PRINT: ISSN 0971-8923 ONLINE: ISSN 2456-6756 JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES Interdisciplinary Reflection of Contemporary Society

© Kamla-Raj 2012 PRINT: ISSN 0971-8923 ONLINE: ISSN 2456-6756 J Soc Sci, 31(1): 27-42 (2012) DOI: 10.31901/24566756.2012/31.01.04

Measuring Students' Attitudes to Economics Education: A Factorial Analysis Approach

Micheal M. van Wyk

Department of Teacher Education, College of Education, University of South Africa, South Africa

KEYWORDS Economics Education. Attitude to Economics Education Scale (ATTEE Scale). Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA). Reliability Analysis. Regression Analysis

ABSTRACT The importance of economic education goes far beyond the goal of improving an understanding of the basic principles of supply and demand and the workings of our economy. Economic attitudes and opinions should be a topic of interest to teachers of economics, whether they teach it as a separate course or integrate it into the existing curriculum. This study explores students' perceptions of economics education by using an exploratory factor analysis (EFA). An attitude towards economics education (ATEE) scale was constructed to collect data. Seven factors were extracted by using a rotated factor matrix. Female students outperformed male students pertaining to continuous assessment marks. Final examination results revealed that male students' achievements were significantly higher than female students.