

INFLUENCE OF PARENTING STYLES AND RELIGIOSITY ON ATTITUDE TOWARDS
DRUG USE/ABUSE AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS OF EKITI STATE
UNIVERSITY

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Abstract: This study investigated the influence of parenting styles and religiosity on undergraduate attitude towards drug use/ abuse. The independent variables were parenting styles and religiosity while the dependent variable is attitude towards drug use/abuse; a survey research using expo-facto study was utilized in this study. The study was carried among undergraduate of Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti. A total number of Two hundred participants were used. The respondent/ participant were selected randomly; they were given questionnaire that consists of four sections. section A comprises of the demographic data of the participants, section B measures attitude towards drug use using Drug Attitudes Scale (DAS), section C measures religiosity using the Santa Clara Strength of Religiosity faith questionnaire (SCSORF) and section D measures parenting styles using the Parental Care Scale (PCS) Six hypotheses were tested using appropriate statistics. The result of the research revealed authoritarian parenting style have independent influence on undergraduate attitude towards drug abuse/use ($t = 2.596 < .05$), parenting styles jointly have significant influence on undergraduate attitude towards drug use ($F(3,196) = 3.77p < .05$) and religiosity does not have significant influence on attitude towards drug use ($F(21,178) = .974 p > .05$). Findings were discussed according to literature and theories while recommendations were suggested. It was recommended to social scientist that they should bring up seminar to teach undergraduate the adverse effect of drug abuse. It was concluded in this study that it was only Authoritarian parenting styles that has influence on undergraduate attitude towards drug abuse/use.

Keywords: Parenting Styles, Religiosity and Attitude towards Drug Abuse

Introduction

Due to the increase in the rate at which undergraduate now became addicted to drug i.e. most of our youth/undergraduate now use illegal drugs or use legal drugs in an illegal way, Youth have been reported as deemed to be at higher risk of substance abuse because of the environment they are living in (Balogun, 2006)., it has led to a serious problem in the society and it has been a thing of concern to the society as large. Drug abuse is a major public health problem all over the world (UNODC, 2005). The use and abuse of drugs by adolescents have become one of the most disturbing health related phenomena in Nigeria and other parts of the world (NDLEA; 1997). It is the interest of this research to know the cause and the solution for this problem. Many factors have been attributed to this illegal act of the adolescent, factors which includes self- esteem, depression, neglect, deprivation, peer group pressure e.t.c. Factors such as parental style and level of religiosity might also be a predictor of adolescent attitude towards drug abuse. Since drug abuse is one of the contemporary problems facing our society nowadays, it is the interest of this research to know how this two factors i.e parenting style and religiosity would influence undergraduate/adolescence attitude towards drug abuse

Purpose of the Study

This aim of this present research is to examine the influence of parental style and religiosity on attitude towards drug abuse among undergraduates in Ekiti State University. The objectives of the study include:

- to find out the influence of parental styles on attitude towards drug abuse.
- to evaluate whether religiosity will influence attitude towards drug abuse.

Relevance of the Study

This study will help the societies such as government, parents, guardians, caregivers, religious leaders and even undergraduate themselves to understand the influence parenting styles and religiosity had on attitude towards drug abuse.

The main importance of this study is to add to the growing body of knowledge concerning parenting styles and religiosity, their effects and relationships and also their influence on undergraduate attitude towards drug abuse. Furthermore, this study will be the basis on which other researchers that are concerns with the needs to educate parents, guardians, care givers, governments, religious leaders and even the undergraduate themselves on the importance of parenting care on children/adolescent attitude towards the use of substance. And the needs to educate parents, guardians, care givers, governments, religious leaders and even the under graduate themselves on the effect of level of religiosity on student attitude towards drug abuse.

It will help in sensitizing and orientating parents about the benefits of positive parenting styles and the negative influence of bad parenting styles on personality development of adolescents. In conclusion, the study will also serves as intellectual source and stimulus for further research and challenge for further studies in its area.

Hypotheses

1. There will be joint significant influence of parenting styles on undergraduate attitude towards drug use.
2. There will be an independent influence of Authoritarian parenting styles on undergraduate attitude towards drug use.
3. There will be an independent influence of Authoritative parenting styles on undergraduate attitude towards drug use.
4. There will be an independent influence of permissive parenting styles on undergraduate attitude towards drug use.
5. There will be a significant influence of religiosity on attitude towards drug use.

