

FAMILY VARIABLES AND INCLINATION TO PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN AKWA IBOM STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

This paper examined the difference in parental occupation and inclination to physical violence among university students in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. The paper also examined the difference in family adaptability and inclination to physical violence among university students in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. The study was premised on two educational theories. The Ex post facto research design was adopted for the study. The population of the study comprised 1428 Engineering students in three universities in the State. The sample size included 303 students selected from three universities using a multi-stage procedure. The researcher-modified instrument titled “Family Variables and inclination to Physical Violence Questionnaire (FVPVQ)” was used for data collection. A total of 303 questionnaire (100%) was retrieved. The instrument was validated by three experts, reliability was established with Cronbach Alpha of 0.84. Mean and standard deviation were used to answer the research questions while ANOVA and independent t-test were used to test the null hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. Findings evident that there is significance difference in parental occupation and inclination to physical violence among university students in Akwa Ibom State. Findings also proved significance difference in family adaptability and inclination to physical violence among university students in Akwa Ibom State. The paper recommends that universities should collaborate with family counsellors and create awareness on social and mass media to reiterate needs for ambitious and proper adaptable living of parents to maintain positive mindset, capable of discouraging inclination to physical violence among these students in the sampled universities.

Keynotes: Family variables, parental occupation, family adaptability, Physical Violence.

Introduction

University environment is an area where the students co-exists temporally, especially for the purpose of academic pursuits. In the university campuses, the students from diverse home meets, interact, collaborate, associate or disassociate when noncompliance exist. Students from different parts of the world constitute a university and the diversity accentuate by culture, belief, norms, and personality sometimes instigate inclination to physical violence among these sets. Violence is the intense and destructive occurrence of physical abuse, including trying to involve in non-consented sexual approach, abuse in the form of rape or hostility and anger towards people and objects as perceived to increasing worldwide (Yagiz *et al.*, 2020). Inclination to Physical violence is perceived as propensity to expressing physical violence or physical abuse, including trying to involve in sexual abuse in the form of rape or non-consented sexual advances. Dating violence was a prominent problem among college students that can result in harmful physical and mental health outcomes (Kunitzer *et al.*, 2022). There exist the objective and subjective factors that violence is perpetrated (Ferreira & Sani, 2024; Flynn & Mathias, 2025). Early exposure to various types of family violence and abuse are related to the development of unique forms of aggression in later life (Tussey *et al.*, 2021). Exposure to violence in the community reflects indirect family influences on children's behaviour. In addition, antisocial friend groups, influenced by family dynamics, contributed to the development of violence (Labella & Masten, 2018). Where vexed behaviour is exhibited in the community, it requires guidance and counselling services for conflict resolution to discourage further destructions, thereby sustaining the means of livelihood of the

community (Modo, 2016). Among the students, inclination to physical violence could result in harmful physical and mental health outcomes (Kunitzer *et al.*, 2022). Irrespective of perspective viewed including school environment, society, and beyond, physical violence is a social problem that is preventable. In attempt to investigating inclination to physical violence from its foundation, family reflected the mind.

Misunderstanding that induce inclination to physical violence could exist where students from diverse family aspires a common goal of obtaining degree. Inclination to physical violence in university environment could also emanate from academic pressure, poor performance or media related negative influences apart from family life experiences. Furthermore, socio-economic factors, and adaptation to life situation generally could increase chances of inclination to physical violence among university students. Although, socio-economic issues especially pertaining to parents' occupation may not always significantly determines the academic pressure and violence (Famolu, 2020). Triggers of violence inclination could sometimes emanate from family adaptation measures.

