

Relationship of performance of higher education with important variables of school age

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Abstract

The main purpose of the study was examining the relationship of performance of college students with variables of school age. Population of this study consisted of all the college students of Haryana enrolled in higher education programmes. Due to the limited time and available resources with the researcher the study was delimited to the students enrolled in session 2015-2016. Ten colleges with three departments from each were selected randomly. Further four students from each department were selected randomly comprising one hundred twenty students as sample of study.

Keywords: higher education, variables, population

Introduction

Education is a dynamic force in the life of every person because it influences his physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, ethical, social and economic development. The rise and fall of any civilization and standard of living is directly linked with the education of its men and women. The system of values, attitudes, behaviour and the ideals of the older generation is transmitted to the younger generation through education.

Education is a social process that prepares the young generation of a society for life. It is the means of transmitting the values and accumulated knowledge of a society to its younger generation. It prepares them to face the varying situations in life. It is designed to teach them their culture, mould their behaviour and prepare them to eventually play their role in the society. Education transmits the culture, preserves its past and present, shapes its future and develops the intellect. The traditional goal of education is transmission of the culture, the preservation of the past and the present, and the development of intellect.

Education is the only instrument by which a nation transforms itself from what it is into or what it hopes to be. It is this social instrument through which we can guide its destiny and shape its future. Education is a social function, thus it serves the society, which maintains it. Its first and foremost role is to conserve the existing culture by transmitting it from generation to generation.

Progress of any society is impossible without education. Education is essential for a nation as food for a living thing. It imparts the basic rules of life, which enlighten the real progress to individuals of any society. Education is as much important for social and economic development that an uneducated society can not reach the destiny of economic development and political stability. It is the only powerful and workable means through which man can get the position of a noble man.

Secondary education has primary education as its base and becomes in turn a base for higher education itself. The secondary stage of education is perhaps the most important all over the world, whatever the educational system. Secondary education is not only an end in itself but also a means to further individual and national development.

Preparing students at school age

School age of child is divided into sub-sectors of levels of educational system, developed on the bases of their unique qualities and requirements. The quality of higher education, which is expected to produce high quality professionals in different fields of social, economic and political life of the country, depends upon the quality of education at school age. Elementary education is very basic and fundamental level of school age to produce basic skills required for further study as well as for further life processes. After completing elementary level of education some children turns to work life and remaining get start their second phase of their school age which is secondary education. Then comes higher secondary level and finally child becomes matured to start higher education. All sub sectors of school are significant for preparing the students with required potential for further process.

Role of parents for preparing students at school age

Parents who are unsupportive and critical concerning their children's school accomplishments are likely to discourage academic achievement. Preventive interventions that include school based strategies and parent involvement can be effective for increasing children's academic achievement and social competence.

Beyond tutoring their child, parents should be encouraged to become directly involved in their child's school. At the first level, most parents are involved in total school activities. At the second level, parents participate in the school and classroom. At the third level, selected parents serve on the School Advisory Committee, playing an important role in the governance of the school.

Academic Support

Researchers have documented the value of parents' involvement in the academic lives of students. From early childhood educational experiences to the arena of higher education, various studies suggest that family relationships have profound effects on student learning.

Social Support

Social support relates to continuous feedback, aid, and validation individuals receive from others. Social support is classified at three levels. The first level relates to providing information to individuals, leading them to believe that they are cared for and loved. The second level is associated with sharing information with persons to suggest that they are valued and esteemed. The final level involves providing information to individuals to indicate that they are a part of a network and community where they are shared, mutual obligations.

Role of institution for preparing students at school age

Adaptive classroom behaviours include self-direction, personal responsibility, and functional academic skills. Also, social behaviours such as independence, attention, persistence, self-control, and compliance are strongly associated with academic achievement. Students who are attentive, independent, and task oriented during academic activities with peers are more likely to demonstrate higher achievement than children who are distractible, dependent, and passive in similar group activities. Attending behaviours appear to be most important for classroom success.

School Environment

School environment have many dimensions. Such dimensions include the principal's behaviour; teaching quality; school wide activities; involvement of children, faculty, principals, and parents; the physical nature of the school; and the surrounding neighbourhood, race, ethnicity, degree of religious observance, wealth, and social class. The school environment also covers the physical nature of the schools, teacher-student relationships, amount of school wide activity, office layout, teacher's lounge activity, and school policies.

The environment within the school is conducive to student learning. expresses how the school's environment impacts on all, not just the students, by stating that "good teacher morale and high student achievement go hand-in-hand".

Significance of the study:

This study is significant to emerge the understanding of the factors that are helpful for better performance at college level and are required to be inculcated at previous stages of school age. It can also provide understanding of those critical relationships from the perspective of school students themselves garner new insights into assisting with the ultimate success of all students.

The present study has significance for both future professional practice and further research. The results of this study explores information that would enable school administrators, teaching staff and parents to assist them in helping the children achieve the skills needed to succeed in Colleges. School students may use the results to increase their understanding of what types of study habits and organizational skills are important for college's academic preparation. This research may provide a pavement for future research studies in the same field.

Objectives

- To identify the factors that were helpful in preparing students for higher education,
- To measure the role of school teachers preparing for higher education,
- To measure the role of parents preparing for higher education,

- To measure the role of peers preparing for higher education,
- To know about the role of school environment for prompting the students for higher education.

Hypothesis

- There is no significant role of school teachers for preparing students for higher education
- There is no significant role of parents for preparing students for higher education
- There is no significant role of peers for preparing students for higher education
- There is no significant role of school environment for preparing students for higher education

Delimitation of the study

Due to the limited time and available resources with the researcher the study was delimited to the following:

1. 10 Govt. and Private colleges
2. Students enrolled session 2015-2016.

