

The Effects of Career Confidence on Life Satisfaction: Mediating Effects of Parent-Child Relationship

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to investigate the mediating effect of parent-child relationship in the between career confidence and life satisfaction of youths. 759 middle and high school students in Icheon were surveyed and IBM SPSS Statistics 20.0 was used for data processing. The results of the study showed that the parent-child relationship had a positive partial mediating effect on the relationship between career confidence and life satisfaction of youths.

Key Words : *youth, career confidence, parent-child relationship, life satisfaction, career education*

1. Introduction

The satisfaction level of youth life in Republic of Korea was the lowest among OECD member countries in 2018[1]. According to the results of the 2019 KOSTAT Statistics Plus Youth Quality Index, one out of three youths said they wanted to die, and academic problems accounted for the largest portion of the main causes[2]. This phenomenon is due to the low satisfaction and quality of life of youths.

In order to improve the life satisfaction of low-income youths, it is necessary to solve academic problems. In this regard, positive influence on youth life satisfaction is confidence to determine career, youths' academic career is linked to career, and youth career development is influenced by parent relationship[3,4]. However, there are few studies that have systematically and causally revealed the relationship between career, parent-child relationship, and life satisfaction of youths.

Therefore, the purpose of this study is to provide basic data for finding ways to improve the satisfaction of youth life by setting up the research model as the influence of youth's career confidence on the satisfaction of life through parent-child relationship.

The research questions are as follows.

- A. What is the correlation among career confidence, parent-child relationship, and life satisfaction of youth?
- B. What is the mediating effect of parent-child relationship in the relationship between career confidence and life satisfaction of youths?

2. Theoretical background

2.1 Career Confidence and Parent-Child Relationship

The study on the relationship between career confidence and parent-child relationship is insufficient, but the study on the relationship between variables related to career confidence and parent-child relationship is active. Through this, the relationship between career confidence and parent-child relationship is inferred. In the study of Kim & Jung (2012), there was a positive correlation between parental care, career preparation behavior, and career decision-making self-efficacy among the sub-factors of the relationship between parent-child relationship, career preparation behavior, and career decision-making self-efficacy. On the other hand, parental overprotection had negative correlation with career decision-making self-efficacy[5]. This suggests that adolescents who receive emotional care and support for their career from their parents improve their confidence to choose their own career goals, and that autonomous career decision making and career preparation behavior are promoted based on this[5].

The variables similar to career confidence are career decision-making self-efficacy. According to Hong(2017) research report, career decision-making self-efficacy reported to have an effect on communication, attitude, and relationship, which are related factors with parents[6].

Therefore, it is predicted that there is a correlation between career confidence and parent-child relationship of adolescents.

2.2 Career confidence and life satisfaction

The study on the relationship between career confidence and life satisfaction is insufficient. However, similar studies on variables and satisfaction related to career confidence showed a positive correlation between career calling and major satisfaction in the study of Shin(2016), and a positive correlation between career decision level and major satisfaction[3]. These results showed that career choice with confidence had a positive effect on major satisfaction[3].

Therefore, the relationship between career confidence and life satisfaction of adolescents is expected to have a positive relationship.

2.3 Parent-Child Relationship and Life Satisfaction

In the study of Suk & Ku(2015), parents-child communication and parent support among family factors had a positive effect on the life satisfaction of adolescents[7]. In the Han(2015) study, parents' rearing attitude regarding parent-child relationship had a significant effect on their life satisfaction, and positive rearing attitude, rational explanation, affectionate rearing attitude and supervisory rearing attitude among the sub-areas had a significant effect on their life satisfaction, and neglect showing negative rearing attitude had a significant effect[8].

Therefore, it is predicted that there is a significant relationship between parent-child relationship and life satisfaction.

3. Research method

3.1 Research object

The subjects of this study were middle and high school students in Icheon city. The survey period was from November 2, 2020 to November 9, 2020. 759 of the 788 respondents were used for analysis, excluding 29 who were miswritten. The sampling method was a non-probability sampling method, convenience sampling method.

3.2 Research model

This study aims to investigate the relationship between career confidence and life satisfaction of adolescents in Icheon city and to investigate the effects of parent-child relationship on these relationships. [Figure 1] set career confidence as independent variable, parent-child relationship as mediator variable, life satisfaction as dependent variable, and set up research model to confirm the effect of career confidence on life satisfaction by mediating parent-child relationship.

