



RESEARCH ARTICLE

The relationship between students' demographic attributes and level of Ambition Among Nursing Students

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ABSTRACT

Objective(s): This study aims to assess the relationship between students' demographic attributes and level of Ambition Among Nursing Students.

Methodology: A quantitative descriptive-analytic study using an assessment approach with questionnaire items is conducted to assess the relationship between students' demographic attributes and level of Ambition Among Nursing Students for the periods of November.2021 to June.2022. Participants were informed that their participation was voluntary in the study. The purpose and the benefits of the study were explained by the researcher. After they agreed to participate in the study, an anonymous questionnaire was published for the students to participate in the present study. A convenient sample of (N=300) collegian students selected through the use of a convenient, non-probability sampling approach. The study sample is distributed at college of nursing in the university of Baghdad and department of nursing in Al- Hadi university college. A self-report questionnaire (level of ambition scale) is developed from the literature, for assessing the level of ambition among nursing students. After completing the required approvals, data was collected by the use of a self-report questionnaire.

Results: Results indicate that 55.7% of nursing students show moderate level of ambition (109.45 ± 10.393).

Conclusion: Age can be predisposing factor for level of ambition as concluded by the study there is significant Correlation among Age and level of Ambition.

Recommendation: The study recommended that develop the university's students' abilities to increase their awareness about importance of their role in society so they do not fall to successive frustrations that develop their feelings of alienation and affect their level of ambition.

Keywords: Level of Ambition, Nursing Students, Demographic attributes.



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Received: 30 June 2022, Accepted: 14 July 2022, Available online: 21 July 2022.

INTRODUCTION

In today's world, we are witnessing a series of significant changes and alterations in all aspects of life, all of which have an impact on the individual's personality. Individuals' behaviors and activities are clearly influenced by personality variables. As a result, people are more likely to devote their full potential in achieving their goals and providing meaning and worth to their lives. Individuals with the ability to give and excel are the most likely to achieve pleasure and success. Ambition is a measure of a person's active traits and one of the most significant variables since it explains how they engage with their surroundings in order to change and develop. This has an impact on social conduct, allowing people to perceive the significance of their lives by acting in a way that builds confidence, develops skills, practices, and thinking patterns, and ensures a high level of self-efficacy. (Almomani.F &Theeb ,2016).

Ambition is the desire to achieve goals. Sociologists believe that ambition is the result of a parent's, social, or economical milieu, whereas ambition has been viewed as a personality attribute by psychologists. Generally, ambition serves as a barometer for both community and individual morale, since it emphasizes human engagement with the environment, surroundings, and society. Is belong to aim to be realized or a person's desire or by an planned activity and a specific work, but a career ambition is defined as the manifestation of the desired end, which is meant to reflect an individual's inner desires for a future career It is these characteristics that distinguish people's readiness, meeting various aims, struggling, bearing responsibilities, and a desire for greatness as noted in. . Ambition creates a strategy for a person to follow in order to achieve a specific goal. So it is regarded as more than just a wish to be fulfilled; it is also a significant factor that influences one's current and future behaviors (Alshebami & Alamri,2020).

Ambition level concept received interest from researchers and psychologists alike, they tried to understand the concepts and their correlations with each other and with the other variables because individuals are the central focus of research and because of their importance in different developmental fields as they are factors defining proper development.

According to Oksana and Elena (2015), a person's level of ambition is the objective that he or she want to achieve and believes that he or she is capable of achieving. Level of ambition is defined by Machado and Lima (2011) as the level of achievement that an individual aspires to and believes they will be able to attain.

Farhan and Saad(2019) defined level of ambition as The individual's intense desire to achieve the goals he aspires to do.

Abd-Alfattah (2007a) described the ambition level as a surprisingly strong person function that differentiates among people in attaining a positive stage that corresponds with the mental formation and reference framework of the person consistent with skilled fulfilment and failure experiences.

