The Prediction of sexual behavior of adolescents: family warmth and control

Mahbobe Ghavidel Heydari1, Mahsan Asadisaravi2, Ali Arab3, Mahmoud Shirazi4

1Graduate student of educational psychology, Department of psychology, Zahedan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran
2Graduate student of educational psychology, Department of psychology, Zahedan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Zahedan,
3Assistant professor, PHD in psychology, Faculty of education and psychology, University of Sistan and Baluchestan;
4Assistant Professor of Psychology Department, University of Sistan and Baluchestan

ABSTRACT

The goal of this investigation is to reveal relationship among family warmth, from family inspection and sexual behavior of adolescents. Statistical population consists of 9142 students of grade 3 of Guidance School and first grade of High School (14 and 15 years old), in Zahedan, Iran. The sample includes 362 students who were chosen by Proportional Cluster method. Questionnaires were Schaefer’s Family Environment Scales (FES), and a researcher made Sexual Behaviors Scale (SBS). The results showed that the relationship between sexual behavior and warmth of a family found T-test showed that the correlation warmth in family relationships and sexual behavior in girls than in boys. - 0/22 and warmth in family relationships with female sexuality there is an inverse relationship. The relationship between sexual behavior and control in the family, there was no. Demographic factors suggest that sexual behavior is increases with age Analysis of variance for age and sexual behavior, suggesting that the high school students' knowledge of the meaning of have reported sexual behavior and higher.

KEYWORDS: Sexual behavior, warmth, control, family, and adolescent.

INTRODUCTION

Family is among major pillars and main institutions of each society which is the origin of outbreak of human affections and focus of the most devotional relations and interpersonal interactions. Though in adolescence period gradually family influence on adolescents dwindles and other important and effective social groups suppress them for assimilation, but still family is considered the main element for adolescent's behavior change [1].

In today modern world, efforts for communication and conversation with adolescent are required more than ever [2]. Increasing studies has been developed about the role of parents regarding to adolescents' sexual behaviors and sexual health all over the world. For example, in a poll from 12-19 years old students it was found that there is a connection between verbal relation of parents with children who live in a house and their sexual behavior [3]. On the other hand, Timony and Malany [4]'s study in United States showed that poor relation with parents causes increasing of early sexual relations in the society. Also, another research showed that parents' supervision and maternal surveillances is effective in decreasing adolescents' sexual behavior [5].

Moreover, a linear study showed that incentive of having early sexual relations has counter relation with parents' warm relations and these adolescents have fewer tendencies to establish sexual relations (Can et al, 2010). On the other hand, Sharif Daramadii[6] considers warding off and excommunication and also extremist attention among elements effective in adolescents' deviations. Moreover, Timony and Malany [4]'s researches (2008) in United States reported that emotional problems in childhood cause early and dangerous sexual behaviors. Also, Manlove et al. [7] reported that those parents who have stronger relations with their children can have a positive effect on reducing their adolescents' sexual behaviors.

Research findings in Brazil [8] showed that the presence of parents was introduced among protecting elements against sexual behaviors for 13-24 adolescents. And a linear study on 265 adolescents, 61% of whom were female during three years showed that low control is related to sexual intercourse [9].

Another research's findings showed that those parents who have more control and observation, have low risk adolescents sexually [10]. Also, research findings of 4 African countries in Ghana (2009) obtained the same results. It is expected that parents control their children's behavior and supervise cases such as coming and going, behavior observation and the amount of information they have about issues [3]. On the other hand, lack
of after school surveillances, higher welfare and mothers’ preoccupation is effective in increasing criminality level [11]. Studies of Manlove et al. [7] showed that parents, who control their children's activities and fellowship environments, can have a positive effect on reducing their adolescents' sexual behavior. Also, parents’ knowledge and their awareness of the adolescent friends, their upkeep place and activities were acutely along with low probability of sexual behavior and there is no relation between family management and sexual behavior [12].

Also, Biddlecom et al. [3] reported that parents should supervise their children's activities and their information (what they know). And parents and peers’ authority is effective on high school adolescents' decisions on sexual behaviors [13]. But, unfortunately most parents apply intense reactions and this cause their relation with their adolescent become weaker.

Then, questions of this research include: 1) Is there a relation between sexual behavior level and adolescents' fervor? 2) Is there a relation between sexual behavior level and adolescents' control? 3) Do anthropology variables have an effective role on adolescents’ sexual behavior level?

**MATERIALS AND METHOD**

The method of research was descriptive and correlational type. The statistical community of research involved all students of grade three of middle school and first grade of high school (a total of 9142 students). The sample was comprised of 368 subjects who were assigned based on “Morgan” table. 362 questionnaires were analyzed. The sample consisted of 85 high school girls, 81 middle school girls, 111 high school boys and 93 middle school boys. Ratio cluster random method was used for sampling. For statistical analysis, the method of variance analysis, Pearson correlation and toski- follow-up test were used.

The tools of research were two questionnaires, namely:
1. Family environment questionnaire, and
2. Research – made questionnaire of sexual behavior.

