



## Factors Influencing the Students' Interest in Continuing Their Education to University

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**Abstract:** Factors influencing the students' interests in continuing their education to University. **Objectives:** The purpose of this study is to find out how much interest high school students continue their education to college and what factors influence it. **Methods:** This study uses a quantitative method that uses a questionnaire that is valid and reliable as an instrument. **Findings:** The results of this study indicate that the interest of high school students in Sungai Penuh continue their education at 80% which falls into the very high category. The factors are categorized by internal and external factors. Internal factors such as; motivation and goals (0.152), interests (0.201), and external factors such as; parents (0.147), friends (0.156), siblings (0.149), and school environment (0.197). **Conclusions:** All of these factors can have a positive effect on the interest of Shiva High School to continue to college.

**Keywords:** Students' interest, internal and external Factors, University, quantitative research.

**Abstrak:** Faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi minat siswa untuk melanjutkan pendidikan mereka ke Universitas. **Tujuan:** penelitian ini ditujukan untuk mengetahui seberapa besar minat siswa SMA melanjutkan pendidikan ke perguruan tinggi dan faktor apa saja yang mempengaruhinya. **Metode:** Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kuantitatif yang menggunakan angket yang telah valid dan reliabel sebagai instrumen. **Temuan:** Minat siswa SMA kota Sungai Penuh melanjutkan pendidikan sebesar 80% yang termasuk dalam kategori sangat tinggi. Faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi dikategorikan menjadi dua, internal dan eksternal. Faktor internal seperti; motivasi dan cita cita (0,152), ketertarikan (0,201), dan faktor eksternal seperti; orang tua (0,147), teman (0,156), saudara (0,149), dan lingkungan sekolah (0,197). **Kesimpulan:** Semua faktor tersebut mampu berpengaruh secara positif terhadap minat Siwa SMA untuk melanjutkan ke perguruan tinggi.

**Kata kunci:** Minat siswa, faktor internal dan eksternal, Universitas, penelitian kuantitatif.

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## ■ INTRODUCTION

As the second largest city in Jambi Province, the city of Sungai Penuh is a city that is required to produce quality Human Resources (HR). The quality of human resources is needed to be able to compete in the community in the face of the era of ASEAN economic society (Sakdiah, 2018). Many factors in improving the quality of human resources are education. In the Law of the Republic of Indonesia, No. 20, Article 1 paragraph 1, 2003 concerning the Education System states that Education is a conscious and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have religious spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character and the skills needed by him, the community, the nation, and the State.

Education in Indonesia starts from elementary, junior high, middle and high school. Where universities are organized to prepare students to become members of the community who have academic, and / or professional abilities that can apply, develop and or create technological and / or artistic knowledge (RI Law, No. 2 of 1989). Outputs from tertiary institutions are expected to be able to apply their abilities so that they can benefit the wider community. This shows how important students are in continuing their education to college (Tröbst, Kleickmann, Lange-Schubert, Rothkopf, & Möller, 2016).

Based on observations of preliminary observations, it was found that data on the number of tertiary education that was sufficiently adequate was not proportional to the number of prospective students who registered to continue their education. This is seen from the average number of students who enroll only in graduates from high school and equivalent from certain schools. This shows that, there are still many students in other schools who do not register themselves at the same level of tertiary education from school.

Incompatibility between high school graduates and the registration of prospective students who continue their education to tertiary institutions in the city of Sungai Penuh of interesting problems to study, especially related to the interest of high school students in continuing their education to college. In line with what was conveyed by Sakdiyah (2018), that improving the quality of human resources in a region must begin with the quality of the population who have a qualified education. When there is less interest in continuing education to higher education, this will certainly hinder efforts to improve the quality of human resources in the city of Sungai Penuh.

Own interest is interpreted as a tendency and high enthusiasm or a great desire for something (Shah, 2011; Bolkan, & Griffin, (2018). Interest also means acceptance of a relationship between oneself and something that is outside (Djalil, 2008 ; Flaherty, McAdams, & LeBlanc, 2017) Interests greatly affect someone in a job, position or career so that they can achieve achievements that can be proud of. If someone does not have an interest in a job, then that person will have difficulty completing the work they have So that interest can also be interpreted as feeling happy or unhappy in an object (Surya, 1999; Crouch, Wisittanawat, Cai, & Renninger, (2018).

