

University of Texas of the Permian Basin

**FalconCommons**

---

College of Education

Dissertations & Theses

---

8-1988

## **Grade, Sex and Ethnicity Differences in Career Maturity, Level of Career Aspirations and Decision-Making of Adolescents**

Diane Dougherty Rhoden

Follow this and additional works at: <https://falconcommons.utpb.edu/utpb-edu>

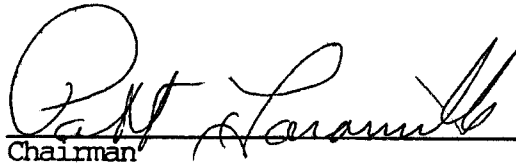


Part of the [Community-Based Learning Commons](#), [Community-Based Research Commons](#), and the [Education Commons](#)

---

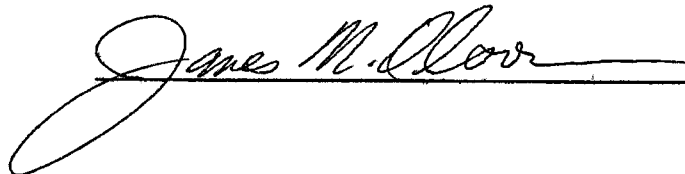
GRADE, SEX AND ETHNICITY DIFFERENCES IN CAREER  
MATURITY, LEVEL OF CAREER ASPIRATIONS AND  
DECISION MAKING OF ADOLESCENTS

APPROVED BY SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE:

  
Chairman

  
Graduate Faculty Representative





GRADE, SEX AND ETHNICITY DIFFERENCES IN CAREER  
MATURITY, LEVEL OF CAREER ASPIRATIONS AND  
DECISION MAKING OF ADOLESCENTS

by

DIANE DOUGHERTY RHODEN, B.A.

RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT

Presented to the Graduate Faculty of Education  
in Partial Fulfillment  
of Requirements  
for the Degree of

MASTER OF ARTS

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN

August, 1988

## ABSTRACT

Grade, sex and ethnicity differences in career maturity, level of career aspirations and decision making of adolescents were examined. The subjects were one hundred and two students drawn from regular seventh through twelfth grade classes of three schools. The subjects were given the Career Development Inventory to assess career maturity. National Opinion Research Center prestige ratings for occupations were used to determine the subjects' level of career aspiration. The subjects were also presented with ten decision dilemmas. The responses to the dilemmas reflected willingness to delay temporal gratification for future goals and adherence to personal goals or deference to the social situation. The results indicate a significant difference by grade on the subjects career maturity and their willingness to delay temporal gratification for future goals. Results also suggest a significant difference for males and females in knowledge of the world of work and how to make career decisions.