



## FUTURE ORIENTATION AND TEA GARDEN YOUTH OF ASSAM: A CASE STUDY

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### ABSTRACT:

The present study is done on the future orientation of youth in the tea garden concerning the five basic processes of future orientation: family life, planning, time perspective, decision-making and career. The research examines the relationship between future orientation, decision-making, planning, temporal perspective and work in family life. How do young people see the future in the tea garden? Are they pessimists or optimists? Do their perspectives differ from culture to culture? Do young people actively participate in shaping their self-chosen future or are they just observing them? What effects does globalization have on young culture? What do schools teach about the future? This study answers these and several other questions. To get a complete picture, the researchers used a quantitative method for social science studies. The sample size for quantitative data is 60 and questionnaires are used to collect information. The SPSS program is used for statistical evaluation and explanation of the findings. The results show that today's youth is not only a problem with the future but also a social problem. To remedy the problem, research on interventions in social work would be the ideal starting point.

### KEYWORDS:

**TEA GARDEN YOUTH, FUTURE ORIENTATION, CAREER INCLINATION, DECISION-MAKING PATTERN, FAMILY LIFE INCLINATION, TIME PERSPECTIVE.**

### 1.0. INTRODUCTION

The American Psychological Association, in its Dictionary of Psychology, defines Future orientation as a time perspective oriented towards the future, specifically towards the achievement of desired goals. Educators often challenge learners to envision their future in an academic and professional setting. Diminutive is known, however, about the role of instructors and the school environment in shaping the future orientation of pupils and about their perspectives and attitudes towards the future. Understanding the contextual factors will better educate educators in mobilizing resources to promote better student outcomes to the degree that future alignment underpins good outcomes by encouraging students to make a connection between current decisions and future significances. The main aim of this study was to investigate whether and to what range the socio-emotional school environment supports the academic and professional goals of the students. This study was conducted throughout the youth period as future direction becomes gradually important as youths build their individuality. In addition, since cultural variables can influence future orientation and slight is known about how Indian youth see their future equated to those from Western cultures, this research is focused in particular on the Indian tea garden youth group.

This research is an attempt to offers insightful answers to questions about how young people see the future. Are you optimistic or pessimistic about your attitude? Do their perspectives differ depending on the culture? Do young people take an active role in shaping their aspired future?

How has globalization affected young culture? How are students informed about the future in schools? These and many other questions are addressed in this study. To have a thorough knowledge of the research study, the researchers used the correlation method common in social science research.

### 2.0. THE STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Rushdoony (1991) defines the future direction of society as four different groupings. The underclass has no potential orientation; he or she is unprepared. Further, Rushdoony (1991) claims that we are becoming a society of self-centred hedonists. The young population is of crucial importance for the study, as they display a constellation of dangerous behaviour that is theoretically associated with basic personality traits. Youth in particular is a time of heightened impulsiveness and thrill-seeking. Pessimistic people are more probable to take risks for their well-being and safety.

### 3.0. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The importance of the research relies on the fact that future direction is crucial for motivation and that both psychologists and laypeople have recognized the importance of self-definition. Researchers have used a variety of names to describe events similar to those described here. The purpose of this research is to examine how one's perception of the future is related to future events. Future orientation is the ability to recognize and understand environmental changes. Several researchers have examined foresight techniques such as scenario analysis and Delphi analysis. These scientists propose the

possibility of a youthful look-ahead function. It creates future discoveries and disseminates them to other societal functions. Future orientation is a person's conscious and self-determined vision of their future.

