



A STUDY TO INVESTIGATE FACTOR RELATED TO CHOICE OF CAREER AND JOB PREFERENCE AMONG FINAL YEAR STUDENTS SRM COLLEGE OF NURSING

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ABSTRACT

Everyone in this world wants to be stable. In this regard one must choose a professional career which should be continued throughout life. Career should be chosen according to one's interests and the demand of time. The present study was aimed to investigate the factors related to career choice and job preference among final year nursing students SRM college of nursing SRM University, kattankulathur. A total of 50 students were selected by convenience sampling technique and structured interview method was used to collect data. Descriptive design was used. The finding showed that, the factors that influence the students to choose nursing are 48(96%) students Believe that Nursing is A Noble Profession, 44(88%) choose the career with the help of Parents And Friends, 43 (86%) selected nursing because of self motivation, 40(80%) selected nursing because of family decision., there was statistically significant association between demographic variables like income, residence, lodging with factors of choice of career and job preference. This shows that demographic variables influence career choice and job preference.

KEY WORDS

Investigate, factors, career choice, job preference, nursing students

INTRODUCTION

Career by choice means that student choose the career by their own choice according to their interest. Career by force means restrictions on choice due to merit criteria or opposition by parents. There are number of factors that effects the career selection of students, so due to broad and varying factors, this study complements the most important factors. The most important factors had included in this study which discussed in literature are considered, given as follows: Education Background, Socio-economic Background, Opportunity, Personality, Motivation and Environment.¹

Nursing continues to be rated as the most trusted profession in most countries. However, despite the accolade, nursing study appears to have lost its gloss as a premium preference for school leavers. There is clearly an extensive and well-defined body of evidence on factors that influence student preference, but it is rather limited in terms of specific reference to some countries context, and especially in the healthcare education industry. More research is therefore needed to identify these factors so that an

evidence-based strategy can be formulated to convince school leavers to pursue a nursing career.

Attree, M., Flinkman, M., Howley, B conducted a study to provide useful information to the school authorities to improve the nursing programme by improving courses that would guide the students to take the right path, sustain motivation, arouse more enthusiasm and retain them in this chosen career. I would recommend the evaluation of the students' definition of nursing career and guide them to what nursing really entails.²

Eley DF (2012) conducted a study on Personality traits and reasons for entering nursing findings suggest that a caring nature is a principal quality of the nursing personality. Recruitment and retention strategies whilst promoting multiple benefits for the profession should not forget that the prime impetus for entering nursing is the opportunity to care for others³

Deborah A (2011) to recruit this population of students into nursing education programs and to retain these graduates in the nursing workforce, it is critical to listen to their career goals and aspirations.

Educational programs and workplace environments need to be redesigned to recognize the unique strengths this population of nurses can bring to the practice of nursing. These nurses desire to make a difference in the workforce. Nursing educators and administrators need to provide an environment in which they can do so.⁴

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was conducted among the B.Sc NURSING IV year students in SRM College of nursing, SRM University; Kattankulathur was selected as the setting for the study. The rationale for selecting this college was the availability of adequate samples. Resent study was aimed to investigate the factors related to career choice and job preference among final year nursing students. After obtaining the ethical clearance from the institution, permission was also obtained from the heads of the department. The reliability of the tool was established by test/retest method using correlation coefficient method. The reliability of the tool ($r = 0.8$) was found to be significant. A written consent was obtained from each of the students. 50 samples were taken according to the sampling criteria. Convenient sampling technique was used. The study subjects were selected to meet the following criteria for inclusion to determine eligibility of this study Inclusion criteria was B.sc Nursing final

year students who are willing to participate in the study. Students who are present at the time of data collection. The tool used for this study consists of 2 sections. Section A: deals with This section consists of demographic profile which includes age group, educational status, religion, Occupation, Social income, type of family, environmental condition, theory and practical study patterns. Section B: structured questionnaire used to assess to investigate the factors related to career choice and job preference among final year nursing students. It consists of 20 structured questionnaires to assess factors related to career choice and job preference among final year nursing students in SRM College of nursing. Filling the questionnaire consumed about 15 – 25 minutes. It taken one month for the researcher to complete the process of this data collection involving After completing the data collection, data was coded, verified, and transferred into a special form to be suitable for computer feeding using SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Science) version 17.0 To utilize for data entry. Descriptive measures include means and standard deviations for quantitative variables. Analysis of collected data was done through the use of several statistical tests as student t test that is used to test the association between two variables.

