

# Career Orientation among Senior Secondary Girl Students in relation to the Location of School and Stream

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## Abstract

*The present study was intended to investigate the Career Orientation among Senior Secondary Girl Students in relation to the Location of School and Stream. In the present scenario girls seems to be more career oriented and are enrolling themselves in almost all types of courses may be academic or professional. With the immense increase in privatization and vast developments, the options for career have also increased but the aspirants have to pay heavily to get admitted in such private institutes. Therefore, the main thing which demands attention is that whether the girls from rural areas also aware about these options or it is confined only to the children of well to do or so called urbanized families. Hence, in the present study an attempt has been made to find out whether the girls belonging to rural background are also as much career oriented as those from urban background. One more factor which has been given preference in the present investigation is the 'stream', that means whether the course which a particular student is studying, influences their awareness about their future career options or not. Thus, it seems that the outcomes of the present investigation will be very helpful for students, teachers, educationists and policy planners.*

**Keywords:** Career Orientation, Location of school and Stream.

## Introduction

Women constitute half of the country's population and it is abundantly clear that there can be no development unless their needs and interests are fully taken into account. The Sanskrit Phrase: - "Yatra Narayasto Pujayante Ramante Tatre Devata" implies that, worship of women is equal to worship of God. However, the women in general lost their high status because of certain social and historical factors. Women was economically, socially, politically or in religious rituals completely dependant on man. There was no-life for her outside the home. The above image of women therefore, is not a mirror image of Indian women-hood, but only an opportunity of it. However, as has already been observed, the changing socio-economic and political scenario has also changed the value system of Indian society compelling women to work as productive member in economically important areas outside the four walls of house. For the accomplishment of this purpose, education has plays a vital role, No society can progress unless the women are educated, "Educate a boy and you educate an individual. Educate a girl and you educate whole family".

Women are the inspiring force and genius of the home. They can build a new nation and can mould rather new era in history of mankind.

## Women and Career Orientation

Last century has witness Indian Women in a new persona. She is now adopting a career of her own and sharing equally with man the responsibility for the development of society in all aspects. An earning woman is an asset for the family and her income provide the desired independence and confidence.

The term 'career' has several meanings which vary with the user. Popular usage treats it as a synonym for 'occupation' a misuse of the terms. In the scientific study of work and of people it has been given a more special meaning in keeping with its origin as a word, and denotes the sequence of positions occupied by a person during the course of a life time. Vocational psychologists tend to use 'career' briefly for 'occupational career' (Super 1957). Three major types of definitions of career are found. The first emphasizes notable achievement in any occupation, the second any pattern of occupational change and the third a succession of related occupations that are hierarch and arranged and through which a worker raise in an ordered sequence. The last definition most closely corresponds to the historic case of the world.

Why have women in India started taking up careers and since when? Some of us think that it has been due to the impact of Western Education. But the Western Education was initiated in the early 19th century in India and Indian women in general started taking up career much later. Hence we have seen that women are compelled to come out of their home mainly due to economic difficulties of out times.

Social roles of middle aged women have drastically changed from the 1940s to the 1980s (Lott, 1987, sales, 1978). In young and middle adulthood during the 1940s and 1950s, women were pre-occupied with home, family concerns and community activities, the 1960s and 1970s were transitional decades during which the number of women in the work force increased. in the 1980s, the number of women workers was just double that of 1970s and over 42% of the work force was represented by women (V.S. Department of labour,1983).Therefore, career issues of women become important considerations for study.

Women's career orientation defined in terms of intention to work more or less continuously throughout one's life even when there is no financial need and there are young children at home and preferring or choosing to enter a traditionally male career. So marriage should not be considered a hindrance in the career of woman. An earning woman is an asset for the family and her income provides her the desired independence and confidence. A woman need not waste her talent, education and experience while sitting idle in the four walls of her house, when developing India needs her the most. While studies done in the 1960s suggested that the majority of young women did not plan work outside the home (Matthews and Tiedeman, 1964) student in the early 1970s strongly suggested that the majority of young women planned to combine marriage and career. (Rand and Miller, 1972; Watley and Kaplan, 1971). Title and Denker, (1977), in their extensive review stated that home career conflict continues to be an important factor to influence career choice for women; however its exact effect remains unclear. Home career conflict has also been found to be related to lower career motivation in women. Green and Davins,

