Comparing barriers to people's participation in the education system from the perspective of parents and school administrators

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A B S T R A C T

This study was by considering to " Comparing barriers to people's participation in the education system from the perspective of parents and school administrators ". The research method was descriptive - comparative. The statistical population of the study was all parents and managers of public schools over the past three years (2013-2015) in education system that the statistical population was 300 people. 118 samples were selected by simple random sampling and based on Cochran formula. For collecting data, two researcher-made questionnaires were used. The validity of research was content. Cronbach's alpha coefficients were used to determine the reliability of the questionnaire, the calculated Cronbach's alpha coefficients were 0.89 and 0.90. SPSS software Was used for analyzing the research questions. Descriptive statistics and inferential statistics (independent T- test) were used to analyze the findings. The findings of the study showed that the obtained amount for T in the managers' viewpoints on the barriers of public participation in public schools is 0.021 which is statistically significant (p<0.05),also the obtained amount for T in the parents' viewpoints on the barriers of public participation in public schools is0.011 which is statistically significant (p<0.05). Therefore, the findings show that there are statistically significant differences between schools Managers and parents about the participatory barriers indexes.

Keywords: Parents, Managers, Participatory barriers - education.

INTRODUCTION

Participation is a natural human need. On the basis of human creation, mankind needs connection and relation to others, and the spirit of social mood lies in him. The expression of thinkers that says humans are a social being means that humans are volunteering to work and live with others on a natural basis and based on their nature. The fundamental institutions which human is developing and living on them, generally respond to the need for participation.

With any attitude of studying partnership, this issue cannot be denied that participatory action has been so successful that it has been widely accepted in most developed countries of the world. Undoubtedly, this acceptance is achieved Based on the effectiveness of participation in improving the productivity of organizations, the democracy development, working relationships Improvement and so on. In this regard, one of the institutions is education organization that is characterized by the nature of activities, the necessity of participation of all its elements and factors.

Fagerlind (1991) argues that education organization is wide system, hence many factors affecting on it and each factor is influencing by their condition. In other words, for the economic, political, social, cultural and ideological growth, and so on, the growth and advancement of education organization is inevitable. In this way, the participation of various institutions and organizations is also required.

Helping each other in goodness and self-control, not in sin and in aggression (Sura Ma'edeh, verse 5). The definition of partnership, its goals and its scope in the participation had relationship in the long-term and its creation refers to family begins and this relationship provides their growth and development. Participation slowly found its way to The Others fields, such as

work and industry, and eventually people found the right to own the owner in determining their own destiny. Today, participation is a new knowledge and emerging science. The focus of this new science arises from the interaction of the components .This science does examinations and finding ability and ability of expanding participation information system. Also it examines the effect of behavior when system is more complex.

Today, " Student parent partnerships " is one of the most commonly used terms in education organization, and it means the methods which parents of students using their abilities, providing quantitative and qualitative services to education. Since governmental resources have limitation for education organization and young population of the country is increasing, the need to use parents' contributions is felt more than ever. Mentors of education organization while institutionalizing student parenting partnerships, planning to attract and engage these partnerships to provide a part of educational needs.

Undoubtedly, this can be done by using the various capabilities of families. Experiences from successful countries in education are proofing that parents' participation in providing educational services to schools has always been accompanied by impressive effectiveness, planning stability and success. The present research is aimed to examine the identification and importance and necessity of comparing barriers to participation of people in the education system from the viewpoint of parents and school managers.

The main hypothesis:
There are differences between participation of people's barriers from the perspective of parents and school managers in the education system.

Sub-Hypotheses:
1. There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of financial barriers in the education system.
2. There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of connections and relationships barriers in the education system.
3. There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of decision making barriers in the education system.
4. There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of meeting of parents and managers in the education system.
5. There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of regarding the educational role in the education system.
6. There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of improving the education system in the education system.

Theoretical basis:
People's Participation:
Definition and Concept of People's Participation: The concept of participation is doing works with together and its dimensions can be social, intellectual, economic, and even political. Participation is the creation of a kind of solidarity, collective affiliation and community effort in order to achieve a justice social system. Participation is the mental and emotional involvement of individuals in the group situation that Encourage them to achieve group goals and help each other and take their responsibilities. Based on the above definition, involvement, assisting, and responsibility are three important characteristics of participation.

