

Conflict in Parental Imposition of Career Choice on their Children: A Discourse Analysis of *Ndi Nwe Egwu* Written by Emmanuel Ibekwe



Mba-John, Chinyere Nwanne

*Mitochondrial Eve Journal of
Post Graduate Studies Vol.1
No. 2 (2024); June, 2024*

Abstract

The motivation for proposing this research work is to define the place and role of parents in their children's choice of career and to encourage parents to effectively play that role in assisting and guiding their children, rather than imposition, in making the right career choices. A career is a chosen pursuit or course of business activity or enterprise, especially one's professional life or employment that offers advancement and dignity. Career choice is a fundamental decision-making matter which has a far reaching impact on one's life. This paper x-rays the conflict Echiebuka, the protagonist of *Ndi Nwe Egwu*, experienced as a result of opposing the career choice his father imposed on him. The statement of the research problem is that parents imposition or undue influence on the career choice of their children in most cases does not augur well with them and usually result in lack of self-actualization and fulfillment, disorientation, mediocrity and regret in life. The methodology adopted for this research is the descriptive approach while theoretical framework is based on Gordon Allport's (1927) Trait Theory of human personality. The research findings revealed that Echiebuka suffered untold hardship, rejection, deprivation and family ostracism as a result of his refusal to read Law which his father wanted him to read in the university. He, instead, read Foundation of Igbo Language and Customs which he was interested in. Against all odds, he persevered, graduated with flying colours, secured a lucrative employment in his career field which brought him to the limelight and he found fulfillment in life. It concluded by recommending that parents should guide, encourage and support their children in making the right career choices rather than imposing or unduly influencing their children's choice of career.

Key words: Career, Self-actualization, Fulfillment, Imposition, Parents.

Introduction

A career is a chosen pursuit or course of business activity or enterprise, especially one's professional life or employment that offers advancement and dignity. Individuals tend to choose a career based on interest, prestige and social status attached to such vocation or profession.

The relationship between parents and their children is often filled with love, guidance, and support. However, when it comes to choosing a career path, it can sometimes turn into a source of conflict and stress. On one hand, parents typically want the best for their children, believing that their life experiences and wisdom should guide their offspring toward a secure and prosperous future. However, this well-intentioned guidance can sometimes morph into rigid expectations and demands, potentially stifling a child's individuality and passions.

While some argue that parental influence is crucial for steering children in the right direction, others believe it's essential to allow youngsters to explore their interests and talents independently. Pushing children into careers they have no passion for can lead to job dissatisfaction, stress, and even strained relationships within the family.

The key lies in striking a balance between parental guidance and a child's autonomy. Open communication, active listening, and a willingness to understand the child's aspirations can foster a healthier approach to career decision-making. Parents should encourage their children to explore various options, nurturing their talents and passions rather than imposing their own dreams onto them.

A reference case in point is the young man whose story is being x-rayed in the novel, *Ndi Nwe Egwu*, who was interested in studying the Foundation of Igbo Language and Customs based on an elderly man he had seen and admired, who commanded respect in his community because of his wealth of knowledge and experience in Igbo language. This made a big impression on him and consequently inspired him to develop interest to study the Foundation of Igbo Language and Customs in the university. Every effort made by his father to change his choice of career proved abortive. Echiebuka was determined and prepared to suffer to the end provided that he achieved his aim of studying his dream career in school. He was rejected and disowned by his father. Even people in the community mocked him but he was focused on what he wanted. Rather than being discouraged, he mapped out strategies and plans to succeed in his choice of career.

Echiebuka studied hard against all odds, met friends and colleagues who helped him to achieve his dream career and at last, he became a celebrity in his community. His father, who had earlier rejected him, now became very proud of him as his son.