(1982), studied the factors associated with marriage and career plans in unmarried women. It was revealed that female role is evolving the combination of family and career. Despite the higher career aspirations, majority of women remained somewhat traditional and were unwilling to commit themselves to an uninterrupted full time career pattern. Sinha, (1985), studied the attitude of girl students in Bhagalpur towards family life, marriage and career and found that: Education among women had initiated conducive elements of attitudinal change, and their attitudes had changed, though moderately, towards family life. They held favorable attitude to new system, and thus supported change in pattern of family, marriage and career. Courtney, (1989), studied the proposition of woman are acculturated into certain career. Three questions were asked:

- ❖ Do career values fall into achievement and affiliate orientations which relate to special career?
- ❖ Do selected demographic variables influence the career values and career choice of women between the ages of 26 and 60, who are in business, education, nursing and low and
- ❖ Do demographic variable predict career values?

The finding indicated that: Eight of the twenty career values had either achievement or affiliate orientation which differentiated the four careers. Career values appeared to be limited function of characteristics such as education at decision-making time and socio-economic level as indexed by the mother's education and occupations and a demographic variable appeared to predict career choice to a greater extent than did career values. Oberoi, (1990), Investigated career orientation among college and university female students of Himachal Pradesh in relation to parental education and maternal employment. He found a significant development pattern of career orientation among the female students of Himachal Pradesh from college to university level. The parental education of the female students is facilitative in the career orientation especially in case of those having working mothers. The female university students having low parental education and non-working mothers, exhibit low level of family orientation but higher levels of career orientation than their college counterparts, on the basis of analysis she summed it up, it may be broadly inferred that the development of career orientation among family orientation, being dependent on the level of parental education and working status of mothers of the subjects. Charu, (1991) found career orientation and occupational aspiration among university female students to be related with parental education, residential background and age. The professional course students reported higher levels of career orientation than that pursuing post graduation in humanities and sciences. Dhar (1991) while validating career orientation scale for university women students, reported that: the women students opting for both career and home have shown higher level of career orientation in comparison to their counterparts opting either for career or family. However, no differential pattern emerged in the family orientation pattern of the women students opting for both career and home life, opting only for career or opting for family life after the completion of education. The women student with low family status exhibited significantly higher level of career orientation than those having average and above average family status. The family orientation of the women students, on the other hand in terms of the family status was found to be non-differential. Sharma (1991), studied certain correlation of career orientation

among university women students of Himachal Pradesh and found that: low parental education, both paternal and maternal seems to be facilitative for higher levels of career orientation among university women students of Himachal Pradesh. But highest level of maternal education seems to be facilitative in higher career-orientation among university women students. Low status occupational pursued by the parents of university women students of Himachal Pradesh is facilitative of career-orientation especially in case of paternal occupation. There is no significance difference in the career orientation of university women students of Himachal Pradesh belonging to rural and urban residential background or joint and nuclear type of family. Ritu Awasthi (1998), while studying the career orientation among the university women students of Himachal Pradesh found that: the women students coming from rural and urban areas do not differ significantly with regard to their career orientation. The university women students pursuing professional courses do not differ significantly from those pursuing non-professional courses in their career orientation. General group of women students significantly more family oriented than the scheduled caste students. The career orientation among university women students do not differ significantly for three social groups i.e. SC, ST, and general population group. Pelos and Sophia, (2001), studied the career orientation of female entrepreneurs, a study of using schema's career anchor theory. The finding indicated that female entrepreneurs scored high on the security because commitment to a particular life style) and variety (desire for a tasks and challenges orientation but scored low on the security at desire for association with a particular organization) and identity (interest in career status or prestige) orientation. Finally 21 of 80 woman reported holding business related degrees indicating that educational background had little relationship to the career orientation of women in entrepreneurship. Renu Bala, (2008), studied the career orientation among girl students of senior secondary school in relation to study family type, parental education, parental employment and stream. She found that: the girls belonging to low occupational status have highest level of career orientation and the girl students belonging to high level of occupational status have lowest level of career orientation. The girl's students from science stream have highest level of career orientation and the girl students from commerce group have lowest level of career orientation. The family type does not affect the career orientation among senior secondary school students. Fr Racho Ibrahim et al. (2014) worked on the topic, "The Status of Career Awareness among Selected Kenyan Public Secondary School Students" and pointed out that- (i) there was a positive and significant relationship between career awareness and career decision-making. (ii) Girl-child is not given much priority in terms of education in Marsabit. This is because of cultural and traditional practices including early marriages in the communities in that region. (iii) Gender difference did not play a role in career decision-making among students in secondary school in Marsabit. However, the girls were disadvantaged because of high rate of dropout among them.

