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**THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARENTING
STYLE AND THE RISK OF DRUG ABUSE AMONG
YOUTH***Hubungan antara Gaya Asuhan Ibu Bapa dan Risiko Penyalahgunaan Dadah
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Abstract

Drug abuse is one of the most serious social issues in Malaysia. Therefore, this quantitative study was conducted to identify the relationship between parenting styles and the risk of drug abuse among youths. A set of questionnaires were distributed to respondents at IKTBN Chembong. A total of 123 students of IKTBN Chembong were involved in this study. Two instruments were used in this study, Baumrind's Parenting Styles Questionnaire (1967) and the Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST-20). The results showed that authoritative parenting style was the highest style used by parents (37.86%) followed by authoritarian parenting style (35.32%) while permissive parenting style was (30.01%). Testing for hypotheses was carried out using the Pearson Correlation test. The findings show that there is a significant correlation between permissive parenting style and drug abuse risk ($r = .61$). Authoritarian parenting lifestyle with drug abuse risks showed a weak and positive relationship ($r = .119$) while for authoritative parenting style with drug abuse risks showed a weak and negative relationship ($r = .005$). The implication of this study is the importance of parenting styles in dealing with the risks of drug abuse against youth in the future.

Keywords: parenting style, risk of drug abuse, youth.

Abstrak

Penyalahgunaan dadah adalah salah satu isu sosial paling serius di Malaysia. Oleh itu, kajian kuantitatif ini dijalankan untuk mengenalpasti hubungan gaya keibubapaan dan risiko penyalahgunaan dadah di kalangan belia. Satu set soal selidik diedarkan kepada responden di IKTBN Chembong. Seramai 123 orang pelajar Institut Kemahiran Tinggi Belia Negara (IKTBN), Chembong terlibat dalam kajian ini. Dua instrumen digunakan iaitu soal-selidik Gaya Asuhan Ibu bapa Baumrind (1967) dan soal-selidik Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST-20). Hasil kajian menunjukkan gaya asuhan autoritatif merupakan gaya asuhan paling tinggi digunakan oleh ibubapa pelajar (37.86%) diikuti oleh gaya asuhan ibubapa autoritarian (35.32%) manakala gaya asuhan permisif (30.01%). Pengujian hipotesis telah dilakukan menggunakan ujian Korelasi Pearson. Dapatan kajian menunjukkan terdapat hubungan signifikan antara gaya asuhan permisif dengan risiko penyalahgunaan dadah ($r = 0.61$). Ini membuktikan hubungan positif antara gaya asuhan ibubapa permisif dengan risiko penyalahgunaan dadah. Gaya asuhan ibubapa autoritarian dengan risiko penyalahgunaan dadah menunjukkan hubungan yang lemah dan positif ($r = .119$) manakala gaya asuhan ibubapa autoritatif dengan risiko penyalahgunaan dadah menunjukkan hubungan sangat lemah dan negatif ($r = -.005$). Ini membuktikan risiko penyalahgunaan dadah tidak dipengaruhi oleh gaya asuhan autoritatif. Implikasi kajian mendapati pentingnya gaya asuhan ibubapa dalam menangani risiko penyalahgunaan dadah terhadap belia di masa hadapan.

Kata kunci: gaya asuhan ibu bapa, risiko penyalahgunaan dadah, belia.

INTRODUCTION

Drugs existed many years ago and they came with diverse types and shapes. With the sophistication of technology in this current era, it has caused many youths to be affected by drug symptoms (Utusan Malaysia, 2017). Drug abuse is one of the most serious social issues in Malaysia. According to Agensi Anti Dadah Kebangsaan (2011) stated that the statistic of drug users in Malaysia almost 400,000. This means the HIV rate among the drug users will rise. At present, 76% of the all HIV reported cases are associated with the drug consuming.

Substantial allocations have been dispensed by the Malaysian government to overcome this problem (Ibrahim, 2016). Nevertheless, the problem persists with the number of drug addicts increasing every year. Recovery efforts are the challenges for the whole community and should be done consistently and continuously. This is because the average drug addict who has undergone a drug rehabilitation program fails to maintain a drug-free pattern. Many have resistance to therapy, and relapses may be frequent with up to ninety percent in the first four years after treatment (Diamond, 2000).

