

PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING OF ETHIOPIAN ADOLESCENTS IN RELATION TO FAMILY STRUCTURE AND PARENTING STYLE

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of the present study was to investigate the relationship between family structure, parenting style and psychological well being and its dimensions using Ryff's multidimensional model. In the present study, randomly selected 502 adolescents (276 males and 226 females) from differently structured families filled out measures of psychological well being and parenting style. Participants were 17.76 years old on average (SD = 1.76). Results showed no statistically significant psychological well-being the difference between children's/adolescent's of intact and non-intact families. Reasonable and decent parenting styles positively, pampering and autocrat parenting styles negatively predicted psychological well-being in general and the six dimensions (autonomy, environmental mastery, personal sense of growth, purpose in life and self-acceptance) in particular. Furthermore, the regression and path analysis revealed that the relationship between family structure and psychological well being is fully mediated by parenting styles (especially, reasonable parenting style). This assured that parenting and parenting styles affect psychological well being more than family structure. Parents and child care centers were advised to exercise reasonable and decent parenting styles.

KEYWORDS: Adolescent; Family Structure; Parenting Style; Ryff's Model