Research Method

This research is purely a survey method of research that attempt to investigates, measure and sample people's opinion on the impacts of parenting styles and religiosity on undergraduates attitude towards drug use through the use of standardized questionnaires. This chapter deals with the processes of research, research participants used sample and sampling techniques, measures, procedures for data collection and statistical analysis, this study is limited to Ekiti state Undergraduates.

This research adopted the use of ex-post facto research design because none of the variables of study was subjected to active manipulation; rather they were measured as occurred. The independent variables of this research are parenting styles and religiosity. The dependent variable is Attitude towards drug abuse.

The participants are used in this research work are Ekiti State University Undergraduates, these people are undergraduate that belong to different backgrounds, adolescents stages, gender, and socio-economic status. A total numbers of 200 respondents is used for this study.

The participants were 200, in term of sex: 104 males i.e 52% and 96 females i.e 48%, in terms of religion: 146 christain i.e 73%, 52 muslim i.e 26% and 2 traditionalist i.e 1%

Purposive selection method is used because the research has a specific sampling techniques or purposive sample. So the participants were purposively selected in Ekiti State University.

A questionnaire was use to collect data from the field. This questionnaire was design in sections comprising of standardized scales as follows: Section A comprises of the demographic data of the participants; such as their sex,

age, religion, type of family and position in family. Section B measures attitude towards drug use using Drug Attitudes Scale (DAS) by Michael S. Goodstadt, Gaynoll Cook, Simmie Magid & Valeria Gruson, (1978) is a sixty self report measure designed to measure individual attitude towards drug abuse, the scale uses 5-point likert ranging from strongly disagree to strongly agree, and is comprised of 10 six-item subscales referring to tranquilizers, barbiturates, heroin, opiates other than heroin, alcohol, cannabis, hallucinogens' tobacco and general drug use. A high degree of internal consistency within attitude subscales is shown by the significant item-total correlation coefficients (median pearson $r = .65$) and large K-r 20 reliability coefficients (median = 0.851). The present subscales satisfactorily meet Nunnally's(1967) suggested standard of reliability (i.e .0.80). Section C measures religiosity using the Santa Clara Strength of Religiosity faith questionnaire (SCSORF) is a ten items self report measure designed to measure strength of religious faith, the scale uses a 4-point likert strongly disagree to strongly agree, scores can range between 10 and 20, with higher aggregate score reflecting stronger levels of strength of religious faith. To score this scale, add the total scores, they will range from 10(low faith) to 40(high faith). The SCSORF was developed for the use among both clinical and non-clinical samples. It is highly standardized, plate & Boccaccini (1997) found the SCSORF to possess a high level of internal consistency, with Cronbach's alphas ranging between .94 and .97 and split-half reliability correlations between .90 and .96. Despite the reported high levels of internal reliability, the factor structure of the SCSORF was not reported by plante and boccaccini (1997). Lewis, (2000) examined the unidimensionality of the SCSORF. A one factor model was tested using confirmatory factor analytic methods using data from a sample of 106 Northern Irish University students (Lewis, 2000). The fit indices showed that the single factor model was an acceptable explanation of the sample data ($\chi^2 = 45$, $df=35$, $p < 0.11$; $RMSEA=0.054$, $SRMR=0.024$). the factor explained 75% of the observed variation. The factor loading were all high ranging from .72 to .91, suggesting that each item is a good indicator of the general construct of strength of religious feeling. Accordingly, the scale was found to be internally consistent with an alpha coefficient of .93. Section D measures parenting styles using the Parental Care Scale (PCS) developed by Baumrid (1971), PCS(parental care scale) or PSS(parental style scales) is a twenty items self- report measures which are designed to measure the type of parenting style that is adopted in the upbringing of a child, this parenting styles is into three categories which includes:

Authoritative style

Authoritarian style

Permissive style

This instrument has been standardized on Nigeria population by Omoluabi(2002). The item is scored by awarding 1 point for each correct response. Baumid (1971) reported an internal consistency alpha co-efficient of 0.86, Omoluabi(2002) obtained a concurrent validity coefficient of 0.73 by correlating PCS(parental care scale) and IFR (index of family relation scale).