Hirschi et al. (2017) examined the protean career orientation, vocational identity and self-efficacy an empirical clarification of their relationship among 563 university students. Results indicated that protean career orientation is closely related to vocational identity clarity and self- efficacy because it enhances these career attitudes. Moreover, identity and self-efficacy mediate some, but not all of the effects of protean career orientation on important career outcomes

Education is the key factor which intervenes in all types of development; though it itself gets affected by social and economic development. Education has brought women from the subordinate and subjugated position to an equal level with men. Increasing trend of female enrollment in the agricultural, horticulture and animal husbandry, MBA, architecture, law and medicine courses has been pointed out. On the basis of these trends the broad conclusions arrived at is that there is significant change in the women's higher education with more and more women students enrolling themselves in the non-traditional courses and jobs. Examples of women who take up non-traditional jobs are Kamla Bai is Rajasthan's first solar engineer, Shabnam is Indian's first and only women Qazi, Meenakshi Vijay Kummar is first Indian woman to become a fire officer, Swavtri Kabirdas is a hand pump mechanic. The success stories of these women have redefined the role woman play in the development of society. The increased participation of woman in the economically productive work, particularly outside the four walls of the house has made them self dependent.

Woman with career being the cream of society can be better part of the half. They are unavoidable phenomenon of our modern age. On their shoulders depends the future of India.

### **Significance of the Study**

Assessment of career achievement is necessarily a functional component of educational attainment among adolescents, especially the female students. Since career development taking cues from the developmental tasks inculcates certain values in the female adolescent and adult students to look at 'career' or 'home' 'in a complex manner', as a result of socialization process and one's own reaction and self evaluation.

The present study is in continuation with the earlier efforts of the researchers to find out the patterns of career orientation among women students pursuing higher studies. The rapid expansions of educational institutions in rural and urban areas and increasing literacy rate among women have provided them with increased opportunities for self-expression. Further industrialization, economic development, socioeconomic tension, urbanization and changes in value system have put a severe strain on traditional roles of women and force them to look for never identities. However, techno-economic changes do not affect the traditional structure absolutely.

One of the key issues faced by adolescents, both male and female is that of identity formation. As children grow older, sex differences become even more pervasive. It is claimed that passivity and dependency show a high degree of continuity from childhood into adulthood in women but not for men.

The increased participation of women in the economically productive work, particularly outside four walls of the house has made them self-dependent. Education has brought them from the subordinate and subjugated position to an equal level with men. As regards the economic aspect; since independence, the number of women joining I.A.S., enter the Engineering colleges, polytechnics etc. is ever-increasing, besides owing their regular professions like teaching medicine, social work and electrical establishment According to Slay and Mc Donald

1981, b Females benefited from their career through personal fulfillment, financial gain and increased career opportunities just as their male counterparts.

According to researchers, it has been found that well off but unemployed women who do not join any type of service, are depressed or obsessed with homes to the point of losing their own self, worth and identity. On the other hand, working women were motivated for work due to basic needs of their families. Working women are required to play a dual role one as wives, mothers and housewives and other as employees. With this background in view, an endeavour shall be made to study the career and family values of the senior secondary girl students who are in the process of setting in life either as housewife or a careerist and to determine what goals have been important to them during the academic years because late adolescence is one of the stages of life during which important vocational and ideological decisions are enjoined. An investigation of these factors might further our understanding of women's vocational development in later life in relation to their family type variables i.e. family type, parental education, parental employment and stream which it is supposed to contribute positively to career advancement among educated adolescent females.

