

AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN MOSUL

Intesar K. Younis*¹, Muzahim Mohammed Aboosh² and Besmah Mohammed Ali³

¹MBCHB, FABHS MOH, Ninvah.

²MBCHB, FIBMS

³MBCH B F.I.B.M.S

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*Corresponding Author: Intesar K. Younis

MBCHB, FABHS MOH, Ninvah.

ABSTRACT

Background: Aggression is any behavior intending to harm another person, either direct or indirectly. Family is the first nucleus for child behaviors, most young children learned negative reactions from adults that tend to make the child's behaviors worse with time. A lot of young children live with single or none of parents as a result of death or divorced parents this situation was an encourage to study aggression. **Objective:** To show aggression rate among adolescents in Mosul city with relation to presence of parents. **Materials and methods:** A cross sectional study was conducted in Mosul city including adolescents live with both parents or missing one or both of them. The sample was chosen by stratified random sampling. A total of 1000 adolescents aged 11-21 years at secondary schools were involved in the study. Data were collected by face to face interview using Aggression-Problem Behavior Frequency Scale questionnaire. Chi square test was used and P value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant. **Results:** There were 916 (91.6%) aggressive students in the study sample aggression were significantly higher among adolescents who live with single or none parents (97.6%, 89.9%, respectively). There was statistically significant association between aggression and living without parents (p=0.000) as shown. **Conclusions:** Aggression behavior was high among adolescents missing parents were determinant factors for aggression Mosul.

INTRODUCTION

Aggression is a behavior aimed to injure another person which expressed directly (physical aggression) or indirectly (spreading rumors or psychological insult).^[1] It is documented that aggression is a learned behavior.^[2] Most young children learned negative reactions from adults, family is the first environment in which children grow up, and for this reason, it has a significant effect on their future behaviors. There are three different parenting styles, which included authoritative, authoritarian, and permissive,^[3] as well as an additional style: uninvolved parenting (neglected parents).^[4] Family first nucleus for learning which tend to make the child's behavior progress or worse and starting a harmful pattern leading to emergence of an aggressive behavior, were shown to increase the risk for antisocial, violent, impulsive and aggressive behaviors in adulthood.^[5]

Recently, in Iraq, a high prevalence of aggression was reported in schools (84.3%).^[6] It was explained by the exposure to wars, civil war, and widespread violence,

and displacement internally and externally in the last years.^[5]

Missing of one or both parents, Low socioeconomic state, poor parental monitoring, broken family, negative peer respect, lack of supporting relation by parents, Iraqis were experienced in such circumstance were blamed for the increase the prevalence of aggression.^[7] Therefore, this study was carried out to elaborate aggression among adolescents in area exposed to social strife as conflicts, Mosul had been exposed to ISIS invasion which synchronous with problem of increasing number of orphans and divorced women. The behavior of adolescents were greatly affected by these problems.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A cross sectional study was conducted in Mosul city including both sides (right and left). The sample was chosen by Stratified random sampling. A total of 1000 adolescents aged 11-21 years at secondary schools were involved in the study. Data were collected by face to face interview using Aggression—Problem Behavior

Frequency Scale questionnaire.^[8] Chi square test was used to show the influence of dependent variable (aggressive behaviors) on the independent variables (raised with both parents in comparison with loss of one or both of them). P value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Operational definitions

Family structure: adolescents living with single-parent families or there is no parents have been found to be more likely aggressive towards others and involved in violence during adolescence.^[9]

Aggression score: normal (no aggression) 1-18, aggression 19-54.

RESULTS

A total of 1000 students was participated in the study. Out of total, 783 participants were live with both parents other 217 of them live with single or none of them. There were 916 (91.6%) aggressive students in the study sample. Figure (1) shows aggression score among studied sample.