Among university students at a critical transitional stage in life, exposure or inclination to physical violence may have lasting effects on the academic performance, relationships and mental health. Family variously account for the fundamentals characteristics in shaping an individual's behavioural tendencies, emotional regulation, and conflict management skills. Since physical violence influences beyond academic performance, it became imperative to find out its cogent causes among the university students as the most common social problem (Lee, 2019). Specifically, family variables was speculated to be responsible for the inclination to physical violence among the students. Family is the foundation of human society, which comprises strongest socializing forces of life (Ganiyeva, 2022; Freeks, 2025). Family variables are collective traits, demographic and socio-economic profile through which a certain family could express identity. Family have the power of improving the behavioural standard and ethical conduct of her members. The differences that exist in the family variables may result in parents breeding children with different behavioural composition (Nwachukwu & Ikpong, 2023). Family values that enable a strong and consistence values including a sense of belonging, flexibility, respect, honesty, integrity, and generosity necessitated good behaviour (George *et al.*, 2024).

The present study focuses on parental occupation and family adaptability. Parental occupation involve the type of job owned by parents to support the children and which help the children in occupational choice accordingly. Parental occupation is the type of job or work in which parents are engaging upon, which could directly or indirectly influences children's career aspirations and occupational choices (Abdul *et al.*, 2023). Positive connection between educational and occupational levels of father and mother and the family socio- economic status of parent's and income could affects children's achievement (Das & Sinha, 2017). Parents' occupation identify the parent's ability to finance the academic achievement of their children in school. Parents with different occupation classes often have different styles of child rearing, different ways of disciplining their children and different ways of reacting to their children (Khan *et al.*, 2017). Parental occupation differs from one family to the other, and has a tendency to influencing the average families for different occupational classes (Odoh *et al.*, 2017). The families where parents' occupation occupies majority of the time or yield poor reward may pay less attention to the behavioural nature of the children. Unemployed parent sometimes suffer from economic strain and stress, which could result in harsher discipline, emotional withdrawal, aggression, causing the children's inclination to physical violence during university days. Self-employed parents sometimes exhibit aggression, stress and instability, differently from the labourers' parent counterparts.

Although, self-employed parent that have enough and gainful income sometimes exhibit peace, provide adequately for the family and inculcate good values on the children thereby

reducing inclination to physical violence during university days. Parents with others employment such as higher-status occupations may connect with better emotional support and effective discipline. Parents' occupation could determine income, which facilitate stability and financial ability accordingly. Mothers' occupation with maternal confidence has a role for occupational therapy which when felt by the children, it offers and promote wellbeing. Value roles such as responsibility, may require mother's occupations that is less time consuming (Avrech *et al.*, 2016; Odikpo & Ejide, 2021). Stress from poor earning jobs may lead to negative parenting, which could linker inclination to physical violence by the children during university days. Family who adjust well in owned occupation earnings, often adapt well to life situations and circumstances.

Family adaptability denotes the ability to adjust to changing circumstances as integral to maintaining healthy family dynamics and reducing conflict that leads to violent tendencies. Family adaptability is the ability of a family to adjust its roles, rules, and relationship patterns in response to stress or changing life circumstances to maintain stability and harmony. It denote the capacity to modify its structures, and interaction patterns to enable coping with stress and developmental changes (Yu *et al.*, 2021). Family adaptability involve the ability of a family to adjust behaviours, roles, and interaction patterns to effectively responding to changes helped in coping with crises during COVID-19 (Nursetiawati *et al.*, 2023). Adaptability describes behavioural tendencies with regard to socialization and education (Kurock *et al.*, 2022). However, social adaptation includes interpersonal relationships, play and leisure, and coping skills. Highly adaptable families demonstrate flexibility in managing stress and navigating challenges, fostering resilience and reducing the likelihood of aggression. Family adaptability promotes healthier conflict-resolution strategies and emotional regulation which are protective against violent tendencies.

Family members that do not adjusts well to changes and challenges, and do not support each other during crises, may express aggression and inclination to violence during university days. In addition, families that integrates the children in adjustment of all kinds, help on resilient, adaptation, and emotional stability. On the contrary, rigid family with low adaptability, struggle to cope with stress which sometime leads to increased conflict and inclination to violence (Southern & Sulivan, 2021). Adaptable family systems could reduce the negative effects of external stressors such as community violence (Walsh, 2023). Since different families could possibly inculcate values differently in students' life and create different psychosocial values as well, this study ascertained the outcomes of family variables and inclination to physical violence among university students in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria, where diverse families coexist.

