

The Impact of Family Socio-economic Status on Access to Higher Education in Vietnam

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ABSTRACT The importance of university education as a solution to the advancement of a nation cannot be overemphasised. However, it has been observed in Vietnam that the socio-economic situation of the family is one of the factors affecting students' access to higher education. Therefore, it became imperative to analyse the influence of these factors on the grade 12 students, by taking cognisance of how they affect the continuity of their university education. The study was conducted on 788 participants (including 394 students and 394 parents of these students) in Da Nang city, by means of questionnaire surveys. Results show that low family income and university expenses are major barriers to students' decision to attend university, and that the cost of private tutoring adds to this burden. The research recommends that the state should have policies on students' credit to enhance the ability to complete university education.