

A Study of Adolescents' Career Self-Concept and its Related Factors in Macau

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate the current situation of career self-concept of adolescents in Macau. Individual factors, family factors, and school factors influencing adolescent career self-concept were also investigated. Using Adolescents' Career Self-Concept Questionnaire, 832 subjects from 9th to 12th grade students in Macau reported their career self-concept in this study. Descriptive statistics, t-test, one-way ANOVA, Pearson product-moment correlation, canonical correlation and multiple regression analysis were applied to analyze data. The main findings were as follows: (1) The whole career self-concept of adolescents tended to be clear, but there were differences between five subscales of career self-concept. (2) Gender in whole career self-concept was not significant for adolescents, but the differences among adolescents at different grade levels were significant. In additions, there was significant positive correlation between personality traits (including extraversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness and intellectual openness) and career self-concept. Also, there was significant typical canonical correlation between personality traits and career self-concept. (3) The correlation coefficients among the factors of socioeconomic status, parenting style, the relationship with parent and the career self-concept were statistically significant. Also, there was typical canonical correlation among family factors and career self-concept. (4) The differences among adolescents with different academic achievement were significant, and also there was significantly positive correlation and typical canonical correlation between the school life, the influence of peers and career self-concept. (5) Personality traits (including agreeableness, conscientiousness and intellectual openness), school life, academic achievement and the active request of parenting style made significant contribution to predict adolescents' career self-concept. Finally, based on the research findings, implications for education and guidance were discussed. Suggestions for future research were also proposed.

Keyword: career self-concept 、 adolescent