Parental Influence On Adolescents Sexual Behaviour In Ibadan North Local Government Area Of Oyo State, Nigeria

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Abstract
Parental influence in matters concerning adolescent sexual behaviour is concerned with giving adolescents proper upbringing to enable them contribute their own quota to the development of the society. The present behaviour of adolescents in relation to their sexual behaviour calls for concern and all hands must be on deck to salvage the situation. It is against this background that this study examined parental influence on adolescents’ sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria. The study adopted a survey research design and multi-stage sampling procedure was used to select the three hundred respondents. A self constructed and validated questionnaire tagged Adolescent Sexual Behaviour Scale (ASBS) was used for data collection. The reliability coefficient of 0.82 was obtained for the instrument using pearson-moment correlation formular. The instrument was complimented with oral interview to elicit information from the students sampled for the study. Five research hypotheses were postulated and tested at 0.05 level of significant. Data collection were analysed using frequency count, percentages, and chi-square. The result showed that there was a significant relationship between parental care and adolescent sexual behaviour \( X^2 = 17.82, DF = 123, P < 0.05 \). The study concluded that parental influence contributed significantly to adolescent sexual behaviour. The study therefore recommended that parents should provide for their children at the adolescent stage; Parents should be more democratic in dealing with their adolescent children; and that Parents and the society must work hand in hand to help the adolescents.

Introduction
Adolescence is the transition period between childhood and adulthood. It extends roughly through the entire second decade of life. Growing into adolescence is a gradual process and this has to do with different stages of development. The first stage is the early adolescence, which covers the period of 11-14 years. The second is middle adolescence from 15-18 years, and the third is late adolescence, from 18-21 years. It is the period in which pattern of behaviour which has long-life consequences are formed and become established. For instance, it is in adolescence that many individuals begin sexual relations and some become involved in risky sexual behaviours with life threatening consequence. The increase in adolescent pre-marital sexual activity in conjunction with the multiplicity of sexual partners have led to an increase in the incidence of unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (STI) (ARFH 1997). The high incidence of the acquired
immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDs) among persons now in their 20s globally implies that, many contacted HIV in their adolescent age (Busari 1996). Data on pre-marital sexual intercourse indicate that in Ibadan, Oyo State, 79% and 55% of males and females respectively age 15-24 years had experienced intercourse.

Variables like family history, parental education and type of parental care affect sexual behaviour. If teens feel parental support, feel a connection to their parents, and are aptly supervised by them, they are less likely to have early sexual exposure and become pregnant. If parents model sexual risk taking behaviour, such as early child bearing, or permissive attitude towards pre-marital sex, adolescents from such environment could engage in early sexual intercourse. Another family influence on adolescent sexual behaviour can be genetic or biological variables. Hormonal level and the timing of puberty, which can affect sexual behaviour, are partially hereditary. If a mother is young at her first intercourse, it is more likely that both son and daughter will have sex before age 14.

**Statement of the Problem**

The incidence of teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted infection (STIs) and HIV infections among our youth has become alarming. The fact that adolescents are in the age of high sexual drive causes many to engage in unsafe sex, premarital sex and prostitution. Male adolescents were also reported to have had sexual experience from early age of 14 years. Casual observation shows that parents spend insufficient time with their children. Some parents would even travel to distant places, leaving the children at the mercy of nannies and guardians. Such children lack parental care and attention and may end up becoming delinquent and most often would engage in early sexual intercourse even among themselves.

Many parents subject their adolescent children, especially the females to child labour and make them hawk in market places, streets and motor parks. In so doing, they expose these adolescents to sexual harassment from older males. Some parents encourage their teens into early sexual intercourse and prostitution, unknowingly, by neglecting their responsibilities toward them. Yet another problem is the communication gap between parents and the adolescents on reproductive and sexual health issues. This study, therefore, intends to find out the contributions of parents/guardians to adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government of Oyo State, Nigeria.

**Objective of the Study**

The main objective of this study is to find out the impact of parents on adolescent sexual behaviour. Other objectives are:

1. To examine the effect of parental care on adolescent sexual behaviour.
2. To determine the effect of socio-economic status of parents on adolescent sexual behaviour.
3. To examine the influence of heredity on adolescent sexual behaviour.
4. To make plausible recommendation on what could be done to remediate risky sexual behaviour among the adolescents.

