Orientation of Children Toward Future Professions as an Objective Necessity of the Modern Stage of Societal Development

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Abstract: The article addresses the issue of career guidance for children in the context of the rapidly changing nature of the labor market driven by scientific and technological progress. It substantiates the relevance of early formation of schoolchildren's understanding of the professions of the future.

Keywords: career guidance, pedagogical technologies, reforms, innovations in education.

INTRODUCTION

Today, there is no issue more relevant than the concern for the individual and their development. A person who understands their own psychology, is able to organize their growth and talents, can work optimally at any age, is psychologically prepared for various changes, and is capable of thinking in new ways, perceiving current processes objectively and correctly.

Alongside these issues lies the important problem of adolescents making the right career choice. The main goal of career guidance is to prepare the younger generation for a conscious and independent choice of profession. This involves shaping their future identity as a subject of professional activity and aligns their development with the market-oriented nature of the economy.

In accordance with the requirements of the "National Program for Personnel Training" and the main objectives of ongoing reforms—particularly the phased educational reforms in the Republic of Uzbekistan—there arises a need to update existing scientific conclusions and recommendations in the field of career guidance. This includes refining the methods of vocational orientation for students in general

education schools, especially in terms of introducing them to the vast and socially significant world of professions.

Indeed, the issue of career guidance for students in general education institutions and supporting their conscious and correct career choices has become one of the priority areas of state education policy.

RESULTS

Modern society is undergoing a phase of active digitalization, globalization, and technological transformation. As a result, not only the content of labor is changing, but also the very structure of professions. According to international analytical agencies, a significant number of today's professions will either be displaced by automated systems or transformed beyond recognition in the coming decades. In light of these changes, fostering children's orientation toward the professions of the future becomes a crucial task for the education system and social policy.

Within the framework of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, technologies such as artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, bioengineering, quantum computing, and robotics are being actively implemented. This is reshaping the professional landscape and demands that future specialists possess a high degree of adaptability, digital literacy, and the ability to engage in lifelong learning. According to the World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report (2023), approximately 44% of current job skills may become obsolete by 2027 [1].

The process of career self-determination begins long before entering the workforce. The school, as a key institution of socialization, must play a vital role in shaping students' understanding of promising professional directions. The implementation of project-based learning, STEAM initiatives, career guidance programs, and partnerships with industry all contribute to a more informed choice of future profession. Parents also significantly influence a child's professional preferences by transmitting values, attitudes, and motivational orientations [2].

In addition to professional competencies, so-called soft skills have gained special importance: critical thinking, teamwork, creativity, emotional intelligence, and communication skills. Developing these skills enables children to better cope with

professional uncertainty and more easily master new professions in a constantly evolving knowledge environment [4].

Professions focused on high technology and sustainable development are coming to the forefront. Among them are the following: data scientist, biotechnology engineer, virtual environment architect, digital ethics manager, and unmanned transport systems operator. These professions require interdisciplinary knowledge, digital competence, and systems thinking skills [5].

DISCUSSION

For certain professions, in addition to abilities, it is necessary to take into account one's state of health, although this factor is not always decisive. Detailed recommendations are usually given after a medical examination, because the person making the choice needs to be aware of the limitations concerning the physical demands of the profession.

Before making a decision to choose such a profession, it is important to consult a doctor. However, the candidate should also realistically assess their own health condition. It is known that in certain cases, physical deficiencies may lead to negative consequences.

For example:

- In the presence of joint and spinal diseases, underdeveloped musculature, the need for high physical energy, long periods of standing, frequent bending, etc. — it is not recommended to choose a profession that requires such qualities;
- In cases of impaired functioning of the sensory organs (vision, hearing, smell recognition, taste perception) — it is not recommended to choose professions such as operating any type of vehicle, certain types of art, food production, or work in the perfume industry.

What should be emphasized when choosing a profession: Parents should not forget about the child, their abilities and interests, and should not demand submission to their own will. On the contrary, they should help the child realize their desires. Unfortunately, in most cases, parents dictate their demands, putting pressure on the choice of a desired profession. [5]

CONCLUSION

Thus, guiding children toward the professions of the future is an objective requirement of our time, driven by the accelerated pace of technological and social change. Developing students' understanding of modern and emerging professions, fostering flexible skills, and promoting a readiness for lifelong learning are key priorities of contemporary education. Only in this way can the effective integration of the younger generation into the innovation-driven economy and the sustainable development of society as a whole be achieved.

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