1. Questionnaire of family environment:

Naghashian (1979) compiled this questionnaire based on Shifer works (1965) that contains 77 questions. It has several scales, from which variables of “freedom and coldness” in relations of family members were used. In a research carried out by Yaghoobkhani (1993), credibility of research was estimated through alpha coefficient and re-testing which was reported as 0.74 and 0.93 for freedom variable and coldness variable, respectively. Alpha coefficient was achieved as 0.74 and 0.91 for two mentioned variables, respectively.

2. The questionnaire of the level of sexual behavior:

This questionnaire is researcher- made including sub-scales of complete sexual behaviors, sexual dreams, and lustful look, self – satisfying -sexually, and homosexuality. It contained 17 questions. For gaining apparent and content reliability, viewpoints of specialists of psychology and educational science as well as an experiment on a 50- people group were used. Cronbach's alpha coefficient for questionnaire of sexual behavior was 0.80.

**RESULTS**

1) Is there a relation between sexual behavior level and adolescents’ fervor?

To study this question, Person correlation statistic method was used and its results are shown in Table 1. As it is observed, correlation between sexual behavior and family control variable (r=0.03) and fervor variable (r=-0.05), doesn’t have any significance correlation in the level P< 0.05.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Sexual behavior level</th>
<th>Control</th>
<th>Fervor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>control</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fervor</td>
<td>-0.05</td>
<td><strong>0.36</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=362; *p<0.05; **p< 0.01

2) Is there a relation between sexual behavior level and adolescents' control?

Regarding the results of Table 1, it is observed that in correlation between sexual behavior level and family control variable (r=0.03), there is no significant correlation in the level P<0.05.

3) What role do anthropology variables have on the relation between the study's variables and the adolescent's sexual behavior?

In response to this question, studying the role of age and gender are addressed.
Table 2. Correlation results between sexual behavior level and the adolescents’ age.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>correlation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual behavior and age</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>*0.16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*P<0.05; **P<0.01

Correlation between sexual behavior and age (r=0.16) is significant in 0.05 level. That is, with increasing age, sexual behavior level increases too.

To study the role of gender, first the results of obtained differences from correlation coefficient should be addressed, and then regression analysis is provided for male and female separately.

Table 3. Correlation between the research variables with gender control

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Sexual behavior</th>
<th>Fervor</th>
<th>Control</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>*-0.22</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**P<0.01; *P<0.05; N=204 (males); N=166 (females)

As the results show, the intensity of fervor correlation with sexual behavior in females has been greater than males.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The aim of this research has been to study the relation of family and cultural factors on adolescents’ sexual behavior level. The results of the first question showed that there isn’t any significant relation between fervor scale of family environment and adolescents’ sexual behavior. And it can be said that questions in this study have included the conceptions of emotional support, allegation and positive opinion expression. There is no significant relation between fervor of family environment and males’ sexual relation. One of the reasons of lack of fervor scale significance is possibly that evaluation of males’ statistic society of fervor is not correspondent to very high emotional support scales. But the results of research showed that family fervor has reverse and significant relations with females’ sexual behaviors in 5% level and its reason seems to be girls’ sentimentality.

The results of second question showed that there is no significant relation between variable of family environment control and adolescents sexual behaviors. The reason is that type of control questions wasn’t appropriate to sexual behavior control.

These findings are consistent with Baumer and South [14]’s study who reported that control factors couldn't influence the effects of society's bad influence in sexual activities. And it is likely that one of these reasons is lack of significance of control scale. On the other hand, Bolhari (2002) and Vander Zanden (2001) declared that those adolescents, who are grown up in autocratic environments, apparently show resignation and obedience but actually they have a high level of problems [15]. Also, Ghalasi Mood [16] discussed that opinionated parents' severities, violence and scorns remain destructive and irrecoverable effects on adolescents' personality structure and even sometime cause deviation too. Also, they are correspondent to Karbaschi findings [17] who reported that much protection, existence of supernumerary discipline, causes adolescents tendency to deviation. Therefore, it can be said that inordinate interference and subdued behavior expectation and punishment may not cause control but has caused more cryptanalysis, since the questions of control variable questionnaire of this research includes concepts of exorbitance interference, aggression reservation, control through guilt feeling, directing, continuous discipline, subdued behavior expectation and punishment. In addition, the reason of this questionnaire's selection is appliance of such control in most Zahedanian families on their adolescents. The reason of findings difference has been utilization of a different research method. For example, using different questionnaires. Because questionnaires that are used in other researches for control include questions like control of children's activities, supervision of giving money to children, high protection, accurate and complete control and observation and control of child's information.

Bidelkam et al. [3] believed that if parents have the same effects of society on adolescents, they can be successful in his control. Of course, some researches in Brazil (2007) and Philippines (2006) considered existence of parents in family among protecting and control factors against sexual behaviors.

The results of third question showed that sexual behaviors increase with age increase. Age and sexual variance analysis indicated that high school students reported significantly higher sexual relations. These findings are consistent with the results of a study in Philippines (2006) on 14-16 years old adolescents which showed that age increase causes increasing of sexual relations.
REFERENCES

12) Ghalasimoed, Mian (2008). The study and determination of child breeding components relation (power, supervision and control, following norms of solidarity and acceptance) in families(nuclear, widespread , incomplete) and behavioral disorders of 14-18 years old adolescents in Birjandhigh schools, M.A dissertations, Birjand, Azad university.