Research Questions

In order to attempt a critical analysis of the conflict arising from parental imposition of career choice on their children using this Igbo literature book, *Ndi Nwe Egwu*, as a case study, the researcher put forth the following questions to provide answers to the discourse:

1. Did Echiebuka's father impose a career choice on him? If so, why?
2. By what means did Echiebuka's father attempt to achieve his aim of imposing a career choice on him?
3. What are the consequences of his father's decisions and actions on him?
4. What factor influenced Echiebuka's career choice and what was the consequence?
5. How did Echiebuka overcome his challenges resulting from his father's decisions and actions?

Review of Related Literature

Parents as agents of career development

For children, the most influential people in their lives are their parents. Right from the beginning of childhood, parents have a persistent and robust influence on their children's personality and career development (DeRidder, 1990). Results of one of the studies publicized family factors that influence career aspirations as parents' perceptions, occupation and socio-economic status. It was found that students pursue career paths that are sanctioned most often by their parents (Taylor, Harris, & Taylor, 2004).

Parents with different demographic and psychographic characteristics have different expectations from the education of their children which eventually affect behaviour of their children towards career choice. The common insight of parents about their children's education is to earn more respect and money rather than as a source to bring positive change in the society. Extensive research has been done in this regard internationally and the influence of parents on undergraduate and graduate students especially those entering the STEM disciplines and STEM careers was highlighted (Craig, Verma, Stokes, Evans & Abrol, 2028).

A number of other researchers have also explored the influence of parents on their children's career paths, and parents' views about their children's career education (Frome, & Eccles, 1998). Studies

have also been conducted on parental influence on the choice of their children's careers from the perspective of their children and it is discovered that teenage students, especially female students, cited their parents as key influence on their choice of career (Bian, Leslie, & Cimpian, 2017). One of the studies concluded that parents' influence on career choice of their children was strong enough to be utilized as effective career counseling technique (Miller J, et al. 2010).

Many other studies examined in depth parent's behaviour and influence on their children's career development process, as well as perception of students about parental influence on career choice. Results of these studies illustrated that children also perceived their parents as having high expectations about their studies as well as influencing choice of their future career (Middleton and Loughhead, 1993).

In contrast, one study concluded that parental influence did not significantly affect the career choice of adolescents and they have some form of independence in making career choices against the wishes of their parents (Olaosebikan and Olusakin, 2014).

Present study has provided comprehensive information about parental influence on career selection of their children from various perspectives. Study will help to support and advise student to get enrolled in a program according to current trends and personal interest and not as backup plan from their parents. Hence it may be a good idea to establish educational programs in colleges to educate students on their career choices, and career counseling should be an important part of teenagers educational curriculum.

Reasons why Parents Impose Careers Choices on their Children

Olusegun (2020) asserts that our world today is filled with many unfulfilled people in their chosen careers and professions. According to him, many have attributed this problem to the insistence of their parents or guardians that they study certain courses during their time in the tertiary institutions against their will or interests. The end results for such individuals today are frustrations, lack of self-fulfillment, regrets and the like. Though few got it right, research has shown that close to 90% of individuals who were forced to study particular courses against their will and interests do not come close to self-fulfillment in such areas. This problem has continued till today as many parents or guardians still delight in insisting that their children or wards go for certain courses when it comes to choice of career. Olusegun (2020) opines that the major reasons why parents insist on a particular profession for their children include the following:

Ignorance: The number one reason is ignorance. Ignorance simply means lack of knowledge. Ignorance they say is the father of destruction. It has destroyed more lives than any other thing in this world. Parents had ignorantly forced their children in the past to follow certain professions simply because of a lack of knowledge about who those children were. When the purpose of a thing is not known, abuse will ultimately be inevitable. When a parent is ignorant of God's purpose for a child, ignorant of the child's natural interests and inclinations, temperaments, and personality, ignorant of his or her best subject(s) in secondary school, ignorant of prospects of a particular field of study, etc. such parent may ultimately misguide the child or even impose his/her own choice on such a child without considering the factors above. I have seen several students who wanted to do music or become an actress but whose parents were insisting such students must study another subject entirely and most times, the parents' choices are not in alignment with the students' interests and personalities. There is a story of a popular Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN) who wanted his boy to become a lawyer like him, the boy eventually studied law but he is now one of the celebrities in the entertainment industry. This kind of example abound in our society today in different forms. There are some parents too who want their children to go into certain professions so that such could inherit and continue the family business not minding whether the children have aptitude for entrepreneurship or not.