Research Methodology

This chapter addresses the research methodology and procedure used in this study to investigate the research problem. The main purpose of the study was examining the relationship of performance of college students with some selected variables of school age. Following procedure was adopted for study.

Population

Population of the study consisted of all the college students of Haryana enrolled in higher education programmes. According to Higher Education Commission, Haryana website directory ten institutes were imparting higher education in Haryana therefore, all the colleges were considered in the population of the study. The students of these colleges were the target population.

Sample

In order to ensure adequate representation, a systematic random sampling process was used in order to select the sample of this study. Ten colleges with three departments from each were selected randomly. A sample of one hundred twenty students was drawn in such a way that four students from each department of Sample colleges were selected randomly.

Table 1

S. No.	Name of College
1	JVMGRR (PG) College Charkhi Dadri
2	Sant Jinda College, Kalanuar
3	APJ College, Charkhi Dadri
4	Women College Jhohju Kalan
5	Govt. College Mohendergarh
6	Govt College Birhor
7	VAISH College Bhiwani
8	Govt. College Bhiwani
9	Rajiv Gandhi Girls Collge Bhiwani
10	Govt. College Baund

For examining the reliability of the questionnaire Co-efficient of Alpha was applied by splitting half the scores as even and

odd. Results of the pilot test were analyzed using the software package for social sciences (SPSS) statistical software package, version 11.0. The overall value co-efficient of Alpha was found

0.93. Values of co-efficient of Alpha for each section of items was also calculated and is presented in the following table.

Table 2: Reliability Coefficient Alpha of questionnaire

Types of items of Questionnaire	Teachers' role	Parents' role	Students' self role	Peers' role	School's environment role	Overall Mean Value
Reliability Coefficient Alpha	0.901	0.933	0.911	0.965	0.965	0.935

Data Collection

The researcher collected data from the respondents personally. The researcher visited the sample colleges and made it possible to collect the required number of filled questionnaires.

Data Analysis

Data collected through developed questionnaire, was tabulated, analysed and discussed. For evaluating the performance of college students with some selected variables of school age a Chi Square was applied to determine whether the observed frequencies were significantly different from the expected frequencies.

$$\chi^2 = \frac{(fo - fe)^2}{fe}$$

Where

- X² = Chi Square symbol
- fo = frequency observed
- fe = frequency expected
- df = degree of freedom (r - 1) (c - 1)

Findings, Conclusion and Sugesstions

School education plays the role of spinal cord in the life of national economy. If school education is more balanced, reliable, qualitative and universal then the economic and social system of the country will be more qualitative, healthy and developed. Secondary education is an important stage of school system for diversification into vocational and higher education, it is considered a terminal stage for majority of the students and is also a significant determinant of quality in higher and professional education.

Therefore, the students of this stage should be carefully and properly nourished, nurtured, developed, taught and trained for the peace, progress and prosperity of the country. The students should be prepared for the world of work and at the same time there should be an encouragement for the gifted ones to go to higher education for playing leadership role.

Higher education can itself be neither effective nor equitable unless schools improve their capacity to educate all children regardless of ethnic background, socio-economic status, or ability. This research speaks to the obvious interaction of schools, families, students themselves, and their peers by recognizing the importance of those influences that are outside the realm of the formal classroom. This interaction is necessary to promote the effective engagement of high school student. Future researchers are encouraged to replicate this study in urban and rural areas to determine the degree to which these forces remain consistent.

Conclusions

- The teacher has to play his role at various levels. He has to streamline classroom teaching according to its true

demands and requirements. Overall teacher's role in preparing students for higher education was found unsatisfactory. But in but in extra classes, majority of college students agreed that they were properly prepared by school teachers to show better performance at higher education and keeping high academic expectations at their school age.

- It was also concluded that students at higher education perceived that their school teachers were better prepare them for college level work. It would be reasonable to assume that these students agreed that the role of school teachers with the preparation skills needed for college level work by high level of individual attention, involving in class discussion, developing leadership and time management skills, to make understand the career goals and high level of guidance and counselling.
- Overall role of parents was found much better than other roles. Their qualification and love for knowledge were supportive variables of school age for their successful transition to higher education. Parents took keen interest in academic problems and assisted to get tuition for weak academic areas. Parents encouraged the students to participate in school activities. Parents were found active in arranging suitable environment for studies, providing emotional support, encouraging to schedule study time, reviewing school test results, helping in choosing appropriate courses and knowing admission criteria for higher education for their children at school age.

Suggestions

- No education programme can achieve its targets unless backed by devoted and dedicated teachers. Teachers play a significant role in the school related motivation of individual student. A teacher's style and enthusiasm attitude play an important role in the degree to which schools are part of the motivation equation.
- School teachers should be encouraged to be life-long learner and provide opportunities for teachers to increase their knowledge of carrier paths in higher education. The school teachers are required to be trained in communication skills, leadership skills, time management skills and classroom verbal interaction analysis.
- School family involvement programmes especially to promote interaction should be initiated at grass root level. System should be developed to help parents to garner a more positive linkage with schools so that they could cope with future higher education demands.
- The school's ability to provide student-to-student mentorship opportunities can become a factor in motivation. The school should provide opportunities to attend programmes that include student mentors' suggestions and share their experience.

- Colleges should establish close contacts with schools and provide information and speakers on career choice, further study areas and opportunities. Colleges should initiate a transition programme at schools to help prepare students, parents and teachers for the different learning and research environment desired at colleges.

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