



Parenting Styles and Sexuality among Adolescents in Public Senior Secondary Schools in Rivers State Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

The study investigated parenting styles and sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. The study adopted correctional research design. A sample size of 393 respondents was drawn from a population of 22077 public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria based on 2019 /2020 report from Senior Secondary Education Board. Two researcher's structured instrument titled 'parenting styles assessment questionnaire and adolescents sexuality scale ' were used to elicit information for the study on the extent to which authoritative, authoritarian, permissive, and uninvolved parenting styles relate with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State. The instruments were validated by experts in the field of education. The test retest method of reliability was applied and a reliability index of 0.78 and 0.81 were obtained using Pearson Product Moment Correlation Co-efficient. Out of 393 copies of questionnaire distributed, 360 were retrieved and used for the analysis of data. Findings of the study revealed that to a low extent authoritative parenting style relates with sexuality of the adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria and to a high extent authoritarian, permissive and uninvolved parenting styles relate with sexuality of the adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. It was therefore recommended that to implement authoritative parenting style, parents, caregivers and teachers should reason with students instead of demanding blind obedience and also allow autonomy and encourage independence. Education sector should assist adolescents gain insight and make informed decision about sexual risk taking through character education embedded in social learning curriculum.

Keywords: Authoritative, Authoritarian, Permissive, Uninvolved, Sexuality

INTRODUCTION

The age of adolescence is usually a period when young adults start in earnest to master the world and find their place in it. Adolescence is a transitional phase of growth and development between childhoods. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines an adolescent as any person between the ages 10 and 19 (Csikszentmihalyi, 2021). Periods of adolescence are marked by less dependence on the family and increased social relationships or socialization with peers and intense urge of experimentation and new experience which often includes sexuality. American Psychological Association Dictionary of Psychology defines sexuality as the capacity to derive pleasure from various forms of sexual activity and behaviour, particularly from sexual intercourse. Zimmer-Gembeck and Helf (cited in Carly, Deborah, Emma & Laura, 2012) posited that youth sexual behaviour is viewed as part of normal development.

Unlike delinquent behaviour youth sexual behaviour has been described by some as a normative adolescent activity that almost every individual will engage in by young adulthood. From a bio psychosocial model, researchers emphasize that the normative biological (e.g. hormones, physical maturation) and relational (e.g. dating) aspects of sexuality promote the onset and patterns of sexual behaviour during adolescence (Carlye,

Deborah, Emma & Laura, 2012), while the capacity to engage in cognitive and emotional regulation is still relatively immature, (Somerville, Jones & Casey 2010). At adolescent stage many young persons are still immature in advancing steady sense of self and skills to deal effectively with the fierce feelings that go along with outcome of sexual relationship hence adolescents are far incapable than adults to deal with the profound psychological process that are often connected with sexual relationship.

Globally, sexuality among adolescents indisputably is a recurring public health issue and not without accompanying complications which may span from greater incidence of multiple sexual partners, unsafe sex, vulnerability to sexually transmitted disease such as HIV/AIDs, unplanned pregnancy and abortions. Sexuality endangers the sexual and reproductive health of the adolescent population.

Adolescents who engage in sexuality often times are less likely to use condoms despite efforts made by schools in providing sex education to adolescent students. According to Hailu (2015), youths who engage in sexuality are more likely to have high risk sex (multiple sexual partners) and they are less likely to use condoms which are related to increased susceptibility to human immune deficiency virus (HIV) and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), unwanted pregnancy and its complication. It is well established that sexuality among adolescents is associated with risky sexual behaviour. Hipwell(cited in Dembo, Wareham & Winters, 2015) risky sexual behaviours and other problem behaviours such as delinquency and substance use co-exist in adolescences.

