

Recognizing effective factors in university students' deterioration (case study: university students in management course Islamic Azad university Astara branch)

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Abstract: Awareness of university students' educational performance for knowing current condition will cause more suitable planning and more precise decision making and intention for solving the problems. Deterioration is one of the most important problems in higher education centers of the country. This research aims to recognize effective factors in university students' deterioration like family, individual, university and social factors in university students' point of view. Statistic population is all university students in government management course in Islamic Azad university Astara branch that are totally 360 subjects. Among them, 177 subjects have been selected and studied as statistic sample by using Krejcie and Morgan table and by using simple random sampling. Students' point of view and demographic characteristics related to effective factors in educational deterioration were gathered by a researcher-made questionnaire that its validity and reliability had been proved before. The value for Cronbach alpha was 0.92. For determining the normality of the variables, Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was used and since significance level is higher than 0.05, so, research factors in research in the sample under study have normal distribution and therefore parametric methods have been used. To study the relationship among the factors, Pearson coefficient correlation and one-sample t-test and analysis of variance test have been used. Findings showed that the most effective factors in students' deterioration in students' point of view have been social factors (3.94), individual factors (3.42), university factor (3.34) and family factor (3.33). There is no significance difference in single and married students' point of view about individual, university and family factors, but, the mean of social factors has significance difference among single and married students that has been higher in married students. There is no significant difference between two genders (male and female), native and non-native, and educational condition of university students' point of view.

Key words: Deterioration; Individual factors; Family factors; University factors; Social factors

1. Introduction

One of the basic problems and difficulties of educational systems in each country is the problem of deterioration. In current complex world, each country and nation with each belief and point of view and with each politic and social system has special attention to the higher education. This issue shows importance of the education and on the other hand, the need of human life to this issue. Nowadays, what is known as civilization and honorable human culture is the knowledge and findings that have been structured by educational system. Here, deterioration is a common and important event in educational centers; because a large number of human resources and potentials are deprived and cause undesired and unpleasant effect in individual, family and social life.

Although educational deterioration and finally negative perspective toward the education in our society is one of important issues in our country, less scientific and practical proceedings have been done for solving this terrible problem that has caused damage to the society. Different governments and societies consider education as a necessity for

decreasing world poverty and increase in equity level, peace and stability for all. Training effective and efficient human beings is of main duties of any university and since the university students are valuable capitals of any country in talent, innovation and useful resources, paying attention into their training is very important. This research has studied the effective factors in university students' deterioration in students' point of view and ranked them according to their priority.

1.1. Statement of the problem

Deterioration is of issues that all students may have been faced to during their educational years. Sometimes, deterioration is originated from internal factors and sometimes it has an environmental factor and is one of the main problems of higher education centers. Awareness of students' educational performance for knowing current condition causes better planning and close decision making and proceedings for solving the problems.

Individual and environmental factors in this research will be studied in the form of family, university and social factors. The university students gain positive or negative perspective to themselves

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and environment around them during their education. This issue is highly related to their successful or unsuccessful experience in their education years. With progress in education and increase in amount of learning, they gain psychological health beside scientific growth. Unlike, with an unsuccessful education and psychological pressures caused by it, their psychological health also will be disturbed and it will cause damage to them and to the society.

Nowadays, more attention to education is the most important factor in cultural, social and economical progress. Education makes suitable setting for facilitating and development individuals' talents and abilities. This is why most of societies do their best in determining objectives and educational method. One of the most dangerous problems in educational systems that destroys facilities, resources and human and economic potentials and has irrecoverable effects in individual and social dimensions is educational deterioration. Because of the relationship among education and other social, cultural and political institutions, deterioration is also one of varied dimensions that is researched and studied by the researchers. The question in this research is which factors (individual, family, university, social) have the highest influence in university students' educational deterioration?

