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About Presenters:

Ms. Rhonda Divecha is an Assistant Professor at the Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science, Mumbai, India where she teaches in the Senior College and guides Post- Graduate Students' Research Dissertations. She specializes in the fields of Psychology and Human Development. The subjects she has been teaching include among others, Social Psychology; Development in Adulthood; Issues in Early Childhood, School and Special Education; Psychological Assessment: Theory and Practicals; Practicals in Counselling (where career guidance and career counseling feature in the latter two), for which she constantly develops innovative teaching methodology using Learning Theories and Multiple Intelligences. Besides teaching, she conducts workshops/ seminars for Degree and Polytechnic students of several colleges, as well as for parents and other adult groups. Her research interest areas include Media Influence on Children, Learning Disabilities, Self-Perceptions and Innovations in Teaching Methodology, in which she has presented and published several papers.

Ms. Riddhi Mukesh Dedhia is currently doing a Master's course in Human Development from the College of Home Science Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai, India. Human Development basically means to look into the wholistic development of the human beings. In this course we cover all aspect of human life, all phases, stages of human life. As part of the course requirements the students had to do an internship at a centre of their choice, but related to the field of Human development. For this internship, she worked at Dhvani Deaf Help Centre, where she performed the role of assistant and observer to the Clinical psychologist and had also organised the free psychological testing camp with a positive response. Her area of interest for research is "Use of ICT for Teaching and Learning by third year college students and their Teachers in Mumbai".



Ms. Ankita Parekh is currently pursuing her Master's Degree in Human Development. She completed her graduation in Science (Home Science) (Human Development) from Sir Vithaldas Thackersey College of Home Science with her major subject being Early Childhood Care and Education. As a part of the Master's course, in the second year students have to conduct a research which is again one step towards being independent and confident. She has chosen her research topic in the area of Alternative Therapy, namely, "Understanding the Use of Colour Therapy among its Consumers".

Title of Paper:

Perception of Work among Adolescents

Abstract:

This paper overviews the perceptions that adolescents have towards work and career choice, both from the theoretical perspective as well as from available research. It clarifies the differences between early adolescents, where identity and self-perception play a major role; and late adolescents and young adults where remuneration plays a major role. The roles of parents and that of professional counsellors go hand in hand in the career development of young adolescents. Most school guidance programs have an underlying purpose to assist students in making informed education and career decisions and to provide the resources and materials to ensure that this process unfolds in a systematic and comprehensive manner. Sweeping economic and social changes during the past several decades have required increasingly higher levels of education for entry into the workforce. The need to compete in a global marketplace--combined with the rapid pace of technological advancement--has made postsecondary education almost a necessity for students entering today's job market. Like any complex field of study, career theories have developed from one another, merged, and branched off in other directions, thereby, weaving an intricate path with the goal of understanding the how's and why's of the career process. The core of most career theories, however, is the same: an effort to explain the "evolving sequence of a person's work experiences over time". The paper goes on to draw attention to how theories like those of Donald Super, John Holland, Ann Roe, Ginzberg, etc., explain career development in the life of today's youth. Towards the end, the paper asserts that in order to participate in a more intentional and self-directed way in their own career development process, young adolescents need both the support of their parents and involvement in a comprehensive school-based guidance program that develops confidence around such career-related competencies as career planning and occupational exploration. It stresses the need for the combined effects of career self-efficacy, career planning/exploration efficacy and perceptions of parent support on the career interests of adolescents.