

## DECISION-MAKING STYLE OF THE PROSPECTIVE TEACHERS IN RELATION TO GENDER AND LOCALE

**Dr. H.K. Dolly**

Assistant Professor, SDS College of Education for Women Lopon, Moga, Punjab

### ABSTRACT

*The study examines the decision-making style of the prospective teachers in relation to gender and locale. The sample of the study comprised of 100 prospective teachers of educational institutions of Moga district of Punjab (India). Choice Dilemma Questionnaire developed by Anwar Yousuf was used to for the assessment of decision-making style of prospective teachers. A descriptive survey method of research was used. and mean, standard deviation and t-ratio were worked out. The major findings show that male and female prospective teachers from urban and rural areas do not differ significantly in decision-making style.*

**KEY WORDS:** *Decision-making style, prospective teachers, gender and locale.*

### INTRODUCTION

Decision-making can be defined as the cognitive process which results in the selection of a course of action among several alternative scenarios. Decision-making style can be intellectual or emotional, rational or irrational. Decision-making is a process of choosing between different alternatives while in the midst of pursuing a goal. (Cenkseven-Onder, 2012; Miller and Byrnes, 2001). How individuals, when considering in making a decision as well as the process, involved in decision-making style. (Hardin and Leong, 2004; Scott and Bruce, 1995).

Decision-making is a task that individuals face on daily basis. The process of making decision differs from one person to another. The processes involved in making a decision are defined as decision-making styles, which can be either adaptive or maladaptive. Children and adolescents' decision making, however often is thought to be associated with parenting. It suggests that maladaptive decision-making styles are the most prevalent, and that they often are associated with

detrimental outcome for children and adolescents' development. (**Bruine de Bruin et.al., 2007; Janis and Mann, 1977; Salo and Allwood, 2011**). The processes that individuals follow in making decision often tend to differ from person to person (**Galotti et.al., 2006; Riaz et.al., 2012; Williams and Esmail, 2014**). These processes or approaches are categorized as decision- making style (**Janis and Mann, 1977; Scott and Bruce, 1995; Leykin and DeRubeis, 2010**)

Decision-making style often differ in the manner in which individuals gather information concerning the decision that needs to be made, as well as in the way in which they consider the possible alternatives in resolving the conflicting situation to make a decision (**Saidur Rahaman, 2014**). Styles of decision-making have also been thought of as the difference that exists between individuals in how they make sense of the information gathered and the possible alternatives (**Albert and Steinberg, 2011; Scott and Bruce, 1995**).

A number of decision-making styles have been identified when individuals make critical decision (**Phillips and Ogeil 2011**). **Janis and Mann (1977)** have proposed styles in making a decision, namely, vigilance, hyper-vigilance, and buck passing (**Brown, et.al., 2011; Cenkseven-Onder 2012**). These styles of decision-making based on the belief that there is sufficient time to find alternative solutions. They also differ in their approach to a thorough, independent search for alternatives. The lack of searching for alternatives could result from leaving the responsibility to others to make a decision or postponing the process of making a decision until later.

## **RELATED LITERATURE**

**Harren (1976)** identified three styles, namely rational, intuitive and dependent decision-making styles (**Tinsley, et.al., 2002**). **Scott and Bruce (1995)** supplemented **Harren's** proposed style by adding avoidant and spontaneous, decision-making style (**Curseu and Schruijer, 2012; Riaz, et.al. 2012**). **Kelton, et.al. (2010)** reviewed the information systems and accounting information systems research on the effects of information presentation format on judgment and decision- making. **Sapre and Ghugre (2014)** concluded that the training in 'questioning for feedback' is more effective in thought process and interactive decision making. **Dauids, et.al. (2015)** concluded that maladaptive decision-making styles also are associated with negative parenting approaches.

