

Examination of Parents Opinions on the Career Expectations of Their Children

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ABSTRACT

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Career, is the progress and experience of an individual in any business field in his working life. In addition, it is the point that the individual wants to reach in his business life and the effort he puts forward to reach this point. Career planning is a roadmap for this point to be reached. The aim of this research is to determine the views of parents about their children's life careers. In this study, qualitative research technique was used. The situation analysis method was used for the research. Volunteer parents of primary school students participated in the study. The study group of the research consists of 20 parents. 10 of these parents are female and 10 are male. Semi-structured interview form technique was used to collect the research data. The data obtained as a result of the interviews were analyzed with the content analysis technique. While interpreting the data, themes were obtained. Categories related to each theme were created. In the results obtained from the content analysis of the data obtained from the semi-structured interview form applied in the research, there are four issues related to the expectations of the parents from the life career of the children, the duties of the parents while fulfilling the expectations from the life career of the children, the differences between the career plans of the parents and the career plans of the children, and the elimination of the differences between the career plans of the parents and the career plans of the children. Theme has been determined. Categories related to these themes were created. As a result, it has been seen that the expectations of the parents in the career planning of their children are in the form of a happy and successful, quality life. The findings obtained as a result of the research were discussed within the framework of the literature and suggestions were presented regarding the results.

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INTRODUCTION

The concept of career was first examined from the 16th century. It was first used with the psychology of professions written by Anne Roe in 1956. Career is a mixture of continuous progress, experience and experience in any business field during the period of work of a person (Bayraktaroğlu, 2006). Career is usually a concept that refers to the professional development path that a person follows throughout his working life. The concept of career is a business life plan determined according to a person's skills and abilities, interests and values, experiences and education (Aktaş, 2015).

Career refers to the plans a person makes to specialize in a particular area, advance in a particular position, and achieve their personal goals. The concept of career provides an opportunity for a person to overcome the difficulties he faces in working life, to develop himself and achieve success. Career is important for a person to realize himself, maintain a satisfying business life and ensure future financial security (Ayşe & Er, 2017). Career planning is the process of self-development by determining the goals of people in their business lives and taking the necessary steps to achieve these goals. Career planning is very important not only for achieving success in business life, but also for achieving personal goals (Güldü & Kart, 2017).

When making career planning, first of all, a profession or career goal is determined by evaluating the person's abilities, interests, strengths and weaknesses. Then, plans are made to acquire the training, experience and skills necessary to achieve this goal. These plans may consist of training or vocational training, internships, volunteer work, mentoring programs, seminars and other learning opportunities (Cevher, 2015). In the career planning process, it is as important to make efforts to achieve these goals as it is to set goals and make plans. It is necessary to develop oneself, to receive sufficient education, to gain work experience and to make efforts to market oneself (Tatlı, et al., 2021).

Man is a living being who has been constantly developing since he came to life. The structure of man is constantly evolving. Since the first eye of man opens his eyes in his feelings, behaviors, thoughts, wishes and choices, they are influenced by their families, where their first steps in life are formed that take care of them and meet their needs in physiological, psychological and other areas. People who are in continuous development need to be supported at every stage and their thoughts should be shaped (Alkan, 2018).

Every child is born with many talents. While abilities develop up to a certain period, those that are neglected become atrophied and disappear over time. It is both the duty and the desire of every family to raise successful individuals who know themselves and are at peace with the family and the environment. From childhood to adulthood, mental, social and emotional development is very important. All this development guides the career of children after adulthood. Today, career can be defined as achieving success in the business and professional life of the individual, progress, experience and experience achieved by achieving success in the tasks he / she has undertaken (Taş & Özmen, 2019).

Career planning is the goals that a person must achieve in order to reveal their career plans and goals and to achieve the goal (Çelebi, 1997). Goal setting is undoubtedly the first step in achieving a human result. Career planning is the process of determining the most appropriate way to reach the target point determined in business life, where the talent, individual and target meet at the common point, revealing the task and vision of the

individual. Career awareness should be given importance to children from an early age and a correct career planning should be made (Sapsağlam, et al., 2021).

