

## Analysis of Factors Influencing Students Choosing SMK in Solok Selatan

Netra Surianto<sup>1</sup>, Bustari Muchtar<sup>2</sup>, Marwan<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup> Universitas Negeri Padang, Indonesia 123

\*(e-mail) [suriantonetra@yahoo.co.id](mailto:suriantonetra@yahoo.co.id)

**Abstract:** This study aims to determine the factors that affect students choose smk country in the district south solok. The type of research is explorative research. The sampling technique in this study is with proportional random sampling, with a sample of 325 people who are distributed in 5 SMK Negeri Solok Selatan. Data collection was done through interviews, questionnaires, and documentation as a reference in this study. The analytical method used is factor analysis. Research is classified into quantitative research using survey method. To test the hypothesis by using t test. The results showed that: 1). Social Economy factors become factors that are considered by students to decide decisions in choosing a school. 2) cost of education and support factor becomes the factor considered by the students to determine the decision in choosing the school.

**Keywords:** Social economy, Cost of education and Supporting.

Received January 02, 2019;

Revised January 09, 2019;

Accepted January 12, 2019;

Published Online February 09, 2019

**Conflict of Interest Disclosures:**

The authors declare that they have no significant competing financial, professional or personal interests that might have influenced the performance or presentation of the work described in this manuscript.



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## Introduction

According to UU 2003 number 20 about the National Education System, the national education functions to develop the ability and to shape the character and the civilization of the nation to be dignified to enrich the life of a nation. The purpose of national education is to develop the potential of the students to become a man with faith and be cautious to the One Supreme God, be noble, healthy, knowledgeable, competent, creative, independent and becoming a citizen which is democratic and responsible.

Education as a very important role towards the progress of a nation. Thus, education has to be improved constantly be it from the quality and also from the quantity side. With the 9 year basic education it shows that the government is trying to improve the quality of education. The purpose of basic education is to give basic ability towards the students to improve their lives as a individual, community member, citizen, and a part of mankind, and also prepares the students to continue to secondary school/vocational school.

Education is not sufficient to reach only the basic level but there are still many education levels above it which are the secondary school or vocational that has to be taken by the student, where with the acceleration of Knowledge and Technology Development (IPTEK) changes occur in many aspects of life, one of them being the changing in the working world.

The working world needs a good quality human resource, be it from the intellectual side, moral or attitude, and skill. Thus, the high education level only could not ensure them to be accepted in the working world, but they are also required to have good moral, creativity, and also a high skill in their field. Those are a few requirements needed to be accepted in the working world, besides the other special requirement that is adjusted according to the job offered.

The requirements of the working world that is getting harder, added by a huge amount of people seeking work that is not proportional with the working field available causes competition in looking for jobs tougher. In this case studying hard and having a high working ethic is the main capital that has to be owned by one to win the competition in the working world. Thus, a studying system and education referring towards the shaping of a smart, creative, and good moral human becomes an urgent need.

Reflecting from this phenomenon, the educational institutions especially the Vocational High School needs to make changes to adjust itself with the evolution of IPTEK and the need of the working world. Peter M. Blau in Sukardi (1997:86) stated that the way of choice of one is a process that takes a long time and is influenced by various factors, be it the supporting factor and also the obstacles for one in making decisions. Factors that influence an individual in decision making are thus as follows: social experience, interaction with other people, the potential they have, parent aspiration, knowledge about the working world, passion, consideration towards career choices and skill in decision making.

Vocational High School (SMK) is a vocational secondary education level in the formal education in Indonesia after graduating from Junior High School (or of the same level). SMK is normally taken within 3 years. SMK is a formal educational institution that prepares its students to be a middle-level workforce that has knowledge, skill and attitude as a technician. That is seen from the purpose of Vocational High School according to the Director General of PSMK in the [www.ditpsdmk.net](http://www.ditpsdmk.net) web, which is to (1) actualize an accountable Vocational Education Institute as a Center of Competence-Based with National Standard, (2) Educate Human Resources that has an International standard work ethic and competence, (3) Give various Vocational Education services that is permiable and flexible and integrated between the way and levels of education, (4) Widen the vocational education service and quality equalization, and (5) Lift the local advantages as the capital competitiveness of the nation.

Based on the facts above, it is very important for SMK students to choose the skills needed so they could be marketed in employment. According to the Decision of the Management General Director of Basic and Secondary Education of the National Education Department Numer 251/C/KEP/MN/2008 about the Skill Spectrum of Vocational Secondary Education, assigned the skill spectrums of the vocational secondary education being the field of expertise study, skill study program, competency skills, and a description of every competency skills.