1.3. Necessity and importance of the research

Deterioration is a common and important event in educational centers because a large number of human resources and potentials are depraved and cause undesired and unpleasant effect in individual, family and social life and although educational deterioration and finally negative perspective toward the education in our society is one of important issues in our country, less scientific and practical proceedings have been done for solving this terrible problem that has caused damage to the society. If we consider the damages caused by educational deterioration research necessity and importance will be clear. Expenses and costs imposed to the university like wasting current expenditures and fixed investment for structuring and equipping educational centers. Expenses imposed to families like wasting direct expenses of the family like tuition cost and stationeries, wasting expenses for transportation and communication for the student to go to the university, expenses imposed to the failed students like expenses of lost opportunities because of entering to the work late, and other expenses for students like having cold, humiliation and incompetence and negative self-concept.

Deterioration not only makes problem for the students mentally and psychologically, but also causes problem in putting them at the risk of facing to deprivation from educating and causes problem in desired benefiting of scientific principles for educating human resources, human forces and financial resources and also causes social

dissatisfaction, too. Beside students' deterioration and leaving university, in addition to the problems for the student himself, more damages will be caused for the country. Deterioration may cause in other negative behaviors, too.

Researches show that students who face deterioration, use more narcotic drugs in future. So, deterioration and leaving school may have outcomes like addiction to the narcotic drugs and alcohol. A research conducted in one of universities of America on individuals who attempted suicide, showed that their most common reason for suicide has been failure in education (Changizi Ashtiani, 1388). According to these issues, this problem needs to be studied and its effective factors should be recognized more carefully.

2. Research objectives

2.1. Main objective

The main objective of this research is recognizing effective factors in students' deterioration like family, individual, social and university factors.

2.2. Secondary objectives

- studying and determining individual factors and their effects in university students' deterioration
- studying and determining family factors and their effects in university students' deterioration
- studying and determining university factors and their effects in university students' deterioration
- studying and determining social factors and their effects in university students' deterioration

3. Research hypotheses

- 1-individual factors are effective in university students' deterioration.
- 2-family factors are effective in university students' deterioration.
- 3-university factors are effective in university students' deterioration.
- 4-social factors are effective in university students' deterioration.

4. Conceptual and operational definition of the variables

Educational deterioration: by deterioration we mean decrease in individual's educational performance from desired level to undesired level. Some consider deterioration as including different dimensions of educational failure like excessive absence from school, leaving school before determined time, repeating an educational grade and memorizing instead of increasing knowledge (Narimani, 1377). In this research we mean relative reduction of average in previous semester compared to the semester before it.

Individual factors: by individual factors, we mean the factors related to the student, himself like having no guardian, being employed, his/her interest, sickness, lack of effort and so on. By individual factors in this research we mean factors like average of scores in answering the questions from 1 to 9 in questionnaire.

Family factors: they are factors related to the family like financial statues of the family, family problems like death, divorce, family disputes and so on. In this research by family factors we mean average of scores in questions from 21 to 27 in questionnaire.

University factors: university factors are the factors related to the university environment like professors' teaching method, professors' undesired relationship to the student, lack of teaching aids, inappropriate evaluation and so on.

In this research by university factors we mean average of scored to the questions 10 to 20 and 28 in the questionnaire.

Social factors: social factors are factors related to the society like unemployment of post-graduate students, money-making false jobs, underestimating educated people by the society and so on. In this research by social factors we mean average scores to the questions from 29 to 34 in the questionnaire.

5. Review of literature

Golshani and Hasani conducted a research by the title of calculating and analyzing deterioration rate and factors influencing it in 1377 and concluded that deterioration rate in Bachelor level is 19.5% and it is 4.1% in M.A level. And also, it demonstrated that individual factors (like marital status, gender, ...), educational factors (professors' teaching method, being familiar to educational regulations) and economical and social factors (employment status) have no influence in deterioration.

Alijani, Markazi Moghaddam, Boroumand and Zand conducted a research by the title of studying effective factors in deterioration of students in nursing course in years from 1380 to 1383 in military medical science university and concluded that there is a significant relationship among age, diploma average, living place, marital status, using university quota, part-time job, and individual's amount of income and university students' deterioration.

In a research conducted by Akram Sanagoo et.al related to the deterioration and educational satisfaction and some factors in university students in medical science university of Golestan in 1391, findings showed that there is a significant relationship among students' father's job and family support and the relationship to the professor and amount of educational satisfaction. But, there was no relationship between genders, education level, passing quota, diploma average, marital status, living place, studying hours in a day, transformed from other universities, father's age and education and

mother's job, number of family members and family income, and job satisfaction.

