

CAREER LOCUS OF CONTROL IN ADOLESCENCE: THE ROLE OF GENDER PERCEPTION AND ATTACHMENT TO PARENTS

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to investigate the role of egalitarian gender perception, traditional gender perception and attachment to mother and father in predicting career locus of control dimensions (internality, luck, helplessness, and powerful others) in adolescents. Also sex, grade level and school type differences in the career locus of control subscales were assessed. Participants were consisted of 505 (52.3% girl, 47.7% boy) volunteered students from 5 private and 2 state science high school in İzmir. Age of participants ranged from 14 to 18 with the mean of 16.32 (SD = 1.07). The data was collected using namely, Career Locus of Control Scale (CLCS), Gender Perception Scale (GPS), Inventory of Parent and Peer Attachment-Short Form (IPPA) ve personal information sheet. Hierarchical multiple regression analysis, t-test and One way ANOVA were conducted to analyze data. The results of the hierarchical regression analysis revealed that egalitarian gender perception, attachment to mother, and traditional gender perception were significant predictors of internality subscales of career LOC while attachment to father were not. All predictor variables explained 25% of the total variance in internality subscale of career LOC scores. For luck subscale scores, only traditional gender perception and attachment to father were significant predictors which explained 27% of the total variance. For helplessness subscale scores, egalitarian gender perception, attachment to father, and traditional gender perception were significant predictors which explained 40% of the total variance. For powerful others subscale scores, traditional gender perception and attachment to father were significant predictors which explained 37% of the total variance. Moreover, results of the t-test results revealed that there were significant differences in the three subscales of the CLCS (internality, helplessness and powerful others) between girls and boys. Results of the study are discussed in the light of the relevant literature. Finally implications of the study and recommendations for further research are presented.

Keywords: Career locus of control, gender perception, attachment to mother, attachment to father.