Personal disappointment in the past: A lot of parents, if given another chance, would want to live their lives again differently. Some abandoned their dreams for several reasons - the death of their parents or sponsors, lack of helpers, laziness, nonchalant attitude, having illiterate parents who didn't value education, et cetera. These same parents today, having seen the pain of not being educated or well-educated, and not living their dreams will go all the way in forcing their own children to achieve their dreams of the past. You could hear such parents telling their children that "I wanted to become a doctor and since I could not achieve that goal, then you must become one". They are simply looking for ways to achieve their own personal dreams through their children. That's a wrong approach to life. It may lead to frustrations for the child involved and ultimately bring heartaches for such a parent sooner or later.

Vainglory: Our society is filled with many people who derive pleasure and excessive attention from certain vanities of life. One of such is being labeled "Mama Doctor" or "Engineer this or Barrister that." This is because we give undue attention to titles and wealth in this part of the world. Whether the titleholder is an intellectual or not, or whether the source of the person's wealth is known or not, people don't really care. Hence, parents who are delusional by mere titles or who

derive pleasure from unnecessary attention or being ‘respected’ would go to any extent in forcing their children to study certain courses that confer ‘respect’ on people in our society such as Medicine, Engineering, Law, Architecture, et cetera. Many students and professionals have lost their bearings due to this. Some students are struggling on various campuses today, due to a lack of capacity or interest for a particular field of study imposed on them by their parents and guardians. Some had to engage in examination malpractices or bribe lecturers for good grades to cover up for their inabilities. There are several graduates today who cannot boast of their certificates or even defend them just for this reason.

Economic status: Related to the point above is the economic status which is one major reason why parents force their children to go for particular professions. Some parents consider certain careers a taboo to their economic status while some see a particular field of study as a boost to their status in society. There are parents who, out of ignorance sometimes, hope some lucrative courses will promote their family status economically, hence, they do all they can to force their children to study such. Some parents believe their children can never be successful in life economically unless they study courses like medicine, law, or engineering. They have forgotten that there are many poor medical doctors, lawyers, and engineers in our society. There are some lawyers, doctors, engineers, accountants who have vowed that their children must follow the same line of their profession because they believe such professions will guarantee their children financial success. The fact is success or wealth is not limited to particular fields or professions. The realities of the modern world have proved that with the right idea backed with science and technology, one can make sense with any career he or she chooses to pursue. As a matter of fact, I believe any profession can produce wealth if the person involved can add innovative ideas to such.

In summary, it is important parents sincerely ask themselves whether the reason for insisting on a particular course of study is not based on a selfish motive or other wrong ones as highlighted above. Parents must realize there is more to life than a particular individual possessing certificates in some ‘juicy’ course or bearing a title respected by the society. God has designed everyone for a purpose and with different innate abilities and dreams. Such a practice needs to stop henceforth, so we can have a society filled with fulfilled human beings, daily pursuing their passions rather than being forced to go for professions outside their interests and desires which are unlikely where their fulfillment (including success and wealth) lies. Imagine if Bill Gates of Microsoft, Mark Zuckerberg the founder of Facebook, or Professor Wole Soyinka had all been forced to go for professions that are outside their interests and desires, it is likely that we wouldn’t hear about their

‘exploits’ today around the world. Many dreams have been shattered and others buried by discouraging teenagers and youths from pursuing their passions and dreams. Such a practice needs to stop henceforth, so we can have a society filled with fulfilled human beings, daily pursuing their passions whether it is teaching, sports, catering, engineering, coding or even preaching! Our role as parents lies more in helping those children discover, develop and deploy their gifts to serve humanity.

