
**Investigating the Influence of Family Type and Parental Socio-Economic Status on
Juvenile Delinquency Among Business Studies Students in Public
Junior Secondary Schools in Rivers State**

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the influence of family type and parental socio-economic status on juvenile delinquency of business studies students in public junior secondary schools in Obio-Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State. Descriptive survey design was adopted for this study and the population consisted of one thousand three hundred and sixty-one (1,361) business studies students. The sample size of this study was one two hundred and sixty-eight (268) respondents drawn from the population using Taro Yamane Formula. However, simple random sampling techniques was adopted for this study which gives every respondent the equal chance of being selected. Six (6) aim and objectives, research questions and hypotheses respectively were stated, answered, formulated and tested at 0.05 level of significance for this study. A self-develop questionnaire titled Demographic/sociological variables and Juvenile Delinquency of students Questionnaire (DSVJDSQ) was used for data collection, which was validated and a reliability index of 0.84 was established using test-retest method of Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient (PPMC), research questions were analyzed and answered using mean and standard deviations while the hypotheses were tested using t-test statistical tool. Findings of this study revealed that family type (dysfunctional family) and parental socio-economic status influences juvenile delinquency of business studies students to a high extent. In addition, the hypotheses revealed that there is no significant difference in the mean responses of male and female business studies students on the extent the aforementioned variables of demographic and sociological variables influence juvenile delinquency of business studies students in public junior secondary schools in Obio-Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State. It was therefore recommended amongst other things that government and school authority should promulgate programs and policies aligned with delinquency and intervention in order to reduce delinquent acts among students.

KEYWORDS: Family Type, Parental Socio-Economic Status, Juvenile Delinquency, Business Studies Students, Public Junior Secondary Schools and Rivers State.

Introduction

In recent years, both psychologists and sociologists have become more concerned about a wide range of juvenile offences and their causes among adolescents. The most common juvenile problems among adolescents in the twenty-first century include stealing, truancy, and cultism, among others. Theories have been advanced from time to time both in the fields of psychology and sociology to explain the causes of juvenile delinquency among adolescents, but it has only been in the last ten or fifteen years that extensive scientific investigations have been carried out on these problems (Bridges, 2014).

Juvenile delinquency is one of the most serious problems that needs to be addressed both in developed and developing countries. Delinquency largely implies that the behaviour is in contradiction with the value demands of the dominant culture within which a given juvenile lives (Ehiemua, 2019).

A child is known as a delinquent when he or she commits a mistake that is against the law and not accepted by society. Thus, junior or child means a person who has not completed or attained the age of 18 years of age and who violates the law and commits an offence under the legal age of maturity. In addition, a delinquent child is a juvenile who has violated the law of the country, and if the action is committed by an adult, it could result in criminal prosecution (Wondimu, 2014).

The definition of juvenile delinquency tends to reflect one's academic training. The three main academic disciplines that sub-specialise in the study and treatment of juvenile delinquency are law, sociology, and psychology. Hence, there are legal, sociological, and psychological definitions of the term. Subsequently, conceptions of the causes and treatment of juvenile delinquency may also differ according to the focus of the aforementioned disciplines. Juvenile delinquency had been conceptualised as the ability of the child to adjust to his or her environment. In other words, delinquency itself is a socially inadequate adjustment on the part of the individual to difficult situations. According to Adeboye, as cited in Ajah and Ugwuoke (2018), juvenile delinquency is defined as the resistant antisocial, illegal, or criminal behaviour of adolescents to the level that it cannot be controlled or corrected by parents, endangers others in the community, and becomes the concern of law enforcement agencies.

Delinquency from a legal perspective refers to any behaviour that violates the criminal law and is committed by a young person below the age of eighteen (18) years (Bridges, 2014). Hence, juvenile delinquency, according to law, refers to a young person who has committed some criminal offences against a court order (Malaysia Penal Code, 2006). From a sociological perspective, delinquency is reflected in the use of the term in various social institutions, such as schools. In this case, students may be viewed as delinquents when they perpetuate such acts that may be punished by the school authorities, including but not limited to truancy (skipping school and classes), smoking, vandalism, fighting, extortion, and even seemingly minor misbehaviours such as improper attire or appearance, disrespect towards others, and bringing hand phones to school (Federal Republic of Niger, 2016).