From the literature, it was evidence that no study was conducted on difference in inclination to physical violence among the universities, Akwa Ibom State, based on family adaptability, which was a gap in knowledge that the present paper has filled. Researcher was therefore motivated to ascertain difference in inclination to physical violence among the students in universities, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. This research focused on university of Uyo, Akwa Ibom State university and Federal university of technology, Ikot Abasi, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria.

Purpose of the study

The main purpose of the study was to determine the difference in family variables and inclination to physical violence among University students in Akwa Ibom State based on parental occupation, and family adaptability.

Research Questions

The study was guided by the following research questions and was answered.

1. What is the difference in inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation?
2. What is the difference in inclination to physical violence based on family adaptability?

Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses guided the study and was considered significant at 0.50 level.

H₀₁ There is no significant difference in inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation.

H₀₂ There is no significant difference in inclination to physical violence based on family adaptability.

Empirical Framework

Parental Occupation and Inclination to Physical Violence

A study carried out by Sohrabivafa et al, (2017) examined the prevalence of risky behaviours and related factors among the students in Dezful. A descriptive research design was incorporated; with a simple random sampling technique. Population of 300 students who also made up the sample size; 150 females and 150 male students were the respondents in the study. Scale of risky behaviours including high speed driving among others was used for data collection, analysed using standard deviation, Chi-square tests, t tests, and ANOVA. Result indicated that risky behaviours were associated with background variables, except for mother's occupation.

In a related investigation, Ashraf et al. (2019) examined the socio-economic status such as father's occupation among others, of the respondents and Parenting practice in South Punjab, Pakistan. Population of the study comprised of 465 students from three public sector universities including Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, Islamia University Bahawalpur and Ghazi University, Dera Ghazi Khan. The study adopted a multistage sampling method; data was collected using the researcher-administrated questionnaire while data analyses was through stepwise regression. The result indicated a significant association based on authoritarian parenting practice. Furthermore, Sedian (2019) conducted a cross-sectional survey on situation of intimate partner violence among university female students in Nepal, Bodhi. Population comprised of 370 participants also making the sampling size, randomly selected, although one-third were married.

Data were collected using structured and semi-structured questionnaires. The result indicated that married participants have violence experience perpetrated by their husbands. Women with landownership, employed, members of community groups and those who were married to husbands with the higher level of education were less likely to experience physical violence. In a related investigation, Lawson et al (2020) examined child maltreatment during the COVID-19 pandemic as a consequent of parental job loss. Sample of 342 parents in the United States, filled the online questionnaire titled "the Parent-Child Conflict Tactics Scale, and the Family Crisis Oriented Personal Evaluation Scales" regarding experiences with COVID-19. The results indicated a significant interaction between job loss and reframing coping emerged among parents who lost their jobs. In addition, Famolu (2020) examined the influence of Parents' socio-economic status on career choice of undergraduates in Kwara State, Nigeria as implications for counselling. Research design was descriptive survey design; sample size comprised 250 respondents, while the instrument used for data collection was a questionnaire entitled "Parents' Socio-Economic Status and Undergraduates Career Choice Questionnaire". Data were analyzed using percentages, mean scores, and ANOVA (Analysis of Variance) at 0.05 level of significance. The result revealed that there was no significant differences in the influence of parents' socio-economic status on career choice of undergraduates based on parents' occupation.

Furtherly, Odikpo and Ejide (2021) conducted a study on the influence of parental occupation and educational level on academic achievement of senior secondary school two students in Anambra State, Nigeria. An Ex Post facto design was adopted for the study; the population comprised 16,886 students in public secondary schools in Anambra State. Ten (10) out of 51 senior secondary schools in the two Zones were randomly selected. Eight hundred SS2 students of senior secondary schools were selected by multi-stage sampling technique from the ten (10) public senior secondary schools in the two Educational Zones in the State. Data were collected using document analysis (school records) for SS2 third term results in English language and Mathematics. Parental occupation and educational level were collected from students' records.

