

Paper Summary

Career as a Professional Gamer: Gaming Motives as Predictors of Career Plans to Become a Professional Esport Player

This paper explores the perspective of gaming that it can be more than just an addiction, gaming community in competitive scene are now judged as an esports (Electronic Sports) Nowadays, gaming is not just a source for entertainment but it may be now considered as one of the career paths. This paper tries to explain about the it's career path and also the possible motivations for it. The limitation of this study is that the survey and experiment are done only in Hungary and the participants are only hungarian, so this may not show the accurate outcome of the current whole generation. First of all, esports have the same practice as other sports, there are organised tournaments with rules and regulation like other sports and also the competition will also be broadcasted. The esport is a growing opportunity, based on 2017-2019, the revenue in the esport industry in the States grew from \$655 million to \$1,096 million in 2019 (Newzoo,2019). Also as esports are now considered as a career, it can now be recognized as a sport activity, so some of the top University already did provide the scholarships for professional gamers (e.g., UC Berkeley & UC Irvine).

But what separates professional gamers from casual gamers are their motivations. Most of the professional gamers have the same attitude, they did play it for enjoyment but that's not all of it. Professional gamers usually have the similar motivations which they believe that gaming can satisfy their life goals such as power and achievements. While casual gamers mostly only seek entertainment from it. So why career plans in esports can be considered as an important factor. The survey was conducted by gamers in the Hungarian gaming community (N=190). From the 190 participants, only 1.6% have already had a gaming career, while 62.1% of the participants did not have their career plan yet (Play for fun participants). But what is really interesting is that the esport career does not only end with players, organisers, or event sponsors. Esports has created many profession such as esports player, esports manager, esports coach, esports psychologist, esports commentator, esports analyst. The industry has open ways for many career opportunities by itself. Lastly the paper indicates about the importance of the mental health for the esports player which are currently overlooked since most of the people

does not aware the stress from the competition or even from the player themselves (e.g., desire for greatness, pressure, insecure).

Reference :

Bányai, F., Zsila, Á., Griffiths, M. D., Demetrovics, Z., & Király, O. (2020). Career as a professional gamer: Gaming motives as predictors of career plans to become a professional Esport Player. *Frontiers in Psychology, 11*. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.01866>