



# Exploring The Difference Between Career Aspiration, Career Decision Making Self-Efficacy, And Parental Involvement Of Adolescents In Faridkot Dist (Punjab) : A Comparative Analysis Of Boys And Girls

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## ARTICLE INFO

## ABSTRACT

This study investigates the difference between career aspiration, career decision making self-efficacy, and parental involvement among adolescents in Faridkot dist., with a focus on gender differences. A sample of boys and girls was assessed using standardized measures. Results indicate slight differences between genders, with girls showing higher mean scores across all variables. Parental involvement exhibited a statistically significant difference between boys and girls. The findings contribute to understanding the interplay of these factors in career development and highlight the need for tailored career guidance interventions.

**Keywords:** Career Aspiration, Career Decision Self-Efficacy, Parental Involvement, Gender Differences, Adolescent Career Development

## Introduction

Career development is a critical aspect of adolescent growth, influenced by various personal and environmental factors. This study focuses on three key variables: career aspiration, career decision self-efficacy, and parental involvement. These factors play crucial roles in shaping an individual's career trajectory and have been subjects of extensive research in the field of vocational psychology.

The aim of this study is to examine the relationships between these variables and explore potential gender differences in the context of Faridkot, a city in Punjab, India. By investigating these factors, we seek to contribute to the understanding of career development processes in this specific cultural context and provide insights for career counseling and educational interventions.

## Background

Faridkot, located in the Indian state of Punjab, presents a unique setting for studying career development. The city, with its mix of urban and rural influences, offers an interesting backdrop for examining how career aspirations and decision-making processes evolve in a rapidly changing socio-economic environment. Understanding the interplay of personal and familial factors in this context can provide valuable insights into the career development needs of adolescents in similar settings.

## Literature Review

### Career Aspiration

Career aspiration refers to an individual's desire to pursue specific career paths or achieve certain levels of success within their chosen field. Research has shown that career aspirations are influenced by various factors, including personal interests, perceived abilities, and socio-cultural contexts (Rojewski, 2005).

### Career Decision Self-Efficacy

This concept, introduced by Taylor and Betz (1983), refers to an individual's belief in their ability to successfully complete tasks necessary for career decision-making. Studies have consistently shown that higher

levels of career decision self-efficacy are associated with more effective career exploration and decision-making processes (Lent et al., 1994).

### **Parental Involvement**

The role of parents in shaping career development has been widely recognized in the literature. Parental involvement can influence career aspirations, provide support for career exploration, and affect career decision-making processes (Whiston & Keller, 2004).

### **Gender Differences**

Previous research has indicated that gender can play a significant role in career development. Differences in career aspirations, self-efficacy beliefs, and the impact of parental involvement have been observed across various cultural contexts (Patton & Creed, 2001).

Objective

### **Objectives**

1. To study the career aspiration, career decision-making self efficacy and parental involvement of adolescents with respect to gender.
2. To study the significant difference of career aspiration between boys and girls.
3. To study the significant difference of career decision making self-efficacy between boys and girls.
4. To study the significant difference of parental involvement between boys and girls.

### **Hypotheses**

1. There is no significant difference in career aspiration between boys and girls.
2. There is no significant difference in career decision self-efficacy between boys and girls.
3. There is a significant difference in parental involvement between boys and girls.

### **Sample**

The study involved a sample of adolescents from Faridkot, including both boys and girls. The sample size consisted of 250 participants in total, with 125 boys and 125 girls.

### **Data and Methodology**

#### **Participants**

The study involved a sample of adolescents from Faridkot, including both boys and girls. The exact sample size is not provided in the given data.