### Objectives of the Study

1. To study the career orientation of senior secondary girl students studying in rural and urban schools.
2. To study the career orientation among senior secondary girl students studying in rural and urban schools from:-
  - ❖ Science stream.
  - ❖ Arts stream.
  - ❖ Commerce stream
3. To study the career orientation among senior secondary girl students from:-
  - ❖ Science and Arts stream.
  - ❖ Arts and commerce stream.
  - ❖ Science and commerce stream.

## Hypotheses

1. There is no significant difference in the career orientation of senior secondary girl students studying in rural and urban school.
2. There is no significant difference in the career orientation of senior secondary girl students studying in rural and urban school from :-
  - ❖ Science stream.
  - ❖ Commerce stream.
  - ❖ Arts stream.
3. There is no significant difference in the career orientation among senior secondary girl students from:-
  - ❖ Science and Arts stream.
  - ❖ Arts and Commerce stream.
  - ❖ Science and commerce stream.

## Delimitations of the Study

The present study was delimited in its scope in the following manner:

1. The study was confined to Senior Secondary Schools of Tehsil Dharamshala, Nagrota Bagwan and Kangra of District Kangra (Himachal Pardesh).
2. The study was restricted to only senior secondary girl students studying in plus one and plus two standard perusing regular course of study.

## Methodology

Survey method under Descriptive method of research was used to conduct the present study.

## Population

In the present investigation, the senior secondary girl students of plus one and plus two standard of Govt. schools of above mentioned Tehsils of Distt. Kangra constituted the population of the study.

## Sampling

To accomplish the objectives of the study, Urban and Rural Senior Secondary Schools located in Tehsils Dhramshala, Kangra, and Nagrota Bagwan, of Distt. Kangra were listed, out of which 4 Urban and 6 rural schools were randomly selected. Out of these schools, 120 senior secondary girl students from urban and 180 students from rural schools were randomly selected under Probability Sampling Technique.

## Tool Used for Data Collection

‘Career Orientation Scale for Girl Students’ prepared and standardized by Oberio (1990) was used in the investigation of the present study.

## Statistical Techniques Used

The statistical technique of central tendency (mean), dispersion (Standard Deviation) was computed for testing the significance of senior secondary girl students in relation to their location of the school and stream. Also t-test was applied to find out significant mean difference among different groups.

## Analysis and Interpretation of Data

### Career Orientation among Senior Secondary Girl Students from Rural and Urban Schools

Location of schools	No. of students (N)	Mean (M)	S. D	t-value
Rural	180	115.82	9.0	5.54**
Urban	120	122.14	14.54	



## Career orientation among senior secondary rural and urban girl students from different streams

Streams	Location of schools	No. of students (N)	Mean (M)	Std. Deviation	t-value
Science	Rural	60	116.97	8.80	0.47
	Urban	40	117.78	8.03	
Arts	Rural	60	115.93	16.6	0.01
	Urban	40	115.03	9.6	
Commerce	Rural	60	115.48	16.97	0.29
	Urban	40	116.32	8.03	

## Inter-Stream Career Orientation among Senior Secondary Girl Students

Streams	No. of students (N)	Mean (M)	Std. Deviation	t-value
Science	100	117.29	8.52	0.89
Arts	100	115.91	12.93	
Arts	100	115.91	12.93	
Commerce	100	113.58	12.50	1.30
Science	100	117.29	8.52	2.45*
Commerce	100	113.58	12.50	

**Note:** \* means t- value significant at 0.05 level and

\*\* means t-value significant at 0.01 level.

## Findings and Conclusions

From the analysis and interpretation the present investigation following findings and conclusions may be drawn:

