



Parenting Styles and Tendency to Abuse Drugs Among Secondary School Students in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State

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ABSTRACT

The study investigates parenting styles and tendency to abuse drugs among secondary school students in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State. To achieve the purpose of the study, the researcher developed three (3) specific objectives, three research questions and three null hypotheses respectively guided the conduct of the study. The research design used for the study was a correlational research design. The population of the study consists of (SS2) senior secondary school students in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State with a total population size of 11,920 while the study made use of stratified sampling technique to select sample size of 387 senior secondary school students for the study. The instrument used for the data collection was self-structured questionnaire. The data gathered were analyzed using Pearson Product Moment Correlation for both the research questions and test of hypotheses. Based on the analysis of the data, the findings of the study reveals that authoritative parenting style, authoritarian parenting style and permissive parenting style have significant relationship on secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State. Based on the findings of the study, the researcher recommends that: government through the school management should organize workshop or seminars for parents on the importance of authoritative parenting style School management should orient the management staff Parent Teachers Association on the benefits of using authoritarian parenting style and government and non-governmental organization should always preach to parents on the dangers of permissive parenting style.

Keywords: investigate, parenting styles, tendency, abuse drugs, secondary school students, Obio/Akpor.

INTRODUCTION

The role parents play over their children's life cannot be over emphasis. Parents are presumed to have vision for the children they bring into this world. For this purpose, they develop some strategies they use to see the children move through stages of life towards realizing the vision and conforming to acceptable social norms. The practice which parents often use to direct and shape the lives of their children is the parenting styles. Parenting styles is a psychological construct representing standard strategies that parents employ in their child rearing practices to realize their tacit goals for their children (Dike & Galadinma, 2017). Parenting is a complex activity that includes many specific behaviours that work individually and together to influence child-rearing outcomes.

Pamela (2021) also documented that authoritative parenting style is characterized by high expectations of compliance to parental rules and directions, an open dialogue on those rules for behaviours and child centered approach. They are not usually controlling but allow the child to explore freely. Authoritative parents set limits, but demand maturity when punishing a child by explaining their reasons for such

punishment, when a child falls short. Children who are subject to this kind of parenting style may debate or discuss with parents on issues affecting them. However, Fletcher (2017) noted that having at least one authoritative parent can make a huge difference.

Pamala (2021) also recorded that authoritarian parenting style is characterized by high expectation of conformity and adherence to parental rules and directions. These parents expect much from their children but do not explain the reasons for the rules, unlike the authoritative parents. Authoritarian parents are most likely to hit a child as a form of punishment instead of correcting the child by using other corrective measures. Children nurtured with this type of parenting style lack social competence. Authoritarian parents will likely predict what the child should do, instead of allowing the child to take initiatives. These children rarely think on their own, they are socially withdrawn and look up to others to decide on what is right. They lack spontaneity and curiosity. On the opposite side of the spectrum, some children might also rebel by openly defying the parents and leaving home at a tender age as well as dating or marrying a partner whom they know their parents would disapprove and may estranged from their parents during adulthood.

Furthermore, Coplan (2017) reported that permissive parenting style sometimes called Indulgent, non-directive, lenient, libertarian or anti-authoritarian is characterized as having few behavioral expectations from the child. Permissive parents try to be friendly with their children, but do not play a parental role. The expectations of the child are very low and there is no discipline. Such parents also allow children to make their own decisions. This type of parenting is very lax, with few punishments or rules. The parents also tend to give their children whatever they want and hope that they are appreciated for their accommodating style. Darlington (2018) contributed that children of permissive parents are immature, lacked impulse control and are irresponsible. They may tend to be more impulsive and as adolescents may engage more in misconduct such as drug abuse and other anti-social behaviours. Such children never learn to control their own behaviour. However, Sumargi (2019) observed that the children get mature quickly and are able to live life without the help of someone else.

Alegre (2020) acknowledged that children of uninvolved parenting style are given a lot of freedom as this type of parents normally stays out of the way of a child. They fulfill the child's basic needs while generally remaining detached from their child's life. An uninvolved parent does not utilize a particular disciplining style and has a limited amount of communication with their child. They tend to offer a low amount of nurturing while having either few or no expectations of their children.

