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# Research Paper

### **Executive Summary**

The future career of students is ultimately determined by the field that the student specializes in schooling. Majority of the student find themselves in the field of business due to several factors that may drag them into the major. The naive nature of the student is manipulated by the environment that induces some aspects of life that makes the student switch and review his objectives and goals in his future career. The research paper enlightens in detail the aspects that influence the students into majoring in business fundamentally the students from humble backgrounds. The issues encountered by the scholars in the process of selection of the best major that is tailor made to suit their future and dreams. The study explains how the students from poor families apply the theme of survival to convince the interested parties the essence of providing them with adequate working space when making crucial decisions of choosing a good major that suits their future.

#### Introduction

Students from the poor backgrounds have low bargaining power over their destiny in the future due to the obsession of their parents and close people in their lives who determine the fate of their children. The students have their prime duty to utilize the theme of survival to secure

their aspirations and dreams in their future lives. The desperation of the people from the humble family settings triggers them to influence their siblings on the majors they ought to specialize in thus leading them to have great ambitions of concentrating on the business courses that are believed to have wide range of job opportunities in the white-collar status. There was a critical need of the study because it unearths the solutions to the problem of manipulation of the students from the poor backgrounds by the population who ironically seem to care for their lives. The study provides the application of the theme of survival by the students in order to protect their future and that of their families. It gives the factors that magnetize towards the business major other than the other disciplines. The study will give an opportunity of improvement of the situation. The critical issue that warrants the study is to change the perception of the guardians, parents, teachers who act as a source of influence to the resolutions made by the students who seek counsel from them.

## Methodology

A case study was done on several colleges from rural areas where a big ratio of the students is from a humble family setting. The reason of using the case study is because it aids in easy analysis of the data collected and that it provides a more reliable and accurate information crucial in making proper recommendations. The study was conducted on a populace of five colleges from different areas in the rural areas where poverty is highly pronounced. The diversity of the locations was done in order to increase the exactitude of the data and to possess imperative information from diverse grounds in order to come up with decisive elucidations of the predicament. From the five institutions, a sample of five teachers was selected and four classes. From the four designated classes, five apprentices were chosen who were taking business as one of their units and other five who were not studying business but had economics as their option.

Another sample was picked from each of the schools of students who specialized in other subjects not related to business. Ten students from each institution who came from the humble backgrounds were also involved in the study.

The data was collected using interviews that encompassed of the use of direct interviews and telephone interviews on some minority of the population. Some of the tutors of various units, who could not be reached at the moment, were communicated through their cellphones. It facilitated the opportunity of recording the dialogues without any discomfiture for the purpose of any necessary imminent reference. The information was extracted from the students through direct interviews that involved face to face. The procedure enabled them to sensitize some vital ideas through body language thus achieving the right information and its intensity directly from the source. The method facilitated easy control of the samples taken by empowering the convincing tactics that permitted the information to be unveiled deliberately from the population. Clarification on key subjects of the matter was given by the students without envelopment of many costs. The data collected was analyzed after editing and classification into categories for easy and quick comprehending.

#### Literature review

As far as the theme of survival is concerned, selecting a major comprises of various encounters and influence from the members of the family, teachers, other students and other forces both internal and external. Nevertheless, it is an option that ought to be made by the person concerned. Consequently, the relevant person should apply the theme of survival to be capable of selecting a major that is expedient to him or her and satisfy other interested entities. The external factors that influence apprentice's choice of career are those that seek to gratify the

cravings of other parties close to or far from the life of the student (Evans 92). It is the responsibility of the student to practice the application of the theme of survival for him to have the capability of satisfying the other interested parties and take a major of his or her choice. The desire of guardians, parent and society, form the crucial external factors that sway the choice of a major to be taken by a particular student. Parents are the chief close individuals in the life of a student. Consequently, it becomes tricky for the student to create a state of balance of his interests and the interests of his parents at craft a neutral point. The student ought to put the theme of survival into practice in order for him have an assurance of the guaranteed happiness of his parents. The unselfish move that must be applied with much wisdom creates peace among the entities concerned. The student has the obligation of ensuring the satisfaction of the parents and simultaneously takes a major of his choice (Beggs 386).

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# Factors Influencing the Student to Choose a Business Major

# Parents' Ambition

According to the poor background of the originality of the student, the parents invest much on the educating their children anticipating getting upgrading of their lifestyle from the

students once they are employed. The parents mold their children with counsels that are precast to determine their future career. Most of the parents consider business courses to be more vendible in the job market and because they need their poverty level to be diminished, they use their ambitions to influence their sons and daughters to focus on the business courses. The egotistical approach used by the parents with less attention on the ambitions of their children leads the student to make deplorable choices in life that lead them to compunction (Evans 88).

