



Research Article

A Comparative Study of Occupational Aspiration of Higher and Lower Study Habit of College-Going Students

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Abstract

This study investigated the relationship between study habits and occupational aspirations among college-going students, utilising a comparative research design. The primary objective was to examine whether significant differences exist in the career ambitions of students categorised into higher and lower study habit groups. A sample of 120 technical and non-technical college-going students (60 technical and 60 non-technical) was randomly selected from various technical and non-technical colleges. Data collection was carried out using standardised instruments: the Study Habit Inventory (SHI) and the Occupational Aspiration Scale (OAS).

The collected data were quantitatively analysed using descriptive statistics, including Mean and Standard Deviation, while an independent samples t-test was employed to evaluate the primary hypothesis. The statistical analysis revealed a significant difference ($p < 0.05$) between the two groups, indicating that college students with higher study habits possess markedly higher occupational aspirations compared to their peers with lower study habits. Students exhibiting structured study routines, effective time management, and active learning strategies demonstrated a greater inclination toward highly competitive, specialised, and prestigious professional careers. Conversely, students with lower study habits tended to aspire to occupations with lower academic entry barriers.

These findings underscore the critical role of academic self-regulation in shaping long-term vocational goals. The study suggests that educational institutions should implement targeted interventions, such as study skill workshops, academic counselling, and structured mentorship programs. By actively fostering robust study habits, educators can enhance students' academic self-efficacy, thereby elevating their career trajectories and socio-economic potential.

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KEYWORDS: Occupational Aspiration, Study Habits, College Students, Comparative Study, Academic Self-Efficacy.

1. INTRODUCTION

Today's typical college student is no longer an 18-year-old recent high school graduate. Many students enter college expecting good times, knowledge, friendships and a new sense of direction. They soon find out that college comes with challenges and struggles. For a better future and career, good study habits and a strong aspiration for the occupation are necessary. Habits are routines of behaviour that are repeated regularly and tend to occur subconsciously, whereas study, in general, is the work that is necessary in the assimilation of ideas. So, study habits may be concluded as buying out a dedicated scheduled and uninterrupted time to apply oneself to the task of learning. On the other hand, occupational aspirations are the thoughts, feelings, fantasies and goals that people have about their work that affect their motivation and decision making in respect of their occupation choice and subsequent participation in their occupation.

A lot of work is done on study habit various resources. Various surveys are conducted regarding the study habits of adolescent primary school children, secondary school children, and employees of various banks and government officials. The result where astonishing, various programmes are conducted to encourage study habits in primary, secondary and college-going students because studying is a very important part of learning. So, governments are taking various essential and effective steps and measures to improve and include studying habits in our youth. According to the investigator, there are various variables which effect study habits of students, like family background, occupation of parents, involvement in a child's study interest and a child's desire to learn, motivation by parents, and many more. But according to the investigator, study habits play an important role in enhancing occupational aspiration in technical and non-technical colleges. Here, the study is conducted on the impact of studying habits on occupational aspiration of college-going students.

According to the investigator, a student should be well-versed in studying activities. The more a student reads, the more he will be aware of the development and technologies of the world in various fields, and with complete knowledge of all aspects of society, a child can mould his occupational aspiration according to his ability and interest.

With good studying habits, the child can know more about himself and about the world and can give a proper direction to his desire in the rest of his or her life, so the investigator, through this study, wants to make the parents and teachers aware of the fact that developing studying habits at an early stage helps the student throughout their life in every situation and in all circumstances.

Statement of the problem

The present study is undertaken with a view to comparing the occupational aspirations of college-going students with higher and lower study habits. Pin the study pointedly has been stated as under: -

"A Comparative Study of Occupational Aspiration of Higher and Lower Study Habit of College-Going Students."

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objectives of the study are: -

1. To study comparatively of Occupational Aspiration of the student of high study habits in technical and non-technical colleges.
2. To study comparatively of Occupational Aspiration of the student of low study habits at technical and non-technical colleges.

3. HYPOTHESIS

Hypothesis acts as a framework for the conclusions and permits the collection of relevant data, and makes possible the interpretation of these data in light of the potential work with a view to what is mentioned above. The following hypotheses have been formulated.