**Significance of the Study**

This study through its findings would create the necessary awareness among parents on the influence of what they do on the sexual behaviour of their adolescent children. It will shed more light on the relevance of parents monitoring/supervision on the
present and future well being of the adolescents. It will also equip the adolescents with some of the dangers involved in pre-marital sexual intercourse and therefore make them to manage their teenage age with more caution. The findings of this study would be very useful to governmental ministries and agencies like Ministries of Health and Education; Non-Governmental Agencies as well as sundry stake-holders in packaging effective and result oriented interventions on adolescents. Lastly, it will contribute positively to the expansion of knowledge in the area of adolescent sexual behaviour and also serve as an important reference tool for future researchers in the field.

Scope of the Study

The scope of this study is basically on the influence of parents on adolescents’ sexual behaviour. The target groups for the study are the adolescents in senior secondary schools. Five schools were selected among schools in Ibadan North Local Government Area, namely; Ikolaba High School, Ikolaba, Bishop Onabanjo High School, New Bodija, Anglican Grammar School, Orita Mefa, Oba Akinbiyi High School Mokola and Immanuel College, Ibadan. The respondents covered students in SS1-SS3. The researchers decided to use this group because this group are within the age range of 14-21 years which is the middle adolescence and at which stage all the secondary sexual characteristics would have manifested. Also, they are more vulnerable to sexual experimentations and adventures.

Research Questions

1. Is there any relationship between parental care and adolescents sexual behaviour?
2. To what extent will socio-economic status of parents affect adolescent sexual behaviour?
3. What is the relative effect of parenting style on adolescent’s sexual behaviour?
4. Does heredity have any influence on adolescent sexual behaviour?

resolving each crisis (when ever it occurs) leads to better personality development of the individual. This shows that at each stage of development, two polarities of behaviour pattern are possible. Which way the person chooses depends on the relevant frame of reference which ranges serially from maternal to paternal persons; to family, the school, then the peers; the patterns of friendship; shared household and lastly, mankind and mankind at old age.

The adolescent stage which is “identity versus role confusion”. Crisis at this stage has to be resolved. Solid parental support is very crucial because they tend to have independence from family due to peer group influence. They are more sexually active at this stage as it is a period of transformation from childhood to adulthood (Erickson 1968).

Research Hypotheses

The following specific hypotheses were tested:

1. There will be no significant relationship between parental care and adolescent sexual behaviour of Ibadan North Local Government of Oyo State.
2. Socio-economic status of parents will not significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviours in Ibadan North Local Government Area.
3. Parental education will not significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviours in Ibadan North Local Government Area.
4. Heredity will not significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government Area.
5. Parenting style will not significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government Area.

Research Methodology
This study adopted the descriptive survey research design. The population of study comprised male and female adolescents in all senior secondary schools in Ibadan North Local Government of Oyo State within the age range of 14 – 21 years. Simple random sampling was adopted to select five secondary schools in Ibadan North Local Government Area. The same procedure was used to select thirty students from each school, ten students each from SS 1, SS 2 and SS 3, while one hundred and fifty parents/guardians were also used. In all, one hundred and fifty respondents from students and one hundred and fifty from parents/guardians were used for this study. The instrument for this study was a self-structured questionnaire for students and parents/guardians, using four point Likert scale for parents. The questionnaire was in two parts. Part one was for students while part two was for parents/guardians. Both have two sections; section A focused on demographic status of the respondents while section B focused on information regarding selected variables for this study. Oral interview was conducted for the illiterate parents to make them participate in the study based on the structured questionnaire. To determine the face and content validity of the instrument, a draft of the self-structured questionnaire was subjected to validation through peer consultation and by experts within and outside the Department of Adult Education who were consulted for validation and standardization.

Test-retest method was conducted on the sample elements to determine their response to the questionnaire. Their responses were collected and analyzed using Pearson Product Formula. This established the internal consistency and the degree of relationship among the test items. All these efforts were to ascertain whether there is need to moderate or modify the questionnaire items. The researchers personally administered the questionnaire with two other research assistants. Efforts were made by the researchers and trained assistants to explain all parts of the questionnaire (where necessary) to the respondents to avoid ambiguity. This helped to facilitate better understanding and accurate responses to the items as contained on the questionnaire. The illiterate parents/guardians were interviewed in accordance to the structured questionnaire. All the responses from the completed copies of the questionnaire forms were collected coded and analysed using both descriptive and inferential statistics. The descriptive statistics of frequency and percentage was used to analyse section A of the questionnaire, which is the demographic characteristics of the respondents. The inferential statistics of multiple regression and chi-square ($X^2$) were used to analyse the variables in section B. The decision criterion for accepting or rejecting the various hypotheses of the study was set at 0.05 level of significance. The chi-square statistics was chosen for being the most appropriate for testing data obtained from different observations, and for its usefulness in determining whether or not differences exist between observed and expected frequencies as was the case in this study.

