

Logistics Regression of Parents' Raising Style on Marital Harmony

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ABSTRACT: This study analysed demographically the logistic regression of parents' raising style on marital harmony among members of Yabatech community of Yaba, Lagos State, Nigeria. The objectives of this study were to determine whether parents' child raising style influence marital harmony among married couples and to determine whether socio - demographic factor like age, educational status, gender and marital status influence marital harmony among married couples. A cross-sectional survey of 206 Yabatech community members aged 20-40 years who are married and have at least a child purposively selected was done using an adapted questionnaire. The data was analysed using Chi-square test and Logistics Regression. The result revealed that all the socio- demographic factors were significantly associated with marital harmony ($p < 0.05$). The Logistics Model fitted is $\ln(\text{Marital Harmony}) = 1.258 + 1.331 \text{ APS1} - 1.667 \text{ APS2} + 1.319 \text{ PPS}$. It was therefore concluded that while the three parental styles have significant impact on marital harmony ($p < 0.05$), authoritative parental style (APS1) and permissive parental style (PPS) have positive impact and authoritarian parental style (APS2) has negative impact. It was recommended that parents should adopt authoritative and permissive parental style of raising children since it has a better chance of giving marital harmony.

KEYWORDS: marital harmony, authoritative parenting, permissive, authoritarian, logistic regression

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I. INTRODUCTION

Marital harmony according to Gogolinski (2012) is affected by many factors like the expectations of partners from each other, the upbringing of couples, family finance, friends, and sexuality maintenance, and the relationship with the partner's relatives. Children are also important dimensions in a marriage. Bagley (2001) noted a complex and double-sided relationship between a child and marriage in which a child affects the marriage and the marriage affects the child. The parent-child relationship is one of the most long-lasting and emotionally intense social ties (Rubin & Kelly, 2015). Although this tie is often positive and supportive, it includes feelings of frustration, pressure, and uncertainty (Luescher & Pillemer, 1998). In reality, parents as well as their children report going through tension long after the children come of age. The negative impact of children to harmony in marriage stems from the strain caused by their behavioural complications which elicited difference amongst parents about children's corrections and education, one spouse's neglect about caring for children and their inability to share equivalent responsibilities about children upbringing (Canel, 2007).

Practices for raising children are formed by cultural values that differ amongst human populations which operate in the personal predilections and inner principles of individuals who seek to sustain these principles from one generation to another. Le Vine's model of parental approach is based on the concept of parental investment policies of allocating time, devotion, and domestic resources to children upbringing during the children early and advanced years (Sevinç, 2005). During the preschool years, parent's overall conception and cognisant attitude about bringing up children is significant. The merits of parent's consistency in children upbringing affect children both psychologically and behaviourally (Vaughn, Block, & Block, 1988). Baumrind's "Family Attitudes" theory suggested three styles of rearing children namely: authoritative, authoritarian and permissive (Baumrind, 2012).

1.1 Authoritative child - rearing style

Authoritative parents have a dependable approach towards their children as they implement certain regulations which are acknowledged by all the family members. Children are conscious of what entails right and wrong behaviour and parents' constant behaviour helps to reassure the child. The child's efforts toward developing an independent mind are encouraged and respected. Parents often asked children their views about any decisions concerning family affairs and exercise correction in a warm, emotionally caring home environment. Children raised in authoritative families are often optimistic, ingenuous and exude very high self-confidence (Mensah & Konnie, 2013; Sevinç & Evirgen, 2003)

1.2 Authoritarian child - rearing style

Authoritarian parents raise children in an environment in which the child's emotive, social and sustenance needs are unsatisfied. Two-way communication with the child is also lacking as parents exert control through absolute set of rules and seldom provide reasons when interacting with the child. Such parents incessantly use criticism to exercise their authority over the child (Coplan, Hastings, Lagacé-Séguin, & Moulton, 2002). Children who grew up subjected to this parenting attitude are most likely to end up being extremely defiant or subservient, showing extreme nervousness and irritable manifestations (Donath, Graessel, Baier, Bleich, & Hillemeche, 2014; Mensah & Konnie, 2013).