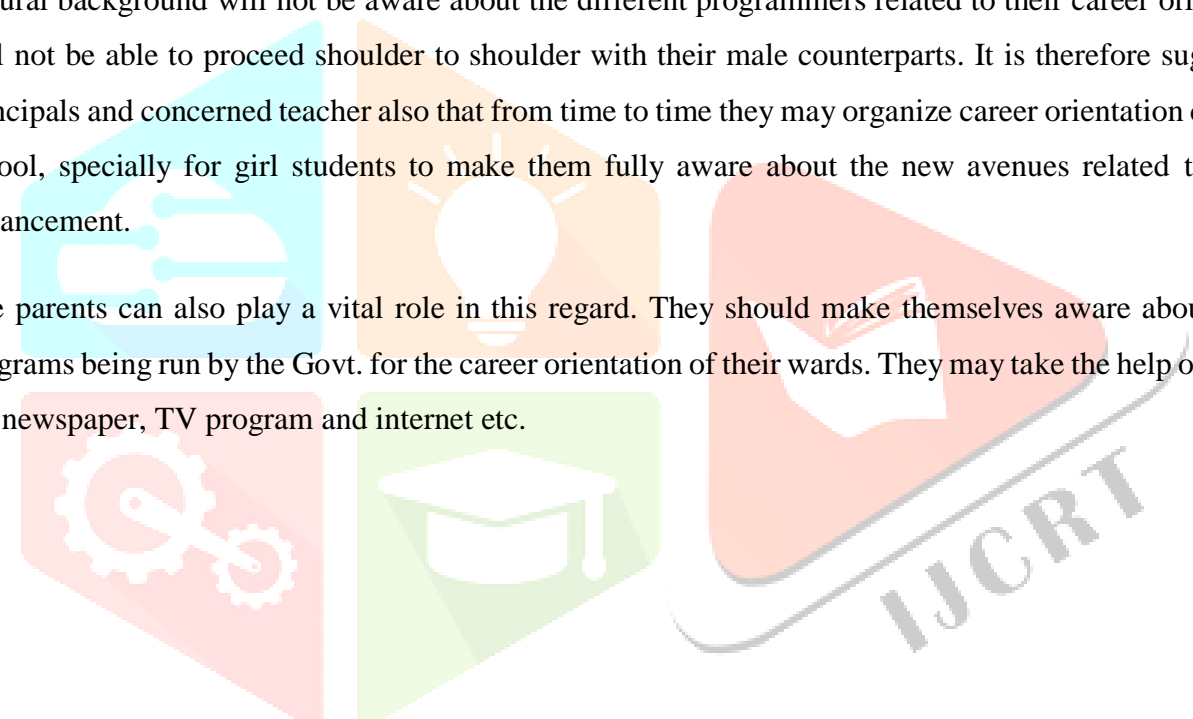
1. The senior secondary girl students from urban schools are significantly more career oriented than those from rural schools.
2. The senior secondary girl students of **science** stream from urban schools do not differ significantly than those from rural schools in their career orientation.
3. The senior secondary girl students of **arts** stream from urban schools do not differ significantly from the girls from rural schools in their career orientation.
4. The senior secondary girl students of **commerce** stream from urban and rural schools do not differ significantly from each other in their career orientation.
5. The senior secondary girl students from **science** and **arts** streams do not differ significantly from each other in their career orientation.
6. The senior secondary girl students from **arts** stream do not differ significantly from the girl students of **commerce** stream in their career orientation.
7. The senior secondary girl students from **science** stream are significantly more career oriented than girl students from **commerce** stream.

From the above findings we can conclude that the senior secondary girl students from urban schools are significantly more career oriented than the girls from rural schools. When career orientation of such girl students from rural and urban schools from mentioned streams was analyzed; they did not differ significantly from each other. Also, when career orientation was studied stream-wise; only the girls from science and commerce streams differed significantly and those from science stream were more career oriented than those from commerce stream.

## Educational Implications

From the findings and conclusions of the present study, following can be implied:

1. From the findings and conclusions of the present study the girl students studying in rural and urban schools almost have same career orientation. But in most of the cases, career orientations of girl students from urban schools were found minutely greater though not significantly than the girls from rural schools. It is therefore suggested to the administrators, policy maker and concerned authorities that they should ensure the appointments of a career counselor in every co-educational and girl schools. The authorities can also make efforts to train the concerned teachers in this regard.
2. In the present era girls are excelling and proving themselves in every field they are joining. If those belonging to rural background will not be aware about the different programmers related to their career orientation, they will not be able to proceed shoulder to shoulder with their male counterparts. It is therefore suggested to the principals and concerned teacher also that from time to time they may organize career orientation camps in their school, specially for girl students to make them fully aware about the new avenues related to their career advancement.
3. The parents can also play a vital role in this regard. They should make themselves aware about the various programs being run by the Govt. for the career orientation of their wards. They may take the help of the teachers, the newspaper, TV program and internet etc.



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