The negative psychosocial outcome of sexuality among adolescents appears to have become an important societal concern, literature from high-income settings demonstrates that sexuality among adolescents may also engender negative outcomes beyond those related to sexual and reproductive health including anti-social behaviour, cigarette and drug abuse, Magnusson (cited in Ilana, Jordan,& Lindsay, 2020) and diminished likelihood of attending post-secondary education Parkes, (cited in Ilana, Jordan & Lindsay, 2020). Sexuality among adolescents in Nigeria often come with financial obligation. There appears to be connection between sexuality and antisocial behaviour such as kidnapping for ransom and robbery among male adolescents as act of sexual involvement necessities meeting financial obligation that comes with it. Nigeria television authority source interview (2021) for murder of billionaire CEO of TV station in Lagos Nigeria by 300 level student of University of Lagos Nigeria who had date with the deceased revealed that the adolescent withdrew money from deceased bank account to offset tuition fees. Often time engagement in early sexuality by adolescent could be linked to peer pressure and societal demands and poverty. The vulnerability of adolescents who are less equipped than adults to cope with complex emotional process associated with sexual intercourse could lead to reduce educational achievements. According to Kahan(cited in Donetella, Ilucia and Marta 2020), sexuality activity increases the likelihood of more frequent sexual encounters and romantic partners which may negatively impact on academic achievements since these activities are time consuming. Refraining from having sex as a teenager may impact important psychological and emotional benefits that in turn lead to increased human capital accumulation (Sabia& Rees, 2009). Evidence suggested that adolescents who engage in sexuality and have multiple sex partners might experience negative health changes which in turn may lead to reduced interest in academic achievement. The outcome of poor academic achievement due to sexuality maybe linked to huge time spent in thinking about or in company of the opposite sex with its prevailing emotional turmoil that reduces attention to academic goals. Sexuality and experience of sexual coercion or violence contribute to unintended adolescent pregnancy. Abert (cited in Baumgartner, Geary, Tucker & Wedderburn 2009)) posited that adolescent pregnancy is often associated with negative social and economic effects on female adolescents, their families and communities. Unmarried pregnant adolescents may experience stigma and rejection by parents and peers and as well may drop out of school for some years. Depending on the culture, the pregnant adolescent may be subjected to marriage at early stage. To a large extent, evidence suggests that the earlier a woman engages in sexuality the higher the number of non-marital sex partner she is likely to have over the period of her life. Growing up, a child does what he/she observes from the environment and behaviour of others. Her altitude, to a large extent depends on how the childhood played out and what he/she was encouraged to be. Oftentimes, adults teach sex education with a view of attempting to address a problem instead of educating adolescence with honest information about sexuality. A lot of factors influence adolescent's sexuality, this could be innate or learned and range from socio-economic,

cultural, peer groups, psychological make-up, and media sexual display that impact on value system of people, access to accurate information from school or parents and most importantly parenting style.

Parenting entails a delicate balance of warmth and support, communicative relationship, monitoring, limit-setting and enforcement in which adolescents seek and receive guidance from parents and parents provide developmentally appropriate freedom and decision making ability Steinberg (cited in Yimer & Ashebir, 2019). Parenting style could be described as approaches (behaviour, attitudes and values) utilized by parents in interacting and influencing a child's physical, emotional, social and intellectual development. Parenting style is defined as constellation of parents' attitudes and behaviour toward children and an emotional climate in which the parents' behaviours are expressed Darling and Steinberg, (cited in Xinwen, Yigun & Hailei, 2018).

Parenting style is a psychological construct that shows a combination of strategies parent adopt in a child's upbringing. Time spent with a child does not define quality parenting rather quality parenting entails demonstration of enough interest and attention towards the child. Parenting styles represent broader patterns of parenting practices (specific behaviours). As a child moves from one stage of development to another, parents create parenting practices based on a number of factors that suit the moment and continue to adjust or change parenting style practices to adapt and bond with the child through stages of the child's development. At each stage of child development parent encounters challenges, such challenges to greater degree depend on the parenting style adopted by the parent.

Parenting styles are critical family context factors that appear to have close link with sexuality among adolescents. Parents exert influence on the child directly via genetics, parenting style and parenting behaviours (Carlye, Deborah, Emma & Laura, 2012). Baurrind a development psychologist at the Institute of Human Development University of California Berkeley classified parenting style into four types based on responsiveness and demandingness: authoritative, authoritarian, permissive and uninvolved.