In the spectrum there are six fields of expertise studies as follows: 1) technology and engineering, 2) informational and communicational technology, 3) health, 4) art of craft and tourism, 5) agribusiness and agrotechnology, and 6) business and management. South Solok Province has five State SMKs, wich are SMKN 1 Solok Selatan, SMKN 2 Solok Selatan, SMKN 3 Solok Selatan, SMKN 4 Solok Selatan, and SMKN 5 Solok Selatan. Each SMK has different study programs.

This is the data of the amount of students in the state SMK of South Solok

School Name	Enthusiasts			Escalation (%)		Capacity			Escalation (%)	
	2014	2015	2016	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2015	2016
<b>SMKN 1 Solok Selatan</b>	950	1.025	1.132	8	10	82	89	93	8	5
<b>SMKN 2 Solok Selatan</b>	102	120	125	18	4	10	12	12	18	4
<b>SMKN 3 Solok Selatan</b>	175	170	160	-3	-6	17	17	16	-3	-6
<b>SMKN 4 Solok Selatan</b>	160	134	148	-16	10	16	13	14	-	10
<b>SMKN 5 Solok Selatan</b>	320	385	416	20	8	29	31	36	8	16
<b>Total</b>	1.707	1.834	1.981	27	27	1.556	1.630	1.734	14	29

From the table above it could be seen that generally the enthusiasts and capacity of state SMK in South Solok is improving every year. But there is also schools that has a decline in the enthusiasts and capacity which are SMK Negeri 3 Solok Selatan and SMK Negeri 4 Solok Selatan. This might be because of several factors, but it also could be seen from the Study Program offered, from SMK Negeri 3 Solok Selatan, the Study Program is the Machine Engineering Program, Motorcycle Engineering Program, and Audio-Video, whereas in SMK Negeri 4 Solok Selatan the programs offered were Ligh Vehicle Engineering, Timber, and Building Drawing. Each of the study program in the SMK offers various knowledges and skills that connects with the working and industrial world because these students will dive into the working world as a middle-level experts that are professional and skillfull.

To fulfill what has been mentioned above the school always gives the best for its students, so that the students could learn what they have to know and apply in the working world in the future, from their character, skills and working environment. This is what is considered of every student, because they have different gifts, interests, ambitions and perceptions or views in viewing a study program.

The consideration of every student to continue school differs from one another. This is because they have different gifts, interests, ambitions and perceptions or views in viewing a study program, emerging from the student's internal factors and also the external factors. This case has been studied by Juli, Kirya and Suwendra (2014:1) that succeeded to prove that there are two dominant factors that influences a student's interest in choosing majors in the Economy and Business Faculty (FEB) of Ganesha Education University (Undiksha) As Their Choice of College, which are (1) internal environmental factors that includes the products, prices, promotions, people and processes, (2) external environmental factors which includes reference groups, self will, and families.

Another study has also been conducted by Yazid (2014:293) about students' interests in choosing a place (study program/major/university/school) successfully found that Ballett's test reached 1106.089 in Kaiser Mayer Olkin (KMO) being 0,658 indicating that all factors tested were significant is the factors of students' interests because the KMO score > 0.50. Then after doing the Eigen-Value test, it was found that the dominant factors that influences the students' interest in choosing to go to Diploma III STIESIA-Surabaya are (1) Facilities, (2) Service, (3) Situation, (4) Condition, (5) Process, (6) Physic and Funding, (7) Promotion and (8) Communication and Information.

From several studies and considerations of the students in choosing a school or study program, the author is interested to study the factors that influence the students' interest in choosing an SMK by taking

the title: “Analysis of the Factors Influencing a Student in Choosing a State SMK in Southern Solok Province”.

## Method

This study is a survey study to give explanation or termed as exploratory research. A survey study is a study that takes samples and populations using questionnaire as a data collector instrument, thus the study the author is conducting is included in the exploratory research. According to Supranto (1997:41), explorative research is a method that has the purpose to seek new ideas or connections contained in a wide and complex problem. Besides that this study has a purpose to look for as much datas that could become a hypothesis for the next studies after analysis.

## Results and Discussion

Based on the early observation result of the author about the factors that has been considered by students to make a decision in choosng a school consists of three factors which are:

(a) Cultural factor

This factor consists of social background and school image. The social background consists of (1) parent education, (2) parent occupation and (3) economical status.

Based on the achievement level of the respondent towards the variable of social background, it is seen that the occupation of their parents has the highest achievement level which is 58,34% which falls to the moderate category, whereas the economical status has the lowest achievement level which is 20,00% being in the bad category. Whereas the mean of the respondent achievement level for the social background variable is 2.25 with 45.09% TCR. This shows that the social background determines in the decision of the students in choosing their school.