#### 4.0. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Forward-looking is a broad term that refers to several factors necessary in predicting future events. Expectations, ambitions, planning, the anticipation of future effects and time perspective are examples of these components. Expectations are a person's assessment of the likelihood of a certain event occurring in the forthcoming, such as the probability of achieving certain goals (i.e., hopeful expectations). Aspirations represent what a person wants to achieve in the future or in other words, what he or she intends to do. The capability to establish goals or change existing actions to meet upcoming goals is called planning. From the point of view of expected value theory, this change also occurs sooner if the desired result is rated highly and has a high probability of occurrence. The capability to make a connection amid present ideas or actions and imminent outcomes is called anticipating future consequences. The time perception indicates a possible behaviour featured by indicating how much a person thinks about the future (Wong et al., 2019). Since forward-thinking can be broken down into different components, a thorough study that takes these differences into account is essential. As a result, this research has focused on one aspect of youth expectations that illustrates the most realistic views they have about their future. This research examined these academic and professional expectations to better position them in the developmental age of adolescence (i.e., academic and professional expectations).

According to the available data, maternal relocation can harm the psychological adjustment of the children left behind. Longitudinal studies on the association between future orientation (a protective factor for individuals) and markers of psychological adjustment in children left behind are rare, however. Children left behind conveyed lower life fulfilment, school satisfaction and satisfaction, and a higher degree of loneliness. Social support did not seem to be as important to the children's early psychological adjustment status as it was to their peers (Su et al., 2017).

A person's future orientation is their conscious and self-determined view of the future. It offers a subjective personal life story consisting of the aspects of one's life that are considered important by the individual and that give meaning to one's existence. Future orientation acts as a person's future model that serves as the basis for setting goals, planning, evaluating alternatives and making commitments. Futurology is very relevant to young adulthood as a lot of research has been done on marriage, parenting, retirement, and grief.

The researchers found that adolescents build their future orientations in response to current changes in their social environment. These changes have an indirect influence on

the forthcoming direction of youths as they shift the balance of views on outcomes determined by action and the environment. This refers to the notion of least-spending that is related to the concept of least-spending. The research results require replication and an examination of how intrapersonal and micro systemic contexts for instance family, friends and school facilitate and mitigate the effects of the societal deviations described in the study (Seginer & Schlesinger, 1998).

A recent study done by Sulimani-Aidan examined the impact of two important contextual factors on teenagers' lives: their sense of belonging and their family's involvement in care. The study found that the relationship between adolescents and mentors helps build their self-confidence, relationship assistance, and connections with others in their prime living environment. These variables motivate and allow them to combine their main living environments (Sulimani-Aidan et al., 2020).

The four interface methods discussed by the researchers share a curiosity in the effects of future discerning behaviour with future orientation research. The goal and personnel disposition approach deal with future-oriented thinking, self-assessment and future-oriented behavioural manifestations. The potential self-method is based on self-theory, which asserts that the self that people want to be doable and want to avoid are all components of the self-system, their primary role being motivation (Seginer, 2009).

The importance of future orientation is strongly contextualized by cultural and social contexts that dictate acceptable behaviour. The development of cognitive abilities does not always lead to one more expansive future orientation, as other variables such as motives and social experiences play a role. It is shown that the assumption of a longer future that guarantees the development of an adapted personality, that is, a person who can regulate their impulses, postpone satisfaction, set realistic goals, achieve them and plan realistically, is way too easy. In many respects, socialisation and future orientation are intimately connected. Socialization and educational activities are guided by subjective future orientations, which in turn influence the future orientation of the individual to be socialized. The complicated mechanism of such mutuality must be elucidated hypothetically and practically through longitudinal research (Trommsdorff, 1983).

The aim of the article "Future Orientation in Times of Threat and Challenge: How Resilient Adolescents Shape their Future" by Seginer was to examine the psychological variables that contribute to the future orientation of teenagers in times of political violence. It has been found that teenagers who acquire high levels of challenge/resilience are better able to shape their future direction. Four variables influence the influence of the challenge on future orientation: cultural orientation, interpersonal connections and intrapersonal characteristics. The study does not draw any conclusions about the different effects of these mental courses on the

various components of future orientation (Seginer, 2008).

