

## ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to explore the differences and relations among career decision-making difficulties, career self-efficacy, and ego-identity for senior high school students with various backgrounds. The study gathered information through surveys, and utilized the instruments including Career Decision-making Difficulties Scale, Career Self-efficacy Scale, and Extended Objective Measure of Ego Identity Status. The participants were 638 students from ten high schools in Macau.

The obtained data were analyzed by one-way MANOVA and canonical correlation analysis. The major findings were as follows:

(1) Career decision-making difficulties perceived by senior high school students were different depending on different background variables such as state of decision-making, but not the grade, gender, father educate, mother education and economic status.

(2) Career self-efficacy perceived by senior high school students were different on different background variables such as grade, gender, father educate, mother educate, economic status and state of decision-making.

(3) Ego-identity status perceived by senior high school students were different depending on different background variables such as economic status and state of decision-making, but not on the grade, gender, father educate and mother educate.

(4) The canonical correlation between career decision-making difficulties and career self-efficacy was significance.

(5) The canonical correlation between career decision-making difficulties and ego-identity status was significance.

(6) The canonical correlation between career career self-efficacy and ego-identity status was significance.

Finally, based on the findings, some suggestions for career guidance and future research were proposed.

Keywords: career decision-making difficulties, career decision-making self-efficacy, ego-identity