

THE COUNSELING NEEDS AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ACADEMIC LEVEL OF THE STUDENTS OF THE PREPARATORY YEAR IN AL- JOUF UNIVERSITY

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***ABSTRACT_** This study tries to investigate the counseling needs in the academic, professional, psychological and social domains among students of preliminary year at the University of Al-Jouf, and its relationship to the school level. The study also aims to identify the significant differences in counseling needs according to the following variables: class, place of residence and the level of parent's education. To achieve the objectives of the study, the researcher developed a counseling scale composed of 40 items, divided to four dimensions: for each of 10 items (academic, social, psychological, and professional) scale has got a high degree of validity and reliability and internal consistency. It was then applied to a sample of 80 student enrolled in Level I and II in the preliminary year at the University of Al-Jouf, in the academic year 1435/1436 first semester. The data manipulated statistically using statistical package for social science (SPSS). The most important results of the study are: The needs professional counseling is the most pressing needs of the female students, followed by academic needs, then psychological and social needs. There is no statistically significant difference in counseling needs according to the level of study. The results showed that there are statistically significant differences in counseling needs according to place of residence in favor of students who live in students residence. There is a negative correlation between counseling needs (academic, psychological and vocational) with fathers' educational level. There is a significant negative correlation between the need for psychological counseling with mothers' educational level. The researchers postulated a number of recommendations according to the findings reached.*

***KEY WORDS:** counseling needs, school level, preliminary year.*