Future orientation is the image of the future that persons have, as it is said and reported. This core includes post-secondary education, work and professions, as well as marital and family relationships for young people. Since the time of Lewin (1939), future directions of research have received special attention, with most focusing on this group (Seginer, 2008).

The aim of the research on future orientation as a negotiator amid professional flexibility and life gratification among university scholars was to inspect the associations between professional flexibility, future orientation and happiness in university students from Italy and Spain. Students who are more flexible in their careers are more likely to have better life satisfaction. This indicates that the transition from training to working life is difficult in both countries and that the consequences of the labour market disaster on future career projections are comparable. Research is one of the first to show that the ability to adapt professionally has an indirect influence on students' satisfaction with life through its impact on future orientation (Cabras & Mondo, 2018).

The study "The role of self-regulation, forward-thinking, and financial literacy in long-term financial decisions" observes possible reasons why customers have trouble making long-term monetary decisions. Consumers with more positive prospects are more probable to enrol in a retirement plan, an impact that is mitigated by the self-regulatory state. Financial literacy and future orientation can both affect the likelihood of enrolling in the 401 (k) plan (Seginer, 2009).

A study done by Chin (Chin & Holden, 2013) brought forth the idea that forward-thinking, optimism and future connections reduce the associations between desperation and suicide. None of the factors had a substantial impact on the affiliation between depression and suicidal ideation. Since suicide preparation is believed to be a more active and serious form of suicidal ideation, likely, Future Perspective (FTP) alone will not protect. Perhaps when combined with other adaptive properties, such as motivation to live, FTP buffers more effectively. Chin and Holden's study is the first study to examine the preventive effects of full FTP when suicide predictors are included. It suggested that further studies should be conducted to determine whether their results apply to broader college and clinical populations, as well as community samples of college-age peers. Although thoughts of suicide are a strong predictor of suicide, future studies should investigate whether FTP can discourage people from attempting suicide and killing suicide (Chin & Holden, 2013).

## 5.0. THE RATIONALE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this research is to analyse how educated people think about their future and how it relates to other aspects of student life. This research is an attempt to come out with pointers for personal and social benefits.

6.0. The study's main objective is to study how youth can look into the future and the pictures persons hold regarding their future.

## 6.1. THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE OF THE RESEARCH:

1. To study the future career orientation of school-going youth.
2. To understand the decision-making pattern for the future of youth.
3. To study the future orientation of school-going youth towards the family.

## 7.0. HYPOTHESIS:

A hypothesis is the researcher's assumption on the topic of study, which is to be subjected to scientific testing to prove its validity under the given circumstances. Hence, the researcher had framed the following hypotheses according to his area of study.

1. H1= There is an association between age and level of future family orientation.  
H0= There is no association between age and level of future family orientation.
2. H2= There is a correlation between preparing for the future and decision-making.  
H0= There is no association between future planning and decision making.
3. H3= There is a relationship between time perspective and decision making.  
H0= There is no relationship between decision making and time perspective.

## 8.0. METHODS:

The methodology is a science of study how a fact can be proved scientifically. It gives an idea of how the study deals with a particular problem using various methods and techniques. Research results are capable of evaluation either by the study himself or by others. The design of the research is a blueprint of research. In this research, the orientation towards the future of tea garden youth was examined based on the character of property disposition. The investigator has therefore taken "the cross-sectional" approach as the research design in this report.

Sampling Universe: The sampling universe of the study is the school-going tea garden youth of standard from X to XII of the age group from fifteen to twenty-five.

Sampling technique: Stratified purposeful sampling was employed in the present study which is a mixture of sampling probability and non-probability. It is used to ensure that some study subjects differ from each other (Das, K.K.L., 2013).

Sampling size: Minimum of 60 respondents were selected for the primary quantitative data collection.

