



A STUDY ON AWARENESS OF ONLINE EMPLOYMENT SCAM

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ABSTRACT

In the digital age, online employment opportunities have surged, presenting both genuine opportunities and deceptive pitfalls. This abstract explores the growing awareness of online employment scams, shedding light on their intricacies, impacts, and preventive measures. With the proliferation of remote work, individuals are increasingly vulnerable to sophisticated schemes promising lucrative jobs but delivering financial loss and emotional distress. Understanding the modus operandi of these scams, such as fake job postings, fraudulent payment requests, and identity theft, is crucial for safeguarding against them. Moreover, raising awareness through education, dissemination of information, and collaboration between stakeholders can empower individuals to discern legitimate opportunities from malicious ploys. Through proactive measures and informed decision-making, individuals can navigate the virtual employment landscape with resilience and confidence, mitigating the risks posed by online employment scams.

KEYWORDS: Phishing, Identity theft, work from home, Upfront payment, Payment request.

INTRODUCTION

The rise of online employment opportunities has transformed the job for individuals a convenient avenue to seek employment from the comfort of their homes. This has also given rise to a concerning a rapid increase in online employment scams . Employment fraud is the attempt to defraud people seeking employment by giving them false hope of better employment, offering better working hours, more respectable tasks, future opportunities, or higher wages. They often advertise at the same locations as genuine employers and may ask 2 for money in exchange for the opportunity to apply for a job. A job scam is a type of fraud where a company – or someone posing as a company – targets a job hunter. The sensitive information is then issued by the fraudsters in many ways, compromising the privacy and security of the job seekers. They do so in order to obtain money or free work from the individual. As technology advances, so do the tactics of fraudsters who exploit unsuspecting job seekers. Scammers offer jobs that pay well with low effort. But it's only the scammer that will make money in the end.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- To assess the level of awareness among individuals about online employment scam
- To examine the tactics used by scammers in online employment scams
- To analyse the effectiveness of current measures in place to prevent online employment scams.
- To Explore the psychological factors that influence individuals' decision-making when it comes to online job opportunities

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Sample Size

The sample size of this study is 125 responses.

Area of Study

The area covered under this research is Coimbatore city.

Source of data

This study receives data from primary source of data collected through circulation of Google forms.



FINDINGS AND RESULTS

SIMPLE PERCENTAGE

TABLE NO 1 GENDER

Gender	No of respondents	Percentage
Male	42	36.8
Female	72	63.2
Total	114	100.0

Source : Primary Data

INTERPRETATION

The above table shows that out of 114 respondents,36.8% are male and 63.2% are female.

It is Inferred that the (63.4%) of the respondents are female.

TABLE NO 2 - AGE

Age	No of respondents	Percentage
18 – 21	33	28.9
22- 25	64	56.1
26 – 29	8	7.0
30 and above 30	9	7.9
Total	114	100.0

(Source : Primary Data)

INTERPRETATION

The tables shows that out of 114 respondents ,28.9% are in the age group of 18-21% age, 56.1 % are in the age group of 22-25

age, 7.0 % are in the age group of 26-29 age and 7.9% are in the age group of 30 and above 30 age.

It is inferred that the (56.1%) of the respondents are between the age group of 22-25 years.

TABLE NO 3 INCOME

Income	No of respondents	Percentage
100000-200000	63	55.3
200001-300000	20	17.5
300001-400000	14	12.3
Above 400000	17	14.9
Total	114	100.0

(Source : Primary Data)

INTERPRETATION

The above table shows that out of 114 respondents, 55.3% are 100000-200000 income,17.5% are 200001-300000

income,12.3% are 300001-400000 income and 14.9% are above 400000.

It is inferred that the (55.3%) of the respondents are between the income group of 100000-200000.

ANOVA

TABLE NO 4 - SHOWS EDUCATION AND FACTORS INFLUENCING TO TAKE DECISIONS

ANOVA						
		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Financial Depression	Between Groups	3.464	3	1.155	.811	.490
	Within Groups	156.606	110	1.424		
	Total	160.070	113			



Trustworthiness	Between Groups	.558	3	.186	.187	.905
	Within Groups	109.380	110	.994		
	Total	109.939	113			
Fear of missing out	Between Groups	5.004	3	1.668	1.292	.281
	Within Groups	142.013	110	1.291		
	Total	147.018	113			
Emphasis on salary offer	Between Groups	19.177	3	6.392	4.270	.007
	Within Groups	164.682	110	1.497		
	Total	183.860	113			
Personal validation on employment	Between Groups	21.959	3	7.320	3.053	.032
	Within Groups	263.698	110	2.397		
	Total	285.658	113			

H0: There is no significant association between education and factors influencing to take decision.

