

Determining Students' Motivation For Learning Physics

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Abstract. Most teachers and researchers would like to know more about the factors which may facilitate or prevent students' deep involvement in learning. Learning is a complex mental phenomenon influenced by many factors. One of these factors is students' motivation. On Faculty of Science, Department of Physics in Novi Sad, it is recognized a problem of a small number of first-year students of this study. This problem has initiated the research which is aim to determine a degree of students' motivation to learn Physics. For this research it was used a standardized questionnaire SMTSL (Students' Motivation toward Science Learning). The sample consisted of a total of 1,853 students from the first to the fourth grade of all 4 Grammar schools in Novi Sad, Serbia. The research was conducted from Mart to May 2016. The main results indicated that the Physics learning value and Self-efficacy had lower values. This means that students do not see the importance of Physics in their everyday life. Also, results indicated that students of Natural Science department have a higher score than other students for the application of active learning strategies, while students of Socio-Linguistic department have a higher score than other students for motivation oriented to achievements. The obtained results indicated a need for a change the way on which is fundamental sciences presented to the students and their application in real life.

Keywords: Physics; Motivation; Grammar school; Physics learning value; Students' Motivation toward Science Learning (SMTSL).