## **EMERGENCE OF THE PROBLEM**

Decision-making is the part of all our activities. A number of studies have looked at decision-making styles, but mainly in the area of decision-making. There has been a lack of focus in research

on decision-making styles or processes when considering individual decision-making (Commendador 2011; Wolff and Crocket 2011; Galotti 2007; Parker *et. al.* 2007; Reyna and Farley 2006; Scott and Bruce 1995). Decision-making research has also missed to complexities of social phenomena. Decision-making is a practical judgement for further course of action from two or more available courses of action. It involves a choice making activity and the choice determines our action or in action. The quality of decision can make the difference between success and failure. Decision-making style often differ in the manner in which individuals gather information concerning the decision that needs to be made, as well as in the way in which they consider the possible alternatives in resolving the conflicting situation to make a decision. So, present study is an effort to investigate the decision-making style of the prospective teachers in relation to gender and locale.

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. To study and compare the decision-making style of male and female prospective teachers.
2. To study and compare the decision-making style of urban and rural prospective teachers.

### **HYPOTHESES**

1. There is no significant difference between the decision-making style of male and female prospective teachers.
2. There is no significant difference between the decision-making style of urban and rural prospective teachers.

### **DESIGN OF THE STUDY**

Descriptive survey method of research was used.

### **SAMPLE OF THE STUDY**

The investigator selected 100 prospective teachers randomly from rural and urban teacher education colleges of Moga district of Punjab.

### **TOOL USED**

Choice Dilemma Questionnaire developed by Anwar Yousuf.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

**Significant of difference between the decision-making style of male and female prospective teachers:** To investigate the significant of difference between the decision-making style of male and female prospective teachers mean, standard deviation and t-ratio were worked out and the values are given in Table 1 below:

**Table 1**

**Significance of difference between the decision-making style of male and female prospective teachers**

Group	N	Mean	SD	t- value
Male	50	21.46	5.63	0.57
Female	50	22.22	5.16	(NS)

*NS means non-significant*

Table 1 reveals that means score of male prospective teachers is 21.46 and means score of female prospective teachers is 22.22. The t-value is 0.57 which is non-significant ( $p > 0.05$ ). Thus, male and female prospective teachers do not differ in their decision-making styles. Hence the Hypothesis 1 which states that “There is no significant difference between the decision-making style of male and female prospective teachers” is accepted. The finding is in line with the studies conducted by **Sehgal (2007) and Kaur (2020)**.

**Significant difference between the decision- making style of urban and rural prospective teachers:**

To investigate the significant of difference between the decision-making style of urban and rural prospective teachers mean, standard deviation and t-ratio were worked out and the values are given in Table 2 below:

**Table 2**

**Significance of difference between the decision-making style of urban and rural prospective teachers**

<b>Group</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>t- value</b>
Urban	50	22.2	4.66	0.66
Rural	50	21.48	6.08	(NS)

*NS means non-significant*

Table 1 reveals that means score of urban prospective teachers is 22.2 and means score of rural prospective teachers is 21.48. The t-value is 0.66 which is significant ( $p>0.05$ ). Thus, there is difference between urban and rural prospective teachers in their decision-making styles. Hence the Hypothesis 2 which states that “There is no significant difference between the decision- making style of urban and rural prospective teachers” is accepted. The finding is in line with the study conducted by **Kaur (2020)**.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

The results of the study show that there is no significant difference between decision-making style of male and female prospective teachers from urban and rural areas. They all need to give proper attention and opportunity to develop proper favourable decision-making style. Decision- making is a task that individuals face on daily basis. The process of making decision differs from one person to another. Future of a country is in the hands of their teachers. So, it is suggested to the authorities and parents’ community that they need to give suitable environment to the development of proper decision-making style of prospective teachers.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

Male and female prospective teachers from urban and rural areas do not differ significantly from in decision-making style.

## LIMITATIONS

1. The study was conducted on prospective teachers of Moga District of Punjab (India).
2. Decision-making style of prospective teachers was taken into consideration.
3. There were 50 male and 50 female prospective teachers taken.
4. They were further categorized into 50 urban and 50 rural prospective teachers.