#### **Measures:**

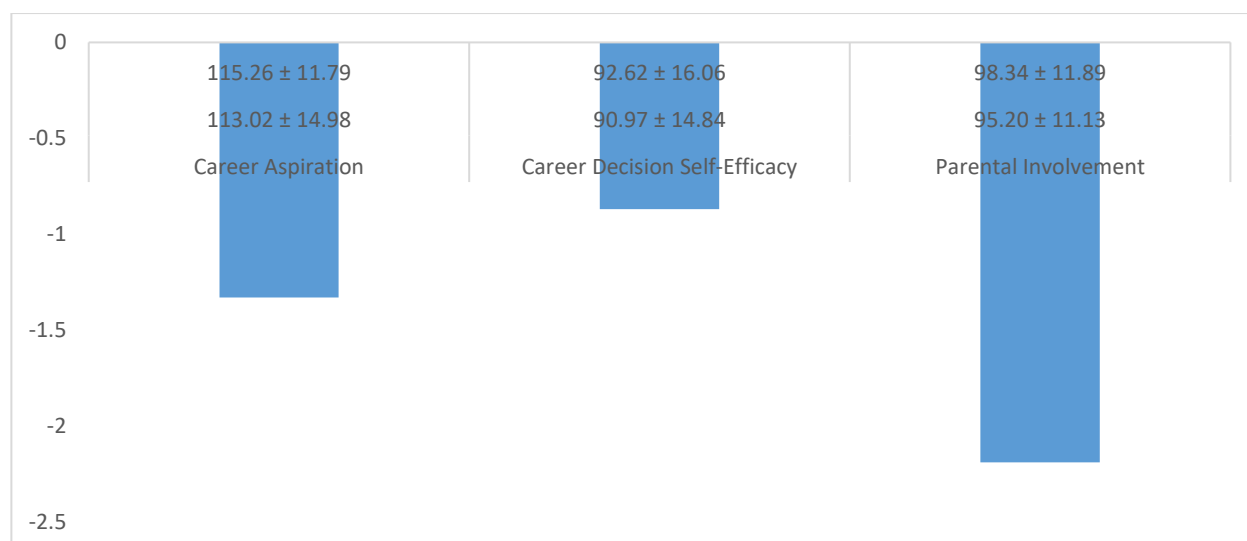
1. Career Aspiration Scale (CAS-SA) by Dr. Sarita Anand, (2014).
2. Career Decision Self Efficacy Scale by Betz and Taylor (Revised Punjabi version 2006).
3. Parent Involvement Scale (PIS-CA) by Dr. Vijaya Laxmi Chouhaan & Mrs. Gunjan Ganotra Arora, (2009).

#### **Data Analysis**

Independent samples t-tests were conducted to compare the mean scores of boys and girls on each measure. Results: The results of the study are presented in the following table:

**Table 1: Comparison of Career Aspiration, Career Decision Self-Efficacy, and Parental Involvement Scores Between Boys and Girls**

Measure	Boys (Mean ± SD)	Girls (Mean ± SD)	t-value
Career Aspiration	113.02 ± 14.98	115.26 ± 11.79	-1.33
Career Decision Self-Efficacy	90.97 ± 14.84	92.62 ± 16.06	-0.87
Parental Involvement	95.20 ± 11.13	98.34 ± 11.89	-2.19



**Figure : Comparison of Career Aspiration, Career Decision Self-Efficacy, and Parental Involvement Scores Between Boys and Girls**

### Discussion

The results of this study provide interesting insights into the career development processes of adolescents in District Faridkot. While girls showed slightly higher mean scores across all three measures, only the difference in parental involvement was statistically significant.

#### *Career Aspiration*

The slightly higher mean score for girls (115.26) compared to boys (113.02) suggests that girls in this sample may have somewhat higher career aspirations. However, the difference is not statistically significant ( $t = -1.33$ ), indicating that both genders have relatively similar levels of career aspirations.

#### *Career Decision Self-Efficacy*

Girls also scored slightly higher on career decision self-efficacy (92.62) compared to boys (90.97). This suggests that girls may feel marginally more confident in their ability to make career-related decisions. However, the lack of statistical significance ( $t = -0.87$ ) indicates that this difference is not substantial.

#### *Parental Involvement*

The most notable finding is the statistically significant difference in parental involvement between girls (98.34) and boys (95.20), with  $t = -2.19$ . This suggests that parents in Faridkot may be more involved in the career development processes of their daughters compared to their sons. This could be due to various factors, including changing societal attitudes towards women's education and careers, or perhaps a perceived need for greater support for girls in their career journeys.

These findings highlight the complex interplay of personal and environmental factors in career development. While gender differences were not pronounced in career aspirations and self-efficacy, the significant difference in parental involvement suggests that family dynamics may play a crucial role in shaping career development processes, particularly for girls in this cultural context.

### Conclusion

This study provides valuable insights into the career development processes of adolescents in Faridkot, with a focus on gender differences. The findings suggest that while boys and girls have similar levels of career aspirations and career decision self-efficacy, there are significant differences in the level of parental involvement in their career development.

These results have important implications for career counseling and educational interventions in Faridkot and similar cultural contexts. Programs aimed at supporting career development should consider the role of parental involvement and may need to address any gender disparities in this area. Future research could explore the reasons behind the higher parental involvement for girls and its long-term impact on career outcomes.

#### *Limitations*

Limitations of this study include the lack of information on sample size and demographic details. Future studies could benefit from larger, more diverse samples and the inclusion of qualitative data to provide a more comprehensive understanding of career development processes in this context.

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