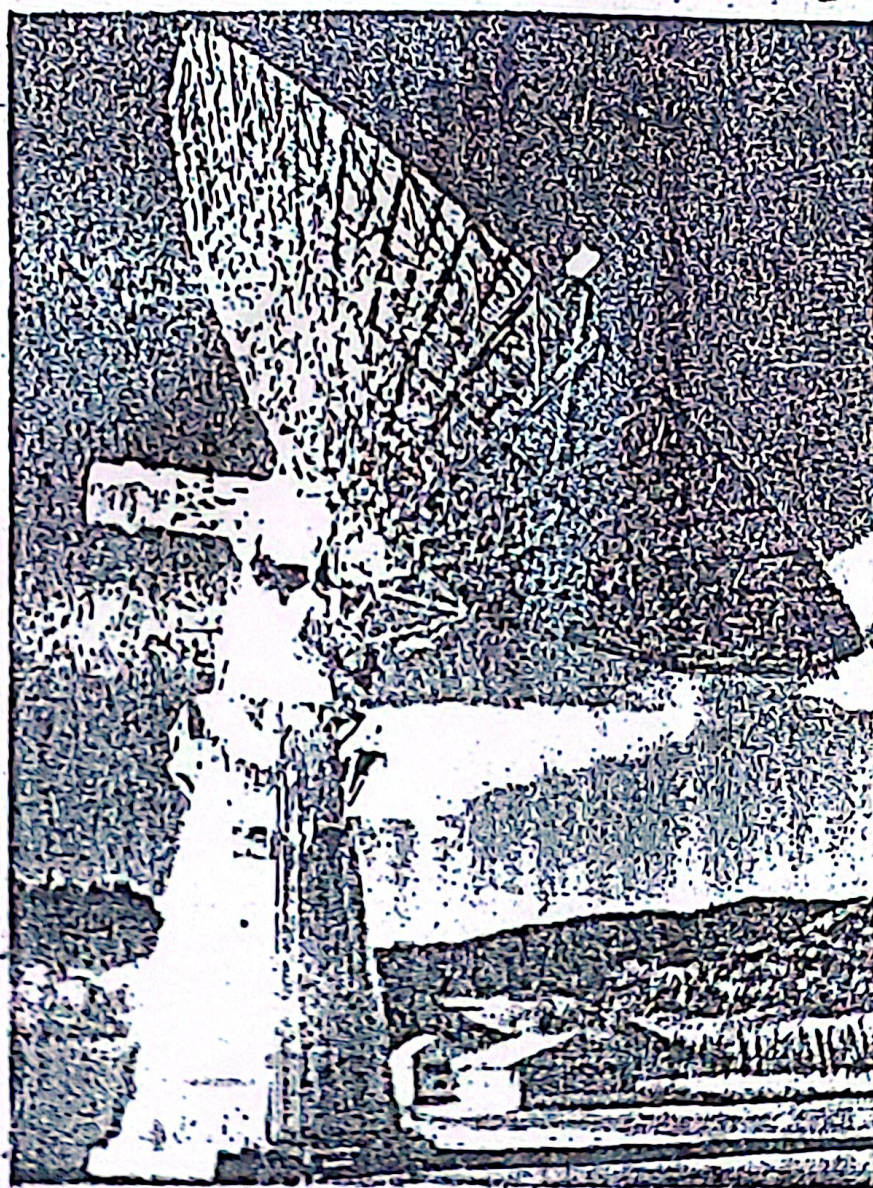


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**TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIO-PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS
AS CORRELATES OF ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AMONG
SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS: FOR NATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT**

By

AYODELE KOLAWOLE O.
Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye

&

IRO-IDORO, CHARLOTTE BOSE (MRS)
Federal Polytechnic Ilaro

Abstract

The alarming rate at which students misbehave, being unruly, mean or even dangerous both at school and at home constitute grave consequences for every virile family, society and for national development. In its attempt to explain the effect of this menace, this paper investigated the influence of socio-psychological factors (family, self-concept, peer affiliation, technology advancement and economic factors) on youths' antisocial behaviour. A total of 500 respondents randomly selected from twenty Secondary Schools in Sagamu LGA responded to the influences of psychosociological factors on antisocial behaviour (IPFAB) inventory. The multiple regression analysis used to test the five hypotheses indicated that all the five socio-psychological factors made a significant contribution of about 69.7%, 23.1%, 29%, 63.5% and 47.3% respectively to the prediction of antisocial behaviour at 0.05 alpha levels. It was, therefore, recommended that counselling psychologists should make a clear distinction between antisocial acts which is life-course persistent and that which is adolescence limited with a view to developing appropriate intervention mechanisms.