Statement of Problem

Adegoke (2015) affirms that the anti-social behaviours often associated with the juvenile delinquents of adolescents in secondary schools include vices such as drug abuse, weapon carrying, rape, examination malpractices, school violence, bullying, cultism, truancy, and others. Adolescent age offences are acts of delinquency or crimes that will harm individuals, communities, and societies at large, hence the urgency and importance of resolving this social problem. However, a more worrisome aspect of this is that despite the apparent desire and effort towards instigating delinquency, for example, through the punishment of juvenile offenders, the phenomenon has continued unabated (Boakye, 2017). Therefore, using the above as a springboard, the influence of demographic and sociological variables on juvenile delinquency among public junior secondary school students in Rivers State becomes the focus of the study.

Objective of the Study

1. Examine the extent to which family type influences juvenile delinquency among business studies students in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State.
2. Investigate the extent to which parental socio-economic status influence juvenile delinquency among business studies students in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State.

Research Questions

1. To what extent does family type influence juvenile delinquency among business studies students in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State?
2. To what extent does parental socio-economic status influence juvenile delinquency among business studies students in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State?

Research Hypothesis

1. There is no significant difference in the mean responses of male and female business studies students on the extent family type influences their juvenile delinquency in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State.
2. There is no significant difference in the mean responses of male and female business studies students on the extent parental socio-economic status influences their juvenile delinquency in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State.

Concept of Juvenile Delinquency

Josine (2017) asserted that delinquency in its literal meaning is considered an erroneous action that is caused by the withdrawal of legal duty or performing an erroneous act that cannot be criminalised, and this term is mostly used for children and minors. Delinquency, however, idiomatically has a very close meaning to offence and crime, but the reason for applying it to children is that, due to their simple and gentle souls, it is inappropriate to regard them as criminals and offenders. Children are called

delinquents, and in some cases, the term delinquent is applied to an individual who has not committed a crime but is generally rebellious and anti-social.

At different periods of human life, although some have disregarded traditions and customs, violated the law, or committed a crime, delinquency has never been one of the most acute social problems. In recent centuries, the increase in delinquency, especially the commission of violent crimes, has been considered a social problem and has attracted a lot of public opinion. According to UN reports, crime rates increase annually by 5% in the world, which is more than the rate of population growth. 9% of violent crimes against persons and crimes against property, which usually make up 7% of crimes, have risen by 30%, meaning that 60% to 70% of these crimes have been committed by children and adolescents younger than 18 years. The age of addiction has been reduced from 12 to 14 years old, and deviations among children less than 10 years old are growing (Agnew & Brezina, 2017).

Delinquency from a legal perspective refers to any behaviour that violates the criminal law and is committed by a young person under the age of eighteen. Hence, a junior delinquent, according to the law in several countries, refers to a young person who has committed a criminal offence and been given a court order. Offences or crimes committed by juveniles range from minor to major indexed crimes such as petty theft, traffic violations, drug abuse and/or trafficking, robbery, and crimes that caused grievous harm to other persons (Ozurumba et al., 2016).

Concept of Demographic and Sociological Variables

Demographic Variables Review

Demographic variables are also known as box car variables because they carry a lot of freight with them. Demographic variables that may influence juvenile delinquency include age, income level, gender, education, location, ethnicity, race, and family size. The environmental situation, mental and physical conditions, and other factors combine to influence the child into crimes, and they are the factors that could potentially provide opportunities for crimes (Braithwaite, 2016).