Drug addiction today is widespread in the country and it has spread to every level of age in society. This situation is alarming because youth today is a national asset that will continue the continuity and development of the country in the future (Hassan, 2008). In the Youth Act (Act 668) (2007), it has been mentioned in terms of age limits those aged 15 to 40 years belonging to youth and it represents 60 percent of the country's current population. Various schemes were introduced by the government and private to these youths to develop them, involving various sectors such as skills, business, entrepreneurship, education and more (Bahagian Komunikasi UNICEF Malaysia, 2007). In addition, in terms of building personality and identity, various programs and courses were organized by various government agencies such as the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Education, the National Population and Family Development Board (LPPKN) and non-governmental agencies social development. Nevertheless, despite the efforts of the government and the private sector in advancing the youth, it remains with the existence of negative elements and harm that can spoil the advancement of youth in terms of behavior that can risk them to ruin their own future (Fauziah, 2009).

Parenting styles are important elements in producing high-profile teenagers. Applying the right parenting style will produce skilled youth from all aspects including physical, spiritual and physical aspects. Baumrind (1995) has introduced the model of parenting styles which is divided into three types, authoritarian, permissive and authoritative. The authoritarian parenting style is illustrated by the high demands of parents but low accountability. Parents place high expectations on children by practicing a control approach, punishment and strict rules that do not allow the children to question them. On the contrary, in the authoritative parent style, parents are characterized by high demand and high accountability that is practicing firmness that is balanced with the willingness to listen to children's views, tolerance, friendship, and fully involve in the process of helping and educating children. While in permissive parenting style, parents are characterized by high accountability but low demands of being too soft, fulfilling the needs of children and assuming children as mature individuals and can determine themselves without pressure, control or rules of good conduct and are not strictly prohibited by the parents. Studies have found that children and youths' perceptions of their relationship with parents have a profound impact on their emotions and social relationships (Goleman, 1995).

In addition, parenting style applied to children affects the development of children's socio-emotions and the familiarity of relationships with these parents is an emotional bond that determines the development of a safe interpersonal relationship between parents and children (Goodwin, 2003). This study aims to measure relationship

between parenting style and risk of drug abuse among youth at *Institut Kemahiran Tinggi Belia Negara* (IKTBN).

METHODOLOGY

Research Design and Sampel

This study uses a survey research design to obtain data from the respondents in order to identify the relationship between parenting styles and the risk of drug abuse among youths. The study was conducted in the *Institut Kemahiran Tinggi Belia Negara* (IKTBN) Chembong, Rembau. The sample was selected using a random sampling method at the *Institut Kemahiran Tinggi Belia Negara* (IKTBN) Chembong Rembau. A total of 123 students of IKTBN Chembong aged between 18 to 26 years old were involved in this study.

Procedure

Before the instruments were administered, a permission letter was sent to the Director of IKTBN Chembong. Once the approval has been obtained from the Director, the researcher started to plan the date to distribute the questionnaire. On the day of occurrence, the researcher gives a briefing to the respondents about the overview of the study in order to help the respondents understand the aim of the research, hence ensuring a more valid data. A clear instruction written in the questionnaires as a guide for the respondents to answer the questions. Then, the questionnaire was distributed to respondents at IKTBN Chembong.

Instrumentation

Two instruments were used in this study, Baumrind's Parenting Styles Questionnaire to measure the parenting styles and the Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST-20) to measure the risk of drug abuse. The questionnaire consists of three parts: part A about the demographic information, part B examines Parenting Style and part C examines the risk of drug abuse among youth. Baumrind's Parenting Styles contains 30 Likert-scale questions for viewing parenting style with respondents. Respondents were asked to respond to 30 questions covering three types of care styles (authoritarian, authoritative and permissive) which illustrates how their parents' styles are. Each type contains 10 specific questions that illustrate the types of care styles. This tool uses a five-point Likert scale as follows: (1) Highly not agree, (2) Disagree, (3) Undecided, (4) Agree, and (5) Strongly Agree. According to Baumrind, the reliability value of this measuring instrument is 0.87 for Authoritarian, 0.76 for Permissive and 0.81 for Authoritative. The score at each range is 10 to 50. Parenting styles are calculated easily by adding the scores obtained individuals in every kind of style of care either authoritarian, authoritative or permissive. The highest score determines the type of care style practiced by parents.

