

# **From Science Student to Law Student: Finding Purpose and Direction**

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**Abstract-** This article explores the journey of transitioning from a science background to the study of law, highlighting the process of discovering purpose and personal direction. While academic and societal expectations often encourage fixed career paths, this work reflects on the internal conflict that arises when one's chosen path no longer aligns with personal values and aspirations. Through a reflective and experiential approach, the article emphasizes the importance of self-awareness, courage, and adaptability in making life-changing decisions. The discussion reveals that true fulfilment is found not in staying on a predetermined path, but in pursuing one that aligns with individual purpose. This study contributes to ongoing conversations about career transitions, especially among young people navigating uncertainty and identity.

**Keywords:** Purpose, Career Transition, Personal Growth, Law, Self-Discovery, Education

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

For many students, life follows a structured path—choose a field, stay committed, and build a future within it. This expectation often creates a sense of certainty, even when that certainty is not entirely genuine. Like many others, I once believed I had my path clearly defined. I began as a science student, continued into the university studying Pure and Applied Biology, and followed what appeared to be a logical and widely accepted direction.

At first, the choice made sense. It was stable, respectable, and aligned with conventional expectations. However, as time progressed, a quiet but persistent realization began to emerge—something was missing. Despite academic progress, there was a growing sense of disconnection between what I was studying and what I truly wanted.

This article examines that turning point—the moment of questioning, the decision to change direction, and the journey toward alignment. It reflects on the broader challenge many young people face: choosing between staying on a familiar path and pursuing one that genuinely reflects who they are becoming.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Career development has long been viewed as a linear process, where individuals choose a path early and progress steadily within it. However, recent perspectives highlight the importance of adaptability, self-awareness, and personal fulfillment in shaping career decisions.

Scholars have emphasized that purpose is not always immediate or fixed; rather, it evolves through experience and reflection. Career transitions, once seen as setbacks, are now increasingly recognized as opportunities for growth and realignment.

Among young people, societal expectations often create pressure to remain on a chosen path, even when it no longer aligns with personal aspirations. This has led to a growing need for discussions around flexibility, courage, and the value of redefining one's direction. The shift from science to law, in this context, reflects a broader theme of intentional change driven by purpose rather than convenience.

## 3. METHODOLOGY

This study adopts a reflective and narrative-based approach, grounded in personal experience and observation.

### 1. Objective Definition

- To explore the experience of transitioning between academic disciplines
- To highlight the role of self-awareness in discovering purpose

### 2. Scenario Development

- Personal academic journey from science to law
- Broader societal expectations influencing career decisions

### 3. Setup and Configuration

- Analysis based on lived experience, reflection, and conceptual understanding

### 4. Step-by-Step Execution

- Identification of misalignment in initial academic path
- Decision-making process involved in changing direction
- Adaptation to a new field of study

### 5. Data Collection

- Personal insights and experiences
- Observations of common challenges among students

### 6. Evaluation and Iteration

- Reflection on outcomes, including fulfillment, engagement, and clarity

### 7. Conclusion and Next Steps

- Drawing lessons for individuals facing similar decisions

#### 4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The journey from science to law reveals a powerful truth: progress is not always about continuing in the same direction—it is about moving in the right one.

Initially, remaining in the science field provided stability but lacked fulfillment. The decision to change paths, though difficult, created a sense of clarity and alignment. Law, as a field, offered more than academic interest—it represented purpose. It connected deeply with values such as justice, advocacy, and meaningful contribution.

Transitioning into law was not without challenges. Moving from a scientific framework to the humanities required a shift in thinking, communication, and analysis. Yet, rather than feeling out of place, there was a growing sense of engagement. The more I learned, the more I became certain that the decision to change course was the right one.

This experience also reflects a broader reality. Many individuals continue on paths that no longer serve them due to fear, pressure, or uncertainty. However, the findings here suggest that real growth often begins at the point of discomfort—when one is willing to question, reflect, and take decisive action.

Importantly, the time spent studying science was not wasted. It contributed to discipline, critical thinking, and intellectual development. More significantly, it provided clarity by highlighting what was not aligned, making it easier to recognize what truly was.

#### 5. CONCLUSION

The journey from science to law is not a story of starting over, but a story of realignment. It demonstrates that purpose is not always discovered in certainty, but often in moments of doubt and reflection.

This article emphasizes that choosing a path should not be driven solely by expectations, but by alignment with one's values, strengths, and aspirations. While changing direction may involve uncertainty, it also creates the opportunity for deeper fulfillment and meaningful growth.

Ultimately, finding purpose is less about having everything figured out early, and more about having the courage to make honest decisions along the way.

#### 6. RECOMMENDATION

- Students should be encouraged to explore their interests rather than feel confined to a single path
- Educational systems should support flexibility in career transitions
- Young people should prioritize alignment and purpose over societal expectations
- Mentorship and guidance programs should address the realities of career uncertainty

#### 7. REFERENCES

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