



Survey on Career over Passion Among Dental Students

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ABSTRACT

Passion also technically means "suffer". So whatever a person is willing to sacrifice and suffer for is his passion. Pursuing the passion indeed helps us feel the satisfaction. Choosing our passion might sometimes not turn out the way we expect, but in the long run it will. Motives for choosing a career are complex, and a choice of dentistry as a career is no exception. Many factors may enter while deciding on a career choice. These include factors relating to work conditions and financial rewards. Harmonious passion is an optimal passion where an individual feels as if he or she has control over an activity, and that feeling of control contributes to positive psychological outcomes this was a cross-sectional study. A well-structured questionnaire comprising 11 questions covering the socio-demographic information, knowledge, attitude, perception was framed, administered and circulated to college students through an online survey link. The sample size was 100 dental students. Data was analyzed and determined through pie charts. In conclusion, we examined the choice of interests of the students on career over passion. On surveying, it was evidence that the majority of the population was forced into this profession, and chose this career based on money. Hence it is important to improve the knowledge, perception and attitude of the participants towards choosing careers.

Key words: Career, Passion, Parents, Money, Profession

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INTRODUCTION

Passion for an activity is defined as "a strong inclination toward an activity that people lie, that they find important and in which they invest time and energy". Passion also technically means "suffer". So whatever a person is willing to sacrifice and suffer for is his passion. Pursuing the passion indeed helps us feel the satisfaction. Choosing our passion might sometimes not turn out the way we expect, but in the long run it will. Passion can push you through difficult times because you don't care what it takes to become better [1]. Most people engage in an activity about which they are passionate, and individuals can be passionate about a seemingly infinite number of activities. The secret to living the dream is hidden in our passions and what we do because of them. Well-being issues are increasing

amongst dental students [2]. Social relationships can be important for student support during their studies. Hence family and friends support is very important in this process [3]. Motives for choosing a career are complex, and a choice of dentistry as a career is no exception. Many factors may enter while deciding on a career choice. These include factors relating to work conditions and financial rewards, security and status, nature of occupation [4].

Motivations for choosing dentistry have been studied in many countries such as France, Middle East. Factors which influence their future careers include: vocational training, opportunities for specialization or developing special interests and policy-related issues together with wider professional and social concerns. The dental students may scenario due to the growing competition [5].

Harmonious and obsessive passions are associated with distinct psychological outcomes. Individuals who report harmonious passion tend

to report more well-being and positive affect while they engage in their preferred activity and less disappointment when unable to engage in the activity [6]. Previous research findings suggest that passion affects behavioral outcomes in addition to psychological outcomes. It is also possible that students could be taught to identify their strengths and passions to make their academic experience in college more meaningful. It has been examined if a student's passion for academic activities and for undergraduate major predicts engagement in problematic health behaviors [7].

Given the changing nature of the dental workforce, and the need to retain the services of future members, it is important to understand why current dental students perceive that they were motivated to study dentistry. Qualitative research provides the opportunity to explore the underlying issues in addition to informing subsequent quantitative research [8]. Previously our department has published extensive research on various aspects of prosthetic dentistry [9-18]. The aim of the present is to determine the choice of career over passion among dental students.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A well-structured questionnaire comprising 11 questions covering the socio-demographic information, knowledge, attitude, perception was framed, administered and circulated to college students through an online survey link. The sample size was 100 dental students. The questions were carefully studied and the corresponding answers were marked by the participants. The data was collected and statistically analysed. The data collected were tabulated using excelling sheets and then appropriate statistics was done using Microsoft excel software. Each output variable was collected as ordinal data and the data represented as pie charts. The Sampling method used was Simple randomised sampling. The independent variables are college students and the dependent variables are knowledge, attitude, practice and perception. The statistics used in this study Descriptive statistics.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Survey on career over passion, given the sample size of about 100 dental students gave the result

as 87.8% of the population did not like their profession (Figure 1). 58.2% of the population were forced into dentistry, 41.8% of the population were not forced (Figure 2). 72.7% of the population responded that they would prefer other careers over dentistry (Figure 3). Besides choosing dentistry, 46.3% of the population preferred medicine, 23.2% of them preferred nursing, 18.9% of them preferred engineering and 11%- physiotherapy (Figure 4). 59% of the population chose their career based on money (Figure 5). 75% of the population preferred passion over career (Figure 6). Among the total population 60% of them responded doing what they like brings happiness, and 25% felt that money brings happiness whereas, 15% felt that fulfilling parent's wish brings happiness (Figure 7). 67% of the population regretted choosing dentistry as their profession (Figure 8). 78% of the population was influenced by their parents

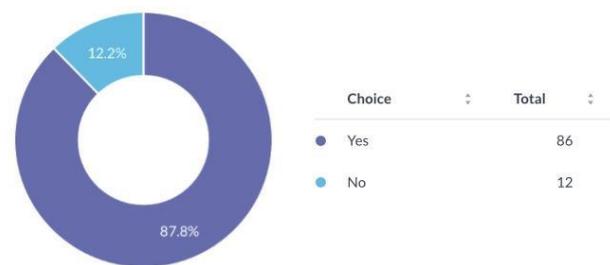


Figure 1: Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of responses on whether they like their profession, 87.8% - Yes (purple), 12.2% - No (blue).



Figure 2: Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of responses on whether they were forced into dentistry, 58.2% - Yes (purple), 41.8% - No (blue).

