

*Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Diyala University
Basic Education College
Department of Psychological Guidance The
and Pedagogical Counseling*



The Impact of Cognitive Guidance Program in Developing The Decision –Making Ability of The Preparatory School Students

**Thesis submitted to the council of the college of
Basic Education – University of Diyala in
Requirements for the Degree of Arts psychological
counseling and Educational Guidance**

By
Haitham Qassim Abdul-Razaq

Supervised by
Asst.Prof. Laith Kareem Hamad

2014A.D.

1435 A.H.

Abstract

The study aims at :

1. Measuring the decision –making ability of the preparatory school students.
2. Building a cognitive guidance program to develop the decision-making ability of the preparatory school students.
3. Knowing the impact of the cognitive guidance program in developing the decision-making ability of the preparatory school students through testing the following hypotheses:
 1. There are no statistical differences in developing the decision-making ability at the level(0,05)of the control group in the pre- and post test.
 2. There are no statistical differences in developing the decision-making ability at the level(0,05)of the experimental group in the pre- and post test.
 3. There are no statistical differences in developing the decision-making ability at the level(0,05)between the two groups in the post test.

In this study, the community consists of (3508)preparatory school students from whom a sample of the study has been selected randomly to include(400) students .Here, the researcher has built a decision-making measurement depending on (Leon Festincher's cognitive theory of decision –making). The measurement used in this study has "24"items with their final version .Also, the researcher has checked the standard features of the measurement which are Validity and Reliability .To achieve the measurement validity ,two ways have been adopted which are the virtual validity and the building validity .Also, the measurement reliability has been extracted following two ways :retesting and Cronbach's - Alpha Theory. Then, the cognitive guidance program has been built depending on the weighted average and the percentage weights to determine the needs, topics ,activities and the strategies of the guidance program due to Beck's Cognitive Guidance Theory .Actually , the program consists of (12)guidance sessions checked by a group of specialists in guidance and counseling to test its validity .To process the study data, the researcher has used the following statistical procedures as in:(Pearson Correlation Coefficient , T-Test for the two independent samples, T-Test for the two paired samples, weighted average and the percentage weight).

The study sums up the following findings :

1. The Preparatory school students have a low level of awareness of the decision –making .
2. There are no statistical differences in developing the decision-making ability of the preparatory school students in the pre- and post test for the control group.
3. There are statistical differences in developing the decision-making ability of the preparatory school students in the pre- and post test for the experimental group .
4. There are statistical differences in developing the decision-making ability of the preparatory school students in the two groups(the control and the experimental group) in the post test for the experimental group.

The recommendations the researcher has put, are to benefit from the guidance program followed in this study by the pedagogical guidance counselors in their schools to develop the decision-making abilities of the preparatory students ,and to get benefit from the measurement built in this study in measuring the students awareness of the importance of the decision-making.

The researcher has proposed a number of suggestions as conducting a study to determine the impact of the cognitive guidance in developing the decision-making abilities of the female students in different stages (preliminary stages ,preparatory stages and at universities) .the second suggestions the researchers has proposed is to conduct a similar study of the current study to determine the cognitive guidance program comparing with other guidance programs in developing the preparatory students' ability in making decision. The last suggestion is to conduct a study determining the relationship of some variables such as : self-confidence ,responsibility or self-control in making decision.