**9.0. RESULTS**

**9.1. TABLE**

**TABLE 1: AGE OF THE RESPONDENTS**

Responses	Distribution of Responses	
	Frequency	Percentages
17	42	70
16	12	20
18	6	10
Total	60	100

**TABLE 2 SEX OF THE RESPONDENTS**

Responses	Distribution of Responses	
	Frequency	Percentages
Male	22	36.7
Female	38	63.3
Total	60	100.0

**TABLE 3 DECISION-MAKING PATTERN**

Responses	Distribution of Responses	
	Frequency	Percentages
Low	18	30.0
Moderate	27	45.0
High	15	25.0
Total	60	100.0

**TABLE 4 ORIENTATION TOWARDS FUTURE PLANNING**

Responses	Distribution of Responses	
	Frequency	Percentages
Low	16	26.7
Moderate	31	51.7
High	13	21.7
Total	60	100.0

**TABLE 5 ORIENTATION TOWARDS TIME PERSPECTIVE**

Responses	Distribution of Responses	
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	Frequency	Percentages
Low	18	30.0
Moderate	29	48.0
High	13	21.0
Total	60	100.0

**TABLE 6 ORIENTATION TOWARDS FUTURE CAREER**

Responses	Distribution of Responses	
	Frequency	Percentages
Low	16	26.7
Moderate	31	51.7
High	13	21.7
Total	60	100.0

**TABLE 7 ORIENTATION TOWARDS FAMILY LIFE**

Responses	Distribution of Responses	
	Frequency	Percentages
Low	18	30.0
Moderate	29	48.3
High	13	21.7
Total	60	100.0

**TABLE 8 ASSOCIATION BETWEEN DECISION-MAKING PATTERN AND FUTURE PLANNING**

Decision-making pattern	Future planning			Total
	Low	Moderate	High	
Low	8(13.3%)	7(11.7%)	3 (5.0%)	18(30.0%)
Moderate	5 (8.3%)	19(31.7%)	3 (5.0%)	27(45.0%)
High	3 (5.0%)	5 (8.3%)	7 (11.7%)	15(25.0%)
Total	16(26.7%)	31(51.7%)	13(21.7%)	60(100%)

$\chi^2=12.351$                        $df = 4$                        $P = 0.015$

**TABLE 9 ASSOCIATION BETWEEN DECISION MAKING PATTERN AND TIME PERSPECTIVE**

Decision-making pattern	Time Perspective			Total
	Low	moderate	high	
Low	5 (8.3%)	11(18.3%)	2(3.3%)	18(30.0%)

Moderate	13(21.7%)	11(18.3%)	3 (5.0%)	27(45.0%)
High	0 (0.0%)	7 (11.7%)	8(13.3%)	15(25.0%)
Total	18 (30%)	29(48.3%)	13(21.7%)	60(100%)

$\chi^2=17.689$                        $df = 4$                        $P = 0.001$

**TABLE 10 ASSOCIATION BETWEEN AGE AND FUTURE ORIENTATION OF FAMILY LIFE**

Age	Family			Total
	Low	moderate	High	
16.00	4 (6.7%)	6 (10.0%)	2 (3.3%)	12 (20.0%)
17.00	13 (21.7%)	23 (38.3%)	6 (10.0%)	42 (70.0%)
18.00	1 (1.7%)	0 (0.0%)	5 (8.3%)	6 (10.0%)
Total	18 (30.0%)	29 (48.3%)	13(21.7%)	60 (100%)

$\chi^2=15.404$                        $df = 4$                        $P = .004$

**9.2. FINDINGS**

The ages of the young people who participated in the research process are shown in Table 1 indicates that most of the respondents are in the age range of 16 to 18. The gender distribution among the respondents is reflected in Table 2 It is found that the majority 38 (63.3%) are females. In frequency and percentages, Table 3 reflects the trend of orientation towards youth decision-making. To some degree, a reasonably good number of respondents have an average decision-making pattern that is successful. In Table 4, the future orientation towards preparation is presented in the percentages of youth today. A substantial number of young people have an average orientation toward the future. The lowest percentages are very highly oriented toward future planning. Table 5 shows the potential inclination of youth towards a time perspective in the form of frequency and percentages. It shows that a good majority of young people have an average potential orientation level. Table 6 demonstrates the degree of potential youth orientation towards a profession in frequency and percentages. The table shows that the majority of young people have a future and think about it very often. Percentages of young people with their future inclination towards family life are represented in Table 7. A large number of respondents have mildly, to a certain degree, family orientation.

