

## CAREER INDECISION AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN CASABLANCA: LEVEL AND FORM OF INDECISION

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### Abstract

Students are urged to make decisions regarding their future course of study and career after completing mandatory education. Making decisions is a challenge for many students. Therefore, we conducted a study by a questionnaire (CDS) and semi-directive interviews in order to assess the level and forms of indecision among the students of the high school. 67 students answered our questionnaire (26 male and 41 female). The results show the presence of indecision among the students by its different forms: anxiety about the career, lack of information about the careers, lack of self-confidence.

**Keywords:** *Career indecisiveness, career indecisiveness scale, high school, students.*

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### 1. Introduction

The choice of a major is one of the most important and decisive decisions that students face in their secondary education. The importance of this decision is revealed in its repercussions on the student's future professional and personal life.

During high school, students are confronted with pivotal decisions in the formulation of their future career. In the absence of guidance, students may face states of indecision that can lead to wrong choices or anxiety situations. Thus, we conducted this study in the aim to investigate the forms of indecision as well as the level of indecision among high school students. The investigations undertaken with the goal of explaining indecision can be used to create career interventions tailored to the types of challenges that students encounter.

### 2. Methods

#### 2.1. Participants

The sample consisted of 67 students following their study at high school (26 of male and 41 of female), the age of the participants ranged from 16 to 21 years with a mean age of 17,37 ( $\pm 0,929$ ).

#### 2.2. Instrument

The tool used to investigate career decision making among students is the Career Decision Scale (CDS) (Osipow, Carney, Yanico, & Koschier, 1976; 1987) which is empirically based and unrelated to any theory. The career decision scale is the result of a series of brainstorming sessions. As a result of this work, the authors identify a set of factors that may underlie the state of career indecision. The CDS is presented in the form of 18 items presented on a 4-point Likert. The first two items express a general career indecision (item 1) and educational indecision (item 2), item 3 and 9 describes a general indecision, 4 items and 15 reflect a general indecision due to a lack of information about the different careers available or the interests of the students. The 5, 8 and 11 indicate the anxiety over career choice. Item 6 is about obstacles and 7 general lack of confidence. The items 10, 12, 16, 17 are about indecisiveness due to career information. 13 and 14 reflect the indecisiveness related to self-knowledge. A qualitative investigation using a semi-structured interview was conducted in addition to the questionnaire. The goal of the qualitative research was to explore at the many stages of indecision and to find out how students react in the event of educational or career indecision.

### 2.3. Data collection analysis

The data analysis was carried out by SPSS version 26 software.

### 3. Results and discussion

The purpose of this survey is to assess various aspects of the career indecisiveness and to investigate different forms of the career indecision.

Table 1. descriptive analysis of the career decision scale.

Item	Mean	Std. Deviation	Variance
1	2,13	,929	,864
2	2,40	1,015	1,030
3	2,13	1,085	1,178
4	2,52	1,196	1,431
5	2,08	1,082	1,170
6	1,62	,953	,908
7	2,48	1,057	1,117
8	2,33	1,115	1,244
9	1,79	1,016	1,033
10	2,77	1,022	1,044
11	2,81	1,155	1,335
12	2,00	,950	,902
13	2,02	1,000	1,000
14	2,44	,978	,957
15	2,56	1,110	1,232
16	2,15	1,092	1,192
17	3,17	,944	,891
18	2,69	1,130	1,276

Table 1 presents the results of a descriptive analysis of the career decision scale. The table shows an overall choice of 2,13; SD= 0,929 (item1) and an overall study choice of (2,4; SD= 1,015) (item2). Item 3 present an average general indecision (2,13; SD=1,085) and less than the average in item 9(1,79; SD=1,016). The average for item 4 is around (2,52; SD=1,196), item 15 with a value of (2,56; SD=1,110). Item 5 is at the average (2,08; SD=1,082), item 8 with a value of (2,33; SD=1,110), item 11 is much higher than average (2,81; SD=1,155). Item 6 is less than average (1,62; SD=0,953), item 7 is around (2,48; SD=1,057). item 10 is much higher than average (2,77; SD=1,022), Item 12 is at the average (2,0; SD=0,95), item 16 with a value of (2,15; SD=1,092), item 17 is in (3,17; SD=0,944) and item 13 is around the average (2,02; SD=1), item 14 with a value of (2,44; SD=0,978).

According to the results shown in the table, career indecision is present in its different forms among the students, however, career indecision due to lack of information and anxiety is more present among high school students.

### 4. Conclusion

The preliminary results of this investigation reveal the undecided state of the students. On the basis of this study we can design career interventions to help the students in their choice. The guidance assistance should be varied and appropriate to the individual need.

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