In general, crimes are committed by adults because they are considered to have stronger power, knowledge, and wider opportunities to fulfil more complex life needs. Nevertheless, there is evidence in the literature to support the contention that more adolescents are involved in crimes. The number of crimes committed by people aged 12–18 has continued to increase. The youth are the next generation of the ideals of national struggle as well as the successors of development. Children are the assets of the nation; as part of the youth, children have a strategic role as agents of the development of a nation. Basically, a child is the successor to the ideals of national struggle. This strategic role has been recognised by the international community to create a convention that essentially emphasises the position of children as individuals who should receive the protection of the rights they have (Bridges, 2014).

One of the factors and contexts involved in the delinquency of children and adolescents is the divorce and separation of parents from each other. Divorce, as a social pathology, has many negative consequences. It can be said that the children take the brunt of these consequences. Salahi and Green (2015) opined that there is a direct relationship

between divorce and the growth of delinquency or behavioural abnormalities in children. The reason for this is that the child has been deprived of the love and affection of one of the parents, and in some cases, even both of them have been barred from having a safe haven, in such a way that sometimes he has to escape from home to get rid of the chaotic situation of the home. Although divorce may be the necessary issue for parents or the only way of release at a time when marriage has reached deadlock, for a child, it is always a tragedy, a tragedy that would forever deprive him or her of parental affections.

Sociological Variables Reviewed

Sociological variables affecting juvenile delinquency include religion, urban-rural differences, norms, peer groups, social class proximity to problematic environmental sites, as well as cultural and ethnic variations.

Although the legal sociological and psychological definitions vary slightly in terms of determining who a juvenile is and what constitutes delinquent behaviours, the three professions actually work collaboratively in dealing with juvenile delinquents and the wider problem of juvenile delinquency. It often appears that quite different offences qualify a child as a juvenile, and these offences are the result of several factors that have mostly been overlooked (Johnson & Bruce, 2017). The literature on juvenile delinquency documented by these authors argues that these offences result mainly from:

1. Physical factors include but are not limited to malnutrition, lack of sleep, developmental aberrations, sensory defects, speech defects, endocrine disorders, deformities, nervous diseases, other ailments, physical exuberance, drug addiction, and the effects of weather.
2. Mental factors such as mental defect, superior intelligence, psychoses, psychoneuroses, psychopathic constitution (including emotional instability), abnormalities or instinct and emotion, uneven mental development, obsessive imagery and imagination, mental conflicts, repression and substitution, inferiority complex, introversion and egocentrism, revengefulness (get-even complex), suggestibility, contra-suggestibility, lethargy and laziness, adolescent emotional instability, sex habits and experiences, and their association
3. Home conditions such as unsanitary conditions, material deficiencies, excess in material things, poverty and unemployment, broken homes, mental and physical abnormalities of parents or siblings, stigma of illegitimacy, lack of parental care and affection, lack of confidence and frankness between parents and children, deficient and misdirected discipline, unhappy relationship with siblings, bad leadership due to foreign birth or parentage, and superior education of children
4. School conditions such as inadequate school building and equipment, inadequate facilities for recreation, a rigid and inelastic school system, poor attendance laws and lax enforcement, wrong grading, an

unsatisfactory teacher, an undesirable attitude of the pupil towards the teacher, and bad school companions and codes of morals

5. Neighbourhood conditions include a lack of recreational facilities, a congested neighbourhood and slums, disreputable morals in the district, proximity to luxury and wealth, the influence of gangs and gang codes, loneliness, a lack of social outlets, and overstimulating movies and shows.
6. Occupational conditions, which are irregular occupation, occupational misfit, spare time and idleness, truancy, factory influences, monotony, restraint, and decline in the apprenticeship system.

Family Type and Juvenile Delinquency of Business Studies Students

Family involvement is a key element in the deterrence of juvenile delinquency, as evidenced by numerous studies suggesting that students from traditional households are less likely to be involved in juvenile delinquency than those from non-traditional homes (Nanjala, 2017). For instance, adolescents from Single-parent families are more likely to have behavioural problems because of a lack of economic security and sufficient time with their parents. Adolescents from single-parent families are more susceptible to acts of juvenile delinquency than those from two-parent families (Marimuthu, 2018).