Meanwhile, for Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST-20) This section contains 20 questions Likert-scales to see risk of drug abuse with respondents. Respondents were asked to respond 20 questions Scale 'Yes' = 1 and 'No' = 0 every question. The DAST-20 calculated by adding the scores 'Yes' = 1. Score 6 to 15 is recommended as the purpose of exploring the case, score 6 and below showing individuals not addicted, Scores up 16 shows an addiction the severe or in a state of dependence and need a recovery program drug. The reliability value of this measuring instrument is 0.92 and has been tested for 256 secondary school students in Kuala Lumpur by Education state department of Kuala Lumpur.

Data Analysis

Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) Version 23.0 was used to analyze the data collected. Data was analyzed using two statistical methods; descriptive and inferential statistics. Descriptive statistics are used to analyze the demographic information of the respondents. Inferential statistic was used to test the hypotheses. Pearson correlation was used to see the relationship of parenting style and risk of drug abuse.

RESULTS

The findings for the study are based on the following objectives; i) to identify the types of parenting style among youth in IKTBN, ii) to identify risk level of drug abuse among youth in IKTBN, and iii) to identify the relationship between parenting style and the risk of drug abuse among youth in IKTBN.

Demographic Background of Respondents

This section presents information about the background of respondents in this study.

Table 1: Demographic background of respondents

Categories	Frequency	(%)
Gender		
Male	109	88.6
Female	14	11.4
Race		
Malay	99	80.5
Chinese	4	3.3
Indian	17	13.8
Others	3	2.4

Religion		
Islam	99	80.5
Buddha	2	1.6
Hindu	16	13
Others	6	4.9
Academic qualification		
	-	-
UPSR	2	1.6
PMR	121	98.4
SPM		
Residence		
City	74	60.2
Rural	49	39.8
Year of study		
Year 1	32	26
Year 2	81	65.9
Year 3	10	8.1
Course of study		
Skill certificate	106	86.6
Skill diploma	7	13.8
Family income (RM)		
	18	14.6
Below 1000	46	37.4
1001-2000	23	18.7
2001-3000	8	6.5
3001-4000	28	22
4001-5000		

Table 1 shows the demographic information of respondents in this study. Most of the respondent were male (88.6%) and most of them were Malays (80.5%). Most of the respondents obtained SPM (98.4%) and study in skill certificate (106%).

Types of Parenting Style among Youth in IKBTN Chembong

Table 2 presents the mean and standard deviation for types of parenting styles among youth in IKBTN.

Table 2: Types of risk of drug abuse tendencies

Parenting style	Mean	Standard deviation
Authoritarian	35.32	6.24
Permissive	30.01	6.18
Authoritative	37.86	4.79

In this study, there are three types of parenting styles, authoritarian, permissive and authoritative style. The authoritative style shows the highest result based on the mean value 37.86. For authoritarian style, the mean value is 35.32 while the lowest type of parenting style is the permissive style with the mean value of 30.01. Hence, the dominant parenting style among youth in IKBTN is authoritative style.

Level of Risk of Drug Abuse

Table 3 shows the finding on the level of risk of drug abuse of youth at IKBTN Chembong. The level of involvement in the risk of drug abuse can be classified into three stages high, medium and low. Descriptive analysis as shown in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Level of risk of drug abuse

Level	N	Percentage	Description
Below 6	85	69.10	Individuals are not addicted
6 - 15	37	30.08	Purpose of case exploration
16 and above	1	0.81	Severe addiction
Total	123	100.0	

From 123 of respondents, the level of risky youth behavior of taking drugs as shown in Table 3 shows that 85 respondents (69.10%) at the level of not being addicted, while 37 respondents (30.08%) at the level of purpose of case exploring and 1 respondent (0.81%) at a severe level of addiction that required a recovery program. Therefore, the youth in IKBTN were not at high risk of drug abuse.

