Introduction to Career Development

Student’s Name

Institutional Affiliation

Choosing a career path is one of the most important things that a person does since this subsequently dictates the course of their life. Career planning is therefore instrumental in making a fruitful decision. A student must first decide the career they would like to venture into. This is done by careful self-inspection, reflection and exploration. A student should ensure that the path chosen suits their personality (Aksomitis, 2011). This can easily be done by taking the Myers- Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) which gives a clear understanding into a person’s personality. For example, it would be unwise for people who are generally introverted to venture into careers that would involve a lot of human interaction. The Dependable Strengths Articulation Process (DSAP) helps one to identify their strong suits which subsequently factors into decisions about a chosen career, for example, one may decide to become a writer after undertaking DSAP (Niles & Harris, 2017). The tests mentioned above are effective in career planning as well as development of personal traits such as self-esteem. Additionally, a person’s career choice should be mapped into their personal beliefs and faith. This is because a task is best accomplished if it does not conflict with the doer’s creeds.

The next step after making an appropriate career choice or significantly reducing the pool under consideration is to create a marketable version of yourself. This is usually done by résumés, an elevator pitch and via job search. A résumé should be written in such a way that it highlights key strengths and sets you apart from other job seekers (V, 2011). An elevator speech is a short summary of yourself and typically answers the question “why you”. One should be able to market themselves in such a way that approximately thirty seconds is sufficient to convince potential employers of their proficiency. Job search can be a tiresome part of career development. However, the advent of job-searching apps like LinkedIn helps to make things much easier provided that one has a strong, professional online profile. With the right approach, career development can be a smooth ride.

References

Aksomitis, L. (2011). Choosing a Career. Farmington Hills, MI: Greenhaven.

 Niles, S.G., Harris, J.B. (2017). Career development interventions. Boston: Pearson