SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The present study attempts to investigate the vocational preference of the adolescents in relation to the gender, urban-rural background and vocational personality of the teachers and to inquire whether the social, structural and personality variables have any effect on the vocational preference of the adolescents.

VOCATIONAL PREFERENCE AND HOLLAND'S PERSONALITY DIMENSIONS

Holland (1973) has developed a theory of vocational personality dimension which has more relevance to account for the relationship between personality and vocational choice. He contends that the environment is typically distributed into six types including Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising and Conventional ones. He further envisages that individuals also typically fall into six types corresponding to the types cited above. The choice of vocation is an expression of personality and each type of personality is attracted towards vocations that will be congruent to it. In the actual life situation, when the personality and vocation are
congruent, the individuals are more satisfied. When they are not able to ensue it, according to their preference, they are dissatisfied or become unfit for the vocation, and it leads them into misery. The contention of Holland provides the necessary theoretical foundation for developing the research questions and their plausible solutions in the present study.

Research Questions

1.1 Whether the boys and girls will differ from one another on Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising and Conventional dimensions of the vocational preferences.

1.2 Whether the adolescents from urban rural background will differ from one another on Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising and Conventional dimensions of the vocational preferences.

1.3 Whether the adolescents grouped into different categories based on their teachers' vocational personality will differ from one another on Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising and Conventional dimensions of the vocational preferences.
1.4 Whether gender and background will interact on Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising and Conventional dimensions of the vocational preferences.

1.5 Whether gender and teachers' vocational preference will interact on Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising and Conventional dimensions of the vocational preferences.

1.6 Whether background and teachers' vocational preference will interact on Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising and Conventional dimensions of the vocational preferences.

1.7 Whether gender, Background and teachers' vocational preference will interact on Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising and Conventional dimensions of the vocational preferences.

**Methodology**

The research design followed for the present investigation adopts a factorial design. The students were classified into a 2x2x6 factorial arrangement to facilitate adopting an analysis of variance for analysing the data. It
may be recalled that the teachers' vocational personality patterns are identified in terms of Holland's three letter code. The students were classified into different categories on the basis of the classification of their teachers in terms of their personality codes to test whether the personality of their teacher has any effect on their vocational preference.

No attempt is made to formulate hypotheses and test them with regard to possible interaction between the factors herein studied since no theoretically sound model is available to deduce such hypotheses for the present context. This precludes a discussion of the interactions empirically obtained in the present study and the discussion is restricted to the main effects only.

Sample

The sample of pupils for the present study was drawn from among the students studying standard XI in co-educational higher secondary schools situated in the Coimbatore Educational District, during the year 1995. The sample frame includes both boys and girls. The schools included in the study are managed by The Coimbatore
Municipal Corporation, The Tamil Nadu Government and The Private Trusts. Random numbers were used to identify the individuals to be included in the sample.

The sample of teachers was drawn from among the teachers working in the schools where the sample of pupils was drawn, at the time of the investigation. The sample frame includes both male and female teachers.

The sample identified for the final analysis was 1320 students inclusive of boys and girls and 554 teachers inclusive of male and female.

Instruments Used

In the present study, the following instruments were employed.

Personal Data Sheet

The Personal Data Sheet has been developed by the researcher to obtain information about the individual respondent. The PDS purports to obtain adequate description of the respondents with regard to their Age, Sex, Nature of Background and Name of the School.
The PSG Vocational Preference Inventory (PSG VPI: Balakrishnan, 1979) was used to obtain data from the sample. The inventory consists of 130 items expressed in terms of names of vocations available to Indian Population. The six personality dimensions conceived by Holland in his vocational personality model are equally represented by the titles in the inventory. Besides a scale of 10 items on acquiescence is also available in the inventory. The inventory has been standardised on Indian population. Since the inventory has adequate validity and reliability for application in the present study, it is used to obtain the vocational preferences of the sample herein investigated.

Statistical Analysis

The data collected were subjected to analysis of variance to test the hypotheses.
FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The following are the findings of the study.

1. The findings show that in general the gender has an influence on the vocational preferences of the adolescents.

2. The findings further reveal that urban-rural background affect the vocational preferences of the adolescents.

3. The findings also show that the teachers' vocational personality has some diffused influence on the vocational personality of the adolescents.

The findings have theoretical and practical significance for social work and social workers.
SCOPE FOR FURTHER STUDY

The present study has examined the influence of certain demographic and social variables namely sex, urban-rural background and the teachers' vocational personality on the vocational aspirations of the adolescents within the framework of Holland's theory.

Quest for enriching knowledge and bringing out new findings is a never ending process. There is much scope for research especially in social sciences within certain constraints and limitations.

In view of the supportive evidence obtained for the theory, there are still promising lines of research in the areas of certain other social determinants of vocational choice.

The factors for further research may include the influence of caste and religion on the vocational preference of the adolescents, vocational preference in relation to the occupational position of the kith and kin as models, parental background, sibling position in the family, influence of the peer group and the impact of the
significant others (the popular leaders) may also be considered for the study.

Further, in the light of the occupational prestige and occupational structure in the society, the impact of overseas opportunities on vocational aspirations also may be examined.

The matrix of factors in the urban and rural settings, encouraging and discouraging factors in the community, a comparative study on the vocational choice of the adolescents among the higher secondary schools and the matriculation schools can also be considered for further research.

CONCLUSION

The upshot of this study can be summed up in the following terms: Sex, urban and rural background and teachers' vocational personality do influence the vocational preferences of the adolescents.