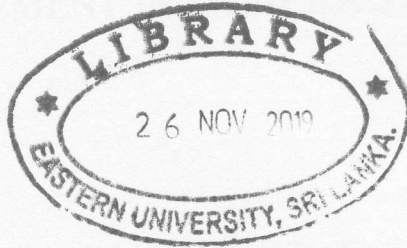


**HOW ORDINARY LEVEL AND ADVANCED LEVEL
QUALIFIED YOUTHS MANAGE THEIR CAREER SELECTION
AND MANAGEMENT IN THIRUKKOVIL DIVISION**



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Abstract

Choosing the right career path is becoming more and more important for youths today and youths have to take into account many things when selecting a career. Many factors can influence a youth's career decisions, including family, personal and social factors. In Sri Lanka context, there is lack of studies deals with O/L and A/L qualified youths get their career selection and management. So there is an empirical knowledge gap exists in the how O/L and A/L qualified youths manage their career selection and management. Hence, this study conducts to fulfill this empirical knowledge gap. The objectives of this research study were to explore how O/L and A/L qualified youths get their 1st, 2nd and 3rd job in the job market, To investigate the levels of influence of family, personal and social factors on career selection of O/L and A/L qualified youths, To determine whether there are significant differences of factors influencing career selection between gender, civil status, education level, education stream, age group and work experience. A questionnaire was developed to identify what factors that may have influence youths when selecting a career. The questionnaire was completed by 200 O/L and A/L qualified youths in Thirukkovil Division. Univariate analysis, independent sample t-test and ANOVA test were used to attain research objectives.

The findings show that most of the youths have got their 1st job due to personal interest and interview, 2nd job due to work experience and 3rd job due to personal interest. The levels of family factor, personal factors and social factors influence are in higher level. On the other hand, there is no significant difference of mean scores of factors influencing on career selection between male and female, O/L and A/L, married and unmarried. There is no significant difference of mean score of factors influencing on career selection among the education stream (commerce, arts, science, maths and technology) and work experience (< 1 year, 1-3 years, 3-5 years and > 5 years). There is significant difference of mean score of factors influencing on career selection among the age group (< 20 years, 20-25 years, 26-30 years and 31-35 years). These findings are used to responsible stakeholders to develop career guides for youth before them entering in to the job market and also for the job providers to take their decisions and manage.

Keywords: *Family Factors, Personal Factors, Social Factors, Factor Influence on Career Selection*

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