In a research conducted by Arash Najimi et.al in 1390 by the title of effective factors in deterioration from medical science university students' point of view in Isfahan showed that effective factors in deterioration in students' point of view are educational content, the trainer, educational environment, family, economical and social factors, respectively and there was no significant difference among students' point of view and their age, marital status and employment status.

Shahram Habibzadeh et.al conducted a research in 1386 by the title of studying amount of deterioration and its effective factors in students in university of medical science in Ardabil and concluded that of 938 students, 38 students had educational deterioration and also, non-locality, father's educational level, awareness of occupational future, lack of motivation and lack of regular study were recognized to be effective factors in students' deterioration.

Ladan Fata et.al conducted a research in 1390 by the title of systematic reviewing the study of reasons of medical science students' deterioration and studied the reasons of deterioration in university students in papers that 5 papers pointed to being married, 2 papers pointed to having second job, 2 papers pointed to staying in dorm, 5 papers pointed to the kind of passing quota, 2 papers pointed to amount of parents' education, 3 papers pointed to the far distance between having diploma degree and entering to the university, 2 papers pointed to lack of study planning ability and educational motivation and 1 paper pointed to absence from classes as effective factors in deterioration.

Mansoreh Dastranj, Sedigheh Boluki and Maryam Moazzen conducted a research in 1389 by the title of studying effective factors in students' deterioration in Payam-e nou university in Bastak and concluded that there is a significant relationship between parents' income and deterioration. There was no relationship between parents' education and deterioration. There was a relationship between age and deterioration and there was no relationship between gender and deterioration. There was no relationship between living place and deterioration.

Reza Ali Nouroozi et.al conducted a research in 1390 by the title of influence of individual, social, family and educational factors in students' deterioration in students' point of view and the findings showed that individual, family, social and educational factors have influence in deterioration and average of scores in influence of individual factors in deterioration was 4.1, average of scores in influence of family factors was 3.75, average of influence of social factors was 3.74 and average of scores in influence of educational factors was 3.83.

Alikhani et.al conducted a research in 1383 by the title of effective factors in students in nursing course in the years from 1380 to 1383 in Army University of medical science and concluded that there was a significant relationship among age, diploma average,

living place, marital status, mother's job, and amount of individual's income and deterioration.

Changizi Ashtiani et al conducted a research by the title of increase in deterioration and some effective factors in it in students' point of view in university of medical science in Arak in 1388 and concluded that deterioration has been 19% and there was a significant difference among gender, diploma average, father's education, locality, and satisfaction from major between two groups of successful and unsuccessful students and there was no significant relationship among variables of age, major, family's economical status and mother's job in two groups.

Amini Maleki has demonstrated in his PH.D thesis by the title of amount of deterioration and its effective factors in students in university of medical science in Ardebil and concluded that in students' point of view the most common effective factor in educational deterioration was one's affective problems and among variables, low diploma average, amount of study hours in a day, numbers of one's visit with the family in a month were the factors that had significance effect in deterioration.

6. Research method

This research is an applied research and its research method has been descriptive and survey. Because of investigating the relationship between variables, this research is a kind of correlation.

6.1. Statistic population and sample

In current research, statistic population is all university students in management major in Islamic Azad university Astara branch that are 360 subjects. Sampling method has been simple random and for determining sample, Krejcie and Morgan table have been used that 186 subjects have been selected as sample and 177 subjects answered the questions and 177 points of view were analyzed.

6.2. Data gathering tools and methods

In current research the method used for gathering data has been field method. For gathering data, a researcher-made questionnaire with 34 items has been used based on Likert five inventory multiple questions by the scales of very much, much, partly, low, very low respectively and is set based on 4 factors of deterioration.

6.3. Validity and reliability of measuring

The method used for checking validity of the questionnaire has been content validity. Validity of this questionnaire has been ensured by related professors and experts. For determining reliability of this research emphasizing in ternal consistency of the questions, calculation of coefficient of Cronbach alpha has been used and reliability of the questionnaire has been 0.92 by using Cronbach alpha.