Children begin to become independent as they start school. They are in a constant state of development. In this development, they gradually observe their surroundings and see that people are engaged in different pursuits from each other and try to make sense of them. With the formation of the first foundations of professional consciousness, they begin to imagine various professions as a result of their observations (Coşkun & Önem, 2021). The first conscious observation on children is made by their parents. Every family wants to raise successful individuals and want their children to be happy and successful. An individual's career planning needs to be done by considering various aspects. When children reach a certain period and start to make career and career choices, it may be inevitable that they will face the challenging pressures and confusion of their parents. In order to prevent these situations from occurring and to crown the process successfully, the directions should be made consciously (Çelik, 2019).

The concerns and worries that children will experience in career planning should be eliminated and it will be possible to carry out the process healthily with conscious steps. The biggest supporters of children in this process are undoubtedly their parents. Each individual's self-awareness should be created and self-knowledge should be ensured to be better and thus it should be easier for him to direct his career (Guan, et al., 2016).

The importance of parents in directing the career planning of children in the primary school period is increasing considerably. In this study, it is aimed to determine the opinions of the volunteer parents of primary school students about their children's career planning. Accordingly, the following questions were asked to the parents:

1. As a parent, what are your expectations for your children's life careers?
2. What are your duties to fulfill these expectations?
3. What differences do you see between your career prospects and your child's career prospects?
4. What are you doing to address these differences?

METHOD

Mining Model

The study was designed with case study from qualitative research methods. Qualitative research is a type of research created by data collection methods such as observation and document analysis (Aydın, 2018). A case study is a qualitative research method in which a single situation or event is examined in depth longitudinally, data are collected systematically and what happens in the real environment is examined (Subaşı & Okumuş, 2017). Career is a process that is regularly designed, planned for the long term, and not only work but also family, occupation and social effects are addressed (Ataol, 1989).

Workgroup

Purposeful sampling method was used in the study. In the career planning of primary school children, parents' opinions about their children's career expectations were taken and

volunteer parents participated in the research. The study group of the study consisted of 20 parents. 10 (50%) of the parents are women and 10 (50%) are men.

Data Collection and Analysis

A semi-structured interview form was used as a data collection method in the collection of research data. The interviews were conducted in an environment where parents could feel comfortable. During the interview, the interview was recorded with the permission of the participants. The data obtained during the interview were dumped and analyzed by descriptive content analysis technique. Themes were identified while interpreting the data. Categories related to each theme have been created.

FINDINGS

Parents’ views on the theme of children’s expectations in life career

Table 1. *The Table 1 data provides an example that categorizes parents’ views on their child’s life career expectations*

Themes	Categories	<i>f</i>	Examples of Parents’ Opinions
Career Prospects	Going abroad	2	<i>I expect him to choose the profession he wants in his career and go abroad.”</i>
	Be happy	7	<i>“I expect him to make choices in his life that he can be happy with.”</i>
	Language learning	2	<i>“My expectation from his life career is that he will learn the language and direct his career abroad.”</i>
	Turning to technology	1	<i>“I expect a life that uses technology actively and has more modern thoughts.</i>
	Successful and quality life	7	<i>“I expect them to be successful and quality of life throughout their life careers.”</i>
	Being a Good Person	2	<i>“I want him to be a good person and live as an individual who knows his duties and responsibilities.”</i>

Among the themes that parents expect from their children are to go abroad, to be happy, to learn languages, to turn to technology, to live a successful and quality life and to be a good person. What some parents expect from their children is to choose the profession they want in their careers and work abroad. However, other parents seem to hope that their children will make choices in life that they can be happy with. Also, some parents expect their children to learn languages and pursue careers abroad, while others want them to turn to technology and live with more modern considerations.

In addition to these, one of the most important issues that parents expect from their children is to lead a successful and quality life. Some parents expect their children to live as a good person and to be an individual who knows their responsibilities. This chart summarizes the views parents have about their children’s life careers and shows that each parent may have different expectations for their children.

Parents’ views on the theme of duties in fulfilling the expectations of children in life career

Table 2. *The Table 2 data includes five different views given under different categories under the theme of parents’ duties in fulfilling their child’s life career expectations.*

Themes	Categories	<i>f</i>	Examples of Parents’ Opinions
Career Prospects	Foreign Language Learning	3	<i>“My job in this process is to encourage him to learn a foreign language.”</i>
	Supporting Goals	6	<i>“To support them in this process and to provide them with all the effort and effort we can to achieve the goals.”</i>
	Correct Orientation	3	<i>“To be able to give him the right directions so that he can make the appropriate choices for himself.”</i>
	Education	6	<i>“It is our duty to create the necessary environment for him to get a good education.”</i>
	Moving to Different Areas	2	<i>“To direct him to have equipment in different areas.”</i>

Under the category of ‘Foreign Language Learning’, there is an opinion that parents have a duty to encourage them to learn a foreign language. Under the category of ‘Supporting Goals’ is an opinion that emphasizes that parents should provide support to their children to achieve their goals. Under the ‘Right Direction’ category, it is stated that parents need to make the right directions so that their children can make appropriate choices for themselves. Under the category of ‘education’, it is stated that parents are responsible for creating the necessary environment for their children to receive a good education. Under the category of ‘Orientation to Different Areas’, it is stated that parents should guide their children so that they can be equipped in different areas.