Findings And Discussion
The results obtained through the administered structured questionnaire and oral interview are presented and discussed starting with the bio-data of the respondents. Also, the analysis of the five hypothesis postulated for the study are presented in a tabular form based on the results obtained from the analysis.
Section A: Tabular presentation of the Bio-data of the respondents:

Table 1: Frequency Distribution of the Respondents’ Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age-range</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 – 29 years</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>31.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 – 39 years</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>25.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 – 49 years</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>22.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 above years</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>21.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>203</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 above shows the frequency distribution of the respondent’s age. It shows that parents between the age range of 20 – 29 years are 63 or 31.03%. Those between age range of 30 – 39 years are 51 or 25.12% while the respondents between age range of 40-44 are 46 or 22.6%. Respondents that are 50 years and above are just 43 or 21.18%.

Table 2: Frequency Distribution of the Respondents’ Occupation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artisan</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>25.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trading</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>27.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Servants</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>20.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farming</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>27.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>203</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 above shows the frequency distribution of the respondents occupation. It shows that 51 or 25.12% are artisans, 56 or 27.58% traders, 41 or 20% are civil servants while the remaining 55 or 27.09% are farmers. It reveals that respondents used for the study are industrious.

Table 3: Frequency Distribution of the Respondents’ Marital Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>15.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>53.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>10.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separated</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>19.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>203</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3 above shows the frequency distributions of respondents’ marital status. It reveals that 32 or 15.8% respondents are unmarried, 109 or 53.7% are married, 22 or 10.8% are widows while the remaining 40 or 19.7% are either divorced or separated. This shows further that married men and women and separated or divorced are the majority of the respondents used for the study.

Table 4: Frequency Distribution of the Respondents’ Educational Attainment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Attainment</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No formal education</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>34.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>24.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>32.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>08.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>203</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4 shows the frequency distributions of the respondents’ educational attainment. It reveals that 70 or 34.5% of respondents have no formal education and that 50 or 24.6% are with primary education. Also shown by the table, those with secondary education are 65 or 32% while the remaining 18 or 08.9% of respondents have attained tertiary education. The implications of this is that majority of the respondents can read and can attend to the questionnaire items independently without manipulations.

Table 5: Frequency Distribution of the Respondents’ Religions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religions</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christianity</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>58.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islam</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>41.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>203</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5 shows the frequency distribution of the respondents’ religion. It reveals that 118 or 58.1% of the respondents are Christians while the remaining 85 or 41.9% respondents are Muslims. This shows that Christians are dominating the area of study.

Section B

Testing of Research Hypotheses

Hypothesis One
There will be no significant relationship between parental care and adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government Area of Oyo State.

### Table 6(a): Correlation between Parental Care and Adolescent Sexual Behaviour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>DF</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adolescent sexual behaviour</td>
<td>17.82</td>
<td>6.67</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>726</td>
<td>000</td>
<td>Sig.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parental care</td>
<td>19.46</td>
<td>6.29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Significant at P < 0.05

Correlation statistics are contained in table 1 above.

**Interpretation and Discussion**

In table 6(a) the Pearson correlation coefficient ($r$) of relationship between parental care and adolescent sexual behaviour is 0.726; it is a value very close to 1, which implies statistically a perfect positive relationship between the two variables – the independent and the dependent variables. The value 0.726 indicates a strong positive relationship between parental care and adolescent sexual behaviour exhibited respectively by the parents and adolescent children in Ibadan North Local Government Area. Thus, as a parent tries, shows and gives positive parental care to his adolescent child(ren), positive sexual behaviour is ingrained in and exhibited by his child(ren). Any increase in the parental care effort of a parent bring about a close-to-proportionate increase in adolescents sexual behaviour. Towards parental care, deed and enforcement such as close association with children, supervision and monitoring of children’s relationship routines, etc. influences sexual behaviour of adolescent children. The coefficient of $r$ is significant at the probability of 0.05. Therefore, the null hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between parental care and adolescent sexual behaviour is rejected and the reverse, the alternative hypothesis that there is significant relationship between parental care and adolescent sexual behaviour is not a mere statistical chance; it is a result of real and significant effect of parental care on adolescent sexual behaviour.