The cross-tabulation of the decision-making pattern and future youth planning is reflected in Table 8. For decision-making trends and future planning, the Chi-square test reveals the significance value  $P = 0.015$ , which is lower than the significance value 0.05 limit. Therefore, there is an association between the pattern of decision making and future youth planning. This indicates the null hypothesis to be true. Table 9 presents the cross-tabulation of the degree of youth decision-making trend and time perspective. The consequence of the Chi-Square test reveals the P-value as 0.001, which is lower than the .05 value of significance. There is also an

association between the pattern of decision-making and youth experience in terms of time. This implies the null hypothesis to be true. The cross-tabulation of age and potential inclination towards the family life of young people is presented in Table 10. The consequence of the Chi-Square test shows the P-value as 0.004, which is lower than the .05 value of significance. There is also a correlation between age and future orientation towards young people’s family life. This justifies the null hypothesis to be real.

**9.3. DISCUSSIONS**

There is no one specific pattern of making decisions among the school-going youth. The school-going youth are not taught or do not give any orientation towards decision-making patterns. The majority of the youth are with limited future orientation. More than (45.0%) of school-going youth follow some decision-making pattern in their day-to-day life and for the future. Most of the youth have a vision of the future but in a limited manner. 51 per cent of educated youth has directly or indirectly acquired orientation for their future towards planning or tend to engage in thinking about the future and involves expectation and hopes. The majority of the youth cannot visualise or have their long-term plan or fail to have a long-term plan. More than 48.3 per cent of school-going youth could look into the future to some extent or be able to forecast the future to some distance or have a future orientation. 51.7 per cent and above-educated youth have career orientation which they hope to pursue in life in the future. The majority of the youth have limitations in the option for future career orientation. Below the majority, 48.3 per cent of school-going youth have some type of family life orientation that they think they will apply in their life in the future. It is found that there is an association between the decision-making pattern and future planning of the schooling going youth. The quantitative analysis shows an association between decision-making patterns and time perspective among the school-going youth. There is a relationship between age and future orientation of family life among the school-going youth.

Young people’s future career orientations are very small and have a similar area of career choice. Much of them are limited to the thoughts or phrases of others. Young people hardly take a decision individually and solely on their own. To make some decisions, they most often rely on others. A lot of young people’s choices are based on immediate consequences. After having a decent job, most young people want or may plan to get married, research shows. The majority of young people will look into the future for five years and not beyond five years. The majority of young people have no vision of themselves in the future.

Children need to be helped so that the effects of their current behaviour can be visualised. Parents and relatives need to provide provision for children to develop and encourage an atmosphere where they can discover inside themselves. The low degree of future orientation among today’s youth is a youth issue and a nation’s problem. More

studies can be done to identify successful steps to strengthen or boost the potential orientation of young people.

#### 9.4. CONCLUSION:

A study on the future orientation of school-going youth concerning the tea garden of Barak Valley, Assam, was a small attempt to understand the degree of future orientation. Future orientation provides the foundation for setting goals and planning. Future orientation may be a vulnerability and a protective factor at the same time. The elements of future planning would be beneficial for all young people. A good result will come from mentors or specialised attention to youth. The future of youth will depend a lot on education at the secondary level that she or he receives. The low level of future orientation among today's youth is not the only issue of youth, but it is the concern of society. Research on social work intervention would be the best to begin as a solution to the problem.

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