INFLUENCE OF SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS ON CAREER DECISION MAKING OF UNDERGRADUATE EMERGING ADULTS

RENA BENI T. MURRY & LATA PUJAR

Professor and Head, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, College of Community Science, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, India

ABSTRACT

Career explorations and decisions are important aspects of emerging adulthood as the scope of independent exploration of life's possibilities is greater in this stage than it will be at any other period of the life course. Thus, this study was taken up to know the influence of socioeconomic status on career decision making difficulties of undergraduate emerging adults in India. Emerging adults in undergraduate courses from Dharwad, Karnataka, India constituted the population for the study. The sample for the study comprised of 670 students who were randomly selected from eleven colleges. Career Decision-making Difficulty Questionnaire by Gati et al., (1996) was used to assess lack of readiness, lack of information, inconsistent information and total career decision making difficulty. Socioeconomic Status Scale by Aggarwal et al., (2005) was used to assess the socioeconomic status. The results revealed significant associations between the levels of socioeconomic status with lack of information, inconsistent information and total career decision making. There were also significant negative correlations observed with all the categories of career decision making difficulty as well as with total career decision making difficulty. A significant difference of mean was also observed between the levels of socioeconomic status with lack of information, inconsistent information and total career decision making where the lower middle socioeconomic status scored the highest. This calls for the importance of professionals and teachers to be more vigilant and attentive in guiding the students particularly those from lower socioeconomic status so that they can make appropriate career decisions with ease despite their vulnerability.

KEY WORDS: Emerging Adults, Career Decision Making And Socioeconomic Status

Received: Aug 08, 2017; Accepted: Aug 28, 2017; Published: Sep 23, 2017; Paper Id.: IJESROCT20179