Data were analysed using mean and standard deviation to answer the research questions and t-test was used for hypotheses 1 and 2 while Two-Way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was used to analyse hypothesis three. The result indicated that parental occupation and education influenced academic achievement of SS2 students in English language and mathematics.

Family Adaptability and inclination to Physical Violence

A study carried out by Oluwole et al. (2020) examined the prevalence and determinants of intimate partner violence among adult women in an urban community in Lagos, Southwest Nigeria. A descriptive survey research design was adopted for the study. Population comprise 400 respondents, data collection was through interview. Data was analysed using descriptive statistics, Chi-square test; multivariate analysis, and logistic regression using SPSS. Result indicated that intimate partner violent were more significant. Furtherly, a study conducted by Wu and Zheng (2020) examined the effect of family adaptation and cohesion on the well-being of married women in China. Population comprised 353 married women across three provinces in China. Data collection was through Family Adaptation and Cohesion Scale, the General Well-Being Schedule, and the Positive Coping Style Scale. The results indicated a significant positive correlation between family cohesion, and adaptation among others. In a related investigation, Xue et al. (2020) examined the correlation between aggression and self-acceptance, family intimacy and adaptability in college students, in Chinese. Population comprised 984 college students randomly selected from three colleges and universities in Xinxiang, who also made a sample size. Instrument for data collection was a questionnaire on aggressive, self-acceptance and family intimacy and adaptability, data was analysed using multiple linear regression. Result indicated among others, a positively correlation with self-acceptance, and negatively correlation with actual family intimacy and actual family adaptability.

Similarly, a study carried out by Kurock et al. (2022) examined family climate and social adaptation of adolescents in community samples. The studies revealed that family climate could mainly be described in terms of cohesion, conflict, organization, adaptability, and expressiveness. Family climate demonstrated a good predictor of both problem-solving skills and violence in relationships and exhibited further associations with other aspects of social adaptation. Furthermore, a study carried out by Sarour et al. (2023) examined deviant peer affiliation, as a mediating variable in the relationship between family cohesion, adaptability and internet addiction among adolescents. Snowball sampling technique was incorporated with a sample size of 946 Saudi Arabian adolescents of 18 years plus, while Path analysis using structural equation modeling was incorporated. The results indicated among others, a significant positive relationship between family adaptability and internet addiction.

Theoretical Framework

Social Learning Theory by Bandura, Albert (1957) in Bandura (2024), a significant Canadian-born American psychologist, who studied behaviourist questions about individuals. In response to the outdated belief that violent behaviour is the result of innate aggressive tendencies, Bandura introduced the theory that concerned with the interaction of the learner's mind and its surroundings. Social learning theory opined that violence directed at others is learned from one's social environment through the process of observational learning. People learn new behaviour, attitudes, and emotional responses by observing, modelling, and imitating the actions of others within individual's social environment. According to social learning theory, learning is processed from experience. The students' violent behaviour was probably learned from experiencing family violence or within immediate environment. The theory guided understanding of the difference in inclination to physical violence among the universities students based on parental occupation and family adaptability.

Secondly, the Ecological System Theory by Bronfenbrenner, Urie (1979), further guided the understanding of the present study. Bronfenbrenner Urie (1979) ecological systems theory

explains that an individual's development could be shaped by interconnected environmental systems from immediate surroundings like family to broader societal structures like culture. That is, human development is shaped by interactions within multiple layers of environment from immediate family to broader cultural influences as explained by the five systems: Microsystem, Mesosystem, Exosystem, Macrosystem, and Chronosystem. The five systems plays a unique role in shaping behaviour and growth over time. According to Bronfenbrenne, development depends both on individual traits, and on how people interact with family, schools, communities, and society. As technology had created online interactions, and major social changes, it also creates new environmental influences on development, experience, and exposure. The different layers of an individual's environment, according to the theory, influence human development and behaviour.