In the other definition, participation means providing and developing a common ground for the same purposes .Based on this definition, when there are the opportunity to examine and criticize the goals and The common purposes in a group of people and exchanging information and knowledge is easily among them, the opportunity to achieve universal knowledge will be provided And because of that, work results and group effort will be increased. Through the free and easy trading of information, the ability of turning information into knowledge will be increased, and then, the balance of production and the phenomenon, Finding, inventing, and innovating will be increased between groups of people. In addition to such a process, people are willing to accept the group decisions willingly together and they will commit whatever happens. In this definition, increasing awareness and knowledge of people depends on their easy access to information. And the necessity of expanding knowledge in the work will be evident. Increasing knowledge will effect in people's work and mentally producing ultimately and increases the quantitative and qualitative level of production of goods and services from the efforts of powerful people. Based on this, participation is strong potential of the power distribution of information and the more powerful system of collective information to knowledge and cognition. Based on this, extensive fieldwork will appear from freedom and choice And people will choose what is desirable with their intentional. Participation will expand options and selection process and will make it easy to accept changes And in this study the people means (parents and managers).

Education system :

Education system is a disciplined set of actions and behaviors; in other words, Education system is an interactive education is between two fluid pillars (teacher and students), which are the main focus and purpose of the program. Education system is the rebuilding or organizing experience, In order to enhance the meaning of experience and to enable the person to better manage and control the subsequent experiences.

Education is the "process of guidance and direction The Intentional human experiences ".

Parents & Leaders' Perspectives:

In today's world, participation and education are the foundations of development; attention to that education is the result of activities of three main institutions, such as house, school and society. The cooperation of these three institutions in education affairs is so necessary. Participation in education is for critical periods of the country's education and education system, but in order to achieve the best education of the country's natives, the participation of diverse social groups is always necessary .

Parents and managers' associations are the focal point of cooperation between the people and the education system of the country,therefore they are important. Therefore, the involvement of parents and mentors in problem solving and the proper communication and Coordination among these associations with the educational units of the country requires the parents to understand the goals of parents' associations and coaches to help them with more interest and motivation in schools .

Identifying well-informed managers and contributing to work, especially in schools, informing and participating of teachers, students and parents and teachers associations and educators and parents of students, is another step to overcome the inadequacies of participation in the process of participation.

Research method:

The goal of this study is applicative and the research method is descriptive –comparative that the research has been examined comparing barriers to public participation from the perspective of parents and school managers in the education system. The statistical population in this research is about 300 people. In this research, the sample method is Simple random sampling is used and the sample size is proportional to the number of people and Cochran's formula as follow.

1st Hypothesis:

There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of financial barriers in the education system.

Table 1. Measuring differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of financial barriers Using Independent T Test

Variable	Average	statistical T	Degrees of freedom	Significance level	Difference of meanings	95% interval confidence	
						Lower limit	upper limit
Financial barriers	4.791	6.52	117	0.020	1.791	1.1 02	1.280

According to the results of the table, meaningful level is less than 0.05 and also a T statistic test is more than 1.96. Therefore, the average difference for financial barriers with a moderate and unobtrusive level is significant and it is 1.791 higher than the average level, in other words there are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of financial barriers in the education system.

2nd hypothesis:

There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of connections and relationships barriers in the education system.

Table 2. Measuring differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of connections and relationships barriers Using Independent T Test

Variable	Average	statistical T	Degrees of freedom	Significance level	Difference of meanings	95% interval confidence	
						Lower limit	upper limit
Relationship between parents and managers	4.059	5.890	117	0.009	1.059	1.284	1.141

According to the results of the table, meaningful level is less than 0.05 and also a T statistic test Is more than 1.96 . Therefore, the average difference for connections and relationships barriers with a moderate and unobtrusive level is significant and it is 1.059 higher than the average level, in other words there are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of connections and relationships barriers in the education system.

3rd hypothesis:

There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of decision making barriers in the education system.

Table 3. Measuring the differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of decision making barriers Using Independent T Test

Variable	Average	statistical T	Degrees of freedom	Significance level	Difference of meanings	95% interval confidence	
						Lower limit	upper limit
decision making barriers	3.741	6.001	117	0.013	0.741	0.939	2.641

According to the results of the table, meaningful level is less than 0.05 and also a T statistic test is more than 1.96. Therefore, the average difference for decision making barriers with a moderate and unobtrusive level is significant and it is 0.741 higher than the average level, in other words there are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of decision making barriers in the education system.

