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## Values of Counselor Trainees: the Effects of Gender and Grade Level

### Abstract

In the present cross-sectional study, counselor trainees (N=189) enrolled in a Turkish state university were surveyed regarding their values. Data was collected by using Profile Values Questionnaire developed by Schwartz. The results of two separate MANOVA revealed significant gender differences for value types among counselor trainees, indicating that females are more likely to espouse benevolence, universalism, and hedonism values, and males are more likely to espouse power values. In addition, there were significant differences between first and last year trainees in terms conformity and hedonism values. First year trainees attributed greater importance to conservation values than did fourth year counselor trainees.

**Key Words:** *values, counselor trainees*

### 1. Introduction

School counselors are in a unique position to guide their clients in their decisions, which often has a critical impact on their lives. The career decision making process is one in which counselors are responsible for helping their clients. However, especially in countries in which counseling is a newly developed profession, like Turkey, whether the counselors themselves made their career decisions well is a topic of concern.

Based on the career counseling literature, it is known that different careers fit better with different characteristics. In other words, interests, values, personalities, etc. play an important role in people's career choices and then in their career