

VOCATIONAL INTERESTS OF FARM YOUTH

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ABSTRACT

Farm youth are the precious human assets who can play an important role in the developmental activities as well as in agriculture because of their family and community background in agriculture and allied activities. The study was confined to “ex-post facto” research design as the independent variables already operated in the study area. Four taluka viz., Deesa, Palanpur, Vadgam and Dhanera of Banaskantha district were randomly selected for the study. Five villages from each taluka and ten farm youth from each village randomly selected for the study. Thus, total 200 farm youth were selected for the study. The data of this study were collected by arranging personal interview with 200 farm youth of twenty selected villages. The data collected through interview schedule were classified, tabulated and subjected for statistical analysis. The results regarding vocational interests of farm youth revealed that most of farm youth were interested to do work in farm (87.50 per cent) and live stock/dairy (90.00 per cent). This seems to be realistic in the sense that the major occupation in our rural area is still agriculture and livestock/dairy. Farm youth also had shown interest in business (80.00 per cent) in enterprising interest and teacher (70.00 per cent) in social group of interest.

Keywords: vocational interest, farm youth

INTRODUCTION

India is a land of youth and constitutes a numerically dominant potential, resourceful and also adventurous segment of the population. According to 2011 census, youth population in India with the age group of 15 to 35 years is around 430 million (35.36 per cent) of the total population. Among these, 70 per cent (301 million) were rural youth and the remaining 30 per cent (129 million) were urban youth. The population in the age group of 15-34 in India increased from 353 million in 2001 to 430 million in 2011 (Anonymous, 2011). More than half of India's population is under the age of 25 years, with 65 per cent of the population under 35 years. As majority of the youth comes from rural areas, they are considered as the nation builders of tomorrow.

Everyone is ambitious in this modern age and these ambitions can be completed when one is expert and has interest in that particular area. The work is definitely successful which is done with interest by fully and if the youth also select vocational area by their own interest in education then they get proper direction for their career. Today's youth confuse about selection of further study. There should be proper action that the youth can select their profession according their own choice.

The right choice of the vocations will bring in

the best in the individual consequent to which, he will be happier within himself as well as with the sole he is pursuing an individual can be helped to choose a proper vocation in relation to his interest and ability only when the person helping him has sufficient data pertaining to the vocational preferences and factors influencing them. The main reason for such an assumption is that a vocation involves a collection of task to be performed in the organize way.

OBJECTIVES

- (1) To know the vocational interests of farm youth
- (2) To ascertain the association between independent variables and vocational interests

METHODOLOGY

The study was confined to “ex-post facto” research design used for the study. Banaskantha district of Gujarat state was purposively selected because agriculture and allied activities (including animal husbandry) are major source of livelihood in Banaskantha. Total 14 Taluka of Banaskantha district out of them Deesa, Palanpur, Vadgam and Dhanera were randomly selected for the study. Taluka-wise list of villages was obtained from the respective Taluka Panchayat Office. From the list, five villages from each selected taluka were randomly selected for the study. Thus, total twenty

villages were selected for study. Ten farm youth were randomly selected from each village. Thus, total 200 farm youth were selected for the study.

Vocational interest can be operationalised as the individual's preference for a number of vocations. Vocational interests are thought to be a result of interactions between cultural and personal forces. This vocational interest was measured by following the technique described by Holland (1966) where he used six broad vocational dimensions related with individual personality. These six personality types were Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising and Conventional. Each of these personality types had some preferred activities. Based on this preferred activity possible

job areas were identified under each of these six categories and farm youth were asked to indicate their preferences against each of the listed activity in terms of like and dislike and, scoring done as 1 and 0. After that frequency and percentage were calculated.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Vocational interests of farm youth

The right choice of the vocations will bring in the best in the individual consequent to which he will be happier within himself. Keeping in this view, it is important to know the vocational interests of farm youth. Data regarding their vocational interests are presented here in Table 1.