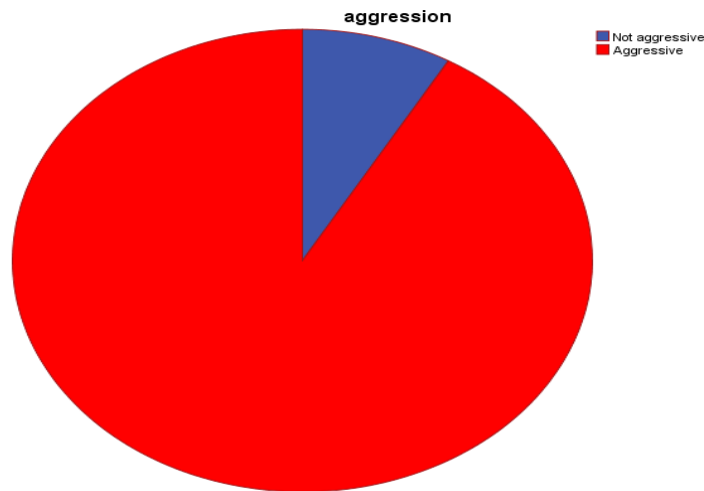


Figure 1: Distribution of aggression among studied adolescents.

Distribution of aggression according to presence of parents with students is shown in figure (2). Aggression

were higher among those who live with single or none parents (89.9%, 97.6%, respectively).

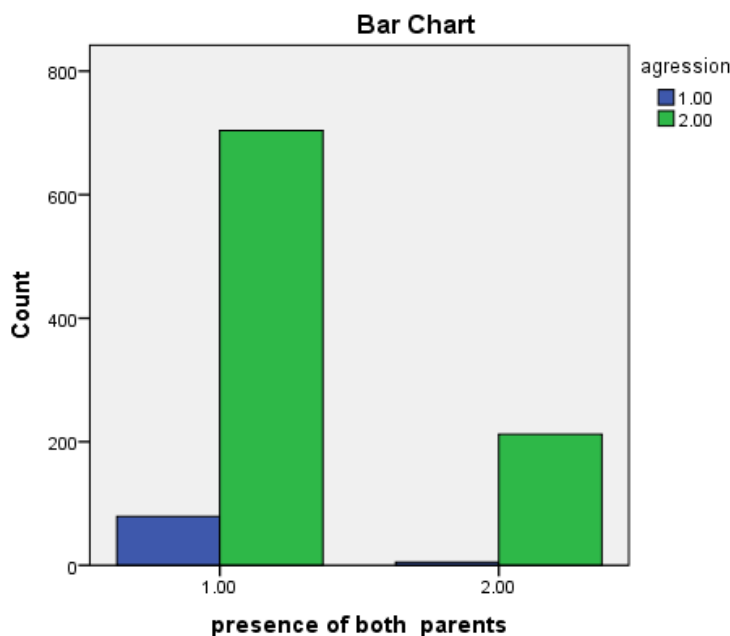


Figure 2: Distribution of aggression according to presence of parents.

Table (1) shows distribution of aggression in relation to presence of both parents with adolescents were 212 out of 217 (97.6%) aggressive student live with one or none parents in comparison with 704 out of 783 (89.9%) aggressive student live with both parents.

Table (1): Distribution of students by aggression and living with parents in secondary schools in Mosul city.

Variable	Aggressive		Not aggressive	
	No.	%	No.	%
Both parents	704	70.4	79	7.9
Single or None of them	212	21.2	5	0.5
Total	916	91.6	84	8.4
p value	p=0.000			

DISCUSSION

Aggression is a behavior that determined by multiple factors including individual, family, school climate, peer-related, community, neighborhood, and environment.^[10] It is a disorganizing emotional response, it becomes a way of releasing or showing emotions; one of the most common reasons for referring children and adolescents to mental health consults.^[11,12]

The observed frequency of aggression was (91.6%) which is much higher than that reported in Baghdad, 2017,^[11] 2019.^[13]

There is high prevalence rate of aggression (97.6%) among adolescents who live with single or none parents in comparison to (89.6%) in adolescents who live with both parents was shown that aggression among adolescents living in intact families was significantly lower than that of adolescents living among broken families ($p=0.001$). Intact family (father and mother) is important to have better physical, emotional, academic well-being, raising, and enhance resilience,^[14] This result is in agreement with that reported in Egypt,^[15] and United States.^[16]

Some studies suggested that family process may be more important than family structure in producing a positive outcome in children. A single parent family that is warm, supportive, and conflict-free is believed to provide a more positive environment for a child than a two-parent family filled with conflict and rejection.^[17,18]

CONCLUSION

Aggressive behavior was high among Mosul adolescents who live with single or none parents were determinant factors for aggression in Mosul.

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