



ASSESSMENT OF PREVALENCE OF SELECTED DEVIANT BEHAVIOR AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN SELECTED SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS: A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Deviant behavior is defined as activities or conduct that differs from social norms or expectations. Social norms are unwritten rules that a group or culture deems to be appropriate. Any activity that violates accepted social norms or legal restrictions is considered to be deviant behavior. **Objective:** To assess the prevalence of selected deviant behavior among adolescents in selected senior secondary schools. **Methodology:** The study evaluated the assessment of prevalence of selected deviant behavior among 9th to 12th senior secondary school students using a descriptive study. Conducted at a senior secondary school with 105 students (experimental group), the study employed a quantitative approach. Participants included 9th to 12th class students, selected via non probability convenient sampling. Data collection involved a self-administered questionnaire for demographics, and a modified deviant behavior rating scale. Reliability of the tool was confirmed with the Karl Pearson correlation coefficient for the rating scale reliability score (0.932) and the Inter-Rater Form method for the rating scale, which produced reliability score of (0.9648) both exceeding the acceptable threshold of 0.8. **Results:** The study assessed the prevalence of selected deviant behavior among adolescents who are 9th to 12th class students by comparing post test scores in experimental group. The experimental group showed 79.05% of adolescents had mild deviant behavior, 19.05% of them had moderate deviant behavior score and 1.90% of them had severe deviant behavior score. Minimum deviant behavior score was 1 and maximum deviant behavior score was 49. Mean deviant behavior score was 17.88 ± 8.44 . Mean percentage of deviant behavior score 27.09 ± 12.79 . statistical analysis with unpaired t-test revealed experimental group, with t-value (6.70) exceeding the critical value of 1.98 and f-value (3.19) exceeding the critical value of 2.68 demonstrating the association of behavior. **Conclusion:** The assessment of selected deviant behavior in adolescents (9th to 12th class) students, with the experimental group showing deviant behavior. Statistical analysis confirmed the assessment of association of level of deviant behavior.

KEYWORDS : Deviant Behavior, Assessment, Adolescents, Prevalence.

INTRODUCTION

Deviant behavior is defined as activities or conduct that differs from social norms or expectations. Social norms are unwritten rules that a group or culture deems to be appropriate. Any activity that violates accepted social norms or legal restrictions is considered to be deviant behavior.

Risk factors can be found in an individual, their environment, or their ability to change to fit those conditions. While certain risk factors become obvious during adolescence, others may not affect people until childhood or even earlier. Some involve the neighborhood, while still others involve the family, the place of employment, or the group of peers. Some grow less important as a person's age, while others endure throughout life.

Background Of The Study

A study conducted on Relationship variables, personality traits, and teenage substance abuse Research on teenage drug use frequently addresses the impact of families and peer groups on the issue of adolescent substance use. The personality qualities and the relative effects of different settings on drug use outcomes were examined in the current study.

Need Of The Study

A study conducted on Adolescent Alcohol and Tobacco Use and Deviant Peer Affiliation: The Importance of Social Networking Site Information Exposure on Digital Literacy and Alcohol and Tobacco Use. Due to the significant danger and prevalence of underage alcohol and tobacco use, researchers have been concentrating on the factors that affect these behaviours. From the perspective of the ecological technosubsystem theory, this study aimed to explore the relationships between deviant peer affiliation, exposure to

tobacco and alcohol information on social networking sites (SNSs), adolescent tobacco and alcohol use, and the potential protective role of digital literacy. 725 teenagers in all were recruited to participate in the study. The results showed a positive link between teenage alcohol and tobacco use and deviant peer affiliation, with SNS exposure to alcohol and tobacco information mediating this association. More precisely, there was less of a correlation between adolescent alcohol and tobacco use and exposure to alcohol-related SNS tobacco content among those with high digital literacy. In addition to analysing the combined effects of offline and online risk variables, these findings provide guidance for enhancing digital literacy and preventing juvenile alcohol and tobacco use.

Problem Statement

Assessment Of Prevalence Of Selected Deviant Behavior Among Adolescents In Selected Senior Secondary Schools: A Descriptive Study.

Obejective Of The Study

Primary Objective:

To assess the prevalence of selected deviant behavior among adolescents in selected senior secondary schools.

Secondary Objectives:

1. To assess the prevalence of selected deviant behavior among adolescents in selected senior secondary schools.
2. To find out the association between deviant behavior among adolescents with selected demographic variables.