Ayodele K.O. & Iro-Idoro

Introduction

Children experiment with a variety of behaviours to test the limit of their environment and the people within them. Every child goes through periods of misconduct, that is, refusing to do as told: lying, cheating, stealing, bullying others etc, most often these behaviours decrease with time and consistent with parental guidance. For some children and teens, however, undesired behaviours continue to occur and become more difficult to manage both at home and at school. Their behaviour begin to disrupt their families, social interactions and performance at school. These teens clash with friends and classmates developing reputation for being unfairly mean or dangerous (see Ayodele, 2002; Blyth & Leffert, 1995; Coleman & Handry, 1999).

Antisocial behaviour to be simply put is a social and psychological problem. This is the problem that arises from human interaction with the physical and social environments. The term antisocial behaviour is usually taken to refer to behaviour that is criminal, although it may not necessarily result in prosecution. In a nutshell, antisocial behavioural are characterised by a defiance of authority, social norms and value and aggressive behaviours towards others.

A prominent theorist of sub-culture (Cohen, 1965) views antisocial and delinquent behaviour as forming a separate subculture and possess a value system directly in opposition to that of the larger society. He describes the culture as one that takes its norms from the larger culture but turns them upside down. The antisocial behaviour is right by the standard of the sub-culture precisely but it is wrong by the norms of the larger society or culture.

Although, the actual level of recorded crime in Nigeria is subject to variations in police procedure and in methods of data collection. It is certainly true that official statistics give only a partial picture of antisocial behaviour in young people. Concerns such as these have led to this investigation in which attempt was made to identify the extent at which socio-psychological factors influence the antisocial behaviour of Nigerian youths. The belief is that understating the causal influences of antisocial acts would be valuable for developing an effective ways of curbing the menace.

Methodology

Research design

This study adopted the survey design in which questionnaire was used to collect data from the respondents on the influence of independent variable (socio-psychological factor) on the dependent variable (anti-social behaviour) which was already present.

Sample

The sample for this study comprised 500 hundred senior secondary school students selected from 20 secondary schools (10 schools from public & private sector respectively) in Sagamu Local Government area of Ogun State with ages ranging from 14-20 years. The sample consisted of two hundred and seventy-three males and two hundred and twenty-seven females selected from twenty schools. Twenty-five students were selected from each school; the students were drawn from SS1, SS2 and SS3.

Instrumentation

A self-developed survey questionnaire was the main instrument for data collection in this study. The questionnaire was divided into two sections; this was designed to explore respondent feelings on (a) the causative factors of antisocial behaviour and (b) the influence of socio-psychological factors on antisocial behaviour.

The focus was on the influence of family, factors, self-concept, peer affiliation, economy and advancement in technology on the antisocial behaviour among Nigeria youths. The survey instrument consisted of forty (40) items while the test-retest reliability coefficient of the instrument was 0.77.

Procedure

The researcher administered the instrument personally with the assistance of some teachers in the selected schools. Respondents were encouraged to fill the questionnaire on the spot. All copies of the questionnaire were returned completed.

The data were analyzed using regression analysis in order to establish the influence of psychosociological factors on the antisocial behaviours of Nigerian youth.

Results and Discussion

The results are presented in table 1-6

Table 1: A profile of psychosocial factors of the study

S/N	Psychosocial Factors	Total Response	%
1.	Family dysfunction	471	94.2
2.	Peer influence	458	91.6
3.	Parenting style	445	89
4.	Technology advancement	470	94
5.	Substance use and abuse	447	89.4
6.	Self concept and esteem	419	83.6
7.	Poverty	468	93.6
8.	Emotional deprivation	426	85.2
9.	Child abuse	466	93.2
10.	Parental neglect	462	92.4
11.	Single parenting	426	85.2
12.	Societal neglect	423	84.6
13.	School adjustment	416	83.2
14.	Parental value	432	86.4
15.	Movies films	470	94

The table 1 above reflect the psycho-social factors of the study and the total response of the respondents as it influences the antisocial behavioural of Nigerian youths. For instance, family factor (family dysfunction) has the major effect (94.2%) on the antisocial behaviour of youths, followed by technology advancement (94%), economic factor (poverty) (93.6%) etc. The other factors identified in the course of the study are:

- i. Children scape-goating and triangulation.
- ii. Educational value
- iii. Cognitive deficit
- iv. Religion value and
- v. Blum / getto area

Hypothesis 1: Family factors have no significant influence on youths' antisocial behaviour.

