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IF I COULD INVENT SOMETHING NEW

Ruminating on this topic, what strikes my mind is an issue that is ongoing in my family between my parents. My father observed that I am outspoken and like reading and writing. Considering these attributes, he feels I will be a better student if I study *Arts*. He went further to explain prospects in *Arts* which include; writing poems, Poet, Broadcasting, Playwriting, Journalism, Law, International Relations among others. However, on the other hand, my mother is much more interested in the sciences. She particularly wants me to study nursing. She believes nursing has a better prospect than any other carrier in the Arts. She is of the opinion that, considering the current economic situation in Nigeria if I study nursing, it will be easier for me to get foreign opportunities to work and live abroad and have a better life.

Though I quite comprehend the opinions of both parents of mine, however, I would have loved a situation in which a technology is in place to assist young people like me take decisions on the career to pursue. Such technology should be able to match people's cognitive, affective and psychomotor abilities together and guide them on career path. In line with this, what I would like to invent is what I call '*Career Identifier*'. It is a technology that is able to put every attributes such as; heredity, background, upbringing,

likes, dislikes, life experience, emotion, interest, academics among other relevant factors into consideration and guide young people to choose a career.

Many young people in Nigeria choose the wrong careers because of a lack of knowledge, inexperience, peer pressure, recommendations from friends, parents, and teachers, or because of the prestige associated with particular professions without receiving enough career counselling and vocational help. As a result, a large number of individuals are unsuitable for their employment since they typically work in positions that don't meet their values. They become a bother to both their employers and themselves when this happens. They end up being a liability to the country in the long run since they are unable to have a significant impact on their immediate surroundings. Many parents and guardians in Nigeria force their children and wards respectively to study certain courses such as; Medicine, Law, Pharmacy, Engineering etc. because of the success of the people who are into such professions, not considering the fact that success does not solely rely on those professions.

The importance of children interest in any career cannot be overemphasized when taking decisions on career path. I learnt there had been instances where some people, on completion of courses imposed on them by their parents, gave the certificate to their parents and returned back to universities to study preferred courses.

Taking decisions on career path has a lot of factors to be put into consideration and should not be handled with levity, Experience has shown that stakeholders such as counselors, parents and teachers opinions are not sufficient enough in handling career

decisions; Hence, inventing a *Career Identifier* will go a long way in resolving this important matter.

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