

Family Structure and Deviancy: an Anomie Perspective on Youth Behavior

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ABSTRACT: *This research delves into the intricate relationship between family structure and deviant behavior among youth. The participants of this study were 400 volunteers/residents in three different barangays in Davao City, particularly the barangays Bunawan, Panacan, and Sasa. This study employs the quantitative, descriptive correlational research method through convenience sampling. The chi-square test is the tool that was used to analyze the results of the study, and descriptive statistics are employed to illustrate the distributions and connections among variables. The findings reveal significant correlations between family structure, anomie, and youth deviance, highlighting the impact of family dynamics on adopting societal norms and values. Implications for intervention strategies and policy initiatives to promote healthy family environments and mitigate youth deviancy are discussed.*

KEYWORDS –anomie, deviancy, family structure, youth behavior, SDG: # 16Peace Justice and Strong Institutions

I. INTRODUCTION

Adolescence is a complicated time filled with challenges and explorations. The way of behaving of youths is significantly re-designing under the tension of natural, mental, and social changes, and the assimilation of local area rules and values, as well as the reception of helpful ways of behaving, is relatively easy and effective all the time. It is a life-changing experience; part of this is navigating physical changes, controlling emotions, building social ties, and making crucial decisions. Comprehending and aiding teenagers in overcoming these obstacles enhances their general welfare and establishes the groundwork. While during pre-adulthood, anomie can undoubtedly turn into an appealing state of affairs, it can likewise develop, in any case, generally simple to misconduct (Sârbu et al., 2022).

Traditional classical sociology, particularly anomie theory, examines how broad social circumstances impact deviant behavior and wrongdoing. The interplay between family structures and adolescent behavior is crucial for understanding developmental outcomes and behavioral changes. When family structures fail to provide stability, balanced parenting, consistent supervision, emotional support, and economic stability, adolescents may face stress leading to behaviors such as gambling, alcoholism, truancy, and gang involvement. These behaviors often emerge as coping mechanisms or due to peer pressure and family instability. Recognizing this relationship is essential for developing policies and targeted interventions that support diverse family structures, enhance family bonds, improve supervision, and effectively allocate resources to prevent negative adolescent behavioral outcomes. While nuclear families typically offer a protective environment, single-parent, grandparent, and extended families encounter unique challenges that can elevate the risk of negative behaviors, highlighting the need for supportive environments to foster healthy adolescent development. Deviant behavior

refers to actions, attitudes, or traits that deviate from accepted social norms, varying across cultures and historical periods. It encompasses a range of activities that defy societal expectations, whether by breaking formal laws or violating informal social conventions and unwritten rules (Bernburg, 2019).

The Philippine frequencies of deviant conduct have developed more serious, from minor to severe, structures that should be visible in each locale, and the alarmingly high crime rates have been far-reaching throughout the past few years. The term to redirect implies breaking the social understanding of the laid-out rules and standards. Moreover, the youth stage is an intemperate season of development and changes in their character. A study has demonstrated that between being a kid, their current circumstance and particularly their family are the main impacts that can shape youths' characters. Adolescents can encounter several problems as they try to figure out who they are, such as learning lousy behavior from significant others and dealing with issues incorrectly. Individuals learn and shape their way of behaving and character through cooperation with their critical people, significant occasions in their lives, norms, attitudes, and behavior orientations, regardless of whether it is wrong or good (Dullas et al., 2021).

Deviance is unequivocally connected with a particular social and cultural norm; these standards have a place for all individuals who assume a part in the social setting. These are portrayed by the reexamination of relational associations with guardians, which results in addressing rules and ways of behaving mastered during youth. In addition, adolescents performing criminal conduct might encounter negative expectations from others. These expectations modify and shape the character and image of an individual in the method of an unavoidable outcome. By tolerating the negative expectation that others have about them, they become precisely similar to the negative projected onto them. In actuality, positive expectations favor character development in teenagers. Besides, society, groups, and family constantly affirm an individual's feelings of positive or negative reinforcements like satisfaction, disappointments, decisions, and assessments (Saladino et al., 2020).

Family structure is thought to impact young adults' assimilation and problematic ways of behaving, given contrasts in parental assets and parenting stress across different family structures (Beckmeyer et al., 2020). One finding consistently shown in the current literature is that the single-parent family structure, which tends to be associated with higher levels of parenting stress, is also associated with children's heightened risk for maladaptive development when compared to two-parent households. Even though many families have low incomes, they nonetheless fall over the federally recognized poverty level. Children from these families are more likely than those of higher-income families to have lousy life outcomes. However, a significant limitation of the discoveries might be that single-parent families generally earn lower incomes and have fewer resources than two-parent households (Savell et al., 2022).

Numerous stakeholders are impacted by juvenile delinquency, including the government, family, society, and other relevant parties. The establishment of correctional facilities always receives significant funding from the government (Koval, 2019). The government must invest more money in managing juvenile court cases due to the increase in young offenders. By rerouting some of the cash meant for specific initiatives, increased spending may allow the government to spend 4, which might bring with government processes will help prevent this outcome. Less overall. They are encouraging youngsters to understand the potential issues.