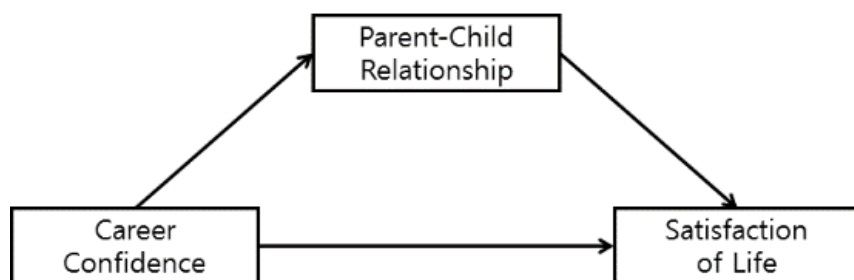


Figure 1. Model of career confidence, parent-child relationship and life satisfaction

3.3 Measurement tool

The research scale was used as an independent variable by extracting the career confidence scale among the youth self-practice award-winning activity scale developed by the Korea Youth Activity Agency in 2016[9]. The Cronhach's confidence coefficient of this scale was .847. The dependent variable was the life satisfaction scale used in the KCYPS of the Korea Youth Policy Institute[10], and the Cronhach's confidence coefficient was .866. And the parent-child relationship scale revised by Kim(2011), was used[11]. Parent-child relationship was composed of three sub-factors: intimacy reliability .928, respect reliability .911, and conflict reliability .827. The existing 5-point Likert scale was converted into 4-point Likert scale to form the questions, which were composed of 4-point Likert scale (one point: no, two point: no, three point: yes, four point: very yes) except for the 3-point Likert scale, which was raised in the study of Jang & Cho[12].

3.4 Research procedure

The procedure of this study was analyzed using IBM SPSS Statistics 20.0. In order to examine the internal consistency of the items used in the analysis, Cronbach's α value was calculated and frequency analysis was conducted to investigate the characteristics of the main variables. Pearson correlation analysis was conducted to examine the correlation between each variable, and mediating regression analysis was conducted to examine the influence of career confidence on life satisfaction of youths. Finally, to examine the mediating effect of parent-child relationship in the relationship between career confidence and life satisfaction of youths, the mediating effect procedure proposed by Baron & Kenny was used[13].

4. Experimental Results

4.1 Frequency analysis and Descriptive statistics

[Table 1] The gender of adolescents was 41.1% of male students and 58.9% of 447 female students. Classes were 198 students of first grade, 26.1% of second grade students of middle school, 15.8% of 120 students of second grade, 13.0% of 99 students of third grade, 18.7% of 142 students of first grade, 17.0% of 129 students of second grade students of high school, and 9.4% of 71 students of third grade students of high school.

Table 1: Frequency analysis

Classification		<i>Frequency (N)</i>	<i>Percent (%)</i>
Gender	Male students	312	41.1
	Female students	447	58.9

Class	Middle school first grade	198	26.1
	Middle school second grade	120	15.8
	Middle school third grade	99	13.0
	High school first grade	142	18.7
	High school second grade	129	17.0
	High school third grade	71	9.4
Total		759	100

[Table 2] The minimum, maximum, average, and standard deviation were examined through descriptive statistics values for major variables. The results of examining the skewness and kurtosis to confirm the normal distribution based on the descriptive statistics showed that all variables were less than 3.0, which is the absolute value of the skewness, and less than 10.0, which is the absolute value of the kurtosis, as presented in Table 2, and were satisfied with the normality assumption(Kline, 2010)[14].

Table 2: Descriptive statistics

Division	Min	Max	M	SD	Skewness	Kurtosis
Career confidence	1	4	2.82	.774	-.378	-.277
Parent-child relationship	1	4	3.01	.508	-.425	.277
Life Satisfaction	1	4	2.58	.694	.021	-.168

4.2 Correlation between variables

Pearson correlation analysis was conducted to verify the correlation between variables. As a result, life satisfaction, which is a dependent variable, was found to have statistically significant relationship between career confidence, an independent variable, and parent-child relationship (intimacy, respect, conflict), a mediating variable. Career confidence showed a positive correlation with life satisfaction ($r=.669$, $p<.001$). Parent-child relationship: intimacy showed a positive correlation with life satisfaction ($r=.526$, $p<.001$), parent-child relationship: respect showed a positive correlation with life

satisfaction ($r=.422, p<.001$). On the other hand, parent-child relationship: Conflict was found to have negative correlation with life satisfaction ($r=-.084, p<.05$).