Table 2: Analysis of variance showing the influence of family factors on youths' antisocial behaviour.

Regression analysis	Source	Analysis of variance				
		SS	MS	DF	Beta	F
$R = 0.86916$	Regression	8137.286	1017.161	8	0.301	26.55
$R^2 = 0.69822$	Residual	18807.166	38.304	491		
Adjusted R^2	Total	26944.452				
$= 0.6934$						
SE 3.57032						

Significant at 0.05 alpha level. —

Results presented in Table 2 show that family factor is a good predictor of youths antisocial behaviour. The total variance accounted for by family in predicting antisocial of Nigerian of Nigerian youth is 69.8% (R -square=69.8). Analysis of variance shows this value is significant ($F = 26.55$, $p > 0.050$). Therefore, 69.8 per cent of the total variability in youths antisocial behaviour is accounted for by family factors (family dysfunction, parenting style, emotional deprivation, child abuse, parental neglect, single parenting and parental value).

This findings support the findings Icheke (1998), Ayodele, Adegokun and Owoseni (2002) and Fejokwu (2002) that emotional deprivation, broken homes, methods of upbringing and child abuse and neglect were some of the family factors that increase the propensity at which on antisocial behaviours. Also, Aremu (2002) reported that father who undermine their family procedure children who later become adult offender

Table 3: Analysis of variance showing the influence of self-concept on youth's antisocial behaviour

Regression analysis	Source	Analysis of variance				
		SS	MS	DF	Beta	F
$R = 0.77286$	Regression	3424.28	1712.140	2	0.294	13.47
$R^2 = 0.53108$	Residual	825028.95	127.321	497		
Adjusted R^2	Total	828453.0	1839.461	499		
$= 0.51999$						
SE = 2.62636						

Significant at 0.05 alpha level:

Results presented in Table 3 indicate that individual self-concept taken against the criterion variable (Antisocial behaviour) gave a coefficient of multiple regression R of .77286 and R^2 of .53108, the standard error (SE) was 2.62636 and f -value of 13.47 which was significant at an alpha level of .05. Therefore, when the R^2 value (.53108) is translated into 53.1%, it could be said that about 53.1% of the total variability in youth's antisocial behaviour is accounted for by self-concept.

This findings corroborate that of Ayodele, Adegoke and Owoseni (2002) in their study of the vicious cycle of antisocial behaviour that negative consequence of labeling on individual as "deviant" or "delinquent" damages individual self-concept or self image. Therefore, the child who comes to view him/herself as "bad" or "delinquent" in turn increases the likelihood of future deviance.

Hypothesis 3: Peer affiliation has no significant influence on the youth's antisocial behaviour.

Table 4: Analysis of variance showing the influence of peer on youths' antisocial behaviour.

Regression analysis	Source	Analysis of variance				
		SS	MS	DF	Beta	F
R = 53853	Regression	2032.114	2032.114	1	0.161	30.142
R ² = 48999	Residual	33574.041	67.418	498		
Adjusted R ² = 48502	Total	6225.273	1881.864	499		
SE 3.21150						

Significant at 0.05 alpha level.

Results presented in Table 4 indicate that peer affiliation is a good predictor of youths' delinquent behaviour. The total variance accounted for by peer affiliation in predicting antisocial behaviour among Nigerian youth is 49% ($R^2 = 48999$). Analysis variance shows this value is significant ($F=30.142 < 0.05$). It could then be deduced that about 49% of the antisocial behaviour among Nigerian youths is accounted for by peer affiliation and influence. This result corroborate the findings of Balckburn (1993), Emler (1983, 1984 and 1990), Hopkins & Emler (1990) that involvement in delinquency has been seen as self presentation in which a message of deviance is conveyed to and consequently rewarded by delinquent peers. Akinboye (1987) and Coleman & Hendry (1999) found that young people with deviant attitudes cluster together and that this group functionally provides the youngster a social contact to develop his values, aspirations and social interaction styles that are adaptively relatively permanent for his life goals.

