



Examining the effective factors in encouraging high school students of Ahar City to study non-educational books from the view points of students during 2013-2014 educational year

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ABSTRACT

The present study was done with the purpose of examining the effective factors in encouraging high school students of Ahar City to study non-educational books from the view points of students during 92-93 educational year. The specific purposes: 1) Determining the role of economic facilities of the family in encouraging high school students to study non – educational books. 2) Determining the role of cultural activities of the family in encouraging high school students to study non – educational books. 3) Determining the role of cultural activities of the school in encouraging high school students to study non – educational books. Research Hypotheses: 1) The economical facilities of the family have an effect in encouraging high school students of Ahar City to study non educational books. 2) The cultural activities of the family have an effect in encouraging high school students of Ahar City to study non educational books. 3) The cultural activities of school have an effect in encouraging high school students of Ahar City to study non educational books. This is a descriptive survey research. Its statistical population includes all high school students of Ahar City during 92-93 educational year and through multi stages clustering sampling the total sample volume of 360 ones was determined. All statistical operations were analyzed and interpreted through the use of Spss software. According to the implemented independent t-test and based on the achieved data it's observed that the total mean of the calculated index to examine the role of the following factors such as economical facilities of the family, cultural activities of the family and cultural activities of school in encouraging students to study non educational books equals 3.80 at $\alpha = .05$ level and $t = 30/45$ with freedom degree of 292 and 95 % certainty is larger than the mean of the population (3) and the amount of t is acute. Therefore, it's observed that these 3 factors have a vital effect in encouraging students to study non educational books. So the null hypothesis (H_0) is rejected and the main hypothesis is proved.

Key words: Study of non educational books, Non educational sources, High school students, The effective factors in encouraging

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays reading a book as an important source of achieving information is not just a personal operation which can continue as a result of interest and personal or people's taste, but social necessities, cultural and historical situation of a society, the needs of social system, personal interests and motivations, the facilities and capabilities of the system and availability of the books are considered as the decisive factors in reading a book. Foster the study culture is not a way just to fulfill the spare time and one should not regard such an important subject under the category of "recreation", but it should be considered as the basis and solid foundation of any social and principal planning and national development. Ministry of education as one of the most important social organs in human life has shouldered the important functions of enabling the human being to adapt himself with the surrounding environment. Learning interest has a precedent as long as the age of the societies. The societies have replied this need into 2 ways: Traditional teaching or informal by the family, adults, patriarch, etc and the other way is through formal education. The society has ventured to socialize its people through these ways to keep its existence by exploiting the educational books in concentrated and non concentrated ways in different countries of the world. In Iran, the use of educational books is concentrated: that is, the same educational passage is taught throughout the country, but in countries such as England, Australia, New Zealand and Sweden the production of educational books is non concentrated. In this way, the national educational program is declared the aims of which are clear and schools try to approach those national program. But concentrated educational study is mostly obligatory and the students study with no personal interest or motivation. Therefore, it has a little role in spiritual and thinking growth and progress of people. It's not necessary to get use of one simple book to

arrive at these objectives, but the teachers should choose from among the existing sources the ones they want to teach and make them available for students. In other words, the teacher has the right to choose the passage he wants to teach [1]. The use of one educational book is of the characteristics of a program-based educational system. In this system because of solid dependence of students and teachers to educational books, the range of their knowledge and qualifications is limited and therefore the study of no educational books can stabilize and deepen the learned materials in the classroom. Non educational book makes the students act and research more and gives much more scientific materials than the educational book to students. It also reinforces their thinking, reasoning, comprehensiveness and prevents them from solving the problems of the books and presents different solutions.

Non educational books can be considered as the facilities of teaching and learning. The role of non educational books related to educational books is the transfer of knowledge, stabilizing the learned materials and establishing scientific motivation [2]. In other words, nowadays, no educational program is completed unless there is a suitable planning for the students' use of non educational books so that the students can have an active and dynamic role in learning with the help of their teachers, and through the use of a set of library source [3]. Accordingly, the more the amount of the students' study, especially the study of non educational books, the more the amount of their awareness and development, and as a result it will result in progress and development of the society.

In comparison with the developed and even the other third world countries, our country has the lowest per capita from the view point of studying and reading books. The number of newspapers published in more multi thousand numbers in proportion to the literate people of about fifty million is very low and it should be concerned more.