In the world of education, children who are interested in something will try harder to learn than children who are less interested, meaning that children who are interested in going to college will try harder in terms of learning and seeking information about higher education than children who do not have an interest in going to college (Vartuli, 2017; Riconscente, 2014). In addition to universities, majors or study programs chosen should be in accordance with the abilities and interests of the students concerned. If a student chooses a department according to their abilities and interests, then he will be able to survive in facing difficulties during college.

According to Slameto (2003), the factors that influence interest are a) Motivation and ideals, Motivation is usually in the form of encouragement from within to achieve something. Encouragement or desire to achieve something can lead to interest in entering college. b) Willingness, Willingness is a spiritual activity that causes a human being to be able to take various actions necessary to achieve certain goals. c) Interest, interest is a feeling of being happy, captivated, interested in something. d) Environment, which includes conditions in this world which in certain ways affect our behavior, growth, our development except genes. e) Friends Influence of associates of students is more easily accepted into themselves, according to their development. f) Brother, If students have a brother who is a college graduate and has a successful job, then a little more students will be attracted to college as well. g) School conditions, school conditions also affect the mindset and actions of students in achieving something. Due to the limitations of the researcher, the factors observed in influencing students' interest in choosing a college are 1) Motivation and ideals, 2) Interest, 3) Parents, 4) Friends, 5) Brothers and 6) School environment. The observed factor is considered to be able to describe the interest of students continuing their education to the tertiary high school students of Sungai Penuh.

Previous research conducted by Suprpto (Suprpto, 2007) in his thesis research in Purworjo which concluded from the results of the analysis showed that the percentage of interest in college enrollment for third grade students in electrical installation engineering program at Vocational High Schools in Purworejo was 73.68% . This means that the interest in entering college students fall into the high category. But in this study it does not explain further what factors influence the interest of class III students in the electrical installation engineering program at Vocational Schools in Purworejo continuing their

education. Meanwhile, according to Sudargono stated that the reason for the XII class high school students to continue their education is because they want to follow in the footsteps of those around them such as neighbors, siblings, and parents who have now succeeded in their fields of work. In addition, distance and cost factors are the main considerations for choosing a university as a place of study (Sudargono, A. et al., 2011). Based on this description, the research conducted aims to collect data related to the magnitude of interest of high school students in continuing their education in higher education as well as the factors that influence the demand in the full river city, Jambi.

## ■ METHOD

This study uses a quantitative approach using multiple regression tests in statistical tests. The population of this study were all high school students of class XII in Sungai Penuh City with sampling techniques using random sampling, so that every class XII student from all high schools in the city of Sungai Penuh had the same opportunity to be sampled.

The research activities began with preliminary observations that showed the problem of the interest of high school students to continue their education to higher education. based on the problem then the researcher writes the problem statement, and the purpose of the study. Furthermore, in collecting researcher data using an instrument in the form of a questionnaire, the questionnaire used was a closed questionnaire distributed to high school students of class XII. Previously the research instruments had been tested for validity and reliability so that valid and reliable instruments were obtained. The data that has been collected is then analyzed using percentage analysis, data normality test and partial test. Then the results of processing data that have been statistically tested are then drawn so as to draw conclusions. Next the researcher wrote the results

of the research that had been carried out in the form of the final report of the study.

The data obtained is primary data obtained directly from high school students of class XII. The instrument used in collecting data is a closed questionnaire that is valid and reliable. The instruments were distributed to the sample who were high school students of class XII. Data collection techniques use questionnaire techniques where researchers provide questions or written statements to respondents. Data that has been collected is then analyzed using several forms of analysis, namely: (1) Percentage analysis, ie raw

data obtained is changed in percentage form, (2) Data Normality Analysis, means that the data obtained is tested for the normality of the data, so that the data can be tested for further statistics. (3) Partial analysis, in testing the partial analysis carried out the regression coefficient significance test or partial correlation or the relationship of each variable.