The total number of 200 questionnaires was administered to undergraduates in Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti which include classes, churches, and bars in campus. They were briefed about the aim of the research and were told to follow instructions stated by the researcher on the questionnaire. All the 200 questionnaire were retrieve back and analysed.

The six hypotheses generated were analysed using Regression analysis, Independent t-test and One-way Anova.

Hypotheses 1,2,3 and 4 was analysed using regression analysis, hypotheses 5 was analysed using One way Anova and hypotheses 6 was analysed using independent t-test

RESULTS

Table 4.1: Demographic details showing the sex of the respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	96	48.0
Male	104	52.0
Total	200	100.0

Table 4.1 above revealed that 48% of the respondents are females while 52% of the respondents are males.

Table 4.2: Demographic details showing the religion affiliation of the respondents

Religion Affiliation		Frequency	Percentage (%)
	Christian	146	73.0
	Muslim	52	26.0
	Traditional	2	1.0
	Total	200	100.0

Table 4.2 above revealed that 73% of the respondents are Christian, 26% are Muslim while 1% are affiliated with traditional.

Table 4.3: Regression analysis summary table showing the influence of parenting style on attitude towards drug use

MODELS	B	t	P	R	R ²	F	P
Authoritarian	.183	2.596	<.05				
Authoritative	-.112	-1.592	>.05	.234	.055	3.77	<.05
Permissive	.048	.689	>.05				

Table 4.3 above revealed that there is a significant influence of parenting style on attitude towards drug. ($F(3,196) = 3.77 p < .05$).

Table 4.3b: Regression analysis summary table showing the influence of Authoritarian parenting style on attitude towards drug use

MODELS	β	t	P	R	R ²	F	P
Authoritarian	.183	2.596	<.05				

The table revealed that authoritarian parenting style has an independent influence on attitude towards drug use ($t = 2.596 p < .05$).

Table 4.3c: Regression analysis summary table showing the influence of Authoritative parenting style on attitude towards drug use

MODELS	β	t	P	R	R ²	F	P
Authoritative	-.112	-1.592	>.05	.234	.055	3.77	<.05

It was observed from the table that authoritative parenting style does not have an independent influence on attitude towards drug use. ($t = -1.592 p > .05$).

Table 4.3d: Regression analysis summary table showing the influence of Permissive parenting style on attitude towards drug use.

MODELS	B	t	P	R	R ²	F	P
Permissive	.048	.689	>.05				

The table revealed that permissive parenting style does not have an independent influence on attitude towards drug use ($t = .689 p > .05$).

Table 4.4: One way ANOVA summary table showing the influence of religiosity on attitude towards drug use

ANOVA					
Drug attitude					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	8912.505	21	424.405	.974	.498
Within Groups	77554.215	178	435.698		
Total	86466.720	199			

Table 4.4 above revealed that religiosity have no significant influence on attitude towards drug use ($F(21,178) = .974$ $p > .05$)

Discussion

The main objective of this study was to know the effect of parenting styles and religiosity on undergraduate attitude toward drug use. To achieve this, this study was carried out among Ekiti state university undergraduate.

The first hypothesis states that there will be joint significant influence of parenting styles on undergraduate attitude towards drug use was accepted following the findings from the study on this basis ($F(3,196) = 3.77$ $p < .05$). This result shows that the type of parenting styles that parent use has a significant influence on their children attitudes towards drug use. It has been suggested that upbringing styles characterized by lack of affect and hostility are related to greater use of alcohol (Pons & Berjano, 1997) and of other drugs. Findings from Furman, & Cottrell, 2009 also support the result of this study, their study highlighted the importance of control and monitoring on the part of parents, so that the greater the perceived monitoring and control, the lower the substance use.

The second hypothesis states that there will be an independent influence of Authoritarian parenting styles on undergraduate attitude towards drug use, the hypothesis was accepted following the findings from the study on this basis ($t = 2.596$ $p < .05$). These finding is consistent with that of (Berger, 2005) who maintained that parenting styles (authoritarian parenting style) impair the personality .esteem, might be depressed, anxious and frustrated which may leads them to illegal use of drug as an escape from their problem. Authoritarian parenting is a restrictive, punishment-heavy parenting style in which parents make their children follow their directions with little to no explanation or feedback and focus on the child's and family's perception and status. Corporal punishment, such as spanking , and shouting are forms of discipline frequently preferred by authoritarian parents. The goal of this style, at least when well-intentioned, is to teach the child to behave, survive, and thrive as an adult in a harsh and unforgiving society by preparing the child for negative responses such as anger and aggression that the child will face if his/her behavior is inappropriate.

