CHAPTER - 3
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THE PROBLEM

3.0 RATIONALE OF THE PRESENT STUDY

Child, the most wonderful creation on the earth, develops himself into a full fledged individual with the loving support of so many persons who come in close contact with him. There is an inspirational saying that we normally tell to children that ‘dream, dream and dream and set your goals high’. Setting higher goals and aspiring high to reach these goals, help child in achieving success in his/her life. Aspirations of children act as stepping stones for the success of the children. In long run, these aspirations at different areas, reconstruct the child into a full fledged and successful individual. Aspiration is the necessary component in an adolescent’s personality who sets a target to achieve his/her ‘desire’ or ‘will’. The formation of a strong desire and ambition motivates a person to strive hard to achieve that goal. Such aspirations are keenly required if one has to be successful in life. Here arises a question that what are the factors that effect the aspirations of children. Obviously, there are different components that effect or influence child’s aspirations. The components such as – child’s own inner aspiration level, influence of his mother and father, his peer group, social status of his parents, impact of success of his close relatives, the nurturing tender emotional influence of his mother, parents’ educational level, their awareness with regard to the changing situations.

It has been observed that a conducive family environment leave a healthy and sound impression in the mind of the child in order to aspire more and more. The home environment plays a vital role in the development of a child’s personality. The reason, obviously is, the child constantly interacts with the family and is invariably
influenced by the entire environment that surrounds it. Children need a congenial environment, an environment characterised by human care particularly by the mother. The psychological climate of the home is extremely important for the healthy development of the child's personality and parental acceptance plays a major role in this regard. Happier and aware parents have more beneficial and permanent impact on the growing children. The aspirations of the children are remote in his early age and takes up a shape in his adolescent age. At this juncture, he requires intellectual, knowledgeable and real support from his close supporters. His close supporters will but natural – his mother, father, teachers, friends etc. Looking into the impact of various factors in the aspirations of the children, an attempt has been made to investigate into the impact of mother's education on the aspirations of her children. Another important reason for selecting this study is an unpublished research work of the scholar, which proved that educated mothers' children are high achievers in education. To be precise, the problem chosen by the research scholar to study is:

"Impact of mother’s education on academic and vocational aspirations of higher secondary school children".

3.1 DESCRIPTION OF VARIABLES

A variable is any feature or aspect of an event function or process that, by its presence and nature, affects some other event or process which is being studied. It is a property that takes on different value. As variable by its nature looks into its effect on other, the present study also consists of two types of variables i.e., independent variable and dependent variables. Mother's education level is the independent variable whereas both academic aspirations and vocational aspirations are dependent variables of the present study.
'Aspirations' are basically described as the earnest desire to achieve something. Hence it will be the 'desire' or 'will' of an individual in order to achieve. As it is something to do with 'desires', there will be different types of aspirations pertaining to various areas such as immediate aspiration, remote aspirations, realistic aspiration, unrealistic aspirations, aspirations related to living style, aspiration related to education, aspirations related to one's own career, aspirations related to one's own profession so on and so forth. The present study is dealing with two important areas of above described aspirations, they are – academic aspirations and vocational aspirations.

3.1.2 (A) Academic Aspirations:

Academic aspiration is known as the aspiration of a child with regard to his scholastic achievement. Higher the goal, the intensive his effort to achieve that particular goal. In the very beginning, the child is encouraged by his parents to aspire to stand at the top of his class, to be prestigious athlete, to be identified with the leading crowd, he aspires to do what an older sibling or a neighbourhood playmate does. Hence high aspirations in the academic field is one of the essential requisite in order to achieve success the academic field.

3.1.2 (B) Vocational Aspirations:

Aspirations related to one's own vocation or occupation is vocational aspiration of an individual. The relative stability of the childhood environment and the training methods of parents lead the child to develop a habit of aspiring for his vocation. Hence, child's aspiration in relation to settle their future occupation is known as vocational aspirations.