Conceptual Framework

This study was based on Health Belief Model.

Methodology

Research Approach – Quantitative Research Approach**Research Design** – A Descriptive Study.**Sample** – Adolescents (who are studied in 9th to 12th students)**Sample Size** – 105 Adolescents**Sampling Technique** – Non-probability convenient sampling technique**Tool**

Section I – Self -Structured questionnaire on demographic variables.

Section II – Modified Deviant Behavior Scale

RESULT AND DISCUSSION**Table No. 1: Table Showing Percentage Wise Distribution Of Adolescents In Selected Schools According To Their Demographic Characteristics. N= 105**

Demographic Variables	No. Of Adolescents (F)	Percentage (%)
Age (Yrs.)		
15-16	60	57.1
17-18	45	42.9
Gender		
Male	64	61.0
Female	41	39.0
Family income per month (Rs.)		
5000-10000	50	47.6
10001-20000	27	25.7
20001-30000	19	18.1
30001 and above	9	8.6
Type of family		
Nuclear	73	69.5
Joint	31	29.5
Extended	1	1.0
Number of siblings		
None	8	7.6
One	63	60.0
Two	24	22.9
More than two	10	9.5
Educational status of father		
Primary	18	17.1
Secondary	40	38.1
Higher Secondary	39	37.1
Graduate	7	6.7
Post Graduate	1	1.0
Other	0	0
Social networking site using		
Whatsapp	103	98.10
Facebook	66	62.86
Instagram	93	88.57
Tiktok	10	9.52
Snapchat	72	68.57

Table No. 2: Table Showing Assessment With Level Of Deviant Behavior Among Adolescents In Selected Senior Secondary School N=105

Level of Deviant Behavior	Score Rang	Level of Deviant Behavior Score	
		No of adolescents	Percentage
Mild	0-22	83	79.05
Moderate	23-44	20	19.05
Severe	45-66	2	1.90
Minimum score		1	
Maximum score		49	
Mean score		17.88 ± 8.44	
Mean % Score		27.09 ± 12.79	

Table No. 3: Table Showing Item Wise Assessment With Level Of Deviant Behavior. N= 105

Sr. No.	Statements	Never (0)	Once (1)	2 – 3 times (2)	More than 3 times (3)
SCHOOL MISCONDUCT					

1	Have you ever skipped school without intimating to class incharge/ parents?	8 (7.6%)	24 (22.9%)	34 (32.4%)	39 (37.1%)
2	Have you ever cheated in school tests?	25 (23.8%)	41 (39%)	26 (24.8%)	13 (12.4%)
3	Have you ever indulged in such activity at school that makes your parents received a phone call about it from school?	91 (86.7%)	7 (6.7%)	2 (1.9%)	5 (4.8%)
4	Have you ever been rusticated from school for your bad behavior?	99 (94.3%)	6 (5.7%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

VANDALISM

5	Have you ever smashed bottles in the street?	66 (62.9%)	21 (20%)	3 (2.9%)	15 (14.3%)
6	Have you ever smashed bottles on the street?	77 (73.3%)	20 (19%)	6 (5.7%)	2 (7.6%)
7	Have you ever intentionally damaged or destroyed property belonging to your family members?	74 (70.5%)	17 (16.2%)	6 (5.7%)	8 (7.6%)
8	Have you ever damaged seats of your school bus?	37 (35.2%)	11 (10.5%)	18 (17.1%)	39 (37.1%)
9	Have you ever written graffiti/draw on a bus?	34 (32.4%)	17 (16.2%)	14 (13.3%)	40 (38.1%)
10	Have you ever written graffiti/draw on school walls?	15 (14.3%)	33 (31.4%)	17 (16.2%)	40 (38.1%)

THEFT

11	Have you ever tried to stolen something valuable personal item from family members?	74 (70.5%)	19 (18.1%)	6 (3.8%)	6 (3.8%)
12	Have you ever tried to stolen money from family members wallet?	91 (86.7%)	6 (5.7%)	4 (3.8%)	4 (3.8%)
13	Have you ever stolen or pick items from shop without shopkeepers permission?	66 (62.9%)	23 (21.9%)	12 (11.4%)	4 (3.8%)
14	Have you ever stolen things from public places?	87 (82.9%)	10 (9.5%)	4 (3.8%)	4 (3.8%)
15	Have you ever bought or sold stolen items?	79 (72.5%)	21 (20%)	4 (3.8%)	1 (1%)

