

THE INFLUENCE OF PARENTAL SUPPORT ON STUDENTS' CAREER DECISION-MAKING ABILITY AT TARUNA SATRIA VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, PEKANBARU

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Abstract

This research is motivated by the fact that there are still students who experience confusion in determining career decisions, both to continue their education and enter the workforce after graduating from school. This study aims to determine the effect of parental support on students' career decision-making abilities at SMK Taruna Satria Pekanbaru. This study uses a quantitative approach with a simple linear regression method. The study population was 279 students in grades X and XI, with a sample of 74 students taken using a simple random sampling technique. Data collection techniques were carried out through questionnaires and documentation. The results of the study showed that parental support was in the very high category with a percentage of 45.9%. Students' career decision-making abilities were also in the very high category with a percentage of 45.9%. The results of the simple linear regression test showed a significance value of $0.000 < 0.05$, so there was a significant influence between parental support and students' career decision-making abilities. The contribution of parental support to students' career decision-making abilities was 42.3%, while the rest was influenced by other factors outside the study.

Keywords: Parental Support, Career Decision-Making Ability, Students

INTRODUCTION

Career decision-making is a crucial process for vocational high school (SMK) students to determine their future after graduation. Students are required to choose whether to continue their education, enter the workforce, or start their own business. Career decision-making skills are essential so students can make choices that align with their interests, talents, abilities, and available job opportunities.

Donald Super explains that adolescents are in the career exploration stage, when individuals begin to recognize their potential and seek information about suitable career options. At this stage, students need support from their immediate environment, especially their parents. This support can take the form of attention, motivation, guidance, assistance, and appreciation for their child's career choices.

However, many students still experience confusion when deciding on a career. Some

students lack a clear plan for their future. Others lack confidence in making career choices due to a lack of support and guidance from their parents. Some students even choose to follow their parents' wishes even though they may not align with their interests and abilities.

Previous research has shown that parental support influences students' career decision-making abilities. Sintawati et al. (2025) stated that parental social support has a positive influence on students' career decision-making. Furthermore, Haidar and Afia (2025) also explained that parental involvement contributes to helping students make more informed career choices.

A preliminary study conducted at SMK Taruna Satria Pekanbaru found that some students still experience uncertainty in making career choices after graduation. Therefore, this study aims to determine the effect of parental support on students' career decision-making abilities at SMK Taruna Satria Pekanbaru.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD

This research employed a quantitative approach with a simple linear regression method. The study was conducted at SMK Taruna Satria Pekanbaru. The study population consisted of all 279 tenth and eleventh grade students. The sampling technique used simple random sampling. The sample size was determined using the Slovin formula, resulting in 74 students as respondents.

Data collection utilized a questionnaire and documentation. The research instrument used a Likert scale with five response alternatives: strongly agree, agree, somewhat agree, disagree, and strongly disagree.

The parental support variable consisted of four indicators: attachment, reassurance of worth, reliable alliance, and obtaining guidance. The career decision-making ability variable consisted of six indicators: career planning, career exploration, knowledge of career decision-making, knowledge of the world of work, knowledge of preferred occupational groups, and realization of career decisions.

Data were analyzed using SPSS version 23 through normality tests, linearity tests, and simple linear regression tests.

RESULTS

The results of the study indicate that the level of parental support from students at SMK Taruna Satria Pekanbaru is in the very high category, with a percentage of 45.9%. This indicates that most students receive good attention, motivation, assistance, and guidance from their parents. Students' career decision-making skills are also in the very high category, with a percentage of 45.9%. Students are assessed as having good skills in considering career options, understanding their interests and talents, and identifying suitable job opportunities.

The results of the normality test indicate that the research data is normally distributed, with a significance value greater than 0.05. Furthermore, the results of the linearity test indicate a linear relationship between parental support and career decision-making skills.

Based on the results of the simple linear regression test, the significance value was $0.000 < 0.05$. Thus, the research hypothesis is accepted, namely that there is a significant influence

between parental support and students' career decision-making skills at SMK Taruna Satria Pekanbaru.

The results of the determination analysis show that the contribution of parental support to students' career decision-making abilities is 42.3%, while the remaining 57.7% is influenced by other factors outside the research.

DISCUSSION

The research results show that parental support has a significant influence on students' career decision-making abilities. Parental support in the form of attention, motivation, guidance, and appreciation can help students become more confident in career choices and make more informed decisions.

Parents play a crucial role as a child's first environment, shaping students' beliefs, motivation, and readiness for the future. Emotional support from parents can help students reduce doubt and confusion in determining their future careers. Furthermore, informational support in the form of advice and guidance also helps students gain a better understanding of the world of work and further education.

These research findings align with research by Sintawati et al. (2025), which found that parental social support positively influences students' career decision-making. This study also supports research by Haidar and Afia (2025), which explains that parental involvement contributes to students' career decision-making abilities.

With strong parental support, students are more likely to understand their potential, consider career options, and take responsibility for their decisions. Therefore, collaboration between schools and parents is essential to help students plan their future careers carefully.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research results, it can be concluded that parental support for students at SMK Taruna Satria Pekanbaru is in the very high category. Students' career decision-making skills are also in the very high category.

The results indicate a significant influence between parental support and students' career decision-making skills at SMK Taruna Satria Pekanbaru, with a significance value of $0.000 < 0.05$. Parental support contributed 42.3% to students' career decision-making skills, with the remainder influenced by factors outside the study.

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