

**Home Variables and Deviant Behaviour Tendencies of Secondary School Students in Ohafia Education Zone, Abia State****Dr. Jude Uche ONWUHANZE**Department of Educational Foundations,
Guidance and Counselling, Federal University of Agriculture,
Umidike, Nigeria

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James, Samuel FRANCISDepartment of Educational Foundations,
Faculty of Education,
University of Uyo, Nigeria.**Abstract**

This study was carried out to examine influence of home variables on deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students in Ohafia Education Zone, Abia State. In order to achieve this purpose, three research questions were raised and three corresponding hypotheses were formulated to guide the study. The study adopted an ex-post facto research design. A sample size of 200 was drawn from a population that comprised 8,875 Senior Secondary Two (SS2) students during 2019/2020 academic year in the 48 public secondary schools in Ohafia Education Zone. The researchers' made instrument known as a "Home Variables and Deviant Behaviour Tendencies among Secondary School Students Questionnaire (HVDBTSSSQ)" was used for the study. t-test and ANOVA were used for testing the hypotheses formulated at .05 level of significance. The findings of the study revealed that, there is significant influence of family type, parenting styles as well as place of residence on deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students. Based on the findings of the study, it was concluded that home variables do influence deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students in Ohafia Education Zone, Abia State. It was recommended among others that Sociologists should also organize orientation programme aimed at discouraging divorce among married couples, and enlighten them on the effect of divorce on their children.

Keywords: Deviant Behaviour, Home Variables, Tendencies, secondary Schools**Introduction**

Education is a key pillar of economic, political and social development. It helps in reducing poverty by improving the productive capacity of individuals and societies. This explains why governments, non-governmental organizations and donor agencies embraced Education for All (EFA) movement and took up the cause of providing basic education for all children, youths and adult, Abia State Ministry of Education (2018). Education has a pivotal role in nation as well as individual character building. Students, teachers, institutes and parents all have their importance in their process of learning.

The school, as an agent of socialization is saddled with the responsibility of training future leaders and providing skilled manpower for the overall development of the individual and society at large. The school is now faced with the problem of inappropriate behaviour tendencies among students. This problem manifests itself in the value students imbibe, the behaviours exhibited by students, quality of school leavers and future adults which the school produces. These include students who were often late or absent from school, who were rude and disobedient to school authorities, who indulged in examination malpractice,

who lacked interest in studies and who might have performed below average in their examinations. In the long run, this group of students may become adults who lack commitment and dedication to their work, who are prone to absenteeism, lateness to work, economic and social activities, neglect of duty, and parents who feel less concerned about their children.

Ikediah and Akande (2015) noted that inappropriate behaviour is an act of indiscipline or behaviour disorder and serves as a great source social vices in the Nigerian society. It has a negative impact on children's psychological adjustment and development and may also disturb the school environment and flow of education process. At the secondary level of education, the students are mostly adolescents and in trying to explore their world and exercise their perceived freedom, they tend to exhibit behaviours that are usually inconsistent with the norms and values of the society. The responsibility of raising children with good behaviours begins with the family.

The family is the primary social group which has the responsibility of acquainting the child with the expected social norms and values of the society to which he or she belongs. It is broadly divided into nuclear and extended families. The nuclear family consists of father, mother and their children, while the extended family consists of parents, children and relatives. The family has the duty of protecting, providing, caring and socializing the child with expected roles in the society. The family provides the child with practical behavioural patterns.

Moreover, whenever there is any family disintegration through frequent marital conflict, lack of parental support, complete separation, divorce or death of a parent, the child is deprived of parental affection and concerns, feeling of security, social opportunities, and physical necessities of life. The child in this case may be forced to be dependent on a single parent or a foster parent who may or may not be a family relative who might negatively affect their behaviour patterns. Also, from birth, a parent will mould and shape the behaviour of the child in accordance with the norms of society through child rearing practices. Another family related variable that have a great impact on a child's behaviour is location of residence.

The impact of location or place of residence as one of the contributory factors in the development of antisocial behaviour traits in adolescents cannot be over emphasized (Ikediahi and Akande, 2015). Epunam (1999) pointed out that location is an important variable that influences academic performance. Pleasant and conducive surroundings when provided give rise to pure thought, better concentration and understanding, while noisy, overcrowded and busy home environment tend to affect the rate of concentration of adolescents and lower their academic performance and influence deviant behaviour tendencies.

