

Abstract

Theoretical perspectives of the causes of adolescent aggression are emulating aggressive parental models and the media (Bandura, 1973), anger caused by parents' punitive (Baumrind, 1971) conflicts and effects of coercive family environment (Patterson, 1982). Study objectives were: (i) Assess adolescents' manifest aggression (MA), (ii) Find out the parenting styles. (iii) Investigate the relationship between adolescents' MA and parents' child rearing practices (family interactions, parents' agreeing on rules, monitoring and respecting adolescents' ideas and judgments). Participants were 672 stratified and randomly selected from 6 secondary schools in Nairobi County. They responded to a questionnaire to collect bio data, parental behaviors and MA. Findings showed that participants' MA mean score was 16.6610 out of 40. 94.9% participants had low aggression. Findings showed positive relationship between adolescent MA and coercive family interactions, parents' non-agreeing on family rules, non-monitoring adolescent' activities, and non-respecting adolescents' views. Boys were more aggressive than girls; findings were significant at Chi-square test of $p < 0.05$. Intervention is necessary to suppress adolescent MA developmental continuity and to educate parents to maintain harmonious family interactions and good relations with their children.