Authoritative parenting style is known for high in responsiveness and demandingness. Authoritative parents love and discipline a child equally. Authoritative parents provide not only support and warmth but also set high, clear expectation and consistent discipline, monitoring/control which has been associated with optimal child outcomes. Authoritative parents by providing warmth and support appropriately monitor behaviour and practice discipline in non-coercive ways, thereby making adolescents to develop interpersonal security, high self-esteem and be heedful of boundaries that enable them drift involvement in sexuality. Authoritative parenting is marked by parents who provide their children with proper nurture, independence and firm control, have children who appear to have higher levels of competence, socially skilled, and proficient in managing peer pressure and other behaviour problems that could lead to sexuality.

Authoritarian parenting style is characterized by the use of strict discipline with little negotiation, punishment is common, communication is usually one way from parents to child, rules are not explained, less nurturing by parents, high expectation with less flexibility. Authoritarian in a short phrase is disciplining a child all the time without love. Authoritarian parents are low in responsiveness yet highly demanding. Authoritarian parenting features verbal hostility and psychological control and coercive power assertive behaviour. Adolescents who are victims of authoritarian parenting appear to exhibit poor social skills, low levels of self-esteem and high levels of depression. Low self-esteem has been associated with a number of psychological, physical, and social consequences that may influence successful adolescent development and the transition to adulthood including depression, anxiety, suicide, violent behaviour, earlier initiation of sexual activity in girls, (Auden, Susane, Tanski, John, James & Sargent, 2010).

Permissive parenting is affirmative to adolescent's desires, feelings and actions. With low levels of demandingness and high levels of responsiveness parents have no set rules for the child, no engagement in behavioural control and no or low behavioural expectations from the adolescent. Adolescents from permissive parent tend to report a higher level of misconduct in the environment or school and substance use. Drug abuse among youths increases the risk of problems related to their wellbeing resulting to an increased risk of injury and death from interpersonal violence, road accidents, risky sexual behaviour, unintended pregnancy, acquiring of diseases such as AIDS and also academic problems (Alireza & Resa, 2018).

Uninvolved parents give children a lot of freedom, no child support or encouragement of child's self-regulation. Usually in uninvolved parenting style communication is limited, parents offer little nurturing with

few or no expectation from children. The drawbacks of uninvolved parenting style is usually children's lack of development of emotional connection with their uninvolved parents. With no emotional connection and attention by parents, adolescents may have difficulties in social interaction, low self-esteem, and emotional neediness in other relationship which has its consequences such as involvement in sexuality.

It is obvious that when it comes to parenting style one size does not fit all. It is the duty of parents to ensure that the parenting style adopted is helping the child to thrive. Parental roles in homes are many: one essential role parents need to perform with adequate caution with regard to behaviour is dealing with adolescent's behaviour without the need the behaviour is feeding. Unmet need leaves a gaping hole that will continue to press for fulfilment or lead to unwanted behaviour that could result to early sexual relationship. In this case communication is imperative to make it safe and validating the need while rejecting the behaviour is adequate. An essential part of adolescence parenting is impacting values. Values at times seem to be more important than the behaviour parents strive to teach. Good values come with right behaviour at the long run. Whatever parents instil in a child is what he/she gets. A child won't learn respect from parents if yelling is accompanying house chores. Child won't be honest with parents if that gets him into trouble neither will the child be kind and compassionate if he/she always feel judged. It is absolute to let the child know when he/she is getting it right because approval by parents makes much difference. Hence the study seeks to add existing body of knowledge by examining parenting styles and sexuality indices with focus on adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

The ages at which adolescents feel mature, want to behave like adults and initiate sexual activity are now lower than in the past. Sexuality among adolescents occur before they are fully capable of recognizing their consequences as immoral. Adolescents who engage in sexuality often times are not prepared to deal with the potential emotional, social and behavioural consequences of their actions. Adolescents' may not have developed the cognitive maturity required to understand and implement some risk reduction strategies. Cognitive immaturity often times limit adolescents' ability to apply their knowledge to their own behaviour or to appraise consequences. Adolescents' tend to make sexual decisions based on immediate gratification rather than on long term consequences.

Adolescent's engagement in sexuality tend to show higher rates of delinquency in later years, (Science Daily, 2009). There seems to be link between sexuality particularly among females and being involved in an unintended pregnancy, acquiring HIV or other sexually transmitted diseases and negative social and psychological outcomes. There appears to be association of sexuality with drug addiction, school dropout, depression, abortion and low academic achievement among adolescents.