These systems interact dynamically and affect how individuals think, feel, and act including the propensity for physical violence in discourse. The theory aid understanding of ways human development shapes interactions within multiple layers of environment from immediate family to broader others. The theory enables recognition of interconnected nature of respective environments, and helps in identifying risk factors as well as developing comprehensive interventions to targeting individual's student social well-being, and maintaining conducive environment with favourable university policy, which the theory termed exosystems.

This paper would be useful to the counsellors, students, university management, Parents, academic discipline, government and policy makers. Students would recognize the importance of addressing unresolved issues to avoid negative emotions that triggers inclination to physical violence.

Methodology

An ex post facto design was adopted for the study. This design allowed researcher to examine existing family variables and the differences in inclination to physical violence without manipulating any variables. It involved the collection of already occurred data for the independent and dependent variables (Udoh and Tommy, 2019). The study was conducted in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. The population comprised all the 1428 Engineering student in 2023/2024 academic session, including 747 students in University of Uyo, 495 students in Akwa Ibom State University, and 186 students in Federal University of Technology, Ikot Abasi, respectively. Simple random sampling technique was used in selecting participants for the study as no student had preference over the other for participation. The researcher developed four-point rating scale modified questionnaire entitled "Family Variables and inclination to Physical Violence Questionnaire "(FVPVQ)" was used for data collection. The instrument comprised two sections, A and B. The A part of the instrument contained two items on family variables such as parental occupation, and family adaptability. While the B part of the instrument 20 items to determining the inclination to physical violence among the students in universities, Akwa Ibom State. The items in section B part of the instrument were scored using four-point rating scale comprising of Always (4), Most Time (3), Some Time (2), and Never (1). The participants were expected to tick (✓) the options appropriately.

The validation of the instrument was carried out by three experts to ensure there were no errors. The items of the questionnaire were assessed, and necessary corrections were made, which the researcher effected. Reliability of the instrument was tested using Cronbach Alpha analysis at coefficient of 0.05 level of significance, which resulted at $r = 0.84$.

Results

Research Question 1: What is the difference in inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation?

Table 1 (a): Summary of Mean Score and Standard Deviation Analysis of the Difference in inclination to Physical Violence Based on Mother's Occupation

Dependent Variable	Mother's Occupation	Number	\bar{X}	Standard Deviation	Remark
Inclination to Physical Violence	Unemployed	32	3.0203	.86013	Inclined
	Self-employed	289	1.5073	.57191	No inclination
	Others	277	1.7543	.95253	Not inclination

Source: Researcher's Survey, 2025

In Table 1(a), the descriptive analysis revealed that students whose mother is unemployed, self-employed, and others had a mean score of 3.0, 1.5, and 1.8 respectively on the inclination to physical violence scale. Based on the cut point determined for the scale (2.5), it was evident that only the students whose mother is unemployed has demonstrated inclination to physical violence. To answer the research question, it was evident that students whose mother is unemployed were above the cut point and has demonstrated inclination to physical violence while the students whose mother is self-employed and others demonstrated no inclination respectively.

Table 1(b): Summary of Mean Score and Standard Deviation Analysis of the Difference in inclination to Physical Violence Based on Father's Occupation

Dependent Variable	Father's Occupation	Number	\bar{X}	Standard Deviation	Remark
Inclination to Physical Violence	Unemployed	33	3.0152	.84710	Inclined
	Self-employed	315	1.5094	.55910	No inclination
	Others	250	1.7730	.98974	No inclination

Source: Researcher's Survey, 2025

In Table 1(b), the descriptive analysis revealed that students whose father is unemployed, self-employed, and others had a mean score of 3.0, 1.5, and 1.8 respectively on the inclination to physical violence scale. Based on the cut point determined for the scale (2.5), it was evident that only the students whose father is unemployed has demonstrated inclination to physical violence. To answer the research question, it was evident that students whose father is unemployed were above the cut point and has demonstrated inclination to physical violence while the students whose father is self-employed and others demonstrated no inclination respectively.