## SCOPE FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

1. Same study can be conducted on the degree college students, school students and on the other professional college students
2. Decision making can be compared with Achievement Motivation, Time Management and Stress Management.

## REFERENCES

- Albert, D., & Steinberg, L. (2011). Judgement and decision making in adolescence. *Journal of Research on Adolescence*, 21(1), 211-224.
- Brown, J., Adballah, S.S., & Ng, R. (2011). Decision making Style East and West: Is it time to move beyond cross-cultural research? *International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology*,3(12), 452-459.
- Bruine de Bruine, W., Parker, A.M., & Fischhoff, B. (2007). Individual Difference in Adult Decision-making Competence. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 92(5), 938-956.
- Cenkseven-Onder, F. (2012). The Influence of Decision-making Style on early Adolescent 'Life Satisfaction. *Social Behavior and Personality*, 40(9), 1523-1536.
- Commendador, K. (2011). The relationship between maternal parenting style, female adolescent decision-making, and contra-ceptive use. *Journal of the American Academy of Nursing practitioners*, 23, 561-572.
- Curseu, P.L., & Schruijer. S.G.L., (2012). Decision styles and rational; An analysis of the predictive

validity of the General Decision-making style Inventory. *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 72(6), 1053-1062.

Galotti, K.M., Ciner, E., Altenbaumer, H.E., Geerts, H.J., Rupp, A., & Woulfe, J. (2006). Decision making styles in a real-life decision Choosing a college major. *Personality and Individual Differences*. 41, 629-639.

Galotti, K.M. (2007). Decision structuring in important real-life choice. *Psychological Science*, 22(3), 275-287.

Hardin, E.E., & Leong, F.T.L. (2004). Decision making Theories and Career assessment: A Psychometric Evaluation of the Decision

Harren, V.A. (1979). A mode of career Decision making for College Students. *Journal of Vocational Behavior*, 14, 199-133.

Janis, I.L., & Mann, L. (1977). Comparing the Family Environment of adolescent with Conduct Disorder and Depression. *Journal of Child and Studies*, 1277-1289.

Kaur, Veerpal (2020). *A study of Achievement Motivation and Decision-Making style of the Prospective Teachers*. Unpublished M.Ed. Dissertation, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

Parker, A.M., Bruine de Bruine, W., & Fischhoff, B. (2007). Maximize versus satisficers: Decision making Style, competence, and outcomes. *Judgments and Decision Making*, 2(6), 342- 350.

Phillips, J.G. & Ogeil, R.P. (2001). Decisional styles and Risk of problem of drinking or gambling. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 51, 521 -526.

Piaget, J. (2006). Reason. *New Ideas in psychology*, 24, 1-29.

Riaz, M.N., Riaz, M.A., & Batool, N. (2012). Personality types as predictors of Decision-making styles. *Journal of Behavioral Science*, 22(2), 99-114.

Saidur Rahaman, H.M. (2014). Personality and Decision-making style of University students. *Journal of the Indian Academy of Applied Psychology*, 40(1), 138 -144.

Sehgal, Kamini (2007). *Achievement Motivation and Decision-Making among Teacher Trainees*.

Unpublished M.Ed. Dissertation, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

Salo, I., & Allwood, C.M. (2014). Decision making styles, stress and gender among investigators. *Policing; An International Journal of Police and Management*, 34(1), 97-119.

Sapre, R. Neelima & Ghugre V. Suhasine (2014). Effect of Training in Questioning for Feedback upon Interactive Decision making of Teacher Trainees. *Journal of All India Association for Educational Research*, 18(1&2), 77-80.

Tinsley, H.E.A., Tinsley, D.J., & Rushing, J. (2002). Psychological type, decision-making style, and reaction to structured career intervention. *Journal of Career Assessment*, 10(2), 258-280.

Wolff, J.M., & Crockett, L.J. (2011). The role of deliberative decision making, parenting and friends in adolescent risk behaviors. *Journal of youth and Adolescence*. 40, 1607-1622.