Similarly there appears to be connection between sexuality and antisocial behaviour such as kidnapping for ransom and robbery among male adolescents as such art of sexual involvement necessitates meeting financial obligation that comes with it .Female adolescents who engage in sexuality tend to have multiple sex partners. This invariably leads to prostitution or sex trading. According to source interview by Nigeria Television Authority (2021) recent murder of CEO of TV station, a father and husband in Lagos Nigeria by 21- year old 300 level student who engaged in dating with the deceased shows wearing down of norms and values by societal demands, widening parental gap or flaws in parenting, inability of parents to impact values rather than striving to teach behaviour and failure of institutions such as schools and churches in upholding morals. The prevalent rate of adolescents who trade sex for money indicates there could be gap in parenting or adolescents' insecure attachment with parents. Hence consequent upon the prevalent rate of sexuality among adolescents the study tends to investigate parenting styles and sexuality among adolescents.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to investigate parenting styles and sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. In specific terms the study:

1. Determine the extent to which authoritative parenting style relates with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.
2. Determine the extent to which authoritarian parenting style relates with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

3. Determine the extent to which permissive parenting style relates with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.
4. Determine the extent to which uninvolved parenting style relates with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Research Questions

The following research questions guided the study:

1. To which extent does authoritative parenting style relate with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria?
2. To which extent does authoritarian parenting style relate with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria?
3. To which extent does permissive parenting style relate with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria?
4. To which extent does uninvolved parenting style relate with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria?

Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance:

1. There is no significant relationship between authoritative parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.
2. There is no significant relationship between authoritarian parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.
3. There is no significant relationship between permissive parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.
4. There is no significant relationship between uninvolved parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out in Rivers State Nigeria. Correlational research design was adopted for the study so as to determine the extent of relationship between the variables of study. Taro Yamen formula was used to determine the sample size. A sample size of 393 adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria was drawn from a population of 25077 using multi stage sampling technique. Two researchers structured instruments titled 'parenting styles assessment questionnaire and adolescents sexuality scale' were used to elicit information from the sampled subjects. Face and content validity of the instruments were carried out by experts in Educational measurement and evaluation and educational guidance and counselling. A test-retest method of reliability was adopted to ascertain the reliability of the instruments and a reliability co-efficient of 0.78 and 0.81 were obtained using Pearson Product Moment Correlation Co-efficient. The research questions and hypotheses were answered and tested using mean, standard deviation and Pearson Product Moment Correlation. To determine if there was relationship between the variables. To ascertain the acceptability of the hypotheses stated the Pearson Product Moment Correlation additionally was transformed to t-test analysis which established the reason for accepting or rejecting the hypotheses.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

Table 1: Extent of Relationship between Authoritative Parenting Style and Sexuality Among Adolescents of Among Public Senior Secondary Schools in Rivers State Nigeria

Variables	N	\bar{x}	SD	$\frac{\sum X}{\sum Y}$	$\frac{\sum X^2}{\sum Y^2}$	$\sum XY$	r	Remark
Authoritative Parenting style	360	9.12	2.13	1598	2553604,			
						2,270758	-0.083	Low Extent
Sexuality among Adolescents	360	7.41	2.10	1421	2,019241			

Table 1, above presents the relationship between authoritative parenting style and sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. Adolescents of public senior secondary schools had a mean score of 9.12 on authoritative parenting style with standard deviation of 2.13 and mean score of 7.41 and a standard deviation of 2.10, on

$$\sum X = 1598, \sum X^2 = 2553604 \sum Y = 1421, \sum Y^2 = 2019241 \text{ and } \sum XY = 2270758 \text{ and } r = -0.083.$$

sexuality this signifies that there is a low extent of relationship between authoritative parenting style and sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. Hence authoritative parenting style does not relate with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Research Question 2: *To which extent does authoritarian parenting style relate with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria?*

Table 2: Extent of relationship between Authoritarian Parenting Style and Sexuality Among Adolescents of among Public Senior Secondary Schools in Rivers State Nigeria