Table 3: Correlation between variables

Division	Career confidence	Intimacy	Respect	Conflict	Life Satisfaction
Career confidence	1				
Intimacy	.438***	1			
Respect	.377***	.819***	1		
Conflict	-.096**	-.221***	-.186***	1	
Life Satisfaction	.669***	.526***	.422***	-.084*	1

* $p<.05$, ** $p<.01$, *** $p<.001$

4.3 Mediating effect

In order to examine the mediating effects of parent-child relationship in the relationship between career confidence and life satisfaction of adolescents, regression analysis was conducted according to the mediating effect verification procedure proposed by Baron & Kenny(1986) and Sobel-test was conducted to verify the statistical significance of the mediating effect[13].

4.3.1 Career confidence and life satisfaction: The mediating effect of intimacy

In the first stage of the mediating effect verification, the influence of career confidence on parent-child relationship: intimacy was statistically significant ($\beta=.438, p<.001$), and the influence of career confidence on life satisfaction was also significant in the second stage ($\beta=.669, p<.001$). In the last three stages, parent-child relationship: intimacy had a significant effect on life satisfaction ($\beta=.287, p<.001$) and had a indirect mediated effect. As a result of Sobel-test, parent-child relationship in the relationship between career confidence and life satisfaction: intimacy was verified as a indirect mediating variable ($Z=8.593, p<.001$).

Table 4: Career confidence and life satisfaction: The mediating effect of intimacy

Division	First-step	Two-step	Three-step	
Independent variable	Career confidence	Career confidence	Career confidence	Intimacy

Dependent variable	Intimacy	Life satisfaction	Life satisfaction	
standard error	.030	.024	.025	.031
β	.438	.669	.557	.262
t	13.421***	24.772***	19.614***	9.219***
adj R ²	.191	.447	.502	
F	180.116***	613.670***	364.682***	
mediated fulfillment	-	-	o	ob
Sobel test	Z=8.593***			

* $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$ b: indirect mediated effect

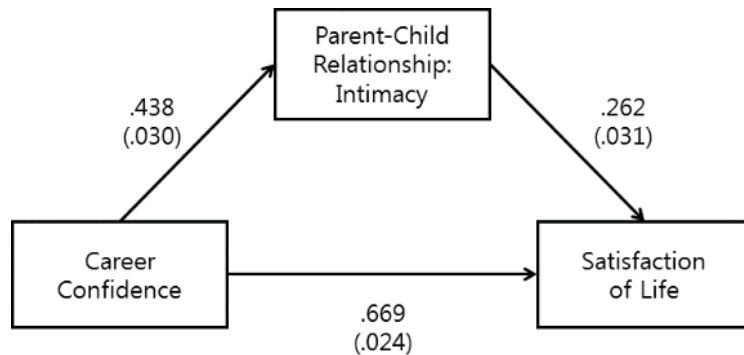


Figure 2. Indirect mediated effect: Intimacy

4.3.2 Career confidence and life satisfaction: The mediating effect of respect

In the first stage of the mediating effect verification, the influence of career confidence on parent-child relationship: respect was statistically significant ($\beta = .377, p < .001$), and the influence of career confidence on life satisfaction was also significant in the second stage ($\beta = .669, p < .001$). In the last three stages, parent-child relationship: respect had a significant effect on life satisfaction ($\beta = .198, p < .001$) and had an indirect mediated effect. As a result of Sobel-test, parent-child relationship in the relationship between career confidence and life satisfaction: respect was verified as an indirect mediating variable ($Z = 5.543, p < .001$).

Table 5: Career confidence and life satisfaction: The mediating effect of Respect

Division	First-step	Two-step	Three-step	
Independent variable	Career confidence	Career confidence	Career confidence	Respect
Dependent variable	Respect	Life satisfaction	Life satisfaction	
standard error	.027	.024	.025	.032
β	.337	.669	.595	.198
t	11.184***	24.772***	21.030***	6.993***
adj R ²	.141	.447	.480	
F	125.083***	613.670***	350.702***	
mediated fulfillment	-	-	o	ob
Sobel test	Z=5.543***			

* $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$ b: indirect mediated effect

