

ABSTRACT

This study was designed to investigate the views of students in technical education towards sex-role stereotyping in occupational selection. The relationship between variables tapping personal and environmental factors and the criterion, was investigated using a traditional to modern scale. Variables were conceptualized in four groups:

Home 1) Parental Guidance on Occupational Selection
 2) Parental Encouragement for Academic Achievement
 3) Role Orientations of the Home.

School 1) Teacher Behaviour
 2) Guidance and Counselling

Society Societal Perceptions.

Personal (1) Age (2) Sex (3) Religious Affiliation
 (4) Area of Specialization (5) Achievement Motivation.

The data from a sample at the St. Andrew Technical High School was analyzed by use of the following statistical techniques:-

- (1) Calculation of Means and Standard Deviations for all variables.
- (2) The Pearson Product - Moment Correlation Coefficient Techniques to establish relationships between variables
- (3) The student's t test to determine male/female differences.
- (4) The Stepwise Multiple Regression Technique to identify from among the independent variables those which were best predictors of the criterion.

The study revealed significant relationships between the independent variables and students' views on Sex-Role Stereotyping in Occupational Selection as follows:-

- (1) Teacher Behaviour - all samples
- (2) Parental Guidance on Occupational Choice - all samples
- (3) Role Orientations of the Home-all samples
- (4) Societal Perceptions - (i) The overall (ii) the girls sample.

After interpretation and analysis of these results the study concluded that:-

- (1) the home and the school are the greatest environmental predictors of views on 'sex-role stereotyping in occupational selection.
- (2) in the school relationships between the variables were stronger for the girls while in the home the boys had the stronger relationships.
- (3) teacher behaviour was seen as the most significant predictor of students' views on sex-role stereotyping in occupational selection- this effect being more so directed towards the females.
- (4) the girls were also seen as being more modern in their views.

The differences in the results were interpreted as reflecting the differentiated socialization process given to boys and girls both in the home and in the school.

Recommendations arising from the findings of the study:-

- (1) because of its limitations that a replication be done using a larger-more varied sample
- (2) the administration of the school :-

- (i) use the P.T.A. to get the parents more conscious of occupational choice at an androgynous level.*
- (ii) socialize teachers especially those in specialist areas in presenting androgynous career - oriented options.*
- (iii) include in their Careers Day/Week programme guidance on financial independence for both sexes.*