H1: There is a significant association between education and factors influencing to take decision.

(Source : Primary Data)

INTERPRETATION

The above table gives a result of relationship between education and factors influencing to take decision on online employment using one way ANOVA.

Relationship between education and financial depression

From the table the significant value of association between education and financial depression of assistance is >0.05 . So, we are accepting null hypothesis and rejecting alternative hypothesis. So, there is no significant association between education and financial depression.

Relationship between education and trust worthiness

From the table the significant value of association between education and trust worthiness of assistance is >0.05 . So, we are accepting null hypothesis and rejecting alternative hypothesis. So, there is no significant association between education and financial depression.

Relationship between education and fear of missing out

From the table the significant value of association between education and fear of missing out of assistance is >0.05 . So, we

are accepting null hypothesis and rejecting alternative hypothesis. So, there is no significant association between education and financial depression.

Relationship between education and emphasis on salary offer

From the table the significant value of association between education and emphasis on salary offer of assistance is <0.05 . So, we are rejecting null hypothesis and accepting alternative hypothesis. So, there is significant association between education and financial depression.

Relationship between education and personal validation on employment

From the table the significant value of association between education and personal validation on employment of assistance is <0.05 . So, we are rejecting null hypothesis and accepting alternative hypothesis. So, there is significant association between education and financial depression.

TABLE NO 5 - PERSONAL FACTORS AND LEARNING ABOUT ONLINE JOB SCAM

Factor	p value	Dif	sag. Value	S/NS
Occupation	22.015a	9	0.009	S
Gender	8.963a	3	0.030	s
Income	5.943a	9	0.746	NS

Note: S: Significant (p value ≤ 0.05), NS: Not Significant (p value > 0.05)

(Source : Primary Data)



INTERPRETATION

H0: There is no significant association between personal factors and learning about online employment scam

H1: There is a significant association between personal factors and learning about online employment scam

From the table, p value chi square test is less than 0.05. So, we are accepting the null hypothesis and rejecting the alternative

hypothesis and in two case p value of chi square test is greater than 0.05. So, we are rejecting null hypothesis and accepting alternative hypothesis.

It is concluded that the occupation and gender have significant associations on learning about online job scam and income have no significant association on the learning about online employment scam.

TABLE NO 6 COMPARISION OF MARTIAL STATUS AND FAMILIARITY OF COMMON ONLINE JOB SCAM

Factor	p value	Dif	sag. Valu	S/NS
Education	26.045a	9	0.002	S
Martial status	21.427a	3	<.001	S
Residential status	7.487a	6	0.278	NS

Note: S: Significant (p value <=0.05), NS: Not Significant (p value >0.05)
(Source : Primary Data)

INTERPRETATION

H0: There is no significant association between personal factors and learning about online employment scam

H1: There is a significant association between personal factors and learning about online employment scam

From the table, p value chi square test is less than 0.05. So, we are accepting the null hypothesis and rejecting the alternative hypothesis and in two case p value of chi square test is greater than 0.05. So, we are rejecting null hypothesis and accepting alternative hypothesis.

It is concluded that the education and martial status have significant association o familiarity of online employment scam and no significant association on the residential status and familiarity of online employment scam.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Online employment scams represent a multifaceted and evolving threat in the digital landscape. Enhancing consumer education and awareness, strengthening collaboration between industry stakeholders and law enforcement agencies, implementing more stringent verification processes on online job platforms, and developing technological solutions to detect and mitigate fraudulent activities. Awareness of online employment scams is crucial for protecting oneself from falling victim to fraudulent schemes. By educating individuals about the common tactics used by scammers, providing tips for identifying suspicious job postings, and promoting skepticism towards overly lucrative offers, we can empower people to make informed decisions and avoid becoming victims of online employment scams.

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