## ■ RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Based on the results of data collection with instruments that have been prepared, then the data obtained is as follows:

Table 1. Percentage of Student Questionnaire Results in Each Question Item According to Sub-Variables of Student Interest

Variable	Sub variable	Indicator	Percentage (%)	
<b>Interest in students continuing to college, Sungai Penuh, Jambi</b>	a. Motivation and dreams	Want to be a bachelor	90.9	
		Want become a teacher or educator	75	
		Want to be human quality	90.9	
	b. Interest	Interest	Get to know the College in the city of Sungai Penuh	74.6
			Knowing location the college in the city of Sungai Penuh	72,1
			Cost caught up	75.9
			Interested with existing study programs	58.8
	c. Parents	Parents	Support parents	92
			Ability financing	86
			Hope of parents	87.3
	d. Friend	Friend	Friend tell college high	88.3
			Friend want continue education	84.6
			Friend talking about collage in the city of Sungai Penuh	72.4
	e. Brother	Brother	Brother are an alumni of collage and already work	80
			Brothers who get scholarship	81.6
			Brother are an alumni of collage and already work	70.9
	f. Environment school	Environment school	Teacher support	88
			Teacher explanation about collage	87,1
			Many alumni continue education	83.4
			I like the teacher	59.4
Interest Students Continue To Pe rguruan collage			80	

Based on the table above, it was found that the interest of students to continue their education to tertiary education was 80% in the excellent category. Based on this percentage level shows that high school students have requested to continue their education very high. Then the results obtained are carried out as follows:

**1. Normality Test**

Test the normality using the formula from Kolmogorov-Smirnov, from “analyze” select “

Nonparametric Tests” then point to “1-sample KS”, so as to produce the following output.

From the Kolmogorov-Smimov Z column, there was a significant level for indicators of motivation and ideals of 3,060, interests of 2,440, parents of 3,114, friends of 2,832, siblings of 3,039, school environment of 2,149 and interest in Higher Education 1,336. All indicators have a significant level greater than 0.05, meaning that all data are normally distributed.

**Table 2.** One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test

		Motivation & dreams	Interest	parents	Friend	siblings	school environment	Interest to Higher Education
<b>N</b>		200	200	200	200	200	200	200
<b>NormalPar ameters<sup>a, b</sup></b>	Mean	85.62	70.46	88.36	81.70	77.62	79.56	80.06
	Std. Dev	9.390	13.68	10.54	9.40	9.87	9.82	6.92
<b>Most Extreme Differences</b>	Absolute	.216	.173	.220	.200	.215	.152	.094
	Positive	.156	.150	.212	.200	.215	.152	.071
	Negative	-.216	-.173	-.220	-.155	-.190	-.126	-.094
<b>Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z</b>		3.06	2.44	3.11	2.82	3.03	2.14	1.33
<b>Asymp . Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.056

a. The distribution test is Normal.

**2. Double Regression Test**

Multiple regression testing is assisted by SPSS, so the output produced is as follows.

Then can be made equation regression double namely :

$$Y = 0,011 + 0,152X_1 + 0,147X_2 + 0,156X_3 + 0,149X_4 + 0,197X_5 + 0,201X_6$$

From the multiple regression equation above, it means that the interest of students to go

**Table 3 .** Coefficient Regression Double

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Stand Coefficients	T	Sig.	Correlations		
	B	Std.Error	Beta			Zero-order	Partial	Part
<b>1</b> (Constant)	.11	.261		.044	.965			
X1: Motivation &dreams	.152	.002	.206	63.38	.000	.601	.977	.179
X2: Parents	.147	.002	.223	71.18	.000	.543	.981	.201
X3: Friend	.156	.002	.212	62.75	.000	.570	.976	.178
X4: Brother	.149	.002	.213	62.70	.000	.601	.976	.177
X5 :School environment	.197	.002	.279	82,467	.000	.709	.98	.233
X6: Interest	.201	.002	.397	115.38	.000	.774	.993	.326

a. Dependent Variable: Interest to college

to college, if without the six indicators as the independent variable will be 0.011 points, each increase in one point of motivation and ideals without being followed by an increase in other indicators, will increase 0.152 points interest in students continuing their education to higher education, each increase in one point of parental indicators without being followed by an increase in other indicators, will increase 0.147 points of interest students continue their education to higher education, each increase in one friend indicator points without another indicator increase, it will increase 0.156 interest points of students continuing their education to college. each increase in one point of your indicator without an increase in other indicators, it will increase 0.149 points of interest students continue their education to higher education, each increase in one indicator point of the school environment without being followed by an increase in other indicators, will

increase 0.197 points of interest students continue their education to college, and every one point increase in the indicator of attraction without being followed by an increase in other indicators, it will increase 0.201 points of interest in students continuing their education to college.