**Table 6(b) Regression Analysis Result of Adolescent Sexual Behaviour on Parental Care.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R Square = 0.534</th>
<th>Adjusted Square = 0.524</th>
<th>Standard Error of Estimation = 4.60</th>
<th>Standardized Coefficient ($\beta$) = 0.726</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Analysis of Variance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources of Variance</th>
<th>DF</th>
<th>Sum of square (SS)</th>
<th>Mean square (MS)</th>
<th>F-ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Table 6(a) above contains regression analysis and analysis of variance statistics. In table 6(b) the R square value is 0.524. From this value, the coefficient of determination, which R square multiplied by 100% is thus 52.4%. The meaning of this statistic is that 52.4% variation in adolescent sexual behaviour is explained or contributed or predicated on parental care. Thus, 52.4% variation in the observed sexual behaviour of adolescent children in the study area within the same time of the research can be sought in the parental care given to them. There are other independent variables that determine sexual behaviour of adolescent in the study area that are not considered in the equation (model). Specifically, 47.6% of variation in adolescent sexual behaviour is explained by the variable not considered. The F ratio 137.402, which is significant at the specified probability, implies that the contribution of parental care to the observed adolescent sexual behaviour is not consequential to a chance of statistics; it is due to real effect of parental care of parents in the study. The finding from table 6(a) shows a significant positive relationship between parental care and adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government Area of Oyo State. It shows that parental care is significantly related to the sexual behaviour of the adolescent.

The finding is in line with the argument of Moronkola and Okanlawon (2003):

In the same vein, Collier (1997) observed that adolescents appear to thrive developmentally when their family setting is one of warm relationship, one in which adults and children are permitted to express their view points and assert their individuality; and one in which parents expect mature behaviour from teenagers, establish and enforce reasonable roles and standards. The findings reveal that if the relationship is weak and autocratic, the adolescents will find a way to run away and find refugee and solace in what ever makes them happier. This corroborates the finding of Collier (1997). The findings also established that if a close and cordial relationship can be achieved between the parents and the adolescent, it will foster acceptable training and acceptability of family norms and values in relation to sexual behaviours and other devised value and norms of the family. This finding upheld the finding of Moronkola and Okanlawon (2003).

The findings further observed that adolescents’ view of the family rules and regulations may contribute to increased disagreement and conflicts between the adolescent, the family and the society. The oral interview conducted on some SSS 3 students confirmed this. The respondent does not open up to her parents on sexual matters and behaviour because of the weak relationship between her and her parents and because of their autocratic way of handling things in the family.

**Hypothesis Two**

Socio-economic status if parents will not significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government Area.

**Table 7: Chi-square Frequency and Test Result on Socio-Economic Status of Parents and Adolescent Sexual Behaviour**
Table 7 above contains chi-square test results. The calculated chi-square value is 8.403 and tabulated value is 7.81.

**Interpretation and Discussion**

The chi-square calculated is greater than chi-square tabulated. As a result of this the null hypothesis that socio-economic status of parents will not significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviour is rejected and the alternative hypothesis that socio-economic status of parents will significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviour is accepted. Accepting the alternative hypothesis implies that the distribution of parents that believed that their socio-economic status was a determinant factor of sexual behaviour of their adolescent children differ significantly from hypothesized distribution. In other words, socio-economic status of the parents of the adolescents in the study area determines the sexual behaviour of the adolescent. Socio-economic status factors such as family income size, type of housing and housing environment, nature of job, social value, etc, affect the sexual behaviour of the adolescent either positively or negatively.

The finding in hypothesis two table 7 shows that socio-economic status of the parents such as parents’ income, religion, type of housing, nature of job, social value, the environment (urban or rural, slums or organized community such as Bodija, Ikoyi etc) determines to a large extent the sexual behaviour of the adolescents. The finding reveals that if an adolescent resides in the “ghettos” or in the slums, there is every tendency for such an adolescent to be prone to early sexual activity and juvenile delinquency than an adolescent from an organized area such as; Bodija, Ikoyi etc. The finding is in line with the argument of Lykken (1997):

In the same vein, the finding of the study also established that poverty, lack, parents working long hours and acculturation, pushes the adolescent into unnecessary sexual relationships. This finding corroborates the argument of Lykken (1997). The finding also reveals that children raised by loving parents who maintain clear and consistent personal and high social standard are more likely to have good feelings about themselves than children brought up by harsh and poor parents. The finding is in line with the report of the World Bank (1993). It can then be argued that socio-economic status of the parents determines to a large extent the adolescent social behaviour in the society. The oral interview conducted by the researchers among the selected students lends credence to the above findings. One of
the students said “My parents could not provide for all my needs, at times they ask me to hawk and sell things before coming to school, which led me to early sexual knowledge.”