The Relationship between Parenting Styles and the Risk of Drug Abuse

Table 4 shows the result of the relationship between parenting styles and the risk of drug abuse.

Table 4: The relationship between parenting styles and risk of drug abuse

Parenting styles	Pearson correlation Sig. (2-tail)
Authoritarian	0.119** 0.000
Permissive	0.61** 0.000
Authoritative	-.005** 0.000

The findings show that the authoritarian parenting style has a weak and positive relationship. Poor and positive relationships show that authoritarian parenting style does not lead to the risk of drug abuse. Meanwhile, the relationship between permissive parenting style and the risk of drug abuse risk showed a very strong and positive relationship ($r = 0.61$, $p < 0.01$), while the relationship analysis between authoritative parenting styles and the risk of drug abuse risk showed very low and negative relationships ($r = -0.005$, $p < 0.01$).

DISCUSSION

Overall, the findings for this study were significant and indicated the influences of parenting behavior has on youth risk of drug abuse. According to Baumrind (1971), parenting style was divided into three types namely authoritarian, permissive and authoritative styles. These three styles have a special way of educating children. Parents should know which style is appropriate to practice in order to produce youth with high moral values. If parenting styles are not enforced properly and parents do not develop a healthy form of attachment with their child can lead to the long-term consequences in the child's future life.

According to Sharma (2015), there is a significant relationship between youth substance abuse and aspects of parenting styles such as parental monitoring and involvement. The higher the levels of parental monitoring and "good general parenting practices" resulted in a lower likelihood of adolescents using marijuana and other drugs (Vermilion-Smit, Verdurmen, Engels, & Vollebergh, 2015). Based on the findings of this study, there is a positive significant relationship between parenting styles and risk of drug abuse of respondents. The results from this study

are consistent with prior literature that has shown that positive parenting practices are negatively related to child substance use and poor monitoring of children is positively related to their substance use (Vermilion-Smit, Verdurmen, Engels, & Vollebergh, 2015).

Permissive parenting and authoritative parenting have been shown to correlate with the level of delinquency an adolescent exhibits, in that permissive parenting relates to a child having a higher number of incidents with the police and more serious delinquencies, whereas authoritative parenting is associated with little to no serious delinquency incidents (Hoeve, Blokland, Dubas, Loeber, Gerris, & Van Der Laan, 2008). Berge, Sundell, Ojehagen & Haakanson (2016) supported the previous study through their finding where they found that children who have been raised by permissive parents are trapped by severe drug abuse symptoms, frequent drinking alcohol, getting involved with crime.

The limitation of the study was the used of cross-sectional design. Due to this, it is difficult to determine whether the outcome followed exposure in time or exposure resulted from the outcome. In other words, it is difficult to determine if the parenting style is a result of the youth substance use, or if the youth substance use is a result of the parenting style. Researcher would like to suggest the use of various measures of parenting behaviour such as measures of type of discipline, attachment, consistency and communication which allow further understanding on different types of parenting styles.

The other limitation of current research is that only youth report was used. While, the parent report of their parenting behaviors was not available. Future studies should evaluate these parenting practices in relation to substance abuse and other adolescent risky behaviors in a larger population that might include at-risk adolescents and their parents. Future researcher can also investigate the other factors; such as, impulsiveness, aggression, and other forms of delinquency. Notably, the findings of this study are useful for parent and child to gain awareness about the importance of establishing a better parent-child relationship and better parenting practices which might resulted in reducing the risk of adolescent drug abuse.

CONCLUSION

The findings of this study are consistent with previous study suggesting that parenting style had a significant relationship with the risk of drug abuse among youth. In discussing the issue of parenting styles and the risk of drug abuse among youth, the researcher needs to address the upbringing and parental involvement throughout the youth life. Therefore, if the authoritative is a good and appropriate parenting style in reducing the risk of drug abuse to youth, then parents should work best trying to adapt authoritative parenting style. Parents play huge role in shaping their children personality and behavior. This is in line with the hadith of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) which means "Every child born in a pure state of cleanliness. So, their parents are the ones responsible in making his or her child Jewish, Christian or Majusi ". This research hopefully will provide assistance and become a reference for the future researcher who are interested to conduct research on parenting styles and risk of drug abuse among youth.

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