The increase of drug abuse globally has brought problems such as increase in violence, crimes and diseases like HIV/AIDS, collapse of the veins and collapse in the social structure of the society (Oshodi 2019). Nevertheless, the impact of drug abuse among Nigerian students has been a feature of a moral corruption, wasted generation and loss of societal values and ideals. The situation now appears to be such that no one can argue ignorance of what is happening in schools. Drug abuse threatens the security of every nation, tearing apart the societies, spawning crime, spreading diseases such as AIDS, destroying youths and the future of the country.

Drug abuse is a major public health problem all over the world. 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. Several students experience mental health problem, either temporarily or for a long period of time. Some become insane, maladjusted to school situations and eventually drop out of school (UNOD, 2017).

Statement of the Problem

Drug abuse among secondary school students is a major challenge bewildering our society and it is not only a concern to the teacher and parents but also to the government and the society at large, because of the havoc it has caused families, schools and the large society. The social endemic condition of drug abuse has done more damages and engendered the tendency of crime and loss of values in the country. This condition invaded the educational institution mostly public secondary schools contributing to poor academic achievement, criminal tendencies, stealing, raping, assault, fighting, robbery, cult related activities among secondary school students. Despite all the measures such as institutional laws and

regulations, penalty and strategies that have been deployed to curb and control the menace of drug abuse among students, crime, violence, raping and various forms of criminalities continue to spread in secondary schools.

Drug abuse and other illicit drugs are common in public secondary schools in Nigeria in which Rivers State is not exempted. This may be so due to the negligence of parents at family level which involves building bad family structures and creating negative impression for the children in the family. Hence, drug abuse has brought about grave health challenges and social consequences, such as; risky behaviour, poor educational achievement, mental illness, violence, injury, absenteeism to school, stealing, crime and anti-social behaviour. To curb this menace parents have a vital role to play in the upbringing of a child from childhood to adulthood. Therefore, this study attempts to address parenting styles and tendency to abuse drugs among secondary school students in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to investigate parenting styles and tendency to abuse drugs among secondary school students in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State. Specifically, the study attempted to:

1. Find out if authoritative parenting style relates to secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.
2. Examine if authoritarian parenting style relates to secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.
3. Examine if permissive parenting style relates to secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

Research Questions

To guide the study, the following research questions were formulated:

1. What is the relationship between authoritative parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State?
2. What is relationship between authoritarian parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State?
3. What is the relationship between permissive parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State?

Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were formulated to guide the study at 0.05 level of significance.

- H₀₁: There is no significant relationship between authoritative parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State
- H₀₂: There is no significant relationship between authoritarian parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State
- H₀₃: There is no significant relationship between permissive parenting and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Concept of Parenting Style

Parenting style is purposive activities aimed at ensuring the survival and development of children. It is derived from the Latin word 'parere'- meaning 'to bring forth, develop or educate'. The word 'parenting' is more concerned with the activity of developing and educating children (Clarke & Stewart, 2016). The connotation of the word is that parenting is a positive nurturing activity. Parenting style is the practice of bringing up children. It is the style in which parents adopt in raising their children from the time they are born to adult. Sumargi (2019) recorded that parenting style is referred to the aspects of raising, promoting, supporting the physical, emotional, social and intellectual development of a child from the time the child is born until adulthood.

Eisenberg (2019) sees parenting styles as intricacies of raising a child and not exclusively for a biological relationship. The most common caretaker in parenting is the father or mother, or both, biological parent(s) of the child in question, although a surrogate may be an older sibling, a step-parent, a grandparent, a legal guardian, aunt etc. Governments and society may also have a role in child-rearing. In many cases, orphans or abandoned children receive parental care from non-parent or non-blood relations. Others may be adopted, raised in foster care, or placed in an orphanage. Parenting skills vary, and a parent or surrogate with good parenting skills may be referred to as a good parent. Parenting styles is conceptualized as a constellation of attitudes or a pattern of parental authority towards the child which are conveyed to the child, creating the emotional context for the expression of parent behaviour (Laung & Isang, 2018). It is referred to the manner in which parents raise their children. This can be referred to the parents' levels of expectations, performance demands, attentiveness to rules, etc., as well as the styles of discipline that the parents utilize to enforce their expectations. It is a strategy used by parents to raise a child (Christopher, 2017).