Factors Influencing Choice of Career

Interests: According to Eduwed (2005), one of the key factors an individual consider in choosing a career is interest. He opined that an individual I may be interested in a career that involves frequent interaction with people and demonstrate his love of dealing with people by being humorous, friendly, helpful and understanding.

Attitude: Allport (1937) posited that attitude is a mental state of readiness organized through experience exacting a directive and dynamic influence upon an individual’s response to all objects and situations with which it relates. Different people have different attitudes and it is necessary for the individual to identify those abilities and nurture them.

Environmental influence: Herbert (2005) opined that environment are necessary for developing abilities to levels close to capacity levels and if children are raised in healthy homes where parents live in harmony and are kind and supportive to their children, a child is bound in this situation to take directives from his parents. Hence their occupational aspiration is influenced by their parents’ status.

Parental influence: It is a well-established fact that parents play vital roles in the career choice of their children. According to Olayinka (2005), parents sometimes censoriously set standard worthy of emulation for their children and this motivates them to be achievement driven. Roe (2004) in his opinion stated that the choice of career by an individual is partly influenced by the behavior of their parents towards the particular child and the condition of the home environment. **Values:** According to Eduwed (2005), the value attached to a given career by an individual is a product of many variables such as his early life experience, education and environment.

Parents role in career selection

Parents serve as a major influence in their children’s career development and career decision-making. Parents want their children to find happiness and success in life and one factor which influences happiness and success is career choice. Research also indicates that when students feel

supported and loved by their parents, they have more confidence in their own ability to research careers and to choose a career that would be interesting and exciting. This is important because studies show that adolescents who feel competent regarding career decision-making, tend to make more satisfying career choices later in life. (Whiston and Keller 2004).

Parents influence the level of education or training that their children achieve; the knowledge they have about work and different occupations; the beliefs and attitudes they have to working; and the motivation they have to succeed. Most of this is learned unconsciously – children and teenagers absorb their parents' attitudes and expectations of them as they grow up.

Some of the key factors that determine the extent of parental influence on their children are:

- The expectations parents have for their children's education and career.
- The example they set for their children.
- The values they show to their family, friends and to society.
- The opportunities they offer their children to learn and develop.
- The kind of parent-child relationship they develop.

Tips to help your child's career development:

- Encourage your children to get as much education as possible.
- Help them to discover their innate talents and skills.
- Develop their knowledge of the world of work.
- Teach them decision- making skills.
- Value gender equity and cultural diversity.
- Become aware of career resources/ education and training opportunities.
- Observe the effects of work experience.

Middleton and Loughhead (1993) opined that parents can be an important and positive influence in decisions affecting a young person's vocational development. Though they also warn that over-involvement in the decision- making process can undermine parental effects as a positive source of influence. Excessive parental control regarding adolescents' occupational decision-making results in negative outcomes. Nucci (1996). Parents should be cautioned against imposing their own goals on to their children or seeing their child's accomplishments as a reflection on

themselves. So while parents should show genuine interest and support for their adolescents' career plans, they must allow adolescents to discover who they are on their own. Some teenagers fear the disapproval of their parents if they pursue a career in art/drama/music as opposed to a practical high-earning occupation such as law or medicine. If parents make it clear that they have no specific expectations for their child's career, he/she will feel free to explore a greater variety of professions, choosing one based on their own preferences rather than those of their parents.

Choosing a career is an extremely important decision that impacts an individual's entire future, so parents can become very stressed. It is important to stay positive otherwise it can become a stressful time for all involved. Parents unwittingly can make the past seem perfect and the future terrifying.

In a study by Bregman and Killen (1999) it was documented that adolescents valued parental influence and guidance in the area of career choice and vocational development. It is important for parents to give students support and encouragement to explore the many options available to find the best career fit.

Parents should guard against shooting down ideas their children may have about their future careers. If they react negatively, it may shut down the whole exploration process. Parents need to keep the lines of communication open, and encourage their child to gather as much information as possible on their career interest areas. A parent must recognize that their role is simply to act as a facilitator in their child's career journey and allowing independent career choices marks a young person's first real step into adulthood.

