

Name of the Scholar **Andleeb**

Name of the Supervisor **Prof. Mehnaz Ansari**

Department **Institute of Advanced Studies in Education, Faculty of
Education, Jamia Millia Islamia**

Title of the Thesis **A Comparative Study of the Effect of an Intervention
Programme on Vocational Guidance on Male and Female
Senior Secondary School Students in terms of Occupational
Aspiration and Career Maturity**

Abstract

Key Words: Intervention Programme on Vocational Guidance, Occupational Aspiration, Career Maturity, Senior Secondary School Students

Most of the significant career decisions are made during adolescence. The career decisions made by adolescents at an early age affect the rest of their life. Adolescents may make inappropriate career choices due to ignorance, lack of experience, peer-pressure, and advice from friends and teachers, parental pressure, or due to the prestige attached to a particular occupation without having proper vocational guidance and counselling. As a result, most of them are misfit in their careers where their value needs are not satisfied. If immature and unplanned career decisions are taken, this would ultimately increase the wastage of human resources and would burden the country's economy. Such persons with inappropriate career decisions create nuisance to themselves and to their employers. Generally, they are unable to make significant contributions to the society, and become a burden on the nation. Adolescence is marked with developing aspirations regarding their education and future careers. The appropriate vocational decisions made at this time are the basis of a person's future career decisions. It highlights the importance of vocational guidance for senior secondary students. It is imperative to comprehend the individual and social factors that exert influence on the process of adolescents' career development for providing adequate vocational guidance to students in time. Occupational aspiration and career maturity are the factors that are highly influenced by vocational guidance. Occupational aspiration and career maturity have been regarded as major career developmental task for adolescents while searching for compatible careers. Gender also influences career

development as males and females may have different occupational aspirations and career maturity. Secondary school students need to acquire the attitudes and competencies that are necessary in career planning. This knowledge and competency will help them in choosing courses after school for further education or selecting a future career. They are also required to set achievable career goals. They should be capable of relating their education to the world of work. Guidance and counselling should be viewed as an intervention rather than instruction. Researchers have found comprehensive guidance programs, career guidance interventions, career courses, and computer based guidance systems are beneficial to students. Students exhibit increased outcomes on most career related measures in comparison to their peers who have not participated in a career course or intervention. A study of the related literature suggests that very few career intervention studies on occupational aspiration have been conducted in India. However, various career interventions in relation to career maturity have been conducted abroad. There is a dearth of career interventions in terms of occupational aspiration at national and international level. The data was collected in two phases – Survey phase and experimental phase. In the Survey phase, a sample of 320 students (160 male and 160 female) of class 11th, Arts/Humanities stream was selected randomly from six senior secondary government schools of South Delhi district of Delhi. In the Experimental phase, A sample of 115 students 57 in experimental group (M = 30 F = 27), and 58 in control group (M = 30 F = 28) of class 11th Arts/Humanities Stream was selected from one government co-educational senior secondary school of South Delhi district, Delhi. The *Pre-test Post-test Non-equivalent Control Group Design* was employed in experiment. In order to collect required data for the present study, the tools used were: Occupational Aspiration Scale (self-developed), Career Maturity Inventory by N. Gupta, 1989 (Adapted), and Intervention Programme on Vocational Guidance [IPVG] (self-developed). The required statistics were computed by using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The data was analyzed quantitatively using the descriptive and inferential statistical techniques – Correlation, Mean, SD, t test, ANCOVA. The survey findings reveal no significant correlation between occupational aspiration and career maturity of senior secondary school students. A significant difference in favour of boys was found between level of occupational aspiration of male and female students, whereas female students shown higher career maturity. The IPVG showed a significant effect on occupational aspiration and career maturity of senior secondary school students.