Variables	N	\bar{x}	SD	$\frac{\sum X}{\sum Y}$	$\frac{\sum X^2}{\sum Y^2}$	$\sum XY$	r	Remark
Authoritarian Parenting Style	360	15.8	4.10	5984	35,8 8256			
						36,257056	0.80	High extent
Sexuality among Adolescents	360	16.0	4.30	6059	36,711481			

Table 2 above shows the relationship between authoritarian parenting style and sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. The mean score of 15.8,

standard deviation of 4.10on authoritarian parenting style and a mean score of 16.0 and a standard deviation of 4.30on sexuality,

$$\sum X = 5984, \sum X^2 = 35,808,256 \sum Y = 6059, \sum Y^2 = 36,711,481 \text{ and } \sum XY = 36257056 \text{ and } r = 0.80.$$

signifies that there is a high extent of relationship between authoritarian parenting style and sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. Hence authoritarian parenting style relates with sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Research Question 3: *To which extent does permissive parenting style relate with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria?*

Table 3: Extent of Relationship between Permissive Parenting Style and Sexuality Among Adolescents of Among Public Senior Secondary Schools in Rivers State Nigeria

Variables	N	\bar{x}	SD	$\sum X$	$\sum X^2$	$\sum XY$	r	Remark
Permissive Parenting Style	360	14.7	3.40	4822	23,251,684	26,453,402	0.75	High Extent
Sexuality among Adolescents	360	15.0	4.09	5486	30,096,196			

Table 3 above shows the relationship between permissive parenting style and sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. The mean score of 14.7, standard deviation of 3.40 on permissive parenting style and a mean score of 15.0 and a standard deviation of 4.09 on sexuality,

$$\sum X = 4822, \sum X^2 = 23251684 \sum Y = 5486, \sum Y^2 = 30,096,196 \text{ and } \sum XY = 26,096,196 \text{ and } r = 0.75$$

signifies that there is a high extent of relationship between permissive parenting style and sexuality among adolescents for public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. Therefore; permissive parenting style relates with sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Research Question 4: *To which extent does uninvolved parenting style relate with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria?*

Table 4: Extent of Relationship between Uninvolved Parenting Style and Sexuality among Adolescents of Among Public Senior Secondary Schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Variables	N	\bar{x}	SD	$\sum X$	$\sum X^2$	$\sum XY$	r	Remark
				$\sum Y$	$\sum Y^2$			
Uninvolved Parenting Style	360	16.2	4.31	6060	36723600			
						36263040	0.80	High extent
Sexuality among Adolescents	360	15.8	4.10	5984	35808256			

Table 4. above shows the relationship between uninvolved parenting style and sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. The mean score of 16.2, standard deviation of 4.31 on uninvolved parenting style and a mean score of 15.8 and a standard deviation of 4.10 on sexuality,

$$\sum X = 6060, \sum X^2 = 36723600 \sum Y = 5984, \sum Y^2 = 35808256 \text{ and } \sum XY = 36,263,040 \text{ and } r = 0.82$$

signifies that there is a high extent of relationship between uninvolved parenting style and sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State. Thus, uninvolved parenting style relates with sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Test of Hypotheses

Hypothesis 1. There is no significant relationship between authoritative parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Table 5: PPMC and T-test Analysis of Relationship between Authoritative Parenting Style and the Sexuality of Adolescents in Public Senior Secondary Schools in Rivers State Nigeria

Variables	N	\bar{x}	SD	df	r	r-crit	p	t-cal	t-crit	Remarks
Authoritative Parenting Style	360	9.12	2.13							
				358	-0.083	0.195	0.5	-1.52	1.960	Accept
Sexuality among Adolescents	360	7.41	2.10							

Result: *Not Significant at 0.05 Significance Level*

Table 5, above shows the PPMC (r) and t-test (t-transformation) analysis of the relationship between authoritative parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. From the results in Table 4.5 above, it can be observed that at 0.05 level of significance and degree of freedom (df) of 358, r-value = -0.083, t-trans = -1.52 and t-crit = 1.960. Since t-transformation value of -1.52 < t-critical value of 1.960 at 0.05 significance level, the null hypothesis is therefore accepted.