Studies have shown that adolescents who receive adequate parental supervision are less likely to engage in criminal activities. A well-knit family is always the foundation of an adequate social organisation. Hence, when the family shows sign of disintegration, it results in a large number of delinquent Juveniles. Marimuthu (2018) averred that a significant number of juvenile delinquents come from dysfunctional families with no proper role models or guidance. Many researchers have pointed out that parents are the key socialisation agents for their children, and so the adolescent's problem behaviours tend to be founded in the family (Kariuki, 2020). In addition, Cole and Adelino (2019) observed that numerous studies claimed to have found correlations between Juvenile delinquency and various familial variables, such as inadequate parental supervision or control, poor parenting styles, parental separation (broken homes), lack of parental discipline, parental conflict, family size, and parental attachment.

Dysfunctional family settings characterised by conflict, inadequate parental control, weak internal linkages and integration, and premature autonomy are closely associated with juvenile delinquency. Students from disadvantaged families that have few opportunities for legitimate employment and face a higher risk of social exclusion are overrepresented among offences. Furthermore, numerous scholars and practitioners in the field of juvenile delinquency have claimed that family structure is a major factor in the causation of juvenile delinquency, working on the assumption that, if the family background (especially the general atmosphere of the home and the altitude of the other members of the family) is conducive to the proper development of a child, it is likely that the child would grow up to be law-abiding (Adegoke, 2015). In another development, Umesi (2016) contended that the family environment is the first environment in which the individual grows and learns the norms. Although many factors are involved in the incidence of delinquency in adolescents, in the first step, it is the family that has a decisive role in the fate of their children in a way that they can lead

the child to the right path with proper training. Usually, in terms of behaviour, the parents of delinquent adolescents are very rough and strict or attentive and ignorant towards their children. Often, the parents of these children have difficulty communicating with them and cannot possibly fulfil their obligations towards them (Salahi, 2010). The author noted that if the basic physical and mental needs, such as emotional needs, are not satisfied in the family, most likely in the not-too-distant future, the children are likely to commit anti-social behaviours in different ways.

One of the factors and contexts involved in the delinquency of children is the divorce and separation of parents from each other. Divorce, as a social pathology, has many negative consequences; hence, it can be said that the children take the brunt of these consequences. Lamidi (2018) noted that children of divorced parents, in comparison to children whose parents are living together, have the following characteristics:

1. Wayward, aggressive, hostile behaviour and the inability to regulate and control them.
2. Have great difficulty in social and friendly relationship with others, such as relationship with the parents, peers and so on.
3. There is a great possibility that these children would form their peers who have anti-social behaviours.
4. They probably become addicted to smoking alcohol and drugs.
5. High level of depression in these children in comparison to children whose parents are living together or have less family conflict. Thus, among the factors which are associated with families that influenced juvenile delinquency, it may be said that in terms of negative impact, divorce is ranked as the first place. For Sampson and Laub (2015), one of the longest contributing factors of delinquency is violence in the home. Children subjected to violence at home turn violent people because lashing out an order for the violence they experience at home is very common. Hence, teens subjected to violent actions are more, likely to act out their fears and frustrations.

Parental Socio-Economic Status and Juvenile Delinquency of Business Studies Students

Researchers have demonstrated that the socio-economic status of parents is a risk factor for students' delinquent behaviour. The possibility that socio-economic status affects students' risk of engaging in delinquent behaviour has gained a significant amount of public and empirical attention given its implications for delinquency prevention (Ralf, 2021).

Owasanoye (2015) posits that poverty is a major problem in Nigeria, and this is evident from the presence and growth of slums and people living below the poverty level. The author stressed that poverty in the country is accompanied by poor living conditions, poor nutrition, crime, and a high occurrence of preventable diseases. Bimal (2017) affirms that poverty is the state of inability to obtain a certain minimum level of consumption of food, and essentially no food item is universally considered to satisfy

the minimum requirements for human sustenance. Poverty is not always an absolute state but can relate more generally to a situation in which the family income is not sufficient to meet outgoing needs and where alternative means of meeting those outgoing needs must be found. The author stressed that poverty may be a state in which a family lives with no possessions and cannot afford to put food on the table. It may be a temporary situation where a family has entered into debt by borrowing money it cannot afford to repay.

