

Abstract

This study explored the impacts of family structure and students' perception of family relationship on students' deviant behaviour. Variables, gender and grade levels, are also considered in the study. Findings and suggestions based on the data are provided.

The study was a survey research. The samples were selected from eight junior high schools in Macao and there were 879 students participating in this study. A pre-test was administered to improve the validity and reliability of the questionnaire. And the data was analyzed by SPSS statistic analysis software in terms of descriptive statistics, Chi-square test, T-test, One-way ANOVA, Pearson product-moment correlation, to test and verify the hypothesis; the result suggested the following findings:

1. There is no significant difference in family structure and in family relationship among the genders;
2. There was a statistically significant difference among different grades in family structure. Ninth grade students have the higher ratio of single-parent families;
3. There was a statistically significant difference among different grades in perception of family relationship. The ninth grade students' perception of family relationship was the highest, and the second falls on the eighth grade students;
4. There is no significant difference in the deviation of their behaviour among the variables like the genders and the education back ground;
5. There is no significant difference in the family relationship among the junior students from the single parent families;

6. There is no significant difference in the deviation of the behaviour among the junior students from the different family structure;
7. There is no significant difference in the deviation of the behaviour among the junior students from different single parent families;
8. Family relationship has a great influence to students' behaviour. Students have less deviant behaviour if their parents have better relationship among themselves.

From the result mentioned above, the main reason to cause the deviation of behaviour of junior form students in Macao is family atmosphere. In addition, the lower form depends most. Apart from this, there is a high frequency of single parent family in junior 3 students' level.

My suggestion for the parents is to keep their eyes on their children when they are at their teen stage. It is not only about the changes in their bodies and the stress caused by their development but also about the effects caused by the structure and relationship changed in the families. Let them have their rights to voice out about their concern on family and to identify the value of themselves with the participations. For the school, I suggest that we may have more attention to Junior 3 students as the society is developing. First, the family structure, functions, and relationship keep changing day by day. Second, the Junior 3 students are facing the crisis of their elective subjects and getting high pressure from their studies. Those will bring them depressed and to have negative thoughts. So the Junior 3 class masters and the student counsellors need to keep eyes on them.

Key Words : Macao, junior high school, family structure, family relationship, deviant behaviour