Self-Esteem, Parental Attitude, and School Connectedness as Determinants of Antisocial Behaviour of Adolescents in Public Senior Secondary Schools in Lagos, Nigeria

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Certification

This is to certify that Fatimah Adenike RABIU with matriculation number LCU/PG/002585 carried out this this research work entitled "Self-Esteem, Parental Attitude, and School Connectedness as Determinants of Antisocial Behaviour of Adolescents in Public Senior Secondary Schools in Lagos, Nigeria" in the Department of Arts and Social Science, Faculty of Education, Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria under my supervision and that this has not been previously submitted.

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Dedication

This thesis is dedicated to my late father Alhaji AbdulRahman Ajani Salawudeen, for his foundation that he laid for my academic endeavours which paved way for this great feat.

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Abstract

Adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Lagos, Nigeria, increasingly exhibit antisocial behaviours such as bullying, substance abuse, aggression, and defiance, posing a threat to their personal development and societal harmony. Traditional disciplinary and educational measures have proven inadequate in curbing these behaviours, making it necessary to explore the influence of psychosocial and environmental factors on adolescent conduct. Consequently, this study examined the influence of self-esteem, parental attitude, and school connectedness on the antisocial behaviour of adolescents in public senior secondary schools in Lagos, Nigeria. The research adopted a descriptive survey research design.The population comprised adolescents from public senior secondary schools in Lagos State, 2,342 senior secondary school students selected from 120 public schools throughout Lagos, a descriptive survey design was employed. The Taro Yamane formula was used to determine the proper sample size in a multi-stage sampling procedure. Data were collected using four structured, validated instruments: the Antisocial Behaviour Scale (ABS), Self-Esteem Scale (SES), Parental Attitude Scale (PAS), and School Connectedness Scale (SCS). The reliability coefficients of these instruments ranged from 0.78 to 0.84, ensuring internal consistency. Data analysis was conducted using multiple regression analysis and independent t-tests to test three hypotheses at a 0.05 level of significance. Findings revealed a significant joint influence of self-esteem, parental attitude, and school connectedness on antisocial behaviour among adolescents, with (β=0.091, $p<0.05$). Additionally, each independent variable made a significant relative contribution, with parental attitude exerting the highest influence. Gender differences in antisocial behaviour were also significant, with male adolescents exhibiting higher levels of antisocial behaviour than their female counterparts. Based on these findings, it is recommended that parents, educators, counselling psychologists, and policymakers implement strategies to foster positive parental attitudes, improve adolescent self-esteem, and enhance school connectedness to curb antisocial behaviour and promote prosocial conduct among adolescents.

Keyword: Self-Esteem, Parental Attitude, School Connectedness, Antisocial Behaviour, Gender

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List of Acronyms

Abbreviation	Meaning
ANOVA	Analysis of Variance
ASB	Antisocial Behaviour
PAS	Parental Attitude Scale
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Science

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