the students. During the University period, parents who are not aware of the higher education needs and financial burden will only provide negative enforcement, especially if the student has enrolled in tough and competitive course. Therefore, attention should be given to educating the parents about the importance of their roles in empowering their children with career decision making by providing them with adequate knowledge on career choices. This shows that the attitude of parents also plays a vital role in the career decisions of their children, including the aspects of career exploration, gender typing and future career planning (Hall, Dickerson, Batts, Kauffman, & Bosse, Nonetheless virtually all subsequent 2011) analyses have found measures of family background (i.e. parents' education or income family structure) to be a significant explanation of achievement differences (Hanushek 2017; Ramberger 1995). In Norway, where this study is situated, the likelihood of completion of upper secondary education is strongly associated with parents' educational level. While 90.8% of the students whose parents have completed more than four years of higher education, this applies to only 57.6 of students who parents have lower Secondary School as their highest educational level (Statistics Norway 2020a).

Data Analysis:

Response of parents to the Secondary education level (SL):

15 students from SL were selected for questionnaire session. There were all Categories students. The students were from Science and Business studies. 95% Students' responses were positive that they have full support from their parents in which subjects discussed with them and they also shared their opinion. Their performances are really appreciating in academic sectors. Among them some students decided that aims from their childhood and they are appreciated to maintain their ambition. Their parents have been getting the proper atmosphere which is encouraging them to get the good result. Their parents are really active and aware of their study. Last 5% students complied with the decision of their parents. In accordance with their parents, they should read the subjects which their parents have been seeing them studying and they know really well in which subject they would be able to read. Some of them really wanted to choose other group subjects but because of their parents' desirable subjects. A few students replied that they have tried to read the preferable subjects of their parents for some months but they were not able to adjust with these subjects. So they had to change their subjects. They are now reading those subjects with comfortable. According to their opinion, their parents have accepted their opinion but sometimes they talk about their desirable group subjects. But still the students are getting proper environment to carry on their study.

Chart

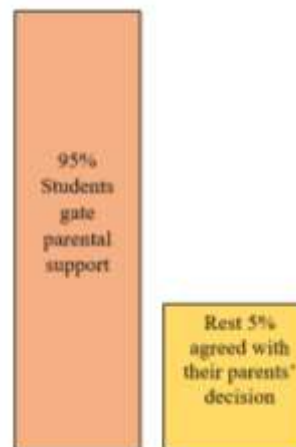


Figure 1: Results from secondary level

Role of parents at tertiary level of students:

Approximately thirty students from English Language & Literature were asked if they chose this department according to the opinion of their parents or they themselves chose it. 80% students answered that they chose it because they wanted it. There was full support of their parents to pursue their education in this subject. Some students were really happy to inform that their parents encouraged them to get higher education in whatever major they want. From their opinion, it could be understood that they are getting support from their parents to build up their career according to their desire. According to them, from their childhood, they have been getting the proper environment to get education. When the time came of choosing the subject for higher education, they asked their parents and their parents told them to choose subject with intelligence so that they can gain knowledge properly which will help them to develop their career. So they are actually trying to do well in the examination and their interest for gaining knowledge is developing. From the opinion of 20%, the students chose their major listening to their parents' opinion and they have some purpose behind getting admission in this department. The students say that they were totally blind after passing the Higher Secondary Examination that in which department that should get admission. Their parents decided this department for them by saying if they can acquire knowledge on English, it will increase the ability of speaking English and they will be able to go to abroad. If it is taken positively, their opinion is better but they are not aware of the performance of their children. The students are studying in this department to fulfill their purpose. They are seemed to have lack interest to gain knowledge properly. Some of them just answered that they chose it because they like it and their parents told them to take it as their major. There can also be some other reasons but the students bit the students hide them because of hesitation and personal issues. Based on questionnaires, there are two categories of students at tertiary level where the reasons of their different results and attitude are their family mainly their parents.

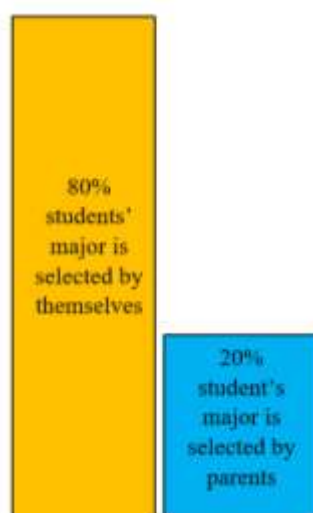
Chart

Figure 2: Results from tertiary level

Findings:

Influence of parents really matters in academic level of students. From the opinion of them it can be found out that most of the parents support the choices of their children. Their support creates as positive impact on the students. They get more interest to perform well to achieve good result in the exam. Actually creation of positive environment is really important to keep the students engaged in academic curriculum and it depends on parents. If the parents show positivity towards the students, the effect from students is also positive. Now, at tertiary level, 80% parents are supporting their children to study with the desirable subjects and rest 20% students are studying in the subjects which their parents have selected for them. At SL, 95% students are progressing their study with the group subjects which they have chosen by themselves and rest 5% are studying in their parents' desirable subjects. At present, the parents are giving priority to the opinion of their children. They are also supporting the decision related to the study and career of their children. So their children are becoming more athirst to seek knowledge and they have the ambition to establish themselves. Creating pressure on the students does not create positive impact rather than it creates negative impact on their study. The students feel bore while doing study and when they do not get good result, they face stress from their surroundings. So, the parental motivation and inspiration is essential for proper development of a student.

Recommendations:

- 1) Firstly, literacy should be spread among the parents. If the parents are educated, they will value the education of their children.
- 2) Parents should involve themselves when their children are completing their homework or they should listen to the obstacle of their Children while they are studying. If they do so, the children feel more interest to study properly.

- 3) Parents' attitude toward their children should be positive and they should be frank with their children. They should encourage their children to remain engaged to their study along with extra activities.
- 4) Parents should be always in connection with the teachers so that there can be created a good bond. Parents and Teachers' communication can increase the knowledge about students' performance.
- 5) Parents' decision of choosing subject or career for their children should be taken after the discussion with their children.

Conclusion:

Parents' involvement in education is one of the most vital things for students. Nowadays parents are really working hard for their children. They are always concerned about the academic performance of their children. Because of this, the outcome is also apprehensible. Students are getting inspiration from their parents and trying to get a good position in academic level along with developing career. As parents are involving themselves in the activities of their children, it is working like a super energy for the children to achieve something better. Their involvement is creating a better communication between parents and children. From the research, it is found that not only in Secondary level but also in tertiary level parents are involved themselves greatly and the students' feedback are also appreciable. Children are showing their eagerness to share the idea about their career and parents are being a pillar for them. Sometimes, parents show negligence in case of the study performance of their children. That is why, children are also neglecting their study and they also remain careless. Parents' activity impacts on the performances of their children. If the parents' role is veritable the children have to face obstacles in their life. So the parents should be aware of the study level and career of their children so that they can get a definitive output. Bob Seeshan says "Parents are the ultimate role models for children. Every word, movement and action has an effect. No other person or outside has a greater influence on a child than the parent." Brian Tracy says, "If you raise your children to feel that they can accomplish any goal or task they decide upon, you will have given your children the greatest of all Blessings".

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