The children are not born with an innate habit of study. They should learn it. At first they enter the school without the necessary study habit for success. The ways of making them interested in studying books and establishing study habit is one of the important bases of education in today's society. The experience has shown that those who get used to studying from childhood not only get use of their spare time properly but also because of arriving at more and deeper understanding they identify the direction of their way well [5]. So it's deserving to try to establish this habit in human being from the childhood.

To raise study habits in children, the house is the best place and the parents are the best teachers. In addition to proper social environment, suitable facilities at home and general facilities should be provided by families and governments respectively to enhance the level of study habit. The parents should try to form a library at home. The presence of the books which include class or easy and simple materials can be a motivation for study of children from the early childhood. Not only they should read story books for children, but also they should make them read aloud some stories. Doing so, one can a bilateral action between children and adults which can result in promotion of study habit and reading [6].

Unfortunately, the students of our schools have not interest in studying non educational books. It seems that this incorrect habit has formed since the past to these days in our schools based on which our students are forced just to read/study their educational books, then take an exam and the result of their endeavor is a grade which is registered in a paper called reportcard. Unlike the presence of the most number of maternal sources and exploiting the richest human resources the ministry of education has not been able to change the necessity and importance of the study of non educational books into an intrinsic value. For this, even the students of high school just study educational books [7].

There must be a movement so as to produce interest and motivation to study in students and it should be done both at home and at school environments. Parents are the first ones who can reinforce students' study habit and by reading books, telling stories, reading poems and things like them they can encourage them to study. School and social environments should also encourage the students to study; that is, the student should feel that the society pays attention to studying and reading books. Unfortunately, nowadays most of parents prevent the students from studying non educational books and in schools the study of non educational books has no effect on their success or progress and pass. So we should make the students and their parents aware in order to have a positive viewpoint towards the study of non educational books. We should tell them that studying non educational books does not mean studying any book [8]. The study of non educational book which originally is a complementary study along with the study of educational books which enlarges the range of learning and makes the mind the stalk station of the students more dynamic and more active to have a better understanding.

Since high school time is one of sensitive and effective periods in social, economical development of countries, paying attention to the problems of this time especially the amount of studying, and the factors influencing it to pave towards development and progress seems necessary. Getting used to useful, constant and continuous study is a basis requirement for students in education of a country and it's required that the parents, teachers and all those involved in education process update their information and knowledge and get familiar with the researches of researchers and experts to act in this important issue.

An important problem which has attracted the attention of the scientists of human sciences especially education office is that how can we encourage the students to study ?

In our country especially in the last years of high school the tendency of our students to study educational books is enhanced and the tendency to study non educational or study of other books is decreased. Perhaps it's because the students spend their free time answering multiple choice questions, in other words, they prepare themselves for the entrance exam of universities, and they consider studying non educational and other books a hinder against their success in the entrance or exam of universities. There are some students who study non educational books because they had study habit from their childhood.

In a clear way it should be mentioned that in our schools the study and reading of educational books or achieving suitable rank in entrance exam of universities is emphasized, and no motivation is given to study related and useful non educational books. But they are unaware that the study of non educational books not only can help in cultural and mental growth of a person, but also it makes him familiar with his different fields of interest and makes his talents be discovered.

Regarding these problems, the necessity of this kind of study is emerged for this reason that the more the amount of study, especially the study of non educational books by students, the more the amount of their development and awareness and as a result it would result in progress and development of the society [9].

Examining the previous findings

Osareh and Golchoobi (2006) in a research named "examining the conditions of free study of high school students of Mazandaran Province and identifying the preventative and encouraging factors" found out that the average of free study of students is 48/49 minutes per day. There is a meaningful difference between the average of female and male students. More than 85% of students used to study other books. One of its findings is that there is a positive relationship between the amount of free study of parents and children and also between parents' level of education and the amount of free study of children [10].

Aftabi Arani and Batooli (2007) examined the amount of study of non educational books of high school students and determined the effective factors on it in Aran and Bidgol cities. Their findings showed that male students had meaningfully less non educational study than female ones. From the view point of the subject of study the girls had more tendency to literal subjects. They did not notice any meaningful relationship between parents' and teachers' attentive behavior towards free study and the amount of this kind of study. The improper environment and physical conditions of libraries were introduced as preventative factors [11].

Yusefi (1999) did a research named "The examination of the conditions of non educational study of high school students of Qom Province" to present a view of the conditions and the amount of non educational books study of high school students of the above mentioned province. Research findings showed that the amount of study of students in proportion to their other activities is very low in a way that the amount of their daily study per capita was 12/12 minutes.