1.3 Permissive child - rearing style

Parents who adopt this style usually scramble together convenience and care - free attitude, the children have unrestrained freedom to choose whatever they do. Such parents have no control over their children and sometimes act too forbearing resulting in tacit neglect. Under these settings, children often exercise authority in the family and other family members absolutely obey them. In this family form, children often disrespect their parents and over time become domineering over other people outside their family.

In view of these approaches, it is assumed that marital harmony is affected by parents' child - rearing style particularly when the child is at a preschool age. Sevinç & Garip (2010) found significant positive relationship between authoritative nurture and marital harmony; a reverse relationship between authoritarian and permissive nurture and marital harmony among children age 5 – 6 and attending preschool. It is believed that where cooperation exists amongst parents in child - rearing practices and they support each other, such parents often have more time for themselves, are satisfied and happy not only in their marriage but also in their social life. This reflects on the child and the positive energy arising from the child will reverberate to parents resulting into happy people with less difficulty and trouble in social interaction and social harmony. Onyekuru (2015) studied secondary school students in River State Nigeria and found significant, positive association between authoritative parenting style and marital adjustment, insignificant, positive association between authoritarian and permissive parenting styles and marital adjustment. Kobe University (2017) categorised parenting style as “supportive, strict (tiger), indulgent, uninvolved, and abusive and noted that for both men and women, the supportive approach to parenting produced the highest achievements in income, happiness levels, and academic achievement for children. They discovered that people who had received a supportive upbringing were most likely to see their own father or mother as the ideal, whereas respondents who had experienced abusive parenting styles were least likely to view their own parents as positive models for themselves or potential partners”. They also reported higher marriage rates among people whose model partner or personality is embodied by their own parents, and this group also desired more children.

Zaman (2014) investigated the effect of parenting style on child behaviour adopting a purposeful sampling strategy and personal interview method and found that parenting style exerts a definite effect on the child's behaviour and that parents of the studied generation prefer communication over harsh punishment, love over hate and support their children for getting effective confidence. His findings agreed with other discoveries of an association between parenting practices and child behaviour and that children attuned their behaviour to suit their parents' styles (Chen & Kaplan, 2001; Ferrari, 2002; Mandara, 2006; Morawska, Winter, & Sanders, 2009). Many factors that tend to influence developmental temperament and ability of the children include the care they received from their parents and concerned others, the environment on which they grew up, the opportunities provided, the support available when in need or distressed and role models who represented values and goals they can identify with. Pretorius (2000) noted that parents play vital roles in most of the children's developmental temperament and ability.

Loke & Wong (2010) explored the association of family method and peer influences with risk behaviours of teenagers recommended interventions that recognised the strength of the parent-child relationship and strengthen family functioning through improved interpersonal, parenting, and monitoring skills. Mensah & Konnie (2013) explored the influence of parenting styles on the social development of children through a descriptive survey among basic school pupils and teachers and found that the dominating style as perceived by the pupils is authoritative style as 68.7% perceived their parents to be authoritative, 16.7% as authoritarian and 14.6% as permissive. They concluded that there is relationship between parenting style and child social outcomes, noting a positive correlation between authoritative parenting style and good social behaviour and good conduct, authoritarian parenting correlated positively with social incompetence and negatively pupil's behaviour.