The third hypothesis states that there will be an independent influence of Authoritative parenting styles on attitude towards drug use, the hypothesis was rejected following the findings from the study on this basis ($t = -1.592$ $p > .05$). Authoritative parenting is characterized by a child-centered approach that holds high expectations of maturity. Authoritative parents can understand how their children are feeling and teach them how to regulate their feelings. Even with high expectations of maturity, authoritative parents are usually forgiving of any possible shortcomings. They often help their children to find appropriate outlets to solve problems. Authoritative parents encourage children to be independent but still place limits on their actions. In relation to substance use, the authoritative style of parenting has been associated with lower levels of substance use in children (Rothrauff , 2009) and this negates the

The fourth hypotheses state that there will be an independent influence of permissive parenting styles on undergraduate attitude towards drug use, the hypothesis was rejected following the findings from the study on this basis($t = .689$ $p > .05$). The parent is responsive but not demanding .Indulgent parenting, also called permissive, non-directive, lenient or libertarian, is characterized as having few behavioral expectations for the child. Patock-Peckham, Cheong, Balhorn, and Nagoshi (2001) found that a permissive parent of the same sex as the child was negatively related to the latter's process of self-regulation, which is a protective factor against the use and abuse of alcohol. They also pointed out that a permissive parental style can increase impulsiveness, which would reduce

control over drinking behavior and therefore increase the use of alcohol and problems related to its use (PatockPeckham & Morgan-Lopez, 2006). However, they also stress that having permissive parents increases the children's feelings of independence, which is a protective variable against depression, and therefore against alcohol-related problems (Patock-Peckham & Morgan-Lopez, 2009). "Indulgent parenting is a style of parenting in which parents are very involved with their children but place few demands or controls on them". Parents are nurturing and accepting, and are responsive to the child's needs and wishes. Indulgent parents do not require children to regulate themselves or behave appropriately. The result of my findings was against this hypothesis because my findings revealed that permissive parenting style does not have an independent influence on attitude towards drug use.

The fifth hypotheses state that there will be a significant influence of religiosity on undergraduate attitude towards drug use, the hypothesis was rejected following the findings from the study on this basis ($F(21,178) = .974$ $p > .05$) these findings is consistent with the findings of Amoateng & Bahr 1986. Religiosity has been associated with positive drug related outcome: it can protect adolescents against substance use in number of ways. It may inhibit adolescent risk behavior by altering behavior influencing values or by functioning as an external control factor. Some religious explicitly prohibits substance use, others although they may not prohibits use, but prescribe behavior norms that may operate to discourage its use (Okoye, 2001) greater commitment to religion may engender greater adherence to religiously prescribed conduct norms. Studies have shown that adults and adolescents who believe in the importance of religion are less likely to use tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs (Free 1994: National Centre on addiction and substance abuse 2001). Youth who are less involved in religious activities may be more at risk. (Oetting 1998) Substance users for example have been found out to have lower church attendance and fewer participants in religious activities.

CONCLUSION

This study which is on the effect of parenting styles and religiosity on undergraduate attitude towards drug use and the subsequent findings has been able to fulfill the research objectives through the testing of the proposed hypothesis. Therefore, from the study it can be concluded that:

Parenting style has joint significant influence on undergraduate attitude towards drug use.

Authoritarian parenting style has independent influence on undergraduate attitude towards drug use.

Authoritative parenting style has no independent influence on undergraduate attitude towards drug use.

Permissive parenting style has no independent influence on undergraduate attitude towards drug use.

Religiosity has no significant influence on undergraduate attitude towards drug use.

There is no significant difference in male and female attitude towards drug use among undergraduate.

Recommendations

In the course of this research, few factors that may influence undergraduate attitude towards drug use/abuse is considered, it is recommended that research should further look at the influence of other factors on undergraduate attitude towards drug use/abuse. Parent should take note of the type of styles they will employ in the upbringing of their children. The type of style the parent use in the upbringing of their children determined the type of behaviour they will exhibit. Parent must not be too harsh on their children at the same time they must not be too indulgent.

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