METHOD

A descriptive correlational design used in the present study was established for the period from November, 2022 to June 2022. A convenient "non-probability" sample, of (300) nursing student were selected from college of nursing university of Baghdad and department of nursing in Al- Hadi university college. The instrument of the study is adopted and modified for the purpose of this study which consist the socio- demographic data, level of ambition scale, the data were analyzed through the application of descriptive and inferential statistical approaches which are applied by using IBM/SPSS package version 24.0.

The instrument consist of 2 parts the Socio-demographic data which consist of six items, including: age, gender, college, scholastic stage, studying by, level of education. And second part contains the level of ambition scale (Al-Sarayra, 2001), this scale composed of 30 items, that reflects the nature of the individual's level of ambition. Using a 5-point Likert scale format, all items are answered, ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree. (strongly agree= 4, agree=3, neutral= 2, disagree= 1, and strongly disagree= 0) for the positive score items; while the negative items give reverse scores as follow: (strongly agree= 0, agree = 1, neutral= 2, disagree= 3, and strongly disagree= 4). The level of level of ambition was determined through applying the cut-off points for the total score which divided into three levels: low, moderate, and high; these levels were determined as follow: (low=0-10, moderate= 11-20, high= 21-30). The total score ranges from (Low: 30 - 70, Moderate: 70.1 - 110, High: 110.1 - 150).

RESULTS

Table (1): Evaluation the Level of Ambition among Nursing Students

Ambition	F	%	M	SD	Eval.
Low	0	0	109.45	10.393	Moderate
Moderate	167	55.7			
High	133	44.3			
Total	300	100			

f: Frequency, %: Percentage, Eval.: Evaluation

M: Mean for total score, SD: Standard Deviation for total score

Low: 30 - 70, Moderate: 70.1 - 110, High: 110.1 - 150

This table indicates that 55.7% of nursing students show moderate level of ambition (109.45 ± 10.393).

Table (2): Correlation among Level of Ambition, Psychological, and Academic Alienation with Gender of Nursing Students (N=300)

Variables	Gender	Spearman Correlation	P-value (2-tailed)	Significance
Ambition		.012	.830	N.S

H.S: High significant, S: Significant, N.S.: Not significant

This table depicts that there is no significant relationship among level of ambition, with regard to students' gender.

Table (3): Correlation among Level of Ambition, Psychological, and Academic Alienation among Nursing Students with regard to Level of Education precollege (N=300)

Variables	Education	Spearman Correlation	P-value (2-tailed)	Significance
Ambition		.111	.056	N.S

H.S: High significant, S: Significant, N.S.: Not significant

This table reveals that there is no significant relationship between level of ambition and students' education before entering the college

Table (4): Correlation among Level of Ambition, Psychological, and Academic Alienation among with Nursing Students with regard to studying preference (N=300)

Variables	Studying	Spearman Correlation	P-value (2-tailed)	Significance
Ambition		.026	.659	N.S

H.S: High significant, S: Significant, N.S.: Not significant

This table indicates that there is no significant relationship between level of ambition and studying preference among students

Table (5): Correlation among Level of Ambition, Psychological, and Academic Alienation with Age of Nursing Students (N=300)

Variables	Age	Spearman Correlation	P-value (2-tailed)	Significance
Ambition	.174	.003	H.S	

H.S: High significant, S: Significant, N.S.: Not significant

This table indicates that there is high significant relationship among level of ambition, with regard to students' age at p-value= .003.

Table (6): Significant Difference in Level of Ambition among Nursing Students with regard to Scholastic Stage (N=300)

Stage	Source of variance	Sum Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Ambition	Between Groups	291.727	3	97.242	.899	.442
	Within Groups	32004.420	296	108.123		
	Total	32296.147	299			

df: Degree of freedom, F: F-statistic, Sig: Significance

This table displays that there is no significant difference in level of ambition among nursing students with regard to their scholastic stage.