James et al.(2014) conducted a research on factors influencing maladaptive behaviour among high school students in Ebonyi State. Two hypotheses were formulated for the study. Survey design was adopted. A total of one hundred (100) participants comprising fifty (50) males and fifty (50) females senior secondary school adolescent students between the ages of 12-16 and 17-21 respectively and with a mean age of 14 and 19 respectively were selected for the study. They were randomly selected from the populations of five secondary schools in Ishiagu, Ebonyi State, South East Nigeria as samples for the study. A 20-item questionnaire with a dichotomous response format of Yes/No designed by the researchers to measure factors influencing maladaptive behaviour was used in the study. Chi-square was applied in which results obtained revealed that broken home significantly influenced maladaptive behaviour among students in public school with $X^2 (1,1) = 51.84$ at $P < .001$.

Phythian, et al.(2008) conducted a study on family structure and parental behaviour identifying the sources of adolescent self-control. The study examined the effect of parenting on children's self-control, while considering the role of such factors as parental composition and household size. Data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY) cycles one and three conducted by statistics Canada, and self-report data collected from children aged 10-15 were used for the study. A total of 5,539 aged 10-15 was included in the NLSCY sample of 13,439 households which were selected, using different data collection techniques. The dependent variable, self-control, was measured during 117-point self-report hyperactivity inattention scale constructed by statistics Canada. The independent variables had parental monitoring (21-points) parental disciplinary techniques (29-points), and family size which was measured, using a question in the data set that asked about number of children aged 0 to 17 in the household, gender of the child and socioeconomic status of the parents were measured through basic demographic information. Descriptive statistics and ordinary least square regression were used for statistical treatment of data. The result of the regression analyses revealed that adolescents who saw one or both of the parents as being negligent in their parenting responsibilities tended to score lower on the self-control index than those who described their parents as more consistent in their disciplinary practices. Self-control was found to be high among adolescent from intact families, followed by these from single-parent families. Gender was also found statistically significant in self-control. The study concluded that adolescent self-control is influenced by family structure and parental behaviour.

Ugoji et al.(2015) carried out a study to examine the relationship between family-type parenting process, gender and juvenile delinquency among diploma students in Delta State University, Abraka. A sample of 400 students was randomly selected through stratified random sampling technique. Data were collected, using a questionnaire and analyzed, using descriptive and regression statistical tools. The result obtained from the study showed that family-type, parenting process, and gender had positive but low relationship with delinquency among diploma students. Ugoji et al. (2015) concluded that parental process, gender and family-type contributed minimally to juvenile delinquency among adolescents. These authors attributed the findings to the respondents varying coping threshold for endurance, patience and dealing with situations. The above empirical research on family type showed that un-intact family has negative effect on children

Ebenuwa-Okoh, et al.(2015) examined environmental violence, family upbringing and peer group influence as correlates of destructive tendencies among adolescents. Three research questions and three null hypotheses guided the study. The study was a survey and adopted expo facto design. The sample size of 400 respondents was randomly selected from the diploma students of the Institute of Education, Delta State University, Abraka. The research instrument used for this study was "Environmental violence, family upbringing, peer group influence and destructive tendencies among adolescents" inventory. The reliability indices for the sub instrument environmental violence $r = .89$ family upbringing, $r = .90$, peer group influence $.r.86 =$ and destructive tendencies $.96$. Regression statistical tool was used to analyze the data. The findings of the study showed that environmental violence and family upbringing were significantly related to destructive tendencies among adolescents, while peer-group pressure did not encourage it. It was recommended that parents should create time to be with their children and monitor their behaviours.

Hedstrom (2016) examined three distinct parenting styles and their effect on children's behavioural patterns, as perceived by the child. The parenting styles, based on Baumrind (1991) typologies of authoritative, authoritarian and permissive parenting, were measured as well as the children's self-rated internal and external symptoms. Results indicated that a

relationship between authoritarian parenting and all aspects of internal symptoms (depression, loneliness and self-esteem) as well as delinquency and aggression (external symptoms). Gender had an effect on depression and loneliness with females displaying higher levels. Permissive parenting was the largest contributor to drug use and an effect of age on drug use was also found. The results from this study showed that authoritarian parenting has a detrimental effect on a host of mental health issues and behavioural problems. However, authoritative parenting was shown to have the most positive outcome across the study.