Table 3. *Parents’ views on the theme of differences between career plans and their child’s career plan*

Themes	Categories	<i>f</i>	Examples of Parents’ Opinions
Career Prospects	Foreign Language Learning	3	<i>“My job in this process is to encourage him to learn a foreign language.”</i>
	Supporting Goals	6	<i>“To support them in this process and to provide them with all the effort and effort we can to achieve the goals.”</i>
	Correct Orientation	3	<i>“To be able to give him the right directions so that he can make the appropriate choices for himself.”</i>
	Education	6	<i>“It is our duty to create the necessary environment for him to get a good education.”</i>
	Moving to Different Areas	2	<i>“To direct him to have equipment in different areas.”</i>
Career Plans	No Difference	3	<i>“I can say that there is no difference. Because both of our career plans are to continue abroad.”</i>
	Career Thoughts Are Different	10	<i>“We both have thoughts of career plans in different fields.”</i>
	Dysipsis	5	<i>“The fact that he was undisciplined about it while I was more disciplined.”</i>
	Being a Dreamer	2	<i>“I would say the main difference is that their ideas are more imaginative than they are.”</i>

Table 3 data categorize parents’ views on the theme of differences between their career plans and their children’s career plans. The examples obtained from the interviews on this subject are divided into different categories.

The No Difference category is one in which some parents express a similar opinion about their career plans with their children. These parents report that their children’s career goals are aligned with their own.

The Career Thoughts Are Different category is the category in which most parents indicate that they have different thoughts about their career plans with their children. These parents state that their children’s career goals are different from their own.

The category of indiscipline is the category in which some parents point out disciplinary differences with their children about their career plans. These parents report that they are more disciplined and that their children are less disciplined.

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The Being a Dreamer category is one in which only a few parents point out dreamer differences in their career plans with their children. These parents report that their children's ideas are more imaginative than dreamy.

The table divides parents' views on differences in career plans with their children into different categories, giving an idea of what kind of differences are common in this regard.

Table 4. Parents' views on the theme of bridging the differences between career plans and children's career plans

Themes	Categories	<i>f</i>	Examples of Parents' Opinions
Career Planning	Orientation in the direction of goals	5	<i>"I try to bridge the gap by guiding him in the field he likes and supporting his development in this regard."</i>
	Conducting Research and Enabling Specialization	5	<i>"We're trying to get him to do more research to see the challenges of business."</i>
	Nothing	4	<i>"I'm not doing anything if I'm going with the flow."</i>
	Creating New Spaces	2	<i>"We're creating new spaces for him to discover his talents."</i>
	Make Suggestions	4	<i>"By giving advice, we make him see the challenges so that he can gain experience."</i>

This table contains different opinions and suggestions on how to eliminate the differences between parents' career plans and their children's career plans. The opinions collected in the five categories have the highest score of 5 and the lowest score of 2.

The highest scoring category is the 'Orientation Towards Goals' category. These parents encourage their children to progress and support their development in the area they love. The other highly rated category is 'Doing Research and Specialising'. These parents encourage their children to do more research and specialize to see the challenges of work. The category with a score at the Intermediate level is the 'Making Suggestions' category. These parents want to give their children advice to gain experience and help them see the challenges. The category with a low score is the category 'Creating New Spaces'. These parents propose to create new spaces for their children to discover their talents. Some parents have chosen to do 'nothing'. These parents prefer to leave their children's career plans to their own decisions.

As a result, when the data of Table 4 are examined, it is determined that 40% of parents do nothing to eliminate differences of opinion about career planning with their

children, while 60% of parents carry out studies such as directing their children in line with the goal, conducting research and ensuring their specialization. It is a critical milestone for overcoming differences.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The aim of this study is to reveal the expectations of parents in their children's career planning and to eliminate the differences and to determine the studies required for a successful career planning. Because career planning is very important for children to reach the right goals and has a direct impact on parents' career planning. Children may be confused about career planning and may realize their talents late. It is necessary to take the right steps in a timely manner. For this reason, in the drawing of the route to the goal, it is seen that the parents have expectations from their children's careers as well as the expectations of the children from their families.