**Hypothesis Three**

Parental education will not significantly be determinant of adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government.
Table 8: Chi-square Frequency and Test Results on Parental Education and Adolescent Sexual Behaviour.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Observed Frequency</th>
<th>Expected Frequency</th>
<th>Residual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>-16.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Disagree</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>203</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DF = 3 \(X^2\) Calculated = 13.208 \(X^2\) Tabulated = 7.81

Table 8 above contains chi-square test results. The calculated chi-square value is 13.208 and tabulated value is 7.81 (two failed).

Interpretation and Discussion

Since the calculated value of chi-square 13.208 is greater than tabulated value, the alternative hypothesis is accepted and the null hypothesis that parental education will not significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviour is rejected. The acceptance of alternative hypothesis is significant at the probability of 0.05. The implication of this is that education of the parents is a determinant of sexual behaviour of the adolescents in the study as the hypothesized distribution of parents differs from the observed distribution. Thus, the level of education of parents determines the sexual behaviour of their adolescent children. It affects the behaviour in any form. It is expected that parents with sound education through formal and informal education exposure will direct their children toward positive sexual behaviour.

The finding from hypothesis three table 8 shows a significant relationship between parental education and adolescent sexual behaviour. It was established from the finding that parental level of education determines to a large extent the sexual behaviour of the adolescents in the area under study. The finding is in line with the earlier study conducted by Ezewu (1990) on level of education attainment and children growth. Ezewu (1990) said that children from highly educated home and conducive environment are likely to be prone to good behaviour and acceptable norms and values of the society than children from illiterate, poor and poverty ridden homes. In the same vein Sarumi (1998) argued that children from poor and illiterate homes are mostly street children, hawkers and bad eggs in the society and their antisocial behaviour are more pronounced in the society than that of the children from rich homes and well educated parents.

Hypothesis Four

Heredity will not significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government.
Table 9: Chi-square Frequency and Test Result on Heredity and Adolescent Sexual Behaviour.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Observed Frequency</th>
<th>Expected Frequency</th>
<th>Residual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>-5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Disagree</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>-23.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>203</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF = 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>$X^2$ Calculate = 13.208</td>
<td>$X^2$ Tabulated = 7.81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 9 above contains chi-square test results. The calculated chi-square value is 13.208 and tabulated 7.81.

**Interpretation and Discussion**

The chi-square value calculated is greater than the tabulated value. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis that heredity will significantly be a determinant factor of adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government Area is upheld. This, thus, suggests that parents in the study area believed that the sexual behaviour pattern of their adolescent was to some extent, determined by hereditary factors because they could tell that, if all other factors held constant, the sexual behaviour of their children was inherited. The finding from hypothesis four table 9 reveals that heredity to some extent affects behaviour of the adolescents in the area under study as the responses of the respondents attested to this fact. This means that most of the respondents believed that heredity is a major determinants of the adolescents sexual behaviour. Hence, it is expected that the child of a sex-worker is prone to be exposed to early sexual habit and the child of a woman who engages in extra-marital affairs is prone to such behaviour early in life. This finding is in line with the argument of Asuzu (1995). Majority of the respondents agreed to the fact that children born through extra-marital affairs are not responsible because many of them are raised by single parent (mother) and at the early stage in life, they are expected to have anti-social behaviours such as uncontrolled sexual and other undisciplined tendencies. Moronkola and Okanlawon (2003) stressed that heredity determines to a large extent what a person will be in life and his/her behaviour in the society. They affirmed that family trait and inheritance will “make or mar” a person in life.

**Hypothesis Five**

Parenting style will not significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government.
Table 10: Chi-square Frequency and Test Result on Parenting Style and Adolescent Sexual Behaviour.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Observed Frequency</th>
<th>Expected Frequency</th>
<th>Residual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>-5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>-28.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Disagree</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>32.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>203</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DF = 3  
$X^2$ Calculate = 13.208  
$X^2$ Tabulated = 7.81

Table above contains chi-square test results the calculated chi-square values is 13.208 and two failed. Tabulated value is 7.81.