A survey was carried out by Bassey (2010) in Uyo Local Government Area on parents' home location and students' disruptive behaviour. An ex-post-facto research design was utilised in carrying out the study. A population of 2,059 junior secondary three (JSS3) students was found in the 13 public secondary schools within the study area. A sample of 200 students was drawn from 8 public secondary schools through a simple random sampling technique. A researcher-developed questionnaire was used as research instrument. It was entitled "Parent Home Location and Students' Disruptive Behaviour Questionnaire (PHLASDBQ)". It had two sections, section A sought for demographic data, while B sought for parents' home location and student disruptive behaviour-items. It was duly validated, and later administered on the subjects. The score data were subjected to the chi-square (X) analysis to test the level of difference in students' disruptive behaviour. The result of findings indicated that there was significant difference in students' disruptive behaviour based on parents' home location in Uyo Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State.

However, despite such investigations and intervention strategies offered by these researchers, there is still much to research in deviant behaviour tendencies. It appears that the issue is inadequately researched and empirical data are inadequate. Moreover, none of the researchers has carried out research on the area of this study. This work will open up the area of study to the world for further studies. This study sought to determine the influence of home variables on deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students, with particular reference to senior secondary II students in Ohafia Education Zone, Abia State.

Statement of Problem

In many communities, there are certain standards of behaviour that are expected of members. In the secondary schools, there are standards of behaviour which are expected of every student. Students are expected to be submissive to school authorities, obey school rules and regulations, be punctual and regular at school, respect others, be neat and clean always, dress well to school, study hard and pass examinations. Students are expected to exhibit some level of discipline as compared to those that never attended such level of education.

It is not an overstatement to observe that inadequate behaviours among secondary school students, especially, the senior students are likely to occur. For instance, the rate of truancy, bullying, stealing, drug abuse, cultism, smoking, assault, excessive aggression against other students as well as fighting among students are on the increase. Some students go as far as fighting teachers, and parents. The rate of indiscipline and lack of respect for elders, parents, teachers and other authorities is alarming in Nigeria today, also negative gang activities, such as cultism is noticed daily to be on the increase among students across Nigeria.

These unwanted behaviours, if not controlled, may lead to these students growing up to become armed robbers, rapists, terrorists, cultists, ritualists and lawless individuals, thereby impeding development and peaceful coexistence in the society; increasing insecurity, wanton destruction of lives and properties, abortion and breeding of bastards. It is therefore necessary to ascertain the variables that may influence these unwanted behaviour tendencies

in Abia State, with the aim of achieving a changed attitude necessary for success and progress in life. It is obvious that some factors might have been studied by many researchers and in different study areas to determine the variables that influence deviant behaviour tendencies.

However, not much has been done on some variables being investigated in this study and none to the knowledge of the researcher has studied Abia State. The problem of this study therefore is to determine whether home variables such as family type, parenting styles as well as place of residence have any influence on deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students in Ohafia Education Zone, Abia State.

Purpose of the Study

The primary purpose of this study is to investigate the influence of home variables on deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students in Ohafia Education Zone, Abia State. Specifically, the study sought to:

1. Determine the influence of family type on deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students
2. Ascertain the influences of parenting styles on deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students
3. Determine the influence of place of residence on deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students

Research Questions

The following research questions were raised to direct the study:

1. How does family type influence deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students?
2. What is the influence of parenting styles on deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students?
3. How does place of residence influence deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students?

Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were postulated to guide the study:

- Ho₁ There is no significant influence of family type on deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students.
- Ho₂: There is no significant influence of parenting styles on deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students.
- Ho₃: There is no significant influence of place of residence on deviant behaviour tendencies of secondary school students.

Methodology

The study adopted an ex-post facto research design. This design is used in studies done retrospectively (events that had already occurred) to identify the possible cause and effect relationship between variables. The population of the study comprised all the 8,875 Senior Secondary Two (SS2) students during 2019/2020 academic year in the 48 public secondary schools in Ohafia Education Zone (Abia State Ministry of Education, 2020). The

sample for the study was 200 Senior Secondary Two students in Ohafia Education Zone in 2019/2020 school session. Simple random sampling technique was used for this selection. The researchers' made instrument known as a "Home Variables and Deviant Behaviour Tendencies among Secondary School Students Questionnaire (HVDBTSSSQ)" was used for the study. The questionnaire had three sections labeled section A, B and C section. Section A contained two items which measured the respondents' personal data such as family type and place of residence, section B with 10 items measured items on parenting styles, while section C contained 14 items on deviant behaviour tendencies among secondary school students. The face validity of the instrument was obtained from two Experts in Test and Measurement, and one from Sociology of Education all in the Department of Educational Foundations, Guidance and Counselling, Faculty of Education, University of Uyo. The experts were required to assess the suitability of the items measuring the variables in the research. The internal consistency of the instrument was determined by administering the instrument to 30 students who were selected from the population of the study but were not included in the study sample. The scores obtained from the respondents were analyzed using Cronbach Alpha Analysis. A reliability coefficient of .87 was obtained for the instrument. The researcher administered 200 copies of the questionnaire to the respondents in their classes, with the help of five research assistants. The researcher met the respondents face to face with the assistance of research assistants and provided adequate explanation that aided the respondents to respond or provide valid information as required. Completed copies of the questionnaire were collected on the spot of administration. A total of 200 copies were administered and retrieved. t-test and One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) were used for testing of hypotheses. The test of significance was done at 0.05 alpha level.