Research Question 2: What is the difference in inclination to physical violence based on family adaptability?

Table 2: Summary of Mean Score and Standard Deviation Analysis of the Difference in inclination to Physical Violence Based on Family Adaptability

Dependent Variable	Family Adaptability	Number	\bar{X}	Standard Deviation	Remark
Inclination to Physical Violence	Low	74	1.9378	.90515	No inclination
	High	524	1.6695	.84157	

Source: Researcher's Survey, 2025

In Table 2, the descriptive analysis revealed that students whose family adaptability is low, or high had a mean score of 1.9, and 1.7 respectively on the inclination to physical violence scale. Based on the cut point determined for the scale (2.5), it was evident that no student demonstrated inclination to physical violence. To answer the research question, it was evident that students with low family adaptability were closer to cut point than the students with high family adaptability respectively.

Hypothesis One: There is no significant difference in inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation.

One-way ANOVA was adopted to test this hypothesis. The results of the analysis are as presented in Table 3 (a) and (b) for mother, and father’s occupation respectively below.

Table 3 (a): ANOVA of the Difference in inclination to Physical Violence Based on Mother’s Occupation

Sources of variation	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F-calc.	P-Value	Decision
Between Groups	67.332	2	33.666	54.499	0	Sig.
Within Groups	367.554	595	0.618			
Total	434.886	597				

Source: Researcher’s Survey, 2025

The Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) in inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation (mother) presented in Table 3(a) showed that the probability value (p-value) of 0.000 is less than the 0.05 significance level. Based on this result, the null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant difference in inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation (mother) was rejected. This means that the observed difference in inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation of mother is significant. The significant was observed between parental occupation (Mother) unemployed, others, and self-employed as presented in the Post Hoc test below.

Post Hoc Tests

Multiple Comparisons

Dependent Variable: inclination to physical violence

Bonferroni

(I) Mother's Occupation	(J) Mother's Occupation	Mean Difference (I-J)	Std. Error	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Unemployed	Self-employed	1.51305*	.14643	.0001	1.1615	1.8646
	Others	1.26598*	.14675	.0009	.9137	1.6183
Self-employed	Unemployed	-1.51305*	.14643	.0001	-1.8646	-1.1615
	Others	-.24707*	.06609	.0011	-.4057	-.0884
Others	Unemployed	-1.26598*	.14675	.0009	-1.6183	-.9137
	Self-employed	.24707*	.06609	.0011	.0884	.4057

*. The mean difference is significant at the 0.05 level.

The mean difference is significant at the 0.05 level as indicated by asterisk (*) on unemployed, others, and self-employed respective.

Table 3 (b): ANOVA of the Difference in inclination to Physical Violence Based on Father’s Occupation

Sources of variation	Sum of Squares	Difference	Mean Square	F-calc.	P-Value	Decision
Between Groups	69.853	2	34.927	56.930	.000	Sig.
Within Groups	365.033	595	.614			
Total	434.886	597				

Source: Researcher’s Survey, 2025

The Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) in inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation (father) presented in Table 3(b) showed that the probability value (p-value) of 0.000 is less than the 0.05 significance level. Based on this result, the null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant difference between inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation (father) was rejected. This means that the observed difference between inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation (father) is significant. The significant was observed between parental occupation (father) unemployed, others, and self-employed as presented in the Post Hoc test below.

