

Why Don't They go on?

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Overview of WHO doesn't attend PSE
Discussion of WHY they don't attend

Research literature on PSE

Factors related to non-attendance

- Family characteristics
- Personal characteristics
- Academic attitudes and performance

Foley analysis

- 1991 School Leavers Survey and 1995 School Leavers Follow up
- Only high school graduates
- MOST IMPORTANT reason for not attending PSE
- Demographic correlates of reasons

Most Important Reason for non-attendance

- Most list non-financial reason
- Financial reason the most common reason
- Other reasons:
 - Wanted time off
 - Indecision
 - No interest in PSE

Foley's Conclusions:

- Money is important but not the only factor
- Money is more of an issue for those who start PSE but do not complete
- Parental education has a strong effect, especially on levels of interest in PSE

COGEM Analysis

- Qualitative one on one interviews
- Includes high school graduates and non-graduates
- Focus on BARRIERS
 - Factors that make it implausible if not impossible to attend PSE
- Focus on REASONS
 - Conscious choice factors that argue against PSE

Other issues

- Obstacles to reconsideration
- Sources of support and information
- Suggestions from the youth

Overall Conclusions

- Complex decision process
- Role of cost
- Role of attitudes and cultural issues

Policy recommendations

- NOT everyone should attend PSE
- Parental education – life long learning; information from school; alternate supports
- Timely, appropriate information on options and financing
- Job market on graduation