The image of the school is shaped by these factors (1) accreditation status, (2) extracullicular activities and (3) available study program choices. Based on the respondent achievement level for school image variable, it is seen that the study program choice has the highest respondent achievement level being 82.52% being in the very good category, whereas the extracullicular activity is 75,06% which falls to the good category. Whereas the mean of the respondent achievement level for supporting supplements variable is 3.99 with 79.82% TCR in the good category. This shows that almost all school image factors determines in the students decision of choosing their school.

In accordance with the study conducted by I Dewa Agung Juli Artini, I Ketut Kirya, I Wayan Suwendra (2014) publicized by e-journal Bisma Universitas Pendidikan Ganesha Volume 2 of 2014, this study succesfully proved the dominant factors that influence the students’ decision in choosing a major in the Economic and Business Faculty of Ganesha Education University including the people (HR), price, process, product, promotion as internal factors and family, reference group and self will as external environmental factors.

(b) Financial Factor

This factor consists of Funding and promotion. Funding consists of these factors (1) school fund, (2) deductible education fees, and (3) scholarship availabilities. Based on the respondent

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achievement level for the funding variable, it is seen that the price of school fee has the highest respondent achievement level at 82.46% that falls into the very good category, whereas scholarship availabilities is in the lowest respondent achievement level at 71.84% which falls into the good category. Whereas the mean of respondent achievement level for the funding variable is 3.79 with 75.84% TCR in the good category. This shows that almost all school funding factors determines in the students' decision in choosing a school.

Promotion is built by these factors: (1) offline publication, (2) online publication, and (3) direct publication. Based on the respondent achievement level for the promotion variable, it is seen that offline publication has the highest respondent achievement level being 84.10%, that falls in the very good category, whereas online publication has the lowest respondent achievement level being 71.60% that falls into the good category. Whereas the mean of the respondent achievement level for the promotion variable is 3.84 with 76.84% TCR being in the good category. This shows that almost all school promotion factors determines in the student choice of school.

In accordance with the study conducted by Yazid Yūd Padmono (2011) that was published by Accounting Journal, Business Management and Public Sector (JAMBSP) Volume 7 No.3 – June 2011. Yazad could prove that (1) facility factor, (2) service factor, (3) situation factor, (4) condition factor, (5) process factor, (6) physic and funding factors, (7) promotion factor and (8) communication and information factors influences the student decision in choosing to take third diploma in Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Ekonomi Indonesia (STIESIA) Surabaya.

(c) Supporting factors

This factor consists of the school location, HR and school facility. Location is formed by these factors (1) the distance of home to school, (2) the location of the school. Based on the respondent achievement level for the location variable, it is seen that the location of the school has the highest respondent achievement level being 78.28% that falls in the good category, whereas the distance from home to school has the lowest respondent achievement level being 77.17% that falls into the good category. The mean of respondent achievement level for the location variable is 3.89 with 77.72% TCR that falls into the good category. This shows that almost all location factors determines in the students decision in choosing school.

HR consists of these factors (1) the principal, (2) teacher, and (3) educational staffs. Based on the respondent achievement level for the HR variable, it is seen that the teacher has the highest respondent achievement level being 72.98% that falls into the good category, whereas the educational staffs has the lowest respondent achievement level being 66.83% which falls into the good category. The mean value of the respondent achievement level for this variable is 3.51 with 70.22% TCR in the good category. This shows that almost all school HR Factors determines in the students choice of school.

Facility is determined by these factors (1) musholla distance, (2) study room, (3) laboratorium, (4) library, (5) exercise facilities and (6) parking and gardens. Based on the respondent achievement level for this variable, it is seen that the musholla achieved the highest

respondent achievement level which is 81.54% that falls into the very good category, whereas the library has the lowest respondent achievement level being 74.68% which falls into the good category. The mean of respondent achievement level in the facility variable is 3.90 with 77.99% TCR which falls into the good category. This shows that almost all school facility factors determines in the students choice of school.

In accordance to the study conducted by Yazid Yud Padmono (2011) publicized by Accounting Journal, Business Management and Public Sector (JAMBSP) Volume 7 No 3 – June 2011. Yazid could prove that (1) facility factor, (2) service factor, (3) situation factor, (4) condition factor, (5) process factor, (6) physical and funding factor, (7) promotion factor, and (8) communication and information factors influences in the students choice of choosing the third diploma in Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Ekonomi Indonesia (STIESIA) Surabaya.

## Conclusion

Based on the analysis result and discussion, three conclusions could be made:

1. The end result of Kaiser Meyer Olkin (KMO) shows 0.530 which falls in the very good category. This means that the Kaiser Meyer Olkin (KMO) score could explain that factors that determine the students to choose the state SMK in Southern Solok Province is good and enough to be analyzed more thoroughly.
2. There are three factors determining the student in choosing the state SMK in Southern Solok Province.
3. The first factor which is culture consists of social background and school image, the second factor which is funding consists of funding and promotion and the third factor is the supporting factor that consists of location, HR and facility.

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