

INFLUENCE OF PARENTING STYLES ON DEVIANT BEHAVIORS AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GAROUA, NORTHERN CAMEROUN

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ABSTRACT

The study investigated the influence of parenting styles on deviant behavior and academic achievement of secondary school students. The study was carried out in three local government education authorities in Garoua, Northern Province of Cameroun. Two research questions and two null hypotheses tested at 0.05 level of significance guided the study. Ex-post-facto design was adopted for the study. The sample of 350 students were drawn from the population using multi-stage sampling technique. A 45-item instrument tagged 'Parenting Style Questionnaire' and another of 15- item instrument tagged 'Deviant Behavior Questionnaire, all developed on a four point scale by the researchers after extensive review of relevant literature, were used for data collection. The instruments for the study were validated and a trial test to ascertain the reliability of the instrument was carried out. Mean and standard deviation were used to answer the research questions while Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was used to test the research hypotheses. The results of the study showed that parenting styles influence deviant behaviors and academic achievement of secondary school students. Specifically, the results of the two null hypotheses showed that the influence of parenting styles on students' deviant behavior is significant. It was recommended that the government through the relevant agencies should ensure that parents are encouraged to participate in any parenting education programme organized by the government to help in their parenting task.

KEYWORDS: Parenting Styles, Deviant Behavior, Academic Achievement, Human Behavior