In this context, in this research, the opinions of parents about the career planning of primary school students were evaluated. In the light of the findings of the research, it was seen that the expectations of parents from their children's life careers were mostly to have happy, successful and quality lives. At the same time, it is understood that they have a duty to support the goals of their children and to ensure that they receive a good education in order to fulfill these expectations. It has been noted that the opinions of children and parents about career planning are different. It has been observed that methods such as targeting, conducting research and making suggestions are preferred in eliminating differences. As a result, it is possible to say that parents have a direct impact on children's career planning and expectations are generally different with their children. It is understood that the communication between parent and child is weak.

In line with the research, Oruç (2022) describes a study that aims to examine the career expectations of first-year students studying in the Faculty of Engineering. The researchers collected data through interviews with 15 students using the phenomenological model from qualitative research methods. As a result of the analysis of the data, five themes emerged: career development process, factors affecting career decision, skills, desired life and obstacles in the career line. The findings of the research show that the interviewed students mostly pre-plan and take action when it comes to career planning. It has been seen that individual goals and environmental factors are important in determining the future of students. In addition, personal and technical issues have been identified as important qualities that need to be developed in the professional process.

In another study, Karaağaç (2022) describes a study that aims to discover the views of primary school students on their parents' career awareness. In the study where phenomenological approach and qualitative research methods were used, data were collected from 15 parents (10 female and 5 male) through interviews. The study found that although parents are sensitive to their children's interests and abilities, their level of awareness of career development is inadequate, underscoring the need for ongoing education and guidance throughout the child's development. The findings of the study were discussed in the context of the existing literature and recommendations were made based on the results.

Özdemir (2022) examines the views of Vocational and Technical Anatolian High School 11th grade students on career awareness. In the study, the phenomenological model, which is a qualitative research method, was used to explore the participants' views on career,

professions, personal characteristics, professional value, challenges and future life. The study collected data through face-to-face interviews with 18 participants and recorded them, then transcribed the interviews to identify themes. The researchers used discriminatory analysis and content analysis methods to analyze the data. The study concludes with a discussion of the data and recommendations. However, the focus is on exploring students' perceptions and experiences with career awareness.

In their study, Dong, et al., (2020) investigated Chinese parents' attitudes and beliefs about online learning for young children during the COVID-19 pandemic. The results show that most parents have negative beliefs and attitudes towards online learning and prefer traditional face-to-face learning for their children's careers. Parents cited the shortcomings of online learning, inadequate self-regulation of young children, and lack of time and professional knowledge as the main reasons for their resistance to online learning. Another conclusion from the study highlights that the implementation of online learning during the pandemic has been problematic and challenging for families. Parents weren't educated or ready to embrace online learning, and the challenges posed by the pandemic have made them more resilient to learning online at home.

Findings from their research in Chase-Lansdale, et al., (2019) suggest that a bigenerational human capital program like CareerAdvance can positively impact parents' career prospects in the healthcare industry without negatively impacting their short-term income or employment across all industries. Furthermore, CareerAdvance parents received psychological benefits, such as higher levels of self-efficacy and optimism and a stronger career identity, compared to parents in the paired comparison group. These results are important because they demonstrate the potential of two generations of programs to address the needs of both parents and children at the same time. By providing parents with education and workforce training, such programs can help parents find better-paying jobs in high-demand industries like health care and improve their overall economic well-being. This, in turn, can positively impact their children's career prospects by creating a more stable and supportive family environment.

In this context, in order for children's career planning to be successful, parents should engage in more creative activities and guide their children with more accurate steps. At the same time, using a language that children can comprehend will help them to direct the process. In order to inform the child and parents about career planning, the use of methods such as educational presentations should be widespread.

Parents can manipulate their children with their own thoughts and dreams rather than their dreams and ideals with an oppressive attitude. The concerns and worries that children will experience in career planning should be eliminated and it will be possible to carry out the process healthily with conscious steps. The biggest supporters of children in this process are undoubtedly their parents. It should be ensured that each person's self-awareness is created and he knows himself better, thus facilitating his / her career direction.

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