Hypothesis 4: Technological advancement has no significant influence on the youth's antisocial behaviour.

Table 5: Analysis of variance showing technology advancement as a factor influencing antisocial behaviour.

Regression analysis	Source	Analysis of variance				
		SS	MS	DF	Beta	F
R = 0.66724	Regression	2451.003	2451.03	1	0.317	37.929
R ² = 0.63512	Residual	32181.342	64.621	498		
Adjusted R ² = 0.02984	Total	4632.343	2105.468	499		
SE 3.87122						

Significant at 0.05 alpha level.

The display on table 5 indicate that technology advancement (the use of internet, cable network, films / movies etc) when taken against the criterion variable gave a coefficient of multiple regression of 0.667 and unadjusted R² of 0.63512, the standard error (SE) was 3.87122 and f-value of 37.929 which was significant at 0.05 alpha level. Therefore, when the R² value of (0.63512) is translated into 63.5%, it could be said that about 63.5% of the total variability in youth's antisocial behaviour is accounted for by technology advancement. The result confirms the earlier findings of Osinowo (1989), Icheke (1998) and Arēmu (2002) that most families in urban and even rural areas today have video and television sets that expose children to all manners of crimes. Some movies that are shown on TV and Videos usually portray adults who indulge in drugs as hero. Also, children mould their lives and behaviour after character observed on the TV, cable, Internet etc.

Hypothesis 5: Economic factors have no significant influence on the youth's antisocial behaviour

Table 6: Analysis of variance showing the influence of economic factors in youth's antisocial behaviour.

Analysis

		SS	MS	DF	Data	F
R = 0.67118	Regression	2864.800	2864.8	1	0.188	44.489
R ² = 0.47303	Residual	32068.414	64.394	498		
Adjusted R ² = 0.47303	Total	3933.218	1496.373	499		
SE 4.12310						

Significant at 0.05 alpha level.

The display on Table 6 indicates that economic factors (such as poverty living in ghetto, financial problem etc) is a good predictor of youths antisocial behaviour. The total variance accounted for by economic factors in predicting antisocial behaviour of Nigerian youth is 47.3% (R-square = 0.47303). Analysis of variance shows this value is significant ($F = 44.489 < 0.05$). Therefore, 47.3% of the total variability in youths antisocial behaviour is accounted for by economic factors. Thus, the studies of Blyth and Leffert (1995), Fergusson et al (1997) provide a good support for this findings as social factors such as poverty, social class undermines the social fabrics of a neighborhoods making it more difficult for adults to provide good role models and avenue for young people to move into adulthood. Similarly, Onyejiakwu (1991) found out that most families in Nigeria do not have the quantity of money, which they needs for survival. Thus, this factor often time-predisposes our youths to engage in illegal means of survival, normally manifested in stealing of money, food and material things to either eat if they are food or use in buying or sell if they are material things, he concluded.

Implication for Counselling Practice and Recommendation

The findings of this study have a number of implications for counseling practice and national development; it has clearly demonstrated that the effect of antisocial behaviour on the social, economic political and educational life of Nigerians cannot be over emphasized. With changing time and advancement in science and technology, antisocial acts if not curbed and overcome will become more sophisticated and eventually be accepted as normal way of life. Therefore, this study makes an urgent demand for an intensive orientation and re-orientation of the citizenry

concerning the effects of antisocial acts on the well being of our future leaders and what would befall this nation if it persists.

Towards this end, counselors and all other helping professionals must be alert and sensitive to these growing trends. The implication of this is that all concerned caregivers in Nigeria should embark on intensive studies to identify the different types of antisocial acts and different developmental trajectories associate with it. A clear distinction should be made between antisocial act which is life-course persistent and that which is adolescence limited. The underlying factors of these behaviours will not be the same, and thus, interventions will need to be tailored to the specific type of antisocial act in question.

Special counseling services or guidance services such as parenting programs, improved communication between parents and teenagers should be developed to bring out stable home/family. On this premise, it is apparent that parents and guardians would be able to bridge-up the communication gaps between them and their youngsters so as to understand and appreciate their nature, aspirations and yearnings. This will help in accommodating them and assist them in channeling their behaviour properly and adequately.

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