



ELSEVIER

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

SCIENCE @ DIRECT®

Journal of Adolescence 29 (2006) 103–117

Journal of
Adolescence

www.elsevier.com/locate/jado

Parenting style, individuation, and mental health of Egyptian adolescents

Marwan Dwairy^{a,*}, Kariman E. Menshar^b

^a*Emek Yezreel College, and Haifa University, P.O. Box 14710, Ora St. 3b, Nazerat Ellit 17000, Israel*

^b*Banha Faculty of Education, Zagazig University, Egypt*

Abstract

Three questionnaires that measure parenting style, adolescent-family connectedness, and mental health were administered to 351 Egyptian adolescents. Results show that in rural communities the authoritarian style is more predominant in the parenting of male adolescents, while the authoritative style is more predominant in the parenting of female adolescents. In urban communities, on the other hand, the authoritarian style was more predominant in the parenting of female adolescents. The connectedness of all female adolescents with their family was stronger than that of male adolescents. The connectedness of girls was found to be more emotional and financial in villages and to be more functional in town. Female adolescents reported a higher frequency of psychological disorders. Mental health was associated with authoritative parenting, but not with authoritarian parenting. It seems that authoritarian parenting within an authoritarian culture is not as harmful as within a liberal culture.

© 2005 The Association for Professionals in Services for Adolescents. Published by Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Arabs; Egypt; Collective; Individuation; Parenting; Anxiety; Depression

*Corresponding author. Tel./fax: +972 4 9917591.

E-mail address: admin@marwandwairy.com (M. Dwairy).

Introduction

Socialization processes and psychological independence are two factors that are diverse across cultures (Triandis, 1995; Chaudhary, 2002). More specifically, parenting style and individuation in adolescence in western societies are found to differ from those in collective societies (Hill, 1995; Dwairy, 1997a, b, 1998a; Markus, & Kitayama, 1998; Panagiotopoulou, 2002). The research reported in this article intended to study parenting style, psychological connectedness, and mental health among Egyptian Arab adolescents.

Parenting styles

The most widely used typology of parenting behaviours in the West is that developed by Baumrind (Berg-Cross, 2000). Baumrind identified three parenting styles: authoritarian, authoritative, and permissive (Baumrind, 1967, 1991). Parents who practice the authoritarian style focus on their control of the child, and his/her obedience. They restrict the autonomy of their children and decide what appropriate behaviour is for them (Baumrind, 1983; Reitman, Rhode, Hupp, & Altobello, 2002). A variety of problems were identified among the children of authoritarian parents in the west. These children tend to be uncooperative and to suffer from depression, low self-esteem, low initiative, and difficulties in making decisions in adulthood (Whitfield, 1987; Forward, 1989; Baumrind, 1991; Bigner, 1994; Wenar, 1994).

Parents who adopt the permissive style encourage their children's autonomy and enable them to make their own decisions and regulate their own activities. They avoid confrontation and tend to be warm, supportive people and do not care to be viewed by their children as figures of authority. Children raised by permissive parents have poor social skills and low self-esteem (Baumrind, 1991; Reitman et al., 2002) and are often seen as selfish, dependent, irresponsible, spoiled, unruly, inconsiderate of other's needs, and antisocial (Bigner, 1994; Wenar, 1994).

The authoritative style is a compromise between the authoritarian and the permissive style. Parents who adopt this style tend to have good nurturing skills and exercise moderate parental control to allow the child to become progressively more autonomous (Baumrind, 1966, 1967, 1983, 1991; Reitman et al., 2002). Children raised according to this style of parent are not completely restricted but rather are allowed a reasonable degree of latitude in their behaviour. Parents do enforce limits in various ways such as reasoning, verbal give and take, overt power, and positive reinforcements. Children of authoritative parents display high self-esteem and tend to be self-reliant, self-controlled, secure, popular, and inquisitive (Buri, Louiselle, Misukanis, & Mueller, 1988; Wenar, 1994). They manifest fewer psychological and behavioural problems than youth who are raised by authoritarian or permissive parents (Lamborn, Mants, Steinberg, & Dornbusch, 1991). (For review of parental discipline, see Maccoby & Martin, 1983.)

Inconsistent results regarding the effects of parenting style on children have emerged from research among non-white cultures (Stewart & Bond, 2002). In some studies, levels of self-concept, self-esteem, and academic performance of African-Americans (Baumrind, 1972; Taylor, Hinton, & Wilson, 1995) and of Asian Americans (Steinberg, Lamborn, Darling, Mounts, & Dornbusch, 1992) have been shown to be lower, whether the authoritarian or the permissive parenting style is implemented. Conversely, the results of some studies have shown that the authoritarian parenting style produced the most assertive and independent African American girls

متن کامل مقاله

دریافت فوری ←

ISIArticles

مرجع مقالات تخصصی ایران

- ✓ امکان دانلود نسخه تمام متن مقالات انگلیسی
- ✓ امکان دانلود نسخه ترجمه شده مقالات
- ✓ پذیرش سفارش ترجمه تخصصی
- ✓ امکان جستجو در آرشیو جامعی از صدها موضوع و هزاران مقاله
- ✓ امکان دانلود رایگان ۲ صفحه اول هر مقاله
- ✓ امکان پرداخت اینترنتی با کلیه کارت های عضو شتاب
- ✓ دانلود فوری مقاله پس از پرداخت آنلاین
- ✓ پشتیبانی کامل خرید با بهره مندی از سیستم هوشمند رهگیری سفارشات