

HOW PARENTAL EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT RELATE TO CAREER- DECISION MAKING SELF- EFFICACY IN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: THE MEDIATING ROLE OF CAREER- RELATED PARENTAL SUPPORT

II

ABSTRACT

Wright, Perrone-McGovern, Boo, & White(2014) suggested that career-related parental support would directly influence high school student's career-decision making self-efficacy, while parental educational attainment was identified as the vital factor of the strength of career-related parental support. This study aimed to examine the relationships between parental educational attainment and the career-related parental support (especially four subscales, i.e. i) instrumental assistance, ii) verbal encouragement, iii) career-role modelling, and iv) emotional support. Besides, this study also aimed to examine the mediating role of career-related parental support on the relationship of parental educational attainment and the career-decision making self-efficacy. Participants were 461 tenth-grade students (240 females and 220 males, mean age=16.3 years old). Participants completed scales regarding their perceived career-related parental support, career-decision making self-efficacy, parental educational attainment, and demographics. Results shown that Hong Kong high school student's parental educational attainment was slightly related to the career-related parental support and its four subscales. Mediation results shown that student's perceived career-related parental support was fully mediated the relationship between parental educational attainment and the career-decision making self-efficacy.

Keywords: parental educational attainment, career-related parental support, career-decision making self-efficacy