Methodology

Data for this research work was collected through introspection and observation after reading the primary novel, as a case study. The data analysis technique adopted for this research is the descriptive and explorative approach. The theoretical framework is predicated on the Gordon Allport's (1927) Trait Theory of human personality. The Trait Theory posits that individuals possess capacities such as interest, aptitude, achievement and personality characteristics. These traits however are fairly stable and seldom change after an individual has passed his or her late adolescent stage or period. Traits can be measured with objective psychological tests and inventories. When profiled, they indicate an individual's potentials. Thus, different occupations

have unique characteristics and they also require a unique pattern of an individual's trait for success.

Like individual's traits, jobs can also be profiled to show the quality of individual traits they require. Therefore, if an individual wants to select a job he is likely to succeed in, all that is required is to match the individual's unique pattern of traits with the characteristic profile of the job he is interested in. The theory also asserts that once an individual possesses test results of his traits as well as information about the job characteristics and requirements, he is on his way to obtaining a job he will be satisfied in. This approach relies heavily on objective tests to match individuals with occupation. It follows that an individual may or may not choose appropriately if he does not get this type of objective test assistance.

Discussion and Analysis

The researcher provided a critical analysis of the conflict arising from Echiebuka's father's imposition of a career choice on him by providing answers to the following research questions earlier outlined:

Question 1:

Did Echiebuka's father impose a career choice on him? If so, why?

Following the completion of his secondary education, the protagonist of the already identified text, Echiebuka, intended to study Foundation of Igbo Language and Customs as his dream course in the university. However, his father, Mr. Ibe, had a different idea. His father considered his choice of course as a waste of time and resources and, therefore, fought him through words and actions in order to dissuade him and make him have a change of mind regarding the course he wanted to read in the university. Mr Ibe's decision that his son, Echiebuka, would read Law in the university is his long standing desire. He has been involved in the past in land ownership cases with some people in the community. As his son, Echiebuka, was coming to age both physically and educationally, he had hoped that he would read Law so that he would be able to represent the family well and take up competently land cases pertaining to the family in court. The accomplishment of this desire was not to be, as Echiebuka showed no passion at all for Law. Rather he preferred to study Foundation of Igbo Language and Customs which he had interest in. This

invariably brought about serious conflict of interest between him and his father in the choice of his course of study in the university.

Question 2:

By what means did Echiebuka's father attempt to achieve his aim of imposing a career choice on him?

On realizing that Echiebuka was unwilling to accept reading Law in the university, his father felt slanted and humiliated by Echiebuka's defiant attitude and his insistence to read his course of interest, which was the Foundation of Igbo Language and Customs.

Echiebuka's father, in order to force Echiebuka to succumb to reading Law in the university, took the following actions which he hoped will leave his son with no option other than to obey his orders:

Mockery: His father, Mr. Ibe, made jest of him, and asked him what he would gain and what would be his status in life after studying Igbo language and Customs in the university.

Abuses: Echiebuka's father rained abusive words on him. He called him unprintable names and sternly warned him never to call him his father again.

Ostracism: Mr. Tbe, Echiebuka's father, ostracized him from his household and family and warned him never to step his feet again into his compound. His father went as far as disowning him as one of his children since he has disobeyed him and went ahead to study Foundation of Igbo Language and Customs.

Threats: Echiebuka's father used matchet to threaten him when he returned home after three years of leaving the house. He did this to Echiebuka for him to know how bitter he was over his rejection of his recommended career choice.

However, all his father's attempt to dissuade him amounted to nothing, as Echiebuka rather used those challenges as a stepping stone to his success.

Question 3:

What were the consequences of his father's decisions and actions on him?

The above stated actions which Echiebuka's father took were intended to kill his fighting spirit and force him to succumb to reading Law. Echiebuka was subjected to untold hardship and persecution. His father meted out all manner of ill-treatment on him including driving him out of the house, disowning him, mocking and calling him unprintable names, starving him, depriving

him of basic necessities of life and withdrawing all forms of support for his education. He really Left unanswered. suffered to raise money to train himself through university. He did not give up and eventually graduated with flying colours.