6.4. Statistic methods of analyzing the data

In this research, in the first phase of analyzing the data by using techniques of descriptive statistic including frequency table, percent, mean and standard deviation, characteristics of the research samples have been studied. In inferential level statistic of this research, Pearson coefficient correlation, one-sample t-test, and analyses of the variance test were used. For checking normality of the research variables, Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was used and results showed that amount of level of significance is higher than 0.05, so, research factors have been distributed normally in the sample under study. So, parametric methods have been used. SPSS software has been used for analyzing the data in this research.

6.5. Testing the hypotheses

First hypothesis: individual factors are effective in students' deterioration.

Table 1: related to the first hypothesis

	Sample size	Mean	Standard deviation	t-value	Significance level
Effect of individual factors in students' deterioration	177	3.4157	0.68187	8.11	0.000

Above mentioned table shows that according to significance level of sig=0.000, that is smaller than test level of $\alpha=0.05$, so, the first research hypothesis is proved and it can be said that individual factors are effective in deterioration. results of this research are not in line with researches conducted by Golshani and Hasani, Sanagoo, Dastranj et al. They match the results of the researches conducted by Alijani et al.

Second hypothesis: family factors are effective in students' deterioration.

Above mentioned table shows that according to the significance level of sig=0.000 that is smaller than test level $\alpha=0.05$, so, second research hypothesis is proved and it can be said that family factors are effective in students' deterioration that it matches findings of the research conducted by Nowroozi et al in 1390.

Table 2: related to the second hypothesis

	Sample size	Mean	Standard deviation	t-value	Significance level
Effect of family factors in students' deterioration	177	3.3313	0.86251	5.11	0.000

Third hypothesis: university factors are effective in students' deterioration.

Table 3: related to the third hypothesis

	Sample size	Mean	Standard deviation	t-value	Significance level
Effect of university factors in students' deterioration	177	3.3369	0.70072	6.397	0.000

Above mentioned table shows that according to significance level of sig=0.000 that is smaller than test level $\alpha=0.05$, the third hypothesis is proved and it can be said that university factors are effective in students' deterioration and it matches the findings of the research conducted by Nowroozi and influence

of educational factors in deterioration has been more than other factors.

Fourth hypothesis: social factors are effective in students' deterioration.

Table 4: related to the forth hypothesis

	Sample size	Mean	Standard deviation	t-value	Significance level
Effect of social factors in students' deterioration	177	3.9448	0.73251	17.16	0.000

Above mentioned table shows that according to significance level of sig=0.000 that is smaller than test level $\alpha=0.05$, the forth hypothesis is proved and it can be said that social factors are effective in students' deterioration and it matches the findings of the research conducted by Nowroozi by this difference that in current research, social factors have the highest influence in students' deterioration compared to other factors, but, in the research conducted by Nowroozi, educational factors had the highest influence in students' deterioration.

7. Conclusion

Findings of current research showed that individual, family, university and social factors are effective in students' deterioration and mean of effective score of individual factor in deterioration has been 3.42, mean of effective score of family factor in deterioration has been 3.33, mean of effective score of university factor in deterioration has been 3.34 and mean of effective score of social factors in deterioration has been 3.94 and variable of social factors had the highest mean among research variables. There was no significant difference among single and marrieds students' points of view in individual, university and family factors but mean of social factors has been significance between singles and married ones that it was higher in married ones. There was no significance difference between students' point of view in two genders, local and non-local students and their educational status.

7.1. Suggestions

1. Providing effective planning in preventing deterioration like activating consultation services and guidance in universities.
2. Conducting formative and mid-term evaluations and effect of its score in final exam and persuading the universities for study and not accumulating the material at the end of semester.
3. Creating motivation in students for occupational future in society.
4. Paying complete attention to the student and quality of his/her learning by professors.
5. More suitable planning and more precise decision making with awareness of students' educational performance.
6. Finding a suitable job fit to students' major in society.
7. Equipping all educational classes with educational aids and equipments.
8. Increasing motivation for more study with fair evaluation by professors.
9. Normal contact with the student.
10. Using expert professors in educational centers.
11. Paying attention to students' individual differences by the professors.

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