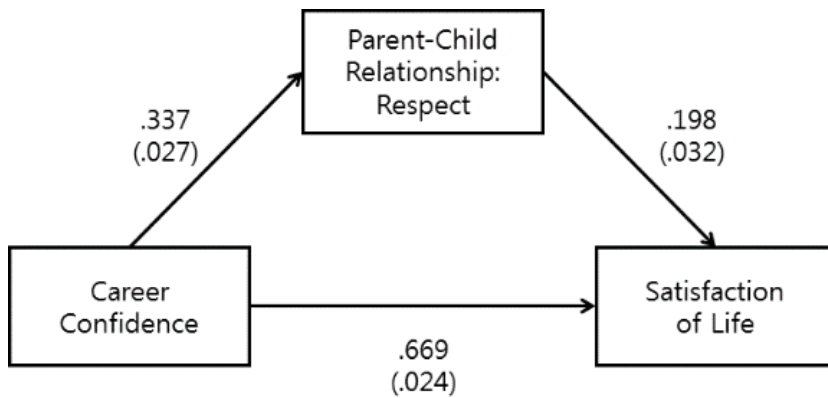


Figure 4. Indirect mediated effect: Conflict

4.3.3 Career confidence and life satisfaction: The mediating effect of conflict

In the first stage of the mediating effect verification, the influence of career confidence on parent-child relationship: conflict was statistically significant ($\beta = -.776, p < .001$), and career confidence had a significant effect on life satisfaction in the second stage ($\beta = .669, p < .001$). In the last three stages, parent-child relationship: conflict had significant influence on life satisfaction ($\beta = -.279, p < .001$) and had indirect mediated effect. As a result of Sobel-test, parent-child relationship in the relationship

between career confidence and life satisfaction: Conflict was verified as an indirect mediating variable ($Z=6.442, p<.001$).

Table 6: Career confidence and life satisfaction: The mediating effect of Conflict

Division	First-step	Two-step	Three-step	
Independent variable	Career confidence	Career confidence	Career confidence	Conflict
Dependent variable	Conflict	Life satisfaction	Life satisfaction	
standard error	.029	.024	.024	.042
β	-.766	.669	.667	-.279
t	-25.644***	24.772***	24.579***	-8.021***
adj R ²	.621	.447	.490	
F	706.990***	613.670***	364.682***	
mediated fulfillment	-	-	o	ob
Sobel test	$Z=6.442^{***}$			

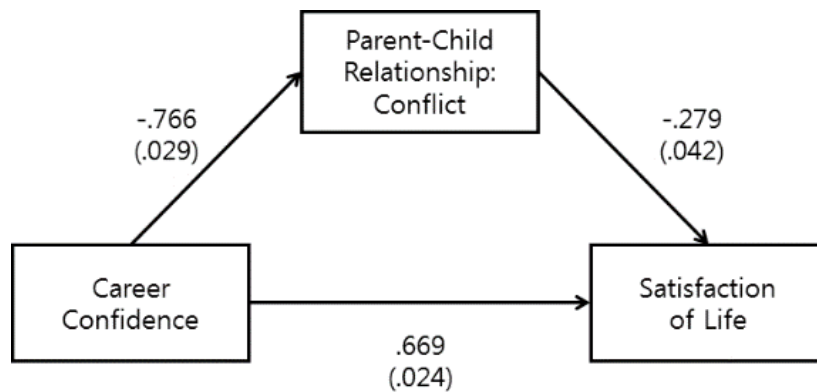


Figure 3. Indirect mediated effect: Respect

* $p<.05$, ** $p<.01$, *** $p<.001$ b: indirect mediated effect

5. Conclusion and Suggestion

5.1 Conclusion

The purpose of this study is to investigate the mediating effect of parent-child relationship in the relationship between career confidence and life satisfaction of adolescents. The conclusions based on the results of this study are as follows.

First, the correlation between career confidence, parent-child relationship, and life satisfaction of adolescents were all positively correlated. These results show that the positive correlation between career confidence and parent-child relationship is similar to Kim & Jung[5] and Hong[6], and the positive correlation between career confidence and life satisfaction is similar to Shin[3], and the positive correlation between parent-child relationship and life satisfaction is similar to Suk & Ku[7], and Han[8], It was derived. Second, in the relationship between career confidence and life satisfaction of adolescents, parent-child relationship(intimacy, respect, conflict) had indirect mediated effect. Career confidence of youth had a significant effect on parent-child relationship: intimacy, respect, and conflict, which was similar to Kim & Jung[4] and Hong[6] and career confidence had a significant effect on life satisfaction, which was similar to the Shin[3].

5.2 Suggestion

Based on the conclusions, the suggestions are as follows.

First, in order to improve the quality of life of adolescents, it is necessary to improve the career confidence of adolescents first, and then parents and youth education and guidance are needed to form positive relationships in the areas of parent-child relationship (intimacy, respect, conflict).

Second, the study on career confidence for adolescents is still insufficient, so follow-up studies using variables of career confidence should continue. Third, since the subjects of this study are middle and high school students in Icheon, Gyeonggi Province, it is somewhat difficult to expand the results of the study nationwide. Fourth, in Korea, the Career Education Act was enacted in 2015, and career teachers are placed in middle and high schools nationwide. However, since one career teacher is assigned to each school, it is somewhat difficult for one counselor to manage all students in the class. Therefore, it is necessary to expand the number of counselors for students in the future, and it is important to approach the career path educationally.

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