Chi, Baharudin, & Hossain (2012) investigated fathers' parenting styles in Chinese families in urban Malaysia and found that the authoritative parenting was the most reported form of among the Chinese fathers, trailed closely by the authoritarian and the permissive styles. It was noted that the Chinese parental values, largely founded in Confucian philosophy, may inspire fathers to show both the authoritative and authoritarian parenting styles. Other studies found that the Chinese values of “collectivism” and “conformity to norms” were correlated with authoritarian and authoritative parenting styles (Xu, Wen, Rissel, Floor, & Baur, 2013;

Crutchfield, 2013; Kim, Ywang, Orozco-Lapray, Shen, & Murtuza, 2013). This implies that Chinese parents are not only strict and emphasise on children's discipline, but also value parental receptiveness and acceptance of their children. Result also revealed that a significant relationship exists between the number of children in the family of authoritarian and authoritative parenting styles. Turner, Chandler, & Heffer(2009) investigated the impact of parenting styles, achievement motivation and self-efficacy on academic performance in college students and found that authoritative parenting significantly predicts students' academic performance. Also, there exists a significant relationship between both self-efficacy, authoritative nurturing and interaction term on academic performance. The study also found that authoritative child-rearing significantly predicted academic performance, but no relation was found for permissive and authoritarian parenting style. Simons & Conger (2007) studied the differences between mothers and fathers with regard to authoritative, authoritarian, indulgent, and uninvolved parenting styles and found that having two authoritative parents is linked with the most positive outcomes for adolescents.

Sevinç & Garip (2010) considered children age 5 – 6 preschool years, Onyekuru (2015) studied secondary school students in River State Nigeria but, this study looked at the effect of these raising styles on married parents in the Yaba College of Technology, Lagos State, Nigeria with a to determine whether parent's child raising style influence marital harmony among married couples and also determine the socio - demographic characteristics that significantly influence marital harmony among married couples.

II. METHODOLOGY

This research study used a quantitative approach following a descriptive survey research design and is cross-sectional, community-based. The participants of this study were married parents with at least a child. The study area was Yaba College of Technology, Yaba, Lagos. The inclusion criteria for this study are:

✓ All consenting married parents with at least a child who are staffs of Yaba College of Technology, Yaba, Lagos at the time of the study and willing to participate

The instrument used for this was a well-structured and self-administered questionnaire that was subjected to slight modification by the researcher before validation. A total of 206 questionnaires were administered in the selected institution using Convenient sampling method for all consenting individuals (who met the inclusion criteria) during the period of the study. These individuals were approached and informed about the study at their respective residents and/or offices.

In addition, the reliability of the instrument was checked using the Cronbach's Alpha Statistic which yielded a coefficient of 0.71

The data collected were individually coded and entered into the computer using IBM SPSS 23.0. Chi Square and Binary Logistic Regression were used in analysing the data as well as frequency distribution analysis to describe the demographic characteristics of the respondents.

The Chi Square test is given as:

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O_i - E_i)^2}{E_i}$$

Where O_i is the observed frequency and E_i the expected frequency.

Binary Logistic Regression

The logistic regression solution to modelling transforms the odds using the natural logarithm (Peng, Lee, & Ingersoll, 2002; Hosmer & Lemeshow, 2000). With logistic regression, we model the natural log odds as a linear function of the explanatory variable:

$$\text{Logit}(y) = \ln(\text{odd}) = \ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots \dots \dots \beta_n$$

III. RESULTS

The results showed 43.2% were male and 56.8% were female. As the study was focused on parents, their age distribution showed that 23.8% were 20-30 years, 30.6% were 31 – 40 years and 45.6% were above 40 years of ages. Also, 67% of the respondents were Christians, 30.1% were Moslems and 2.9% were from other religions. In addition, 84.7% of the respondents were Yorubas, 0.5% were Hausas, 7.4% were Igbos and 7.4% from other ethnic nationalities. Lastly, it also indicated that 2% of the respondent had primary education, 15.7% had secondary education, and 40.1% of the respondent had polytechnics and college of education while 35.5% were university graduate, 6.6% had higher degrees.