**Interpretation and Discussion**

The calculated value of chi-square is more than the tabulated value of chi-square. Because of this the null hypothesis that parenting style will not significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government is disregarded; and the alternative, parenting style will significantly be a determinant of adolescent sexual behaviour in Ibadan North Local Government is accepted. The observed distribution of parents differ significantly from hypothesized distribution. That is, the distribution of parents that believed that their style of parenting, vis-à-vis demandingness, responsiveness and autonomy granting, was a determinant of sexual behaviour of their adolescent children differ from what was expected.

Parenting style such as giving a lot of freedom to children; spending time with children, giving deserved punishment to children, etc. hold sway on sexual behaviour of adolescents in any of the known stage of adolescence. The finding from hypothesis five table 10 shows a significant relationship between parenting style and adolescent sexual behaviour and it established to a large extent the fact that parental style will determine adolescent sexual behaviour. The parental style could be autocratic, carefree and democratic parenting styles. It was revealed from the study that if the parental style is autocratic, it is likely that the adolescent will not be free to the parents, hence, such an adolescent will not expose anything to her parents, rather, such an adolescent will find solace elsewhere. This is in line with the observation of Baumrind (1989, 1991).

The study also finds out that if the parental style is carefree, the adolescent will be doing what he/she likes and this will affect his/her sexual behaviour negatively because roles are not set, nor are standards. The finding corroborates the argument of Maccohy (1983). On the other hand, most of the respondents agreed that democratic parental style is the best because it ushered in a close and cordial relationship between the parents and the adolescents. The strength of this style is that it will make the adolescent to share their problems and challenges with their parents without any barrier and hindrance. It also exposes the adolescents to “why and when” sex and sexual activities should commence.
With this parental style, adolescents are given proper education on sexual behaviour right from home rather than learn it from outside sources or through the peers that will mislead them. The finding supports the earlier work of Ezewu (1990).

**Conclusion**

Adolescence period is a stage of transition biologically, physiologically, socially and economically from childhood to adulthood. This is a period when every child looks forward to and has the belief that he is no longer a child. They are free to probe into many things because of their physique. It is a period when an individual become aware of how he or she feels, thinks and behaves. From the explanation above, it can be seen that adolescence period is a critical stage in human life and is a period of make or mar. The influence of the parents and the environment at large is very significant in that the parent and the society or environment determines to a large extent the success or not of this stage of childhood to adulthood. It can be concluded however that the socio-economic status of the parents, the level of education of the parents, the parenting style etc. determine to a large extent who an adolescent would be or become.

**Recommendations**

After a thorough examination and comparison of the data obtained from the research and the findings of various researchers, on the influence of parents on adolescent behaviour generally and adolescent sexual behaviour in particular, the following recommendations are made.

i. That both parents should try as much as possible to set good examples for their adolescent children to follow on sexuality. This they could do by encouraging the development of a set of values in the adolescents that would guide their sexual behaviours.

ii. That the parents must provide for their children and should not shy away from their financial obligations to their children at the adolescence period especially if they are female. This is necessary to avoid their being seduced into promiscuity with money.

iii. That the parenting style should be democratic enough so that the adolescents will be close to their parents.

iv. That the parents should monitor the activities of their children particularly at the adolescence period.

v. Since sex is a powerful force, it’s meaning has to be exposed to adolescents both at home and in the schools to enable them make a wise decision based on self control and personal code of conduct.

vi. That schools, as an agent of socialization should open more counseling clinics so as to meet the need of the adolescents.

vii. That the society should understand better the period and the stage that the adolescent are passing through. This can be done through the mass media, various youth educational programmes and jingles.

viii. That the Government and the society at large should work hand-in-hand with the parents to solve the problems of the adolescents.

ix. Poverty leads to family disintegration whereby parents become economically helpless and lose control of their families. Attempt should be made to meaningfully alleviate poverty to help restore power to parents by making them rise to their parental responsibilities.
Young people are parents and leaders of the future. Their contributions will determine what kind of world exists in the Twenty-First century. An investment in the well-being of the adolescents is an investment in the future.

REFERENCES


Adamachak S. (2000). Involving Parents in Reproductive Health Education for Youth; Washington DC. Focus on Young Adults Programme.