Anderson (2016) opined that poverty has pushed most adolescents to perform delinquent acts as a means of survival; however, the people most affected are well defined by other socio-economic categories, namely the lawless, handicapped, female-headed households, households headed by people without formal education, unskilled casual workers, orphans, street children, and beggars. The major Contributing factors to the exposure of these categories of people are the increasing inequality in the distribution of wealth and income, poor access to economic and social goods as well as remunerative employment, and inequality in the participation of social and political processes and life choices.

In addition, Karl (2019) noted that parents with low socioeconomic status (the poor) lack the financial ability to educate their children, thus financially crippling the children in the future, which leads to desperation among these children and pushes them to engage in illegal acts that generate money. This has contributed to the high rise of delinquency among adolescents in society. Failure by the government to deal with the problem of poverty associated with low socio-economic status would lead to a persistent rise in delinquency, which in turn would raise the overall level of crime over the years (Owasanoye, 2015). However, the author contended that the government is considered the main body that can address the problem of delinquency as well as other crimes and the poverty rate because of its monopolistic influence in the country. According to Martin, as cited in Paul (2016), the poor and underclass people have more chances of producing delinquents than the middle- and upper-class people. The group is commonly found in urban centres with a cycle of poverty that does not please juveniles. Because of poverty, juveniles lack opportunities to go to school, and also because of parental attention, poor housing, disorientation of family life, unemployment, rapid population growth, and the special labour needs of some adolescent parents, which are conducive to crime and delinquency (Nanjala, 2017). Consequently, socio-economic instability is often linked to persistent unemployment and low incomes among the adolescent's parents, which can increase the likelihood of their children's involvement in criminal activity (Wondimu, 2014).

Arnett (2015) contended that poverty is one of the main causes of deviation, including burglary and sexual perversion, in people, especially children and adolescents. Most of the deprivations and dissatisfaction with desires that result in social uncertainties are caused by poverty, which cannot be ignored. Unemployment, lack of food and clothing; illiteracy, backwardness, ignorance, and superstitions; lack of adequate health care; and types of mental and physical diseases are all noted in maternal interests and in the fear of poverty. In another development, Olowu (2019) noted that most of these adolescents who engage in delinquent acts when caught by the police give the reason that they come from poor families that do not take care of their financial needs, so in a bid to care for themselves, they indulge in delinquent acts.

In agreement with the view of Smith and Stern (2020), children from parents with low socio-economic status belong to the group of people who tend to commit crime; similarly, researchers observed that children were more likely to offend during years in which their parent's socio-economic status was lower than years in which it was higher. Hence, when a family's socio-economic status increases, there is a decrease in crime, violence, and petty offences among their children but an increase in anti-social behaviour and alcohol and drug abuse (Arnett, 2015). It is pertinent to note that poverty and Juvenile delinquency are connected in that children who live in poverty have a higher chance of becoming delinquents who indulge in crimes. Parental economic and social capital becomes important for the child's future outcomes because of the resources available to the child, which may lead to sequences of cumulative advantages or disadvantages. For example, children from families with low economic and academic resources have fewer opportunities to get financial support from their parents, leaving them disadvantaged compared with children from more affluent backgrounds in schools, throughout adolescence, and later in life (Breen, 2018).

Furthermore, Store (2019) postulated that juvenile delinquency and poverty are intimately related, and the author buttressed that among juvenile delinquents, the majority of them belong to low socio-economic status families. Many studies show that children in poor families have many desires that remain unfulfilled, and it is to satisfy them that they turn to crime. Poverty also induces a sense of dissatisfaction and inferiority, which is another spur of criminal tendencies. Finally, studies also show that most children from low socio-economic families drop out of school due to a lack of money to pay for the school's requirements. This thus led to idleness, which made them learn about and engage in delinquent activities in society.

