

THE ROLE OF GENDER, GRADE LEVEL AND FAMILY ENVIRONMENT IN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS' BIOLOGY ACHIEVEMENT

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to describe the properties of high school students and their family environment. In addition, finding out whether the biology achievement of the students differed based on their gender, grade levels and some variables related their family is also aimed. The study group consisted of 306 students (173 girls, 133 boys) studying at ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades in the Science High School of Karaman in the spring term of 2012-2013 academic year. The data were obtained using the "Student Demographic Information Form" prepared by researchers and the students' biology grades taken from their school report cards. According to the results, students' biology lecture report card grades differed significantly based on their grade levels; however the findings showed that their biology grades did not differed according to their gender, fathers'/mothers' educational levels, the number of children in their families, presences of a seperate room, a computer/internet and a library/bookcase in their house and also if or not their family help them to learn and have regular meetings with their teachers.

Key Words: High school students, biology achievement, family environment/family socio-ekonomik status.