4th hypothesis:

There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of meeting of parents and managers in the education system.

Table 4. Measuring the differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of meeting of parents and managers using independent T-test

Variable	Average	statistical T	Degrees of freedom	Significance level	Difference of meanings	95% confidence interval	
						Lower limit	upper limit
meeting of parents and managers	3.126	3.098	117	0.041	0.126	0.297	1.082

According to the results of the table, meaningful level is less than 0.05 and also a T statistic test Is more than 1.96 . Therefore, the average difference for meeting of parents and managers with a moderate and unobtrusive level is significant and it is 0.126 higher than the average level, in other words there are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of meeting of parents and managers in the education system.

5th hypothesis :

There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of regarding the educational role in the education system.

Table 5. Measuring differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of regarding the educational role using independent T-test

Variable	Average	statistical T	Degrees of freedom	Significance level	Difference of meanings	95% confidence interval	
						Lower limit	upper limit
Educational role	4.341	4.520	117	0.008	1.341	1.590	1.828

According to the results of the table, meaningful level is less than 0.05 and also a T statistic test Is more than 1.96 . Therefore, the average difference for Educational role with a moderate and unobtrusive level is significant and it is 1.341 higher than the average level, in other words there are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of regarding the educational role in the education system.

6th hypothesis :

There are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of improving the education system in the education system.

Table 6. Measuring differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of improving the education system using independent T-test

Variable	Average	statistical T	Degrees of freedom	Significance level	Difference of meanings	95% interval confidence	
						Lower limit	upper limit
Solutions to improve	4.378	6.250	117	0.007	1.378	1.55	3.271

According to the results of the table, meaningful level is less than 0.05 and also a T statistic test Is more than 1.96 . Therefore, the average difference for improving with a moderate and unobtrusive level is significant and it is 1.378 higher than the average level, in other words there are differences between perspective of parents and school managers in the term of improving the education system in the education system.

Conclusion:

Participation is some kind of involvement in decision making, planning and financial resources. which this decision-making is focused on the goal that participants are willing parents and administrators to achieve a common goal, today, education system is tries to use different methods of parental participation. But decision-making and legislation to create an intimate relationship between parents and the school cannot be a problem solving. Making Empathy among parents when happens that the mind and heart of parents are involved in solving the problems of schools. Sometimes parents do not interfere in the affairs of the school because of their diverse employment or concerns. However, schools can prevent the initiation of the gap between parents and their children. Meetings between parents and teachers are done for this issue. Absolutely these meetings are not enough; these meetings will be useful when they are held for the purpose of consultation with parents. In other words, parents should educate and be aware to have special roles and be able to make decisions about their children's school. Unwillingness of family participation in social and economic levels that is at the lower level is one of barriers that make relationship between families and schools hard. Some parents deprive their participation from the meetings because they think, they have no efficiency for schools or they do not participate in decision-making.but they don't understand that this issue may have negative consequences to their children's minds. These people should pay attention to this fact that they have rights for making decisions because of their children.

For other cases, Parents ignorance of school functions and capacities can be named. Parents sometimes have too many expect from teachers. So they think that their child is at the center of all attentions. So they feel that teachers have failed in their duties. It is right that sensitivity on children is a natural feeling but they should also know there are the other children, so it is teacher's duty to deal with them. There are methods to solve this problem. Holding Exhibition of students and teachers achievements is a way for parent to know activities and efforts of the students and teachers

Encouraging and motivating students and enhancing their self-confidence and can also be another achievement of this exhibition. Publishing journals by students can involve parents more with the school. While, students can Publish and print activities of parents in these journals, so the others might also want to participate in these fields and activities.

Each child has unique characteristics; if these characteristics are ignored at school they may create some problems for students in the future. so parents are an important sources of valuable experiences and information that can assist teachers in better understanding their students.

Meeting parents and teachers will be useful when parents voluntarily participate. This voluntarily participating will be useful when parents are taken into consideration. Each parent has their own moral characteristics. Some parents may not volunteer to share their comments and ideas. These meetings are an opportunity for schools to identify parents who have similar problems with their children, and to help them organize family education sessions. This effective and friendly relationship between home and school creates trust, especially in parents. Establishing this relationship is a great responsibility for teachers so they can improve their communication skills. School managers also can use parents in other field. Parents should play a complementary role in the school education process. This issue is especially important for elementary schools. Interaction between parents and teachers can be a useful help to identify talented students.

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