

FACTORS AFFECTING STUDENTS’ CHOICE FOR CHOOSING SPECIAL EDUCATION AT SHAQRA UNIVERSITY

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***ABSTRACT_** This study involved an analysis of a sample of students specializing in Special Education at the Faculty of Education at Shaqra University in the provinces of Shaqra and Al-Dawadmi. The aim of the study was to identify the factors leading students to choose Special Education and to select specific programs in it. The study also set out to find if choosing Special Education and/or selecting specific programs in Special Education could be attributed to variables in which there were significant differences: gender ‘specialization in high school ‘ college education father’s and mother’s level of education and qualifications. The research analyzed this study using descriptive and inferential statistics.*

With reference to the results ‘the item ‘one of my family members has special needs’ had the highest mean score of (3.58) and a standard deviation (1.292). The lowest mean was obtained from the item ‘to satisfy the family’s wishes) with a score (2.27) and standard deviation (1.498). Regarding choosing a specific program in Special Education ‘the item ‘because one of my family has special needs’ had the highest mean (3.55) ‘and a standard deviation (1.231). The lowest mean was obtained from the item ‘to satisfy the family’s wishes) with a score (2.24) and a standard deviation (1.447).

The study did not demonstrate any statistically significant differences either in choosing Special Education nor in choosing specific programs within it ‘in the light of these variables: gender ‘specialization in high school college ‘and parents’ educational level and qualifications.

KEYWORDS: Shaqra University, College of Education in Shaqra.