ASSAULT

16	Have you ever hit a person?	7 (6.7%)	18 (17.1%)	12 (11.4%)	68 (67.8%)
17	Have you ever threatened a person?	40 (38.1%)	33 (31.1%)	12 (11.4%)	20 (19%)
18	Have you ever been involved in gang fights?	61 (58.1%)	22 (21%)	6 (5.7%)	16 (15.2%)

19	Have you ever use weapons in the school that can cause serious harm to others?	88 (83.8%)	13 (12.4%)	3 (2.9%)	1 (1%)
20	Have you ever beaten someone so badly that they required medical attention?	89 (84.8%)	13 (12.4%)	2 (1.9%)	1 (1%)
MISCELLANEOUS					
21	Have you ever used public transport without paying fare?	66 (62.9%)	24 (22.9%)	9 (8.6%)	6 (5.7%)
22	Have you ever failed to return extra change that you knew a cashier gave you by mistake?	52 (49.5%)	31 (29.5%)	14 (13.3%)	8 (7.6%)

Table No. 4: Table Showing Area Wise Assessment With Level Of Deviant Behavior
N = 105

Area	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
School Misconduct	105	0	9.00	3.55	1.78
Vandalism	105	0	15.00	6.46	3.91
Theft	105	0	12.00	1.86	2.57
Assault	105	0	13.00	4.63	2.85
Miscellaneous	105	0	6.00	1.36	1.38

Table No. 5: Table Showing Association Of Level Of Deviant Behavior Score Among Adolescents In Selected Senior Secondary Schools In Relation To Demographic Variables.
N = 105

SR. No.	Demo-graphic variables (deviant behavior)	Calculated value t-value	F-value	P-value	DF	Table Value	Level of Significance	Significance
1.	Age	6.70		0.0001	103	1.98	P < 0.05	S
2.	Gender	0.33		0.73	103	1.98	P < 0.05	NS
3.	Monthly Income		3.19	0.027	3,101	2.68	P < 0.05	S
4.	Type of family		1.47	0.23	2,102	3.07	P < 0.05	NS
5.	Number of siblings		0.62	0.60	3,101	2.68	P < 0.05	NS
6.	Educational status		1.59	0.18	4,100	2.45	P < 0.05	NS

Key: S: Significant NS: Non – Significant

Table no. 1- The above table shows that 57.1% of adolescents were of 15 – 16 years and 42.9% of were 17 – 18 years. Majority of 61% of adolescents were males and 39% of adolescents were females. Majority of 47.6% of adolescents were having monthly family income of Rs. 5,000 – 10,000, 25.7% had between Rs. 10,001 – 20,000 and each 18.1% of adolescents had monthly income of Rs. 20,001 – 30,000 and 8.6% more than 30,001 Rs. Majority of 69.5% of adolescents were from nuclear families and 29.5% of them were from joint families and 1% of them were from extended family. Majority of 60% of adolescents had one sibling, 22.9% had two sibling and 9.5% of adolescents had more than two siblings and 7.6% of them were no sibling. Majority of 38.1% of adolescents father were educated upto secondary, 37.1% upto higher secondary, 17.1% upto primary and 6.7% upto graduate and 1% of them were post graduate. Majority of 98.10% of adolescents were using whatsapp, 88.57% of them were using instagram, 68.57% of them were using snapchat and 62.86% of adolescents were using facebook and 9.52% of them were using tiktok.

Table no. 2 - The above table shows that 79.05% of adolescents had mild deviant behavior, 19.05% of them had moderate deviant behavior score and 1.90% of them had severe deviant behavior score. Minimum deviant behavior score was 1 and maximum deviant behavior score was 49. Mean deviant behavior score was 17.88 ± 8.44 and mean percentage of deviant behavior score in was 27.09 ± 12.79 .