Presentation of Findings

Null Hypothesis 1: There is no significant influence of family type on deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students?

Table 1: ANOVA of the influence of family type on deviant behaviour tendency of students.

Sources of variation	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	F-cal	Decision at p < .05 alpha
Between groups	7731.00	2	3865.50	20.24*	Reject H ₀
Within groups	37633.01	197	191.03		
Total	45364.01	199			

*Significant at $p < .05$ alpha level, $df = 2$ and 197

The result in Table 1 shows that the critical F-value of 3.04 is less than the calculated F-value of 20.24 with degree of freedom of 2 and 197 at 0.05 alpha level. Given this result, the null hypothesis was rejected. Therefore, there is significant influence of family type on deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students

Null Hypothesis 2: There is no significant influence of parenting styles on deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students.

Table 2: ANOVA of the influence of parenting styles on deviant behaviour tendency of students.

Sources of variation	Sum squares	of df	Mean square	F-cal	Decision at p< .05 alpha
Between groups	7071.63	2	3535.82	18.19*	Reject H ₀
Within groups	38292.38	197	194.38		
Total	45364.01	199			

**Significant at p<.05 alpha level, df=2 and 197*

The result in Table 2 shows that the critical F-value of 3.04 is less than the calculated F-value of 18.19 with degree of freedom of 2 and 197 at 0.05 alpha level. Given this result, the null hypothesis was rejected. Therefore, there is significant influence of parenting styles on deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students

Null Hypothesis 3: There is no significant influence of place of residence on deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students in Abia State.

Table 3: t- test analysis of the influence of place of residence on deviant behaviour tendency of students.

Place of Residence	n	\bar{x}	SD	Crit-z	Cal-z	Decision at p< .05 alpha
General compound	169	29.20	4.05	1.97	8.71*	Reject H ₀
Separate flat	31	22.10	4.78			

**Significant at p<.05 alpha level, df=198*

The result in Table 3 indicates that the critical t-value of 1.97 is less than the calculated t-value of 8.71 with degree of freedom of 198 at 0.05 alpha level. Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected. From this result, it means that place of residence significantly influence deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students.

Discussion of Findings

The findings of the influence of family type on deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students revealed that there is significant influence of family type on deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students. This finding is consistent with the works of James et al.(2014) who found that broken home significantly influenced maladaptive behaviour among students in public school. The finding also supports that of Phythian, et al.(2008) whose study showed adolescents who saw one or both of the parents as being negligent in their parenting responsibilities tended to score lower on the self-control index than those who described their parents as more consistent in their disciplinary practices.

The findings of the influence of parenting styles on deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students revealed that there is significant influence of parenting styles on deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students. The finding lend credence to that of Hedstrom (2016), whose study showed that that a relationship between authoritarian parenting and all aspects of internal symptoms (depression, loneliness and self-esteem) as well as delinquency and aggression (external symptoms). Permissive parenting was the largest contributor to drug use and an effect of age on drug use was also found. The results from this study showed that authoritarian parenting has a detrimental effect on a host of mental health issues and behavioural problems.

The findings of the influence of place of residence on deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students revealed that there is significant influence of place of residence on

deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students. The finding lend credence to that of Bassey (2010), whose finding indicated that that there was significant difference in students' disruptive behaviour based on parents' home location in Uyo Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of the study, it was concluded that home factors do influence deviant behaviour tendency of secondary school students in Ohafia Education Zone, Abia State.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Sociologists should also organize orientation programme aimed at discouraging divorce among married couples, and enlighten them on the effect of divorce on their children.
2. Parental love for their children should go beyond affection to discipline, in order to bring out the best in the children in any area of their life.
3. Government should do more to develop the economy and empower the citizens to enhance the earning capacity of parents to live in a good accommodation in a secure, serene environment to enhance the good upbringing of children.

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