Testing the Hypotheses

The main hypothesis of the research:

The factors such as the economic facilities of the family, the cultural activities of the family and cultural facilities of school have an effect in encouraging high school students of Ahar city to study non educational books during 92-93 educational year.

According to Table 1-3 it's observed that the total average of calculated index to examine the role of economic facilities of family, cultural activities of the family, cultural facilities of school in encouraging students to study non educational books equals 3/8 at $\alpha = .05$ level and $t = 30/45$ with freedom degree of 299 and certainty of 95% is bigger than the average of the population (sample) [3] and the amount of (t) is acute. Therefore, it's observed that these 3 factors have a vital role in encouraging students to study non educational books.

Table 1: The results of the test for the role of the effective factors (economic facilities of family, cultural activities of the family, and cultural activities of school) in encouraging high school students of Ahar city to study non educational books during 92-93 educational year.

Variants	No	Average	Standard Deviation	Freedom Degree	P	The amount of t
The role of economic facilities of the family in encouraging students to study non educational books	360	3/91	.64	359	./...	25/82
The role of cultural activities of the family in encouraging students to study non educational books	360	3/74	.65	359	./..	21/68
The role of cultural activities of school in encouraging students to study non educational books	360	3/76	.61	359	./..	23/57
The role of the set of factors in encouraging students to study non educational books	360	3/8	.75	359	./..	30/45

Hypothesis One: Economic facilities of the family have an effect on encouraging high school students of Ahar city to study non educational books during 92-93 educational year. The findings of the research show that the total average of calculated index to examine the role of economical facilities of the family n encouraging students to study non educational books equals 3/91 at $\alpha = .05$ level, $t = 26/82$ with freedom degree of 359 and certainty of 95% is bigger than the average of the sample [3] and the amount of t is acute. Therefore, the calculated amount of t shows that economical facilities of the family have an effect in encouraging students to study non educational books. So the null hypothesis (H0) is rejected and the main hypothesis (H1) is proved.

Hypothesis Two: Cultural activities of the family have an effect in encouraging high school students of Ahar city to study non educational books during 92-93 educational year.

Research findings show that the total average of calculated index to examine the role of cultural activities of the family in encouraging students to study non educational books equals 3/74 at $\alpha = .05$ level and $t = 21/68$ with freedom degree of 359, and certainty of 95% is bigger than the average of the sample [3] and the amount of t is acute. Therefore, the calculated amount shows that cultural activities of the family have an effect in encouraging students to study non educational books. So the null hypothesis (H0) is rejected and the main hypothesis (H1) is proved.

Hypothesis Three:

Cultural activities of school have an effect in encouraging high school students of Ahar city to study non educational books during 92-93 educational year.

Research findings show that the total average of calculated index to examine the role of cultural activities of school in encouraging students to study non educational books equals 3/76 at $\alpha = .05$ level and $t = 23/57$ with freedom degree of 359, and certainty of 95% is bigger than the average of the sample [3] and the amount of t is acute. Therefore, the calculated amount shows that cultural activities of school have an effect in encouraging students to study non educational books. So the null hypothesis (H0) is rejected and the main hypothesis (H1) is proved.

4. Research Suggestions

A: Practical suggestions:

1. Making the families aware of the importance of study of non educational books and effective factors in producing motivation in it in high school students of Ahar city by the authorities and those involved in education of students.
2. Equipping and completing general and school libraries of Ahar.
3. Establishing and holding classes and educational workshops on familiarity with libraries through out the city and at schools.
4. Updating the resources of school libraries through providing new books and journals.
5. Providing students with discount cards to buy books.
6. Through developing the centers of book study and providing interesting and attractive books for all classes of students the authorities can encourage them to study.
7. Establishing a library in each class with the help of school authorities and teachers.
8. Doing this research in other regions of the province and through out the country.
9. Increasing the number of general libraries.
10. Employing expert book keepers at schools.
11. Holding book and book study competitions at school.

B: Suggestions for Research

The researchers interested in this field are suggested to do related researches on this field like the followings:

1. It's suggested to do such a research in other educational levels.
2. It's suggested to do such a research throughout the province and the country.
3. It's suggested to do such a research in other cities and then compare their results and findings.

CONCLUSION

The achieved results of the present study show that :

1. Economical facilities of the family have an effect in encouraging high school students of Ahar to study non educational books.
2. Cultural activities of the family have an effect in encouraging high school students of Ahar to study non educational books.
3. Cultural activities of school have an effect in encouraging high school students of Ahar to study non educational books.

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