In addition, the results of the multiple regression test also show the coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) in the following table.

From table 4 above, the coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) is 0.998 which means that sub variables are motivation and ideals ( $X_1$ ), attraction ( $X_2$ ), parents ( $X_3$ ), friends ( $X_4$ ), siblings ( $X_5$ ), the school environment ( $X_6$ ) is able to explain the change in the variable interest in continuing to college ( $Y$ ) by 99.8% while the remaining only 0.2% is another sub variable that is not included in the study this time. This shows the six sub-variables are the main factors in influencing students' interest in continuing their education to college.

**Table 4.** Value Coefficient Determination

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.999 <sup>a</sup>	.998	.998	.27625	.998	20796,211	6	193	.000

a. Predictors: (Constant), Interest, Friends, Parents, Motivation & ideals, school environment, brother

## 2. Test of Significance of Partial Effect (t Test)

Test of significance of partial influence or t test shows how far the influence of one independent variable individually in explaining the variation of the dependent variable. First we determine the value of  $t_{table}$  from the distribution table t by determining the degrees of freedom  $df = n - k = 200 - 7 = 193$  so that it gets table = 1,972. From the results of the t test, it shows

that the six sub-variables have a positive influence in increasing students' interest in continuing their education to college. This also results in multiple regression equations all of which are positive and there is no negative.

## 2. Simultaneous Significance Test (F Test)

The F test shows whether all the independent variables included in the model have a joint effect on the dependent variable. The results of the F test calculation are as follows:

**Table 5 . ANOVA**

	<b>Model</b>	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
<b>1</b>	Regression	9522,551	6	1587,092	20796,211	.000 <sup>a</sup>
	Residual	14,729	193	.76		
	Total	9537,280	199			

a. Predictors: (Constant Interest, Friends, Parents, Motivation & ideals, school environment, brother

b. Dependent Variable: Interest in college

Based on the ANOVA test or the F statistical test, the calculated F value is 20796,211 with a probability level of 0,000. Probability that is much smaller than 0.05, then the regression model can be used to predict interest in higher education or it can be said that the variables of Interest, Friends, Parents, Motivation and ideals, School Environment, and you are jointly influential significantly to wards interest in higher education.

Results obtained from statistical data processing, supported by several previous studies which say that, aspects of student interest are influenced by many factors. Walkington, Clinton, & Mingle, (2016). Describing that student interest is strongly influenced by external factors or often referred to as environmental factors. In the development phase of high school students, children have a strong tendency towards their environment (Indriyanti, & Ivada, 2013, Mc Whaw, & Abrami, 2001, Marsh, & Cooper, 1981). When will increase students' interest in something, things to note is the environment where students are located. Interest is a powerful enough driver for students to do and choose something (Mazer, 2017; Yang, 2016; Chen, & Wang, 2017).

When students are directed to choose a university (College) to continue education, environmental factors will have a quite positive influence (Cheung, 2018; Dierks, Höffler, & Parchmann, 2014). In addition, the potential of

high school students' curiosity towards something and develop themselves in their advanced education, became capital in developing their desire to continue their education. This is a form of collaboration that is quite strong to achieve a high enough presentation in analyzing the phenomenon of high school students who have an interest in continuing their education (Broeckelman-Post, Tacconelli, Guzmán, Rios, Calero, & Latif, 2016; Bickel, Strack, & Bögeholz 2015).

■ **CONCLUSION**

This study aims to look at various factors that can affect the interest of high school students to continue their education to college. This is seen from the level of interest of high school students to continue their education to higher education, as well as the factors that influence it such as motivation and ideals, interests, parents, friends, relatives, and school environment.

Testing the level of student interest in the full river city shows that the interest of high school students to continue their education to college is high. This is influenced positively by the factors of motivation and ideals, interests, parents, friends, relatives, and school environment. By that, in building the interest of high school students to continue their education to higher education, the factors that influence it are quite pending attention.



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