Authoritative parenting style:

Shaffer (2018) sees authoritative parenting style as a more flexible form of parenting where considerable freedom is given to children yet imposes restrictions, but give satisfying reason for the restriction provided and still ensure that children follow the guidelines designed for them. The views of children are taken seriously with two ways communication existing within the family circle, they set out rules and advantages are outlined as benefits for obeying such rules. The parents here are responsive to their children's needs and their point of view.

Masud (2019) contributed that this type of parenting normally develops a close, nurturing relationship with their children. They have clear guidelines for their expectations and explain their reasons associated with disciplinary actions. Disciplinary methods are used as a way of support instead of punishment. Not only can children have input into goals and expectations, but there are also frequent and appropriate levels of communication between the parent and their child. In general, this parenting style leads to the healthiest outcomes for children but requires a lot of patience and effort on both parties. Authoritative parenting results in children who are confident, responsible, and able to self-regulate. Martinez and Gracia (2018) reported that they can manage their negative emotions more effectively, which leads to better social outcomes and emotional health. Since these parents also encourage independence, their children will learn that they are capable of accomplishing goals on their own. This results in children who grow up with higher self-esteem. Also, these children have a high level of academic achievement and school performance (Pong 2017)

Langer (2020) noted that authoritative parents show respect for their children, involve them in family affairs and decision making, engaging them in age appropriate independence while retaining ultimate responsibility. The possible deduction from this point of view is that authoritative parenting style promotes social, intellectual and academic competence in adolescent. There will exist a carryover effect of the family worth to the society thus, such socially well adjusted adolescent will interact freely with people within his environment and would not impose his views upon people rather, will like to reason together with them and there is the likelihood that he will always allow superior arguments or reasoning to take preeminence during argument.

Baumrind as cited by Pamela (2021) supported that parents who use this method raise children who are successful, articulate, and happy with themselves and are generous to others. They are less likely to report depression and low self-esteem, and less likely to engage in anti-social behaviours. Authoritative parenting style is characterized by high expectations of compliance to parental rules and directions. One advantage for this system is that the adolescent here tend to be very obedient, conforming to reported low level of problem behaviour and they are academically competent but tend to have negative perception of their social abilities. These children are usually liked by teachers and peers especially in cultures where individual initiative is valued.

Stack (2019) concluded in their studies that adolescents raised in such homes are energetic, friendly, self reliant, self controlled, cheerful and friendly, copes well with stress, cooperate with adults, curious,

purposeful and achievement oriented. Parents who use the authoritative parenting styles are demanding. They impose rules and standards of behaviour, but they are also responsive and supportive. These parents encourage autonomy and self-reliance, and tend to use positive reinforcement rather than harsh punishment.

Kim and Rohner (2019) observed that authoritative parents are forceful, socially liable, self-organized and united in their upbringing. Moreover, Langer (2020) reported that authoritative parents are friendly, receptive and also exercise rigid control and mature doggedness. In addition, Timpano (2019) also supported that authoritative parents are notable for being adjustable and receptive to the child's demand, but however, they implement sensible standards of behaviour. Authoritative parents set-out boundaries and implement compulsory acceptable level of standards. Moreover, authoritative parents as very receptive, caring, provides reasons for their actions, laws and order are spell-out for their children. Authoritative parents are less expected to control children through introduction of disgrace, blame or disengagement/denial of affection. Rashid (2018) revealed that authoritative parents define explicit standards for their children, checking the boundaries they establish, and permitting the children to develop independence. The parents are vigilant to the child's demands and interests, and will usually pardon and educate instead of disciplining when the child behaviour fails to measure-up to the expected behaviour. Calafat (2017) revealed that authoritative parenting style correlate negatively with drug abuse of secondary school students. Chauke (2016) also collaborated that there is a negative relationship between parent-child communication, parental monitoring and marijuana abuse.