RESULT

Table 1: Distribution of demographic variables related to career choice and job preferences among final year b.sc nursing students

N= 50

Demographic profile		No. of students	%
Age	21 years	28	56.0%
	22 years	22	44.0%
Religion	Hindu	33	66.0%
	Christian	14	28.0%
	Others	3	6.0%
Education of father	Illiterate	5	10.0%
	Primary	6	12.0%
	Middle	7	14.0%
	High school	24	48.0%
Education of mother	Graduate	8	16.0%
	Illiterate	6	12.0%
	Primary	5	10.0%
	Middle	16	32.0%
Occupation of father	High school	14	28.0%
	Graduate	9	18.0%
	Unemployed	3	6.0%
	Unskilled worker	1	2.0%

Occupation of mother	Skilled worker	18	36.0%
	Clerical, shop owner	16	32.0%
	Profession	12	24.0%
	Unemployed	23	46.0%
	Skilled worker	11	22.0%
Family income	Clerical, shop owner	6	12.0%
	Profession	10	20.0%
	< Rs.5000	8	16.0%
	Rs. 5000 – 10000	18	36.0%
	Rs.10000 – 20000	12	24.0%
Residence	> Rs.20000	12	24.0%
	Rural	20	40.0%
	Sub urban	16	32.0%
	Urban	14	28.0%
Lodging	Parent	12	24.0%
	Guardian	13	26.0%
	Institutionalized	25	50.0%

The above table shows that 28 (56%) were in the age group of 21 years and considering the religion 33(66%) of the students were Hindu, Regarding the education of father 24(48%) were high school. Regarding the education of mother were, 16(32%) were middle school considering the occupation of

father 18(36%) were skilled worker, considering the occupation of mother 23(46%) were unemployed. Regarding family income 18(36%) were earning Rs.5000-10000 .Considering the residence 20(40%) were living in rural, considering lodging 25(50%) were Institutionalize.

Table 2: Assessment of Factors Related To Choice of Career and Job Preference Among B.Sc Nursing Final Year Students; N=50

S.No	Tools	Yes		No	
		N	%	N	%
1.	Your Professional Aim In Doing Nursing Is To Get Well Established	40	80%	10	20%
2.	Did Your Parents And Friends Help You To Choose The Career	44	88%	6	12%
3.	Are You Interested to Settle In Life After Completing The Course By Job / Marriage Cum Job	32	64%	18	36%
4.	You Prefer To Work In Abroad After Completing The Course	27	54%	23	46%
5.	Do You Like To Work In Govt. Setup	18	36%	32	64%
6.	Have You Got Any Ideal Personality Which Guides You Behind Your Profession	19	38%	31	62%
7.	Do You Have Any Philosophy In Your Career	20	40%	30	60%
8.	Do You Spend Time To Examine And Understand Your Motives	43	86%	7	14%
9.	Do You Have Interest For Professional Promotion And Higher Education	33	66%	17	34%
10.	Are You Interested In Doing Higher Studies In The Same Line	27	54%	23	46%
11.	Have You Got Any Idea To Study Along With Your Career	20	40%	30	60%
12.	Do You Believe That Nursing Is A Noble Profession	48	96%	2	4%
13.	Are You Interested To Work As A Staff Nurse In Hospital	35	70%	15	30%
14.	Do You See Any Conflict Between the Role Of Nurse Practitioner And Physician	15	30%	35	70%
15.	Do You Give Importance To Your Family Decision	40	80%	10	20%
16.	Are You Interested To Fulfil Religious Objectives Along With Your Work In Nursing	28	56%	22	42%
17.	Do You Choose Working Hours According To Your Convince	29	58%	21	42%
18.	Do You Think Nursing Education Helps You To Give A Better Status In The Society	34	68%	16	32%
19.	Would You Like To Work In Low Payment Hospital	13	26%	37	74%
20.	Are You Interested To Render Nursing Service Without Accepting Any Reward In Return	36	72%	14	28%

The Statistical Analysis Reveals That, the factors that influence the students to choose nursing is 48 (96%) students Believe that Nursing is A Noble Profession, 44(88%) Parents and Friends Help to Choose the Career, 43 (86%) Student selected nursing because of self motivation, 40(80%) Students selected nursing because of family decision.

**Table 3: Association between Demographic variables and factors related to choice of carrier and job preference
N = 50**