Table no. 3 - The above table shows that area of school misconduct 37.1% of adolescents replied for more than 3 times, 32.4% for 2-3 times, 22.9% once and 7.6% of adolescents replied never, for skipped school without intimating to class incharge/parents. 39% of adolescents replied for once, 24.8% for 2-3 times, 23.8% for never, 12.4% for more than 3 times, for cheated in school test. 86.7% of adolescents replied for never, 6.7% for once, 4.8% for more than 3 times and 1.9% for 2-3 times, for such activity at school that makes their parents received a phone call about it from school. 94.3% of adolescents replied for never, 5.7% for once, 0% for 2-3 times, 0% for more than 3 times, for rusticated from school for their bad behavior. Area of vandalism 62.9% of adolescents replied for never, 20% for once, 14.3% for more than 3 times, 2.9% for 2-3 times, for smashed bottles in the street. 73.3% for never, 19% for once, 7.6% for more than 3 times and 5.7% for 2-3 times, for smashed bottles on the street. 70.5% for never, 16.2% for once, 7.6% for more than 3 times and 5.7% for 2-3 times, for intentionally damaged or destroy property belonging to their family members. 37.1% for more than 3 times, 35.2% for never, 17.1% for 2-3 times, 10.5% for once, for damaged seats of their school bus. 38.1% for more than 3 times, 32.4% for never, 16.2% for once, 13.3% for 2-3 times, for written graffiti/draw on a bus. 38.1% for more than 3 times, 31.4% for once, 16.2% for 2-3 times, 14.3% for never, for written graffiti/draw on school walls. Area of theft 70.5% of adolescents replied for never, 18.1% for once, 3.8% for 2-3 times and more than 3 times time, for tried to stolen something valuable personal item from family members. 86.7% for never, 5.7% for once, 3.8% for 2-3 times and more than 3 times, for tried to stolen money from family members wallet.

62.9% for never, 21.9% for once, 11.4% for 2-3 times, 3.8% for more than 3 times, for stolen or pick items from shop without shopkeepers permission. 82.9% for never, 9.5% for once, 3.8% for 2-3 times and more than 3 times, for stolen things from public places. 72.5% for never, 20% for once, 3.8% for 2-3 times, 1% for more than 3 times, for bought or sold stolen items. Area of assault 67.8% of adolescents replied for more than 3 times, 17.1% for once, 11.4% for 2-3 times, 6.7% for never, for hit a person. 38.1% for never, 31.1% for once, 19% for more than 3 times, 11.4% for 2-3 times, for threatened a person. 58.1% for never, 21% for once, 15.2% for more than 3 times, 5.7% for 2-3 times, for involved in gang fights. 83.8% for never, 12.4% for once, 2.9% for 2-3 times, 1% for more than 3 times, for use weapons in the school that can cause serious harm to others. 84.8% for never, 12.4% for once, 1.9% for 2-3 times, 1% for more than 3 times, for beaten someone so badly that they required medical attention. Area of miscellaneous 62.9% of adolescents replied for never, 22.9% for once, 8.6% for 2-3 times, 5.7% for more than 3 times, for used public transport without paying fare. 49.5% for never, 29.5% for once, 13.3% for 2-3 times, 7.6% for more than 3 times, for failed to return extra change that they knew a cashier gave them by mistake.

Table no. 4 - The above table shows that area wise assessment among adolescents. Mean deviant behavior score for the area of School Misconduct was 3.55 ± 1.78 , for the area of Vandalism it was 6.46 ± 3.91 , for the area of Theft it was 1.86 ± 2.57 , for the area of assault it was 4.63 ± 2.85 and for the miscellaneous it was 1.36 ± 1.38 .

Table no. 5 - Above table shows that there is a association between age and monthly income.

CONCLUSION

After the detailed analysis, this study leads to the following conclusion. The study reveals that 79.05% of adolescents had mild deviant behavior, 19.05% of them had moderate deviant behavior score and 1.90% of them had severe deviant behavior score. Minimum deviant behavior score was 1 and maximum deviant behavior score was 49. Mean deviant behavior score was 17.88 ± 8.44 . Mean percentage of deviant behavior score 27.09 ± 12.79 . There is association of level of deviant behavior score with age, gender, family income, type of family, number of siblings, educational status of father, social networking site using demographic variables were associated with level of deviant behavior score.

Recommendations

- Since the present study was conducted on moderate sample, more extensive studies on wider sample is recommended.
- Similar study can be conducted by the assessment of deviant behavior of adolescents.
- Descriptive studies may be done to assess the deviant behavior and its level of deviant behavior.
- Follow-up studies could be conducted to evaluate utility and assessment of prevalence of deviant behavior of adolescents.
- Comparative studies could be conducted on the assessment of deviant behavior among adolescents in selected colleges of urban and rural area.

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