

Influence of Parenting Style on Child Rearing Attitude of Adolescents

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Abstract

The study aimed at assessing the child rearing attitude of the adolescents and to determine the influence of parenting style on the child rearing attitude of the adolescents. The study was descriptive and cross-sectional in nature. The sample selected for the study was adolescents of Chennai city. Using random sampling technique, a group of 200 adolescents comprised of 100 male and 100 female aged between 15-17 years was selected for the study. Adult Adolescent Parenting Inventory (AAPI) designed by Bavolek (1990) was used to assess the parenting and child-rearing attitudes of adult and adolescent. Findings revealed that the adolescent males (20.30) had negative attitude towards parental empathy compared to that of the female adolescents (22.00) ($p < 0.01$). But for the construct, strong parental belief in the use of corporal punishment, the mean values showed that male adolescents had better attitude than the female adolescents (34.30). About 40 percent of the adolescent families had autocratic style, while 32 percent democratic method and the remaining 27 percent experienced laissez-faire practices in their families. Analysis of variance revealed significant difference in all the four child rearing attitude constructs, namely inappropriate expectations of children ($F = 46.30$), parental lack of empathy towards the needs of children ($F = 370.85$), strong parental belief in the use of corporal punishment ($F = 135.67$) and reversing the parent child family roles ($F = 654.61$) when comparing with their parenting style. The Duncan's multiple range tests explains that the children under democratic child rearing practice had negative attitude towards all the child rearing attitude constructs. The children undergoing autocratic and laissez-faire child rearing practice had better attitude towards their rearing.

Keywords: Attitude, Parenting Style, Adolescent, Child Rearing

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