Abstract: The article presents psychological characteristics of an ambitious person. Based on the analysis of empirical studies of ambition and analysis of questionnaires diagnosing ambition we identified 7 groups of characteristics: goals, achievement motivation, self-attitude, attitude to other people, attitude to professional activity, self-regulation, cognitive characteristics.

Key words: ambition, psychological characteristics of ambitious person

Introduction

Ambition as a person’s desire for recognition and importance is realized in various spheres of human activity, manifested in certain personality traits and characteristics of behavior, specified in other motives and goals of person, interrelated with other psychological characteristics of person [1; 2].

Analysis of modern empirical studies of ambition [4; 5; 6] and analysis of the content of questionnaires [3] that diagnose ambition, allowed us to identify the groups of psychological characteristics of an ambitious person.

Results and discussion

As a result of analysis, the following 7 groups of the psychological characteristics of ambition were identified: goals, achievement motivation, self-attitude, attitude to other people, attitude to professional activity, self-regulation, cognitive characteristics.

Goals: recognition by others; success in life; social and professional "top"; career; leadership positions. Planning and setting of specific goals; consistent, active achievement of goals.

Achievement motivation: high achievement motivation; strong desire for self-actualization and self-development; striving to achieve more than parents; striving to be better than others; low daydreaming; aspiration to win; motivational tension.

Self-attitude: positive self-esteem and self-attitude, "I am as good as anyone"; dissatisfaction with oneself and with what was achieved; sensitivity to criticism. As an example, one can give the following statement: "You are satisfied with oneself only when you do something significant." All this contributes to the fact that a person is making efforts to develop certain qualities and looking for ways to improve one’s potential. Ambitious person tries to learn from one’s victories and defeats, setbacks strengthen his desire to succeed.

Attitude to other people: dominance; kind-heartedness; competitiveness; comparing oneself, one’s potential with other people; sympathy for the people who have achieved a lot in life; "top-down" attitude towards people who have not reached success; willingness to challenge competitors. As an example, we could use the following statement: "You are angry, if people of your intellectual level achieve more than you."
Attitude to professional activity: willingness to move to another city or country for higher position and career advancement; willingness to be a manager; willingness to change work, even lose the reached position, for the other, more interesting; willingness to make efforts to achieve the goal; willingness to work in one’s free time and weekends to achieve the goal; work for oneself and not for the others; recognition is an incentive for activity.

Self-regulation: courage; emotional stability; willingness to take risks; planning of time; failure to "play well"

Cognitive characteristics: flexibility and critical thinking; open-mindedness; interest in solving complex problems; radicalism (according to Cattell)

Conclusion

As a result we can note:

1. The main goals of ambitious person are recognition by others and social and professional "top". The ambitious person actively and consistently achieves the goals.

2. Motivational characteristics dominate (achievement motivation).

3. Contradictory characteristics of self-attitude: positive self-attitude, in general, but we also noted dissatisfaction with oneself, with the achieved results, that is an incentive.

4. Partly contradictory characteristics of attitude to other people: competitiveness and comparing oneself with others, attitude to people depending on their success.

5. The incentives of professional activity are recognition and interesting work. Also ambitious the person is ready to work intensively, to work in free time, to change the work for to make a career and achieve the professional “top”.

6. The main characteristics of self-regulation and cognitive characteristics help to achieve the goals.

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