Question 4:**What factor influenced Echiebuka's career choice and what was the consequence?**

Echiebuka developed interest in studying the Foundation of Igbo Language and Customs based on an elderly man he had seen and admired, who commanded respect in his community because of his wealth of knowledge and experience in Igbo language. This made a big impression on him and consequently inspired him to develop interest to study the Foundation of Igbo Language and Customs in the university.

Since he was in his field of interest, he did well in the course and graduated with flying colours. He later secured a lucrative job appointment and was highly efficient and effective in his job. It was obvious that he derived satisfaction and fulfillment from his work and performed creditably well in all he did. He was quite innovative and introduced new and interesting programmes at the Radio Station where he worked. His programmes attracted mass following which in turn generated substantial revenue to the Radio Station. His fame sooner or later spread all over the locality and beyond. He became quite influential and famous in the society which made his family proud in particular and his community in general.

Following his success and achievement, his father had to swallow his pride and received Echiebuka back into the family. His father was so proud of him as he brought the family name to limelight all over the locality as a result of his fame.

Question 5:**How did Echiebuka overcome his challenges resulting from his father's decisions and actions?**

In spite of his father's persecution and oppression, Echiebuka stood firm on his decision to read the course he had interest in. He was able to survive the adverse consequences of his father's actions by using his challenges as a stepping stone to his success and engaging himself in the following:

Hardwork: He determined that he would work hard in order to succeed. He achieved this by engaging himself in sundry menial jobs such as visiting sites where building construction work

were going on to carry blocks, sand and fetching water for the builders, cutting of palm fruits for people and doing other sundry jobs in order to earn income to support himself.

Organisation/Formation of Igbo Student Union: He formed the Igbo Students Union in his university campus where all Igbo speakers gathered to discuss their affairs and later the union gained wide recognition and was inaugurated. This brought Echiebuka to limelight and stardom.

Establishment/Hosting of Igbo Live Broadcast on Radio: He initiated and hosted a live broadcast on radio which he captioned, “When One Loses His Ornament of Beauty”. He used the medium to teach the people Igbo customs and practices. This equally made him famous in his community because at the end of each programme, he will mention his name, surname and his community. People became attracted and loved the programme which, in turn, brought adverts which generated substantial income to the media house.

Conclusion

This paper x-rayed the conflict arising from the parental imposition of career choice on their children. Since career is a chosen pursuit or course of business activity or employment that offers advancement and dignity, it is a matter that should be handled with utmost carefulness and sagacity.

The role of parents is crucial in the lives of their children and they should act as a guiding force, not the influential force. They should understand the needs and desires of the children instead of pressurizing them. By pressurizing them, the children become slaves to the ideas of others. They are not able to give their productive views, which hampers their growth and skills.

Parents imposition or undue influence on the career choice of their children in most cases does not augur well with them and usually result in lack of self-actualization and fulfillment, disorientation, mediocrity and regret in life. Echiebuka’s father, in his overbearance and fixity, imposed a career choice on his son, Echiebuka, without taking into consideration his son’s interest, ability and personality. Not only that, he also took extreme measures in enforcing his will on his son which was capable of marring him rather than making him. Pride and self-will could be seen to be at the root of this ill-fated decision and action.

Though Echiebuka eventually succeeded in his career in spite of the mountains of challenges he encountered, it would have done him a whole world of good if his father had supported him in his chosen career instead of opposing and fighting him.