This implies that authoritative parenting style does not relate with the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. Also the calculated t of -1.52 is less than critical t =1.960, this shows that statistically there is no significant positive relationship between authoritative parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in a public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Hypothesis 2: There is no significant relationship between authoritarian parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State.

Table 6: PPMC and T-test Analysis of Relationship between Authoritarian Parenting Style and the Sexuality of Adolescents in Public Senior Secondary Schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Variables	N	\bar{x}	SD	df	r	r-crit	p	t-cal	t-crit	Remarks
Authoritarian Parenting Style	360	15.8	4.10							
				358	0.80	0.195	0.5	26.2	1.960	Reject
Sexuality among Adolescents	360	16.0	4.30							

Result: Significant at 0.05 Significance Level

Table 6 above shows the PPMC (r) and t-test (t-transformation) analysis of the relationship between authoritarian parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. From the results in Table 4.6 above, it shows that at 0.05 level of significance and degree of freedom (df) of 358, r-value = 0.80, t-trans =26.2 and t-crit = 1.960. Since t-transformation value of 26.2> t-critical value of 1.960 at 0.05 significance level, the null hypothesis is therefore rejected. This implies that authoritarian parenting style relates with the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. Also the calculated t of 26.2 is greater than critical t =1.960, this shows that statistically there is a significant positive relationship between authoritarian parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in a public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Hypothesis 3: There is no significant relationship between permissive parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Table 7: PPMC and T-test Analysis of Relationship between Permissive Parenting Style and the Sexuality of Adolescents in Public Senior Secondary Schools in Rivers State Nigeria

Variables	N	\bar{x}	SD	df	r	r-crit	p	t-cal	t-crit	Remarks
Permissive Parenting Style	360	14.7	3.40							
				358	0.75	0.195	0.5	24.8	1.960	Reject
Sexuality among Adolescents	360	15.0	4.09							

Result: Significant at 0.05 Significance Level

Table 7 above shows the PPMC (r) and t-test (t-transformation) analysis of the relationship between permissive parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State. From the results in the above table, it shows that at 0.05 level of significance and degree of freedom (df) of 358, r-value = 0.75, t-trans =24.8 and t-crit = 1.960. Since t-transformation value of 24.8 >

t-critical value of 1.960 at 0.05 significance level, the null hypothesis is therefore rejected. This implies that permissive parenting style relates with the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. Also the calculated t of 24.8 is greater than critical t =1.960, this shows that statistically there is a significant positive relationship between permissive parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in a public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Hypothesis 4: There is no significant relationship between uninvolved parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

Table 8: PPMC and T-test Analysis of Relationship between Uninvolved Parenting Style and the Sexuality of Adolescents In Public Senior Secondary Schools in Rivers State Nigeria

Variables	N	\bar{x}	SD	df	r	r-crit	p	t-cal	t-crit	Remarks
Uninvolved Parenting Style	360	16.2	4.31							
				358	0.82	0.195	0.5	28.6	1.960	Reject
Sexuality among Adolescents	360	15.8	4.10							

Result: Significant at 0.05 Significance Level

Table 8 above shows the PPMC (r) and t-test (t-transformation) analysis of the relationship between permissive parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. From the results in the above table, it shows that at 0.05 level of significance and degree of freedom (df) of 358, r-value = 0.82, t-trans =28.6 and t-crit = 1.960. Since t-transformation value of 28.6> t-critical value of 1.960 at 0.05 significance level, the null hypothesis is therefore rejected. This implies that uninvolved parenting style relates with the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. Also the calculated t of 28.6 is greater than critical t =1.960, this shows that statistically there is a significant positive relationship between uninvolved parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in a public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

Research question one analysis indicated that authoritative parenting style to a low extent relates with sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. Also based on the analysis of null hypothesis one it was found that statistically there is no significant relationship between authoritative parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. This finding is in agreement with the study by Yimer and Ashebir (2019) who investigated parenting perspective on the psychological correlates of adolescents sexual reproductive health behaviour among high school adolescents in Ethiopia. The study revealed that high quality parents' adolescent relation and authoritative form of parenting were associated with lower odds of engaging in risk sexual behaviour in adolescents. The results of this variable further clarifies the importance of engaging in authoritative parenting style as its attributes of open discussion , joint discussion and support help adolescents feel valued, respected and have overall life satisfaction and good emotional control and regulation that enable control of urge of engaging in sexuality.