# **Deceptive Ideas from the other Students**

Peer pressure takes a big part in making the wrong choices on the majoring units done by various students. Students, who choose business courses as their majors, influence the other students in studying in other majors. The convincing power of the other business students may be high, and they eventually mislead the other students to quit working on their objectives and goals and follow the business students. The belief in most of the students minds that business majoring give a quick way to the top of the status quo of managerial class distorts the dreams of other students especially in the engineering fields. The students who lack unwavering principles and on working towards the realization of the specified goals, they are swayed by the students and eventually find themselves in the wrong truck of their lives. Most of the students from the poor background lack confidence enough to trust their identifiable dreams and they are easily oscillated ideas from various students thus finding themselves in the business major.

#### **Influence from the Teachers**

In the process of schooling, most of the teachers structure their students to fit in the business majoring. The teachers fail to offer the students with a chance to make verdicts that will determine their future discretely. The trust that the students from the humble family settings have

on their teachers drives them towards taking the risk of changing their major to business. Most of the teachers load themselves with the task of businessmen out of the students with less consideration on the aims and the intents of the students (Bloom 181). The green nature of the students who are not privileged to have anyone to guide them land in the propositions of their teachers thus failing to fulfill their dreams.

# Challenges Encountered By the Students in the Selection of the Best Major

### Lack of Exposure

Students from poor families lack the exposure into the world of opportunities hence they are left with little options to choose from thus opting for business major. The business courses are universally popular as compared to other critical courses that may be more fitting to the career life of most of the students from the underprivileged families (Haley12). Due to lack of acquaintance with numerous majors that the students might specialize on and match their ambitions, they are ensnared by the popular business major that inhibits them from achieving their goals. The other students from more privileged family setups have the pleasure of getting the exposure they need since most of the acquaintances require expenditures that the poor are incapable of meeting.

# **Potential Job Opportunities**

The opportunities of the jobs expected after the training limit the poor students from engaging themselves into majoring into their dream courses. The fortunate students who essentially pursue degree courses in order to enhance their family company contrary to the poor students who end up choosing the business courses that have a wide range of opportunities in various areas in the globe (Beggs 390). Research exhibits that, most of the poor students do not

layout goals in their lives since in each phase of their education they are not optimism of moving forward to the next phase because of the intensity of their poverty levels. When selection of suitable majors dawns on them, they are caught off-guard and in an impromptu situation thus ending up selecting the wrong major. They do not hope for job opportunities since they hardly think of to accomplish their college education.

# **Application of the Theme of Survival by the Poor Students**

The poor students have the obligation of maintaining the relationship among them and the persons who are concerned with their selection of their major and at the same time select their favorite major. In order to manage the dilemma, the poor students commence in advance the involvement of their concerned parties into their dream major. They explain to them the essence of the major and why they prefer it over the other majors (Bloom 179). In some circumstances, the students involve third parties to escalate their convincing power and fashion a state of equilibrium on the sides. The natural circumstance of a person related to felicity and misery. Human beings strive on diverse fields. The ability of various individuals varies an aspect that makes people influence the students when making a choice for the major. Different members of the society invade the reputation of others and make them take long decisions.

#### **Findings**

According to the results after the analysis of the data collected, a third of the teachers divulged that, they influence their students in choosing their majors and make sure that they take business courses. Half of the students from the poor background revealed that, their parents decide on the majors they are specializing. According to a fifth of the students who do not specialize in business, they are convinced by the business students to switch their major and

specialize in business courses. The students who were taking economics as their better option unveiled that, they wanted to major on business since their infancy.

#### Conclusion

Students ought to be provided with the opportunity to choose their preferred majors since different people have diverse ambitions and talents. Deciding the major on behave of the students is tantamount to inhibiting them from exercising their potential and abilities thus limiting the exploitation of resources and opportunities in various fields. The role of the parents, guardians and any other interested party is to give guidelines without duress and leave the student to make decisions on his own according to his interest (Beggs 384). The student must build up a balance between the happiness of people around him and choose the major he craves.

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Haley, K., et al., (2011) New School, life & New Job Journal of College Orientation & Transition Print Vol.18 No. 2 pp.5-19

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Beggs, J., Bantham, J., & Taylor, S., (2008) Distinguishing Factors Influencing College Scholar's Choice of Major *Educational Student's Journal* 2008 Print Vol.42 No.2 pp. 381–394

The authors are writers of student's journal. They proposed that, the student ought to give a chance to choose a major without external pressure.

Bloom, J. (2008) Moving on from college In V. Gordon, W. Habley, T. Grites, & Associates Academic Advising Comprehensive Handbook-Professor in the Section of business *Colorado State University* 2008 Print pp. 179,181

In his critique, he argued that students have the obligation of making the balance between their ambitions and the comfort of the people around them.

Evans, N., et al., Perry's Theory of Intellectual & Ethical Development Student Development in College Theory, Research, & Practice San Francisco, CA Jossey-Bass 2010 Print pp. 82-98

The authors suggested that, the autocracy in parents and guardians lead the students in the mess of choosing the wrong major.

Haley, K., et al., New School, life & New Job Journal of College Orientation & Transition 2011 Print Vol.18 No. 2 pp.5-19

The authors of the article are retired lectures. They argue that despite all the contribution made by other stakeholders, the students should be allowed to make a choice of their majors.