Chi-Square Analysis

Table 1: Chi Square analysis of association between socio-demographic factor and marital harmony

| S/N | Socio - demographic factors | χ^2 value | df | p |
|-----|-----------------------------|----------------|----|---------|
| 1 | Age | 59.108 | 16 | < 0.001 |
| 2 | Sex | 137.633 | 32 | < 0.001 |
| 3 | Religion | 79.985 | 32 | < 0.001 |
| 4 | Ethnic | 130.540 | 32 | < 0.001 |
| 5 | Marital status | 174.938 | 32 | < 0.001 |
| 6 | Educational background | 311.678 | 64 | < 0.001 |

The results above showed that all the socio- demographic factor have significant association with marital harmony ($p < 0.05$).

Binary Logistic Regression Analysis

The result of the binary logistics regression of the effect of parents raising style (authoritarian, authoritative and permissive) on marital harmony is here presented. The dependent variable has two levels – Never and Always. One of the aims is to determine the parent raising style that always contribute to marital harmony. In addition, the reference category in the predictors was set as the first category.

Table 2: Logistic model of likelihood of marital harmony on parents' raising style

| Model | B | S.E. | Wald | df | Sig. | Exp(B) | 95% CI of Exp (B) |
|----------|--------|-------|--------|----|------|--------|-------------------|
| APS1 | 1.331 | .414 | 10.334 | 1 | .001 | 3.786 | 1.681 – 8.520 |
| APS2 | -1.666 | .406 | 16.835 | 1 | .000 | .189 | 0.085 – 0.419 |
| PPS | 1.319 | .548 | 5.799 | 1 | .016 | 3.739 | 1.278 – 10.947 |
| Constant | 1.258 | 1.942 | .420 | 1 | .517 | 3.519 | |

The result above showed that authoritative parenting style (APS1), authoritarian parenting style (APS2) and permissive parenting style (PPS) have significantly contributed to the marital harmony ($p < 0.05$) and while authoritative parenting and permissive parenting styles positively contributed to marital harmony, authoritarian parenting style negatively contributed to it.

The model for this analysis is:

$$\text{Logit}(\text{Marital harmony}) = 1.258 + 1.331 * \text{APS1} - 1.666 * \text{APS2} + 1.319 * \text{PPS}$$

The result also revealed that children raised with authoritative parental style are 4 times more likely to always have marital harmony than those that are not raised with the style (OR = 3.79, 95% CI.: 1.68 – 8.52). Also, children raised with authoritarian parental style are 91% less likely to always have marital harmony (OR = 0.19, 95% CI.: 0.08 – 0.42). The children raised with authoritative parental style are also 4 times more likely to always have marital harmony than those that are not raised with the style (OR = 3.74, 95% CI.: 1.28 – 10.95).

IV. DISCUSSION

The socio- demographic factors like age, sex, religion, ethnicity, marital status and educational background were all significantly associated with marital harmony ($p < 0.05$). this however negated the findings of Awuah (2013) that religion is not associated with marital satisfaction among married men and women.

Binary logistic regression analysis modelled the influence of the three-identified parenting style on marital harmony of married parents in Yaba College of Technology, Yaba Lagos. The results showed that authoritative nurturing, authoritarian parenting and permissive child-rearing styles all significantly influenced to the marital harmony ($p < 0.05$) and while authoritative and permissive styles positively contributed to marital harmony, authoritarian style negatively influenced it. This result agreed with the findings of Sevinç & Garip(2010) that parent raising style significant influenced marital harmony. Other studies that corroborated the findings include (Kobe University, 2017; Zaman, 2014; Crutchfield, 2013; Mensah, Monnica, Kuranchie, & Alfred, 2013) but this result was at variance with Awuah (2013) who obtained no significant impact of authoritative parenting style on marital adjustment.

V. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the above findings, the conclusions made are as follows:

- All the independent variables such as Socio- demographic factors, Authoritative, Authoritarian and permissive parental styles have an association with marital harmony.
- The result from the research shows that parents who were raised by authoritative parents and permissive parents were each 4 times more likely to have marital harmony while raised by authoritarian parents were 81% less likely to have marital harmony.

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