The results of the analysis of the data in research question two and hypothesis two reveal that authoritarian parenting style to a high extent relates with sexuality among adolescents of public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria and there is statistically positive relationship between authoritarian parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. The finding is in

agreement with the finding on “relationship between parenting styles and sexual attitudes of young people in Nigeria” by Akinsola (2010) in which the findings of the study revealed that authoritarian and permissive parenting styles predicted liberal and loose attitude to sexuality issues also this further confirm association of low self- control with engaging in sexuality and with risky sexual behaviour including sex while intoxicated, infrequent use of condoms engaging in sex with strangers, having multiple partners and a history of sexually transmitted disease according to research study by Khurana, Romer, Betancourt, Brodsky and Hurts (2012).

The analysis of the data in research question three and test of hypothesis three shows that permissive parenting style to a high extent relates with sexuality and also there is statistically positive relationship between permissive parenting style and sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. This finding further confirms the finding on ‘family influence on adolescent sexual activity and alcohol use in Michigan’ by Kao and Carter (2013). The finding of the study revealed that permissive parenting was associated with self-efficacy for self sex, early sexual initiation and increased alcohol use. Dancy, Crittenden and Wing (2010) also confirms that permissive parenting is a significant risk factor for early sexual initiation and alcohol use. Lack of child’s control and discipline are attributes of permissive parenting, hence when parents make no attempt to control or discipline their adolescence they will unlikely develop interpersonal security that could shape involvement in early sexual activity.

Analysis of the data in research question four shows that uninvolved parenting style to a high extent relates with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. Also from results of null hypothesis four it was found that there is significant positive relationship between uninvolved parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. This finding is in congruence with the finding on “risky sexual behaviour among adolescents in Cross River State Nigeria by Ejue, Effion and Oprah (2010). The findings of the study revealed that most adolescents experienced first sexual intercourse aged between 12 and 15 years and most of them indulged in risky sexual behaviour especially those who perceived their parents parenting style as neglecting. .Adolescents from uninvolved parents lack affection and attention from a young age which could lead to low self-esteem or emotional neediness in other relationship.

CONCLUSION

It was concluded that authoritative parenting style to a low extent relates with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria. Authoritarian, permissive and uninvolved parenting styles to a high extent relate with sexuality among adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State and there is no significant relationship between authoritative parenting style and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria also there is significant positive relationship between authoritarian, permissive. Uninvolved parenting styles and the sexuality of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State Nigeria.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings and conclusion of this study, it is recommended that;

- To implement authoritative parenting style parents, caregivers and teachers should reason with students instead of demanding blind obedience and also allow autonomy and encourage independence.
- Parents should be encouraged by religious institutions and schools to use consequences that teach life lessons in order to avoid authoritarian approach of parenting.
- School counsellors should endeavor to let parents know the importance of ideally emanating early sex education from home and the need to impact values rather than teaching behaviour.
- It may be challenging ensuring that uninvolved parents take responsibility but education sector can assist adolescents gain insight and make informed decision about sexual risk taking through character education embedded in social learning curriculum.

COUNSELLING IMPLICATIONS

Counsellors, teachers and parents can offer more effective support to adolescents if they become more familiar with the latest research on sexuality in adolescence, role of brain development, adolescents social attitudes and online culture. The school counsellor has a vital role in reducing sexuality among adolescents as much of adolescents' time are spent in school. Discussing early sexuality with adolescents requires confidentiality, however when confidentiality should be broken if necessary needs ethical procedures or guidelines.

Interventions strategies that utilizes preventive counselling that covers education, skills building, enhancing student development, involving parents and families and implementing programs could decrease risk of sexuality.

Education that provides the knowledge base on improving self- concept, pro-social connectedness, emotional wellbeing and helping adolescents in making informed decisions about sexual risk taking, skills building, communication skills, meaning of consent, mutual respect ought to help adolescents resist sexuality activities.

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