Post Hoc Tests

Multiple Comparisons

Dependent Variable: inclination to physical violence

Bonferroni

(I) Father's Occupation	(J) Father's Occupation	Mean Difference (I-J)	Std. Error	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval Bound	
					Lower	Upper
Unemployed	Self-employed	1.50579*	.14331	.000	1.1617	1.8498
	Others	1.24215*	.14507	.000	.8939	1.5904
Self-employed	Unemployed	-1.50579*	.14331	.000	-1.8498	-1.1617
	Others	-.26363*	.06634	.000	-.4229	-.1044
Others	Unemployed	-1.24215*	.14507	.000	-1.5904	-.8939
	Self-employed	.26363*	.06634	.000	.1044	.4229

*. The mean difference is significant at the 0.05 level.

Hypothesis Two: There is no significant difference in inclination to physical violence based on family adaptability. Independent t-test was adopted to test this hypothesis. The result of the analysis is as presented in Table 4.

Table 4: Summary of Independent t-test of the Difference in inclination to Physical Violence Based on Family Adaptability

Dependent Variable	Family Adaptability	n	\bar{X}	SD	t-calc.	df.	P-Value	Decision
Inclination to Physical Violence	Low	74	1.9378	.90515	2.544	596	.011	Sig.
	High	524	1.6695	.84157				

Source: Researcher’s Survey, 2025

From the summary of data analysis presented in Table 4, it could be observed that the probability value (p-value) of 0.011 is less than the 0.05 significance level. Based on this result, the null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant difference in inclination to physical violence based on family adaptability was rejected. This means that the observed difference in inclination to physical violence based on family adaptability is significant. Hence, there is significant difference in inclination to physical violence among the students in universities, Akwa Ibom State based on family adaptability.

Discussion of Findings

Difference in inclination to Physical Violence Based on Parental Occupation

The findings from research question: What is the difference in inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation and the corresponding null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant difference in inclination to physical violence based on parental occupation was ascertained. This implies that student from unemployed, other, and self-employed mother and father may experience financial stress, unmet needs, increase family tension and frustration, often causing inclination to physical violence.

This finding is in line with the findings of Ashraf et al. (2019) who stated that father’s occupation was significant predictors of violent behaviour among youth. Similarly, the findings is

in line with findings of Odikpo and Ejide (2021) who found that parental occupation has influenced academic achievement of SS2 students. In contrast, Sohrabivafa et al, (2017) found that risky behaviours were associated with background variables, except for mother's occupation. In addition, Famolu (2020) found no significant differences in the influence of parents' socio-economic status on career choice of undergraduates based on parents' occupation.

Difference in inclination to Physical Violence Based on Family Adaptability

The findings from research question: What is the difference in inclination to physical violence based on family adaptability and the corresponding null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant difference in inclination to physical violence based on family adaptability was ascertained. This implies that rigid roles and poor adjustment to stress could foster frustration and aggression, whereas those with high family adaptability cope better with challenges, thereby reducing inclination to physical violence. Students from high family adaptability has flexible roles and supportive adjustments facilitating adjustment, adaptability, and peaceful disposition.

The finding is in line with the findings of Sarour et al. (2023) who found a significant positive relationship between family adaptability and internet addiction. This findings is also in line with the findings of Oluwole et al. (2020) who found intimate partner violent more significant on prevalence and determinants of intimate partner violence among adult women in an urban community in Lagos, Southwest Nigeria who could not adapt to marriage situations. Finding is in contrast to the findings of Xue et al. (2020) who found that aggressive behaviour of college students was negatively correlated with actual family adaptability.

Conclusion

Based on findings, it was conclude that, parental occupation, and family adaptability has significant difference in inclination to physical violence among the students in universities, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria.

Recommendations

On the basis of the findings, the following recommendations were made:

- i. Governments should create more job opportunities to salvage unemployment situation of the parents, and reward peoples' occupation with empowerment, and for sustainability.
- ii. Counselling Association of Nigeria (CASSON), Akwa Ibom State Chapter should organise counselling programmes and regular workshops to educate both parents and students on need for adaptable, flexible, and adjustable living. Students should understand life circumstances and normalise sound behaviour that discourages inclination to physical violence, from home to university's environment.

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