

## MAKING VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS MORE ATTRACTIVE FOR STUDENTS TO PREFER: AN ACTION RESEARCH

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### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this action research was to help the students to identify professions appropriate with their abilities, interests and personality traits and to guide the students to technical and vocational training especially at upper secondary level with their own will. Action research strategy in which qualitative methods and quantitative methods were used was selected for this study. As a result of this action research there was a promising difference in terms of the proportional change between the number of the students who graduated from junior high school in the sample and attended to technical and vocational upper secondary schools last year and the number of the students in the sample who has graduated from junior high school and then who will attend to technical and vocational high schools this year. The findings of this research have important implications about how vocational and technical secondary education can be updated, improved, increased the quality and attractiveness, well-organized according to market needs and thus more preferred in Turkey based on the perceptions and preferences of the students who preferred or did not prefer vocational and technical education.

**Key Words:** Technical and vocational secondary education, students, action study.