Authoritarian Parenting Style

Authoritarian parents tend to have a one-way mode of communication where a parent establishes strict rules that the child obeys. There is little or no room for negotiations from the child, and the rules are not usually explained. They expect their children to uphold these standards while making no errors. Mistakes usually lead to punishment. Authoritarian parents are normally less nurturing and have high expectations with limited flexibility (Masud et al., 2019).

Authoritarian parenting style is also known as autocratic and rigid form of parenting styles. Rules are given and enforced nearly if not totally to the letter. East and Lassier (2017) noted that with authoritarian parenting, those strict rules are enforced as if they were "divine edicts" These rules are not explained to the adolescent, why they must be followed religiously. Steinberg et al. (2019) also supported that such parents place a high value on obedience and conformity tending to favour more punitive, absolute and forceful disciplinary measures. In this case, the child's independent behaviour is stamped out; the child here tends to operate in accordance to lay down principles handed down by their parents. One advantage for this system is that the adolescent here tend to be very obedient, conforming to reported low level of problem behaviour and they are academically competent, but tend to have negative perception of their social abilities. Shaffer (2018) acknowledged that certain qualities of adolescents who are reared by authoritarian parents are irritable, fearful, apprehensive, moody, unhappy, annoyance, passively hostile, vulnerable to stress, aimless, sulky and unfriendly. The above situation result out of the fact that the adolescent have been over-powered by an authority.

Children that grow up with authoritarian parents are the best-behaved in the room because of the consequences of misbehaving. Additionally, they are better able to adhere to the precise instructions required to reach a goal. Furthermore, this parenting style can result in children who have higher levels of aggression but may also be shy, socially inept, and unable to make their own decisions (Calafat et al., 2017). This aggression can remain uncontrolled as they have difficulty managing anger as they were not provided with proper guidance. They have poor self-esteem, which further results in their inability to make decisions.

Pamela (2021) reported that this parenting style is characterized by high expectation of conformity and adherence to parental rules and directions. These parents expect much from their children but do not explain the reasons for the rules, unlike the authoritative parent. Authoritarian parents are most likely to hit a child as a form of punishment instead of correcting the child by using other corrective measures. Children nurtured with this type of parenting style lack social competence. Authoritarian parents will

likely predict what the child should do, instead of allowing the child to take initiatives. These children rarely think on their own, they are socially withdrawn and look up to others to decide what is right. They lack spontaneity and curiosity. On the opposite side of the spectrum, some of them might also rebel by openly defying the parents' order, by leaving home at a tender age than some of their peers as well as dating or marrying a partner whom they know their parents would disapprove, and often might be estranged from their parents during adulthood.

Benokratis (2019) contributed that parents who use authoritarian styles are often very demanding, rigid, and primitive. They expect absolute obedience from their children and often use forceful measures to control their behaviour. Verbal give-and-take is rare because the child is expected to accept parental authority without question. Authoritarian parents typically show their children little warmth and support and children from these homes are often moody and unfriendly.

Permissive Parenting Style

Permissive parents tend to be warm, nurturing and usually have minimal or no expectations. They impose limited rules on their children. Communication remains open, but parents allow their children to figure things out for themselves. These low levels of expectation usually result in rare uses of discipline. They act more like friends than parents. Permissive parenting style is characterized as having few behavioral expectations for the children. This type of parent simply wants the child to love him or her at the end of the day, will do anything the child requested. These parents are nurturing and accepting, but not demanding. Sometimes, permissive parents might do this out of fear that their children will rebel in negative ways if they are to control their impulses. Bribery in form of gifts and toys are therefore used as a means to control their kids (Cheah 2019).

Permissive parents never discipline their children, though they set rules, but rarely enforce them. In order to get their children's approval as good parents, they unconsciously allow their children to control them. The children of permissive parents often become spoiled, bossy, and self-absorbed. They are more likely to struggle academically and may exhibit more behavioural problems as they do not appreciate authority and rules (Steinberg 2019).

Spera (2017) contributed that permissive parents are accepting and tolerant of their children's impulses, and so, are not likely to respond negatively, and became angry if their children behave in inappropriate or socially unacceptable way, allow children to regulate their activities and make their own decisions. These parents are unable to express their anger, impatience or annoyance.