Demographic variables			Factors of carrier and job preference						Total	Chi square test		
			Poor		Moderate		Good					
			n	%	n	%	n	%				
Age		21 years	7	25.0%	15	53.6%	6	21.4%	28	$\chi^2=3.96$ p=0.13 DF=2		
		22 years	1	4.5%	16	72.7%	5	22.7%	22		not significant	
Religion		Hindu	5	15.2%	22	66.7%	6	18.2%	33	$\chi^2=1.85$ p=0.76 DF=4		
		Christian	3	21.4%	7	50.0%	4	28.6%	14		not significant	
		Others	0	0.0%	2	66.7%	1	33.3%	3			
Education of father		Illiterate	0	0.0%	4	80.0%	1	20.0%	5	$\chi^2=4.99$ p=0.75 DF=8		
		Primary	1	16.7%	3	50.0%	2	33.3%	6		not significant	
		Middle	0	0.0%	5	71.4%	2	28.6%	7			
		High school	6	25.0%	13	54.2%	5	20.8%	24			
Education of mother		Graduate	1	12.5%	6	75.0%	1	12.5%	8	$\chi^2=6.71$ p=0.56 DF=8		
		Illiterate	0	0.0%	5	83.3%	1	16.7%	6		not significant	
		Primary	2	40.0%	2	40.0%	1	20.0%	5			
		Middle	3	18.8%	8	50.0%	5	31.3%	16			
		High school	1	7.1%	11	78.6%	2	14.3%	14			
Occupation of father		Graduate	2	22.2%	5	55.6%	2	22.2%	9	$\chi^2=6.80$ p=0.55 DF=8		
		Unemployed	0	0.0%	3	100.0%	0	0.0%	3		not significant	
		Unskilled worker	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	1			
		Skilled worker	2	11.1%	12	66.7%	4	22.2%	18			
		Clerical, shop owner	3	18.8%	10	62.5%	3	18.8%	16			
Occupation of mother		Profession	3	25.0%	6	50.0%	3	25.0%	12	$\chi^2=6.99$ p=0.32 DF=2		
		Unemployed	3	13.0%	13	56.5%	7	30.4%	23		not significant	
		Skilled worker	3	27.3%	7	63.6%	1	9.1%	11			
		Clerical, shop owner	0	0.0%	6	100.0%	0	0.0%	6			
Family income		Profession	2	20.0%	5	50.0%	3	30.0%	10	$\chi^2=13.82$ p=0.05 DF=6		
		< Rs.5000	1	12.5%	3	37.5%	4	50.0%	8		significant	
		Rs. 5000 - 10000	1	5.5%	12	66.7%	5	27.8%	18			
		Rs.10000 - 20000	1	8.3%	10	83.3%	1	8.3%	12			
		> Rs.20000	5	41.7%	6	50.0%	1	8.3%	12			
Residence		Rural	0	0.0%	13	65.0%	7	35.0%	20	$\chi^2=13.12$ p=0.01 DF=4		
		Sub urban	2	12.5%	11	68.7%	3	18.8%	16		significant	
		Urban	6	42.8%	7	50.0%	1	7.1%	14			
Lodging		parent	5	41.7%	4	33.3%	3	25.0%	12	$\chi^2=9.79$ p=0.05 DF=4		
		guardian	1	7.7%	8	61.5%	4	30.8%	13		significant	
		Institutionalized	2	8.0%	19	76.0%	4	16.0%	25			

*Significant at < 0.05.

The above table shows that, there was statistically significant association between income, residence, lodging and factors of choice of career and job preference.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of this study was to know about the factors related to career choice and job preference among bsc nursing students. The aim of the study was to investigate the factors related to career choice and job preference among final year nursing students in SRM College of nursing, SRM University, kattankulathur .A total of 50 students was selected for the study by using the convenience sampling method. Descriptive design has been used for the study. The first objective was to assess the factors related to choice of career and job preferences among final year students. In this study the result revealed that the factors that influence the students to choose nursing are 48(96%) students believe that Nursing is A Noble Profession, 44(88%) Parents and friends help to Choose the Career, 43 (86%) Student selected nursing because of self motivation, 40(80%) Students selected nursing because of family decision. The finding is supported by the following study. That was aimed to explore the perception of outgoing nursing students towards nursing profession and perceived future job orientation. Findings revealed that majority of the students (83.2%) were self motivated to join nursing. (99.1%) of the students, perceived nursing profession as an opportunity to serve humanity and a way to get due recognition in the society (69.6%). Two third of (69.4%) the nursing student perceived their profession as dignified and respectful as well as a way to get due recognition in society (69.6%).⁵

The second objective was to find out the association between demographic variables and factors related to choice of career and job preferences among final year students. The statistical analysis reveals that , there was statistically significant association between income ,residence , lodging and factors of choice of career and job preference.A study was conducted on Factors in the career decision-making of nurses revealed that intrinsic variables have more influence on the choice of the nursing career than the extrinsic. This means that people-oriented values have more significant influence on individuals aspiring to go in for the nursing profession than any other variable.⁶

CONCLUSION

The findings of the present study reveals that ,the factors influence the students to choose nursing as

their career are, 48(96%) students Believe that Nursing is A Noble Profession , 44(88%) Parents And Friends Help To Choose The Career, 43 (86%) Student selected nursing because of self motivation, 40(80%) Students selected nursing because of family decision. Nurse can act as a counsellor with the purpose of knowing the choice of career of students .Nursing administrator should take leadership roles and motivate students to choose nursing as their career.

. An understanding of what students want from a job and what jobs they perceive as offering them the chances of fulfilling such needs, will be of great importance to career counselors in correcting misconceptions and directing youths to fuller vocational self realization.⁶

RECOMMENDATION

Nurse can act as a counsellor with the purpose of knowing the choice of career of students Nursing administrator should take leadership roles and motivate students to choose nursing as their career .Similar studies would be conducted in nursing schools and colleges it will help in finding out any variation in the level of factors of career choice and job preference. A comparative study can also be done among nursing students from rural and urban area .A comparative study can also be done between nursing and other paramedical courses.

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