Methodology

A descriptive survey design was adopted for this study, and the population consisted of one thousand three hundred and sixty-one (1,361) business studies students. The sample size of this study was two hundred and sixty-eight (268) respondents drawn from the population using the Taro Yamane Formula. However, simple random sampling techniques was adopted for this study, which gives every respondent an equal chance of being selected. Six (6) aims and objectives, research questions, and hypotheses, respectively, were stated, answered, formulated, and tested at 0.05 level of significance for this study. A self-developed questionnaire titled Demographic/ sociological variables and Juvenile Delinquency of students Questionnaire (DSVJDSQ) was used for data collection, which was validated and a reliability index of 0.84 was established using test-retest method of Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient (PPMC), research questions were analysed and answered using mean and standard deviations, while the hypotheses were tested using t-test statistical tool.

Research Question 1

To what extent does family type influence juvenile delinquency among business studies students in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State?

Table 1: Mean and Standard Deviation of the Responses of Male and Female Business Studies Students on Extent Family Type Influences their Juvenile Delinquency.

S/N	Statements	Male = 68			Female = 152		
		M	SD	RMK	M	SD	RMK
1.	Students from extended families tend to be delinquent as a result of inadequate provision of their needs.	3.66	0.54	HE	4.10	0.72	HE
2.	Students whose parents are corrupt are likely to be involved in delinquent behaviour.	4.20	0.76	HE	4.31	0.78	HE
3.	Students from broken homes are more prone to delinquent behaviours.	4.15	0.74	HE	4.42	0.82	HE
4.	Students raised by single parent involve in delinquent act than those raised by both parents.	4.10	0.65	HE	4.13	0.73	HE
5.	Students raised by illiterate parents are usually involved in anti-social behaviour.	4.66	0.87	VHE	4.53	0.82	VHE
6.	Lack of parental care leads to delinquent behaviour of students.	4.62	0.84	VHE	4.58	0.85	VHE
Grand Total		4.23	0.73	HE	4.35	0.79	HE

Source Fieldwork (2022).

Table 1 showed the grand mean responses of 4.23 and 4.35 for male and female business studies students respectively. They rated that family type influences juvenile delinquency of students to a high extent. The item by item statement analysis shows that item 1, 2, 3 and 4 with mean ratings ranging from 3.66 to 4.42 for both male and female respondents were rated to a high extent, while item 5 and 6 with mean ratings ranging from 4.53 to 4.66 for both male and female respondents were rated to a very high extent. In addition, the standard deviation ratings ranging from 0.54 to 0.87, with a grand rating of 0.73 and 0.79 for male and female business studies students respectively shows that there was homogeneity amongst the responses, indicating a consensus of opinion.

Research Question 2

To what extent does parental socio-economic status influence juvenile delinquency of among business studies students in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State?

Table 2: Mean and Standard Deviation of Responses of Male and Female Business Studies Students on extent Parental Socio-Economic Status Influences their Juvenile Delinquency.

S/N	Statements	Male = 68			Female = 152		
		M	SD	RMK	M	SD	RMK
7.	Students whose parents are of higher socio-economic status are likely to be delinquent in	4.15	0.70	HE	4.14	0.75	HE

	school and at home.							
8.	The poor/ low socio-economic status of parents can cause the children to be involve in delinquent behaviour.	4.41	0.82	HE	4.37	0.79	HE	
9.	Students with influential parents in the society are more prone to engage in illegal acts.	3.56	0.52	HE	3.80	0.67	HE	
10.	Disengaging myself in delinquent behaviour as a result of not having parents who are influential is possible.	4.26	0.75	HE	3.87	0.71	HE	
11.	Students from wealthy homes are less likely to be delinquent compared to those that are not wealthy.	3.53	0.48	HE	3.42	0.59	HE	
12.	Delinquent behaviour of students are influenced as a result of their parent's educational level.	3.35	0.40	HE	3.43	0.59	HE	
Grand Mean		3.88	0.61	HE	3.84	0.68	HE	