American Psychological Association (2018) also described permissive parents as friendly, caring, supportive and receptive to the child, but however poor in parents' control and minimal maturity in behaviours. Shaffer (2018) reported that permissive parents are approving, place minimal need on their children and hardly control the children behaviour. However, they do not demand mature behaviour from their children, permit reasonable self-control and avoid encounter with their children.

Children from these homes are often immature, withdrawn or underachieving. The children also have a lot of freedom as they decide their bedtime, if or when to do homework, and screen time with the computer and television (Langer 2020). Freedom to this degree can lead to other negative habits as the parent does not provide much guidance on moderation. They often show signs of a variety of psychological and behavioural problems such as drug abuse and bullying. Because these children are used to doing what they want, they may become rebellious when confronted with demanding teachers or other authority figure (Pardini 2020).

Leeman (2020) revealed that Permissive parenting style correlates positively with drug abuse of secondary school students. Hence the parents do not provide required guidance, the children of such homes involves in drug abuse. There is significant positive relationship between permissive parenting style and drug abuse. Lopez (2018) found significant influence of permissive parenting style on drug abuse of secondary school students. He revealed that freedom to the children of the family by such parents result in anti-social behaviour.

METHODOLOGY

The design for this study was correlational research design. Creswell (2015) noted that Correlational research design helps to determine the extent or degree of relationship existing between two or more variables and to use such relationship in making future predictions. Therefore, this design was considered appropriate for use in the present study, as it enabled the researcher to investigate parenting styles and tendency to abuse drugs among secondary school students in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State. The population of the study consists of (SS2) senior secondary school students in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State with a total population size of 11,920 while the study made use of stratified sampling technique to select sample size of 387 senior secondary school students for the study. The instruments for data collection was a self structured questionnaire titled "Parenting Styles Questionnaire (PSQ)" and Tendency to Abuse Drugs among Secondary School Students (TADSSS)". The instruments were categorized into three sections (A B C). Section 'A' dealt with demographic data of the respondents, section 'B' was used to elicit information on variables of parenting styles which was sub-divided into five sections, while section 'C' elicited information on tendency to abuse drugs among secondary school students.

RESULTS

Data Presentation

Research Question 1: *What is the relationship between authoritative parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State?*

Table1: **Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis on the relationship between authoritative parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State**

Variable	N	$\sum x$	$\sum y$	$\sum x^2$	$\sum y^2$	$\sum xy$	r-cal	Remark
Male Students (x)	185							
		16251	16437	582099	594469	586807	0.84	High extent
Female Students (y)	202							

Source: Field survey, 2022

The data analysis in table1 revealed that the Pearson Product Moment Correlation coefficient value (r) was 0.84. This showed that there is a positive high relationship between authoritative parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State. This means that an increase in authoritative parenting style relates to secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

Research Question 2: *What is relationship between authoritarian parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State?*

Table 2: **Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis on the relationship between authoritarian parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State**

Variable	N	$\sum x$	$\sum y$	$\sum x^2$	$\sum y^2$	$\sum xy$	r-cal	Remark
Male Students (x)	185							
		15324	16437	518492	594469	553201	0.89	High Extent
Female Students (y)	202							

Source: Field survey, 2022

The analysis in table 2 indicated that the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient value (r) was 0.89. This showed that there is a positive and significant relationship between authoritarian parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area

Rivers State. This implies that an increase in authoritarian parenting style relates to secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

Research Question 3: *What is the relationship between permissive parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State?*

Table 3: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis on the relationship between permissive parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State

Variable	N	$\sum x$	$\sum y$	$\sum x^2$	$\sum y^2$	$\sum xy$	r-cal	Remark
Male Students (x)	185							
		16194	16437	578140	594469	584995	0.88	High Extent
Female Students (y)	202							

Source: Field survey, 2022

The data analysis in table 3 showed that the Pearson product moment correlation coefficient value (r) was 0.88. This indicated that there is a positive relationship between permissive parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State. This means that an increase in permissive parenting style relates to secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

Hypotheses

Hypothesis 1: There is no significant relationship between authoritative parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