Recommendations

From the findings above, it can be seen that the effects of parental influence on the child are both negative and positive. Since it is the aim of the parents to help their children make better choices and become successful in life, parental influence on the child should be such that it is exemplary, motivational, positive self-image building and self-belief. Parental efforts, behaviour and actions which unduly influences or exert pressure on the child to make certain career choice without taking into consideration the child's innate talents, personality and interests is counter-productive and should be discouraged. Parents should guard against shooting down ideas their children may have about their future careers. If they react negatively, it may shut down the whole exploration process. Parents need to keep the lines of communication open, and encourage their child to gather as much information as possible on their career interest areas. A parent must recognize that their role is simply to act as a facilitator in their child's career journey and allowing independent career choices marks a young person's first real step into adulthood. In order to help their children reach their full potentials especially at the formative stage in life, it is recommended that parents should:

- Encourage and support their children to get as much education as possible.
- Help them to discover their innate talents and skills.
- Develop their knowledge of the world of work.
- Teach them decision-making skills.
- Teach them to value gender equity and cultural diversity.
- Help expose them to career resources/q education and training opportunities.

References

- Allport, Gordon W. (1927). *Concepts of Trait Personality*. Psychological Bulletin. 24 (5) : 284 – 293. doi:10.1037/h0073629
- Allport, Gordon W. (1937). *Personality: A Psychological Interpretation*. The American Journal of Psychology, 50, pp. 141 – 156.
- Bian, L., Leslie, S. J. & Cimpian, A. (2017). *Gender Stereotypes About Intellectual Ability Emerge Early and Influence Children's Interests*. Science. 2017 Jan 27; 355 (6323):389-91.
- Bregman, G. & Killen, M. (1999). Adolescents' and Young Adults Reasoning about Career Choice and he Role of Parental Infuence. *Journal of Research on Adolescents*, 9(3), 253 – 275. https://doi.org/101207/s15327795jra0903_2

- Craig, C., Verma, R., Stokes, D., Evans, P. & Abrol, B. (2028). *The Influence of Parents on Undergraduate and Graduate Students' Entering the STEM Disciplines and STEM Careers*. International Journal of Science Education. 2018 Apr 13;40(6):621-43.
- DeRidder L. (1990). The Impact of Parents and Parenting on Career Development.
- Edwed, R. A. (2005). *Essentials of Counseling*. Benin City: Ambik Press Ltd.
- Frome, P. M. & Eccles, J. S. (1998). Parents' Influence on Children's Achievement-related Perceptions. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology. 1998 Feb; 74(2):435.
- Herbert, D. (2005). *Heredity and Environment in Human Development*. Journal of Educational Psychology, pp 20.
- Middleton, E. B., & Loughhead, T. A. (1993). *Parental Influence on Career Development: An Integrative Framework for Adolescent Career Counseling*. Journal of Career Development, 19(3), 161 – 173.
- <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF01353275>
- Miller, J. et al (2010). Parents Still Major Influence on Child's Decision to Pursue Science Careers. Science Daily, Michigan State University. 21 February 2010. www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/02/100220204814.htm.
- Nucci, L. P. (1996). *Morality and Personal Freedom*. In E. S. Reed, E. Turiel and T. Brown (eds.), Values and Knowledge. Mahwah, N. J. : Erlbaum.
- Olaosebikan, O. I. & Olusakin A. (2014). *Effects of Parental Influence on Adolescents' Career Choice in Badagry Local Government Area of Lagos State, Nigeria*. Journal of Research & Method in Education.2014; 4(4):44-57
- Olayinka, R. O. (2005). *The Influence of Family Background on Students' Introductory Technology Achievement of Junior Secondary Schools in Abeokuta South LGA Ogun State*. An unpublished M. Ed. Thesis of University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
- Olusegun, (2020). *Me And My Future Career*. Retrieved from <https://olusegunakinade.com/shop>
- Taylor, J., Harris, M. B., & Taylor, S. (2004). Parents have their Say... About their College-age Children's Career Decisions. NACE JOURNAL. 2004 Nov; 64(2):15-21.
- Whiston, S. C., & Keller, B. K. (2004). *The Influence of Family of Origin on Career Development: A Review and Analysis*. The Counselling Psychologist, 32(4), 493 – 568. <https://doi.org/10.1177/001100000426560>