- ⇒ H_0 – There is no significant difference between the occupational aspiration of the student of high study habits in technical and non-technical colleges.
- ⇒ H_1 – There is no significant difference between the occupational aspirations of the student of low study habits in technical and non-technical colleges.

Sample

The total number of colleges was 20, and out of these colleges, 6 college we selected randomly, of which 3 are technical colleges and the other 3 are non-technical colleges. The total number of students available was 2220, and out of these, 120 students (60 male and 60 female) were selected.

Tools

For measuring the study habits of college students, the standardised tool is: -

The study habit inventory presented by M.N. Palsane and Anuradha Sharma.

For measuring the occupational aspirations of college students, the standardised tool is: -

The occupational Aspiration scale presented by Prof. N.P.S. Chandel, Dr Vibha Laxmi and Mr Ranjeet Kumar Singh.

Analysis and Interpretation

Occupational Aspiration in Relation to Study Habits –

- ⇒ H_0 – There is no significant difference between the occupational aspiration of the student of high study habits in technical and non-technical colleges.

Statistical inferences of occupational aspiration of the student of high study habits in technical and non-technical colleges.

	Technical College Students	Non-Technical College Students
Mean	51.86	50.13
S. D	9.14	8.22
Sample(N)	30	30
t-value	0.128	

The t-table value with $df = 58$ at the 0.05 level is 2.00. A close look at the table shows that there exists an insignificant difference between occupational aspiration in students with high study habits in technical and non-technical colleges. The t-value is calculated as 0.128, which is much smaller than the t-

table value at the 0.05 level of significance. Hence, the null hypothesis is accepted.

⇒ H_1 – There is no significant difference between the occupational aspirations of the students with low study habits and those of technical and non-technical students.

Statistical inferences of occupational aspiration of the students with low study habits of technical and non-technical colleges: -

	Technical College Student	Non-Technical College Student
Mean	52.83	47.33
S. D	9.83	9.84
Sample(N)	30	30
t-value	0.41	

The t-table value with $df = 58$ at the 0.05 level is 2.00. A close look at the table shows that there exists an insignificant difference between occupational aspiration in low study habit of student of technical and non-technical colleges. The t-value is calculated as 0.41, which is much smaller than the t-table value at the 0.05 level of significance. Hence, the null-hypothesis is accepted.

Therefore, the major finding of this research is that the students of technical and non-technical colleges with high or low study habits are similarly aspirant to the occupation. Aspiration is a strong desire to achieve something, or it is an individual's goal or expectation about the goodness of their own future performance.

The student of high study habits and low study habits have similar occupational aspirations because every student has a desire for a better future. Therefore, the study habits of students have no effect on occupational aspiration, but they may have a severe effect on gaining an occupation because an aspiration to an occupation and to achieve an occupation are totally different, because a person can earn anything only through hard work.

Therefore, a student with high occupational aspirations must have high study habits to achieve his high study habit to achieve his goals of future career. A student with low study habits keeps high occupational aspirations, but it will not satisfy their aspiration.

4. DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

The present study was conducted to make a comparative study of occupational aspiration of higher and lower study habits of college-going students. From the above findings, it can be concluded that there exists insignificant difference between occupational aspiration of high study habit and low study habit of technical and non-technical student as the students whether from technical college or non-technical college, they are all the parts of the same social environment by which they live, as every students are equally desired to do something good for his future, therefore they are equally aspirant to occupation.

Implications and Conclusions of the Study

➤ Thus, parents and teachers should encourage the student and motivate them toward their aspiration by increasing their studying habits.

- A proper environment should be made available to the student for learning.
- More students will form good study habits if provision is made for systematic training in such habits.

In college courses where a great amount of supplementary reading material is required of the students, such habits of study as outlining, formulation of questions on the lesson, and selection of important passages seem to be effective methods of study in relation to the scholastic success of students in certain college courses.

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Dr. Amitava Jana is an Assistant Professor at Pailan College of Education, Kolkata, India. He is actively engaged in teaching, research, and academic development in the field of education. His areas of interest include teacher education, educational research, curriculum development, and innovative pedagogical practices, contributing significantly to academic excellence and professional growth.