Source Researcher's Field Work (2022)

Table 2 revealed the grand mean responses of 3.88 and 3.84 male and female business studies students respectively. They rated that parental socio-economic status influences juvenile delinquency of students to a high extent. The item-by-item statement analysis reveals that item 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 with mean ratings ranging from 3.35 to 4.41 for both male and female respondents were rated to a high extent. In addition, the standard deviation ratings ranging from 0.40 to 0.82 with grand rating of 0.61 and 0.68 for male and female business studies students respectively shows that there is homogeneity amongst the responses, indicating a consensus of opinion.

Hypothesis 1

There is no significant difference in the mean responses of male and female business studies students on extent family type influences their juvenile delinquency in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State.

Table 3: T-test of Mean Difference on the Responses of Male and Female Business Studies Students on the Extent Family Type Influences their Juvenile Delinquency at 0.05 Level of Significance

Gender	No of respondents	\bar{X}	SD	DF	A	T-Cal	T-Crit.	Decision
Male	68	4.23	0.73	218	0.05	1.10	1.96	Not Sig. /Accepted
Female	152	4.35	0.79					

Source Researcher's Field Work (2022).

Table 3 shows that the calculated t-value of 1.10 is less than t-critical value of 1.96. Therefore, since the computed t-value is less than t-critical value, the hypothesis which states that there is no significant difference in the mean responses of male and female business studies students on extents family type influences their juvenile delinquency in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State is hereby accepted. This implies that the stated hypothesis is not significant. This finding is in consonance with Nanjala (2017) who opined that family involvement as a key element is the deterrence of juvenile delinquency as evidence by numerous studies suggesting that students from traditional household are less likely to be involved in juvenile delinquency than those from a non-traditional home. For example, adolescents from single parents' families are more to behavioural problems because they are inclined to a lack of economic security and significant time with their parents, hence adolescents from single parent families are more susceptible to acts of juvenile delinquency than those from two parents families.

Hypothesis 2

There is no significant difference in the mean responses of male and female business studies students on extent parental socio-economic status influences their juvenile delinquency in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State.

Table 4: T-test of Mean Difference on the Responses of Male and Female Business Studies on the Extent Parental Socio-Economic Status Influences their Juvenile Delinquencies at 0.05 Level of Significance

Gender	No of respondents	\bar{X}	SD	DF	A	T-Cal	T-Crit.	Decision
Male	68	3.88	0.61	218	0.05	1.44	1.96	Not Sig. /Accepted
Female	152	3.84	0.68					

Source Researcher's Field Work (2022).

Table 4 reveals that the calculated t-value of 0.44 is less than t-critical value of 1.96. Therefore, since the computed t-value is less than the t-critical value, the hypothesis which states that there is no significant difference in the mean responses of male and female business studies students on parental socio-economic status influences their

juvenile delinquency in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State is hereby accepted. This implies that the stated hypothesis is not significant. This finding is in sync with Ralf (2021) that socio-economic status of parents is a risk factor for student's delinquent behavior. This is because the possibility that socio-economic status affects students' risk for engaging in delinquent behavior has gained a significant amount of public and empirical attention given its implication for delinquency prevention.

Conclusion

The study considered sociological/demographical variables and juvenile delinquency of business studies students in public junior secondary schools in Rivers State. Based on the findings of this study, it can be deduced that for business studies students not to be involved in delinquents acts in schools, there is need for parents to give their children a good upbringing and avoid broken homes which could affect them negatively, stay away from poor neighborhood and improved standard of living of parents are encourage in order to provide for their children.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations were proffered

1. Parents should teach their children the importance of respecting laws of the society.
2. Government and school authorities should promulgate programme and policies aligned with delinquency and intervention in order to reduce delinquent acts among students.

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