Table 1 : Distribution of farm youth according to their vocational interests (n = 200)

Sr. No.	Preferred vocations		Frequency	Per cent
[A]	Realistic :			
	1	Carpenter	15	07.50
	2	Farmer	175	87.50
	3	Livestock/dairy	180	90.00
	4	Poultry	07	03.50
	5	Engineer	20	10.00
	6	Contractor	05	02.50
[B]	Investigate :			
	7	Lab. Technician	53	26.50
	8	Pharmacist	45	22.50
[C]	Artistic :			
	9	Writer	04	02.00
	10	Painter	12	06.00
	11	Singer	10	05.00
	12	Web designer	03	01.50
[D]	Social :			
	13	Teacher	140	70.00
	14	Social worker	52	26.00
	15	Doctor	22	11.00
	16	Physiotherapist	15	07.50
[E]	Enterprising :			
	17	Politician	65	32.50
	18	Salesmen	60	30.00
	19	Leader	20	10.00
	20	Manager	25	12.50
	21	Businessmen	160	80.00
[F]	Conventional :			
	22	Secretary	22	11.00
	23	Office manager	25	12.50
	24	Administrator	27	13.50
	25	Accountant	20	10.00
	26	Bank teller	30	15.00

It is evident from the Table 1 that among the realistic group of interest 90.00 per cent farm youth were interested in live stock or dairy and 87.50 per cent of them were interested to become farmer. Farm youth also interested to become engineer (10.00 per cent) and carpenter (7.50 per cent). While 5.00 per cent were like to do work in poultry and 2.50 per cent to become contractor. In case of investigate group of interest 26.00 per cent of them were to become Lab. technician and 22.50 per cent were to become pharmacist.

Further, in case of in artistic group of interest farm youth interested to become painter (6.00 per cent), followed by singer (5.00 per cent), writer (2.00 per cent) and web designer (1.50 per cent).

Farm youth also desired to become teacher (70.00 per cent) as a social worker (26.00 per cent), doctor (11.00 per cent) and physiotherapist (7.50 per cent) in social group of interest. In case of enterprising group farm youth was most preferred as businessmen (80.00 per cent) followed by politician (32.50 per cent), salesmen (30.00 per cent), manager (12.50 per cent) and leader (10.00 per cent). In conventional

group farm youth interested to become bank teller (15.00 per cent), administrator (13.50 per cent), office manager (12.50 per cent), secretary (11.00 per cent) and accountant (10.00 per cent).

It is clear from the above data that most of farm youth were interested to do work in farm (87.50 per cent) and livestock or dairy (90.00 per cent). This seems to be realistic in the sense that the major occupation in our rural area is still agriculture and livestock or dairy. Farm youth also had shown interest in business (80.00 per cent). If we probe in to these interests, we can make out that this are the occupations which give regular employment in the village. Some of them were also interested to become teacher (70.00 per cent). It shows that there is a good educational facility available in the study area and they are also aspiring for doing the job.

Association between independent variables and vocational interests of farm youth

Data regarding association between independent variables with vocational interests of farm youth are presented in Table 2.

Table 2 : Association between independent variables and their vocational interests (n=200)

Independent variables		Correlation coefficient ('r' value)
Personal characteristics		
X ₁	Education	0.1536*
Socio-economic characteristics		
X ₂	Size of family	0.1285 ^{NS}
X ₃	Social participation	0.1395*
X ₄	Occupation	0.1346 ^{NS}
Situational characteristics		
X ₅	Land holding	0.1073 ^{NS}
X ₆	Annual income	0.1535*
Communication characteristics		
X ₇	Extension participation	0.1959**
X ₈	Sources of information	0.1608*
Psychological characteristics		
X ₉	Attitude	0.1572*
X ₁₀	Innovativeness	0.1760*
*and** = Significant at 5 and 1 per cent level, respectively;		NS = Non significant

The table 2 indicated that extension participation had positive and highly significant whereas education, social participation, annual income, source of income, attitude and innovativeness had positive significant association with their vocational interests.

CONCLUSION

The results regarding vocational interests of farm youth revealed that most of farm youth were interested to do work in farm (87.50 per cent) and live stock/dairy (90.00 per cent). This seems to be realistic in the sense that the major

occupation in our rural area is still agriculture and livestock/dairy. Farm youth also had shown interest in business (80.00 per cent) in enterprising interest and teacher (70.00 per cent) in social group of interest. The results of correlation analysis indicated that out of the ten independent variables six variables viz., education, social participation, annual income, sources of information, attitude and innovativeness had positive and significant association with vocational interests whereas, extension participation had highly significant association with their vocational interests.

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