

Path Analysis of the Causal Relationships between Wisdom, Mental Motivation and Decision-Making Styles among Secondary School Students

Abstract

The current study aimed to explore the path analysis of the causal relationships between wisdom, mental motivation and decision-making styles among secondary school students, and to test a model that explains the causal relationships between the study variables through path analysis. The sample of verifying the psychometric properties of the study tools consisted of (n=632) male and female students, and the main sample consisted of (n=556) male and female students from the secondary school. In order to achieve the objectives of the study, three measures were applied, wisdom, mental motivation and decision-making styles scales. Then the data were analyzed by using a number of parametric statistical analysis methods (confirmatory factor analysis, and path analysis to estimate significance of direct and indirect effects in addition to descriptive statistics. Using the Amos 23 path analysis method, the hypothesized model achieved a good fit to the data approximately 100% according to the fit indices. The study results found a statistically significant positive direct effect of mental motivation in wisdom, a statistically significant direct positive effect of mental motivation in rational style, intuitive style and dependent style of decision-making. In addition, the study results indicated that there is a direct negative effect of mental motivation in avoidant style and spontaneous style of decision-making, a positive statistically significant direct effect of rational style, intuitive style and dependent style of decision-making in wisdom. Moreover, there is a statistically significant positive indirect effect of mental motivation in wisdom through avoidant style and spontaneous style of decision-making as a mediating variables. The results are discussed in light of the psychological literature and the previous studies.

KeyWords: Wisdom, Mental Motivation, Decision-Making Styles.