Table 4: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis on the significant relationship between authoritative parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State

Variable	N	df	R	z-cal	z-crit	Sig. level	Decision
Male Students (x)	185						
		829	0.84	2.67	1.96	0.05	Rejected
Female Students (y)	202						

Source: Field survey, 2022

The analysis on table 4 revealed that the z-cal of 2.67 is higher than the z-crit of 1.96. The calculated z-ratio is not statistically significant at a 0.05 level of significant since it is higher than the given critical value of z-ratio. Therefore, the hypothesis 1 is thus rejected and the conclusion is that there is a significant relationship between authoritative parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

Hypotheses 2: There is no significant relationship between authoritarian parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

Table 5: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis on the significant relationship between authoritarian parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State

Variable	N	df	R	z-cal	z-crit	Sig. level	Decision
Male Students (x)	185						
		829	0.89	2.19	1.96	0.05	Rejected
Female Students (y)	202						

Source: Field survey, 2022

The analysis on table 5 indicated that the z-cal of 2.19 is higher than the z-crit of 1.96. The calculated z-ratio is not statistically significant at a 0.05 level of significance since it is higher than the given critical value of z-ratio. So, the hypothesis 2 is thus rejected and the conclusion is that there is a significant

relationship between authoritarian parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

Hypothesis 3: There is no significant relationship between permissive parenting and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

Table 6: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis on the significant relationship between permissive parenting and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State

Variable	N	df	R	z-cal	z-crit	Sig. level	Decision
Male Students (x)	185	829	0.88	2.22	1.96	0.05	Rejected
Female Students (y)	202						

Source: Field survey, 2022

The analysis on table 6 showed that the z-cal of 2.22 is higher than the z-crit of 1.96. The calculated z-ratio is not statistically significant at a 0.05 level of significance since it is higher than the given critical value of z-ratio. So, the hypothesis 3 is thus rejected and the conclusion is that there is a significant relationship between permissive parenting and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

Summary of Major Findings

Based on the analysis of the data, the study therefore summarizes that:

1. Authoritative parenting style relates to secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.
2. There is a significant relationship between authoritarian parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State
3. Permissive parenting style relates significantly to secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The findings in research question one revealed that authoritative parenting style relates to secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State. This finding is in collaboration with Oshodi (2019), who observed that authoritarian parents' guide against anti-social behaviour of their children. The analysis also showed they find it difficult to share problems with their children in the family. It was also noticed from the analysis that authoritarian parents insist on the kind of friends their children keep so as to control them against negative attitude. The study showed that parents contribute to their children's abuse of drugs and authoritarian parenting style make the children to be afraid and run away from them.

The study in research question two indicated that there is a significant relationship between authoritarian parenting style and secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State. This study is in the same view with Masud (2019), who assert that authoritative parents are strict and have control over their children anti-social behaviour and that authoritative parent guides their children against drug abuse. It was also observed from the analysis that authoritative parents provide support to their children, children are given required freedom which may lead to abuse of drugs and that authoritative parents control their children's moral behaviour

The findings in research question three showed that permissive parenting style relates significantly to secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State. This finding is in the same line with Leeman (2020), who admitted that parents do not care for their children who may lead to abuse of drugs and that permissive parents expect their children to solve their own problems without considering the implication. The findings also revealed that they never mind when the children make serious mistakes, permissive parents find it difficult to discipline child and that they do not response to the need of their children.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the study, the researcher concludes that, parenting styles and tendency to abuse drugs among secondary school students in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State cannot be overemphasized. Hence authoritative parenting style, authoritarian parenting style and permissive parenting style have significant relationship on secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State. The study also deduced that parenting is a complex activity that includes many specific behaviours that work individually and together to influence child-rearing outcomes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were made to ensure that this study achieve its objectives.

1. Government through the school management should organize workshop or seminars for parents on the importance of authoritative parenting style because of its influence on secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State
2. School management should orient the management staff Parent Teachers Association on the benefits of using authoritarian parenting style hence it has significant influence on secondary school student's tendency to abuse drugs in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area Rivers State
3. Government and Non-governmental organization should always preach to parents on the dangers of permissive parenting style.

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