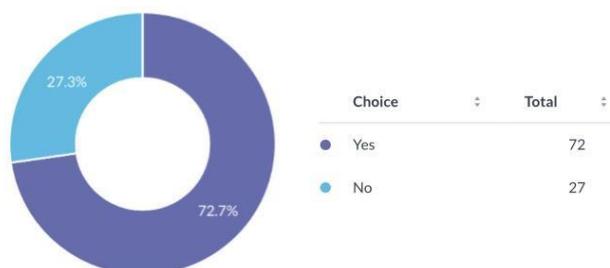


Figure 3: Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of responses on whether they prefer another career over dentistry, 72.7% - Yes (purple), 27.3% - No (blue).

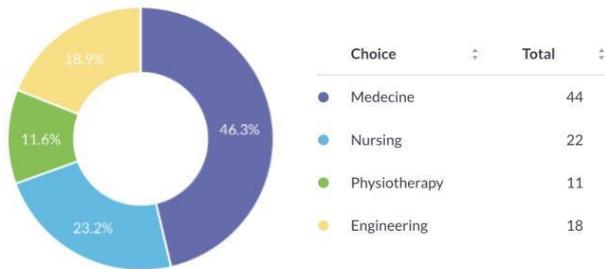


Figure 4: Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of responses on alternate career options, 46.3% - Medicine (purple), 23.2% - Nursing (blue), 18% - Engineering (yellow), 11% - Physiotherapy (green).

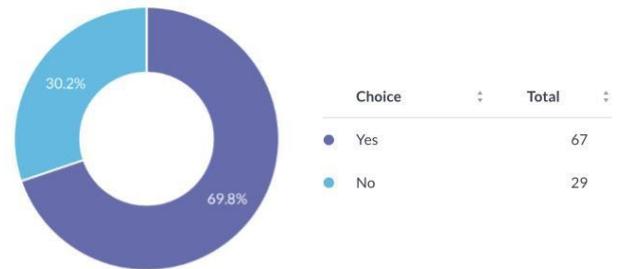


Figure 8: Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of responses on whether they regret choosing this profession, 69% - Yes (purple), 30.2% - No (blue).

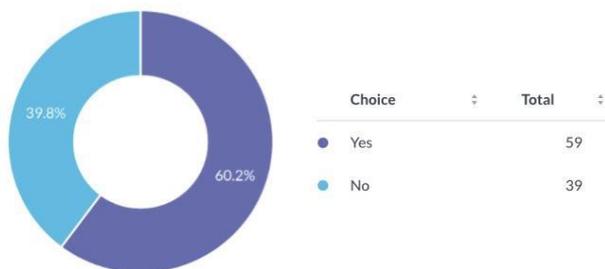


Figure 5: Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of responses on whether they choose the career based on money, 60.2% - Yes (purple), 39.8% - No (blue).

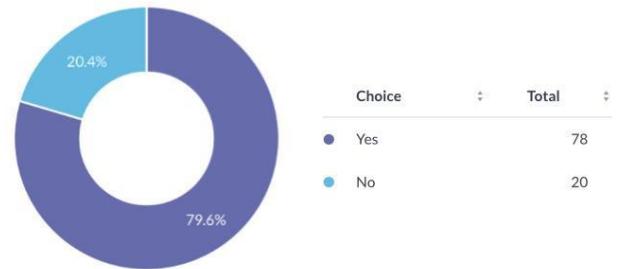


Figure 9: Pie chart showing percentage distribution of responses on whether they were influenced by their parents, 79% - Yes (purple), 20% - No (blue).



Figure 6: Pie chart showing percentages distribution of responses on whether they prefer passion over passion, 75.8% - Yes (purple), 24% - No (blue).



Figure 10: Pie chart showing percentage distribution of responses on whether peer pressure was a reason for choosing their career, 74% - Yes (purple), 25% - No (blue).



Figure 7: Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of responses about happiness, 60% - Doing what you like (blue), 25% - more money (purple), 15% - Fulfilling your parent wish (green).



Figure 11: Pie chart showing percentage distribution of responses on being successful, 91% - Yes (purple), 6%-No (blue).

in choosing their career (Figure 9). 74% of the population responded that peer pressure was one of the cause for choosing this career (Figure 10). 91% of the population felt that they will be successful in this profession (Figure 11).

In 2013, Lois Gellar stated that success requires more than passion- leadership, hard work, and courage. Also stated that a lot of passion can

be misguided, especially when people think passion is enough [19]. According to another previous article, aimed to determine the motives and perception of undergraduate and postgraduate dental students. It was concluded that the majority of the students indicated that dentistry was not their first choice of career. Which is similar to the present study as many of the participants had other career preferences

before dentistry [20]. The article which was published by Amit Aggarwal, where the study was conducted in four private dental institutions in India and was designed to investigate dental students' motivations in their choice of dentistry as a career and their perceptions regarding dentistry in India. He stated that 38.7% of the students chose dentistry because the profession is highly paid, which is similar to the present study as 59% chose this career based on money [21]. According to a previous study done by Capranzano, aimed to understand that women were better at selecting international cardiology as a career path. He concluded the article, stating that there are several barriers that preclude women from choosing their passion due to lack of opportunity, etc. Hence, we require new strategies to support the growth of women [22]. In 2006, Jover aimed to evaluate the representations odontology students had of their career path. He concluded that article stating that the students who had not planned to become dentists before the selection needed some time [23].

LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE SCOPE

Although the study was conducted by following the protocols there are certain limitations in this study like less sample size, this is an online survey which may lead to respondents bias, error in sampling and selection of respondents, survey fatigue.. This survey will help in assessing the knowledge and creating awareness about the choice of interests of people on choosing career over passion, can include organisation of study workshops and programs for parents and students which will help in the proper guidance. Hence it is important to improve the knowledge, perception and attitude of the participants towards choosing careers.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we examined the choice of interests of the students on career over passion. On surveying, it was evidence that the majority of the population was forced into this profession, and chose this career based on financial status.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author has none to declare.

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