To be precise, the present study will be focusing on the impact of the mother's education on the academic aspirations and vocational aspirations of children. Here is
an attempt made by the research scholar to investigate, how higher the aspirations of children with regard to their academics and vocation. At the same time an attempt has been made to study the impact of one’s mother’s education on these aspirations.

3.2 OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS:

The present study involves following key terms which are defined for the purpose of the study:

**Mother’s Education:**
Mother’s education refers to the education level of mother of each child. In order to investigate into the impact of mother’s education level on the children’s aspirations, different levels of mothers’ education has been taken into consideration. Mother’s education levels are classified into four levels. They are (i) Secondary level (ii) Higher Secondary level (iii) Graduation level (iv) Post Graduation level.

**Academic Aspirations**
Aspiration of children with regard to their education is regarded as the academic aspirations of children. It is related to the level of aspirations of children with regard to their education.

**Vocational Aspirations**
Aspirations of children with regard to their vocation are known as their vocational aspirations. It refers to the investigate, how higher their aspirations are with regard to their vocation.

**Discipline of study**
The present study contains the sample of different streams of study such as science, commerce and arts stream. These streams or branches of study are regarded as disciplines.
Gender

The present study considers the sex of the children in order to investigate the difference in aspiration level of boys and girls belonging to different disciplines.

Type of schools

Boys and girls of Hindi medium schools in which the medium of instruction is Hindi and affiliated to Chhattisgarh board of education has been taken for the study.

Higher Secondary school children

The term higher secondary refers to both boys and girls studying in class XI.

3.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENT STUDY

Objectives of the present study are as follows:

- To find out the academic aspirations of 11th grade students of Raipur city, studying in Chhattisgarh Board of Secondary Education.
- To study the effect of mothers’ education on the academic aspirations of 11th graders.
- To study the difference between academic aspirations of children whose mothers’ education is secondary and higher secondary school education.
- To study the difference between academic aspirations of children whose mothers’ education is secondary school education and Graduation.
- To study the difference between academic aspirations of children whose mothers’ education is secondary school education and Post Graduation.
- To study the difference between academic aspirations of children whose mothers’ education is higher secondary and Graduation.
- To study the difference between academic aspirations of children whose mothers’ education is higher secondary and Post Graduation.
• To study the difference between academic aspirations of children whose mothers’
education is Graduation and post Graduation.

• To study the difference amongst academic aspirations of children who belong to
different faculties.

• To study the difference between academic aspirations of 11th graders who belong
to science and commerce group.

• To study the difference between academic aspirations of 11th graders who belong
to science and Arts group.

• To study the difference between academic aspirations of 11th graders who belong
to commerce and Arts group.

• To study the difference between academic aspirations of total boys and girls.

• To find out the vocational aspirations of 11th grade students of Raipur city,
  studying in Chhattisgarh Board of Secondary Education.

• To study the effect of mothers’ education on the vocational aspirations of 11th
  graders.

• To study the difference between vocational aspirations of 11th graders whose
  mothers’ education is secondary and higher secondary.

• To study the difference between vocational aspirations of 11th graders whose
  mothers’ education is secondary and Graduation.

• To study the difference between vocational aspirations of 11th graders whose
  mothers’ education is secondary and Post Graduation.

• To study the difference between vocational aspirations of 11th graders whose
  mothers’ education is higher secondary and Graduation.

• To study the difference between vocational aspirations of 11th graders whose
  mothers’ education is higher secondary and Post Graduation.
To study the difference between vocational aspirations of 11th graders whose mothers' education is Graduation and post Graduation.

To study the difference amongst vocational aspirations of 11th graders who belong to different faculties.

To study the difference between vocational aspirations of 11th graders who belong to science and commerce group.

To study the difference between vocational aspirations of 11th graders who belong to science and Arts group.

To study the difference between educational aspirations of 11th graders who belong to commerce and Arts group.

To study the difference between vocational aspirations of total boys and girls.