Table (7): Significant Difference in Level of Ambition among Nursing Students with regard to Governmental and Private Colleges (N=300)

Ambition	Colleges	M	SD	t	df	p≤ 0.05	Sig
Level of ambition	Governmental	108.39	10.678	-1.773	298	.077	N.S
	Private	110.51	10.023				

M: Mean, SD: Standard deviation, t: t-test, df: Degree of freedom, Sig: Significance, p: Probability value, N.S: Not significant, S: Significant, H.S: High significant

This table reveals that there is no significant difference in level of ambition among nursing students with regard to governmental and private nursing colleges.

DISCUSSION

The result in the table (4-2) regarding overall evaluation of the level of ambition among Nursing Students indicated that highest percentage (55.7%) of students' were with moderate level, while (44.3%) of their answer were high level. The result in the Table (4-3) showed that the items (1,2,3,5,9,10,11,12,13,16,17,18,20,24,29) show high level of ambition among nursing students,

While items (6,8,15,19,21,22,23,25,26,27,28,30) showed moderate level of ambition among nursing students, And only items (4,7,14) showed low level of ambition among nursing students.

This result agrees with study done by Abuzaid (2022) which showed that level of ambition was moderate in all domain (MS=3.65, 3.62, 3.64, 3.57, 3.59) and in overall assessment (MS=3.614) Were moderate.

While disagree with study done by Almomani and Theeb (2016) which conducted in Jordan and showed that level of ambition among students were high ($MS=4.04$).

The findings could be explained that because of the difficult economic and social conditions that Iraqi society is going through, and the lack of jobs and employment in other fields, a large section of students went to study nursing to get a job unless they were motivated as individuals to get a job or the desire of their parents. Through the demographic data of our samples, we find that more than half of students who come to college to get a job, and 31% of them came to study at the College of Nursing not as they wished, but as their parents desire. All this information indicates that more than half of the students in the College of Nursing study nursing not based on their desire or wish on the one hand, and on the other hand, they may look at the nursing field from the perspective of wonderful humanitarian work and a good financial income, and this may balance their ambitions, and thus their level of ambitions appeared fair (Researcher). Results showed that there is no significant difference in level of ambition among nursing students with regard to governmental and private nursing colleges, scholastic stage, gender, studying preference, and Level of Education precollege, While only Age (have high significant different with level of ambition).

This result Disagrees with a study done by Khairallah (2021) which showed that there are statistically significant differences at the p. Value = 0.05 or less in the research sample responses about (the ambition level) according to the difference of the gender variable in favour, where the females show a level of ambition more level than the males.

This result agrees with study done by Almomani and Theeb (2016), Which showed there is no significant association between level of ambition with regard to types of college and scholastic stage. Also, a study was done on 129 students by Page et al (2007), who agree with our study, which showed that there is no significant association between level of ambition with governmental and private study, and study preferences. Also their result showed that there is a significant association between the level of ambition and psychological alienation regarding gender, and that disagree with our result. But, they reported that there is a significant association between the level of ambition with age and that agree with our study.

The study sees that there were no differences between all the variables except for the variable of age, and this is because when a person grows old he begins his think will change, and his responsibilities will increase, especially in our society, which suffers from difficult economic

and social conditions, While Younger students may be their main interest in life is the study, study society, and their ambition to develop the nursing profession, unlike older students, who may look at college or even nursing as a profession just a way to get money to be able to face difficult circumstances and thus find them without ambition.

CONCLUSION

Nursing students show moderate level of ambition as well as age can be predisposing factor for level of ambition as concluded by the study there is significant Correlation among Age and level of Ambition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The study recommended that develop the university's students' abilities to increase their awareness about importance of their role in society so they do not fall to successive frustrations that develop their feelings of alienation and affect their level of ambition as well as, develop the university's students' abilities to face problems and increase their awareness of the importance of their role in life and society so that they do not fall prey to successive frustrations that develop their feelings of alienation and affect their level of ambition.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICAL GUIDELINES

This study was completed following obtaining consent from the University of Baghdad.

FUNDING

This research did not receive any grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or non-profit sectors.

AUTHOR'S CONTRIBUTIONS

Study concept, Writing, Reviewing the final edition by all authors.

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The authors report no conflict of interest.

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