To study the relationship between the academic and vocational aspirations of 11th graders.

3.4 IMPORTANCE OF HYPOTHESES

Hypotheses is a tentative statement about the solution of the problem. It offers a solution of the problem that is to be verified empirically and based on some rationale. Hypothesis is the composition of some variables which have some specific position or role of the variables i.e., to be verified empirically. It is a proposition about the factual and conceptual elements. It is called a leap into the dark. It is a brilliant guess about the solution of a problem. It is a statement temporarily accepted as true in the light of what is known at the time about the phenomena. It is the basis for planning and action in the research for new truth.
3.4.1 Hypotheses of the present study

1. There exists significant difference in the academic aspirations of 11th graders of Raipur city, studying in Chattisgarh Board of secondary education.

2. There exists significant effect of the mother's education on the academic aspirations of 11th graders.

3. There exists no significant difference on the academic aspirations of children of 11th grade whose mothers' education level is secondary and higher secondary.

4. There exists significant difference in the academic aspirations of children of 11th grade whose mothers' education level is secondary and Graduation.

5. There exists significant difference in the academic aspirations of children of 11th graders whose mothers' education level is secondary and Post Graduation.

6. There exists significant difference in the academic aspirations of children whose mothers' education level is higher secondary and Graduation.

7. There exists significant difference in the academic aspirations of children whose mothers' education level is higher secondary and Post Graduation.

8. There exists no significant difference in the academic aspirations of children whose mothers' education level is Graduation and Post Graduation.

9. There exists significant difference in the academic aspirations of 11th graders of various disciplines of study.

10. There exists no significant difference in academic aspirations of 11th graders of science and commerce disciplines.

11. There exists no significant difference in academic aspirations of 11th graders of arts and commerce disciplines.

12. There exists no significant difference in academic aspirations of 11th graders of science and arts disciplines.
13. There exists no gender effect on the academic aspirations of 11th graders.

14. There exists significant difference in the vocational aspirations of 11th graders of Raipur city, studying in Chattisgarh Board of secondary education.

15. There exists significant effect of the mother's education on the vocational aspirations of 11th graders.

16. There exists no significant difference on the vocational aspirations of children of 11th grade whose mothers' education level is secondary and higher secondary.

17. There exists significant difference in the vocational aspirations of children of 11th grade whose mothers' education level is secondary and Graduation.

18. There exists significant difference in the vocational aspirations of children of 11th graders whose mothers' education level is secondary and Post Graduation.

19. There exists significant difference in the vocational aspirations of children whose mothers' education level is higher secondary and Graduation.

20. There exists significant difference in the vocational aspirations of children whose mothers' education level is higher secondary and Post Graduation.

21. There exists no significant difference in the vocational aspirations of children whose mothers' education level is Graduation and Post Graduation.

22. There exists significant difference in the vocational aspirations of 11th graders of various disciplines of study.

23. There exists no significant difference in vocational aspirations of 11th graders of science and commerce disciplines.

24. There exists no significant difference in vocational aspirations of 11th graders of arts and commerce disciplines.

25. There exists no significant difference in vocational aspirations of 11th graders of science and arts disciplines.
26. There exists no gender effect on the vocational aspirations of 11th graders.

27. There exists significant relationship between academic aspirations and vocational aspirations of 11th graders.

3.5 DELIMITATIONS OF THE PRESENT STUDY:

- This study has to be undertaken for the students of 11th class only.
- The sample taken for this study is limited to 720 only.
- The study is limited to Raipur, the capital city of Chhattisgarh state only.
- The study was conducted on students who belong to Hindi medium schools only.
- The study was limited to the students who belong to science, commerce and arts disciplines only.
- The study was conducted on the students whose mothers' education was secondary to post graduation.
- The schools selected for the study were affiliated to Chhattisgarh Board of Education only.
- The terms education and academics are used as synonyms in this study.
- The terms vocation and occupation are used as synonyms in this study.