People have different living standards; therefore, how you utilize your money or finances relies on what you own (Eriksson & Borthy, 2017). Families that reside in low-income areas typically lead modest lives. Jealousy can occasionally result from the disparity in living standards between the wealthy and the impoverished. Adolescents and other young people under eighteen may feel envious when the rich go out on the weekends and dine at respectable establishments. Sometimes, people pick up this mentality through the community, which may turn into hatred. Thus, the children from low-income households attack those from

wealthy families out of hatred. In this instance, the primary goal is to feel better about witnessing their suffering instead of trying to meet their needs.

This study is anchored in the Theory of Anomie by Emile Durkheim, which holds that the best indicator of whether or not someone will engage in a particular conduct is an individual's intention to do so. Anomie theory states that a breakdown in cultural standards and values can prompt deviant behavior. This framework looks at how variations can influence the development of anomie in young people in family structures such as blended families, single-parent households, and traditional nuclear families (Bernburg, 2019). The study's conceptual framework, which consists of the independent and dependent variables, is displayed in figure 1. The independent variable is a Family structure with the following indicators. Namely, the nuclear family is the most basic type of family, and it is frequently portrayed in the media as a contented family that lives in perfect harmony (Seltzer 2019). An extended family is a household structure that includes parents and their children and other relatives such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, or even non-blood-related individuals who are considered family members (Maleen, 2019). Grandparents' families, grandparents' impact on three-generational households, and the well-being of families in which grandparents are parenting their grandkids (Sadrudin et al., 2019). Single-parent families are families limited to the mother and father, who are in charge of handling matters following a divorce, a fifth death, or the birth of unmarried children. Households play a crucial part in attempting to foster the child's own (Suheri et al., 2019).

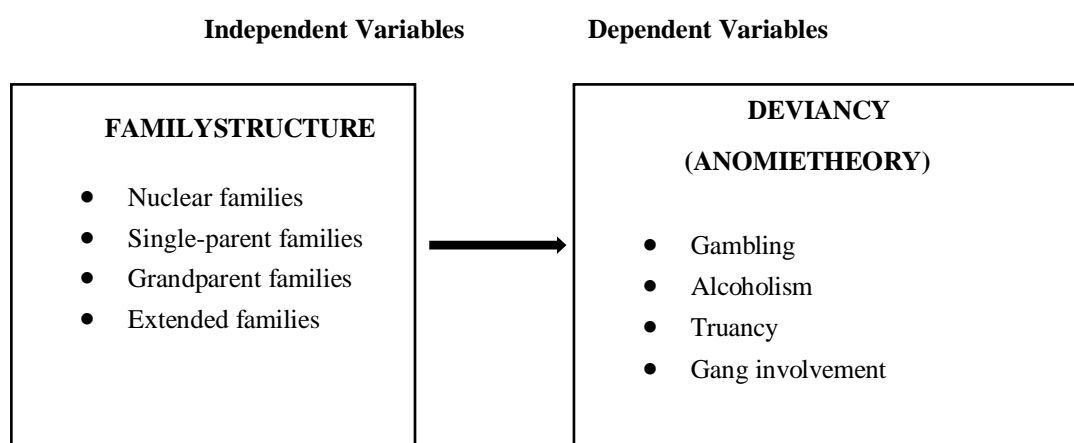


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework Showing the Variables of the Study

On the other hand, the dependent variable is deviancy among the youth in three different barangays of Davao City, particularly the Barangay Bunawan, Sasa, and Panacan, with an indication of Gambling, which refers to betting money on an outcome of uncertain results to win money (Latvala et al., 2019). Alcoholism refers to the mental state that results from consuming alcoholic beverages excessively and frequently. Truancy is defined as an unauthorized absence from school without permission from parents/guardians or higher school authorities (Aqeel et al., 2020). Gang involvement increases exposure to violence, which can lead to mental health disorders, including anxiety and despair, as well as inappropriate emotional reactions like emotional numbness (Osman et al., 2020). Drug use: Recreational drug is experimentation driven by various factors such as curiosity, enjoyment, peer pressure, or stress relief (Robinson et al., 2018).

Figure out the influence of family structure on deviancy. It primarily sought to answer the following: First, to determine the Family structure in terms of nuclear families, Single-parent families, Grandparent families, and Extended families. Second, to determine the deviant behavior in terms of Gambling, Alcoholism, Truancy, and Gang involvement, to determine the relationship between family structure & deviancy.

Specifically, it aims to answer the following objectives: first, ascertain the level of family structure of the youth in terms of nuclear families, single-parent families, Extended families, and Grandparent Families. The second is to assess the level of deviancy of youth in terms of gambling, alcoholism, truancy, and gang involvement. Lastly, to ascertain the significant relationship between the family structure and deviancy, an anomie perspective on youth behavior. Furthermore, the formulated null hypothesis would be tested at the significance level of 0.05. It assumes no significant relationship between family structure and deviancy, which is an anomie perspective on youth behavior.

This research seeks to provide some insights and information about the family structure and deviancy, as well as the anomie perspective of youth behavior in Davao City. The result of this study may serve as a guide to open doors of improvement in managing youth behaviors. University of Mindanao students, youth, parents, and the community benefited from this study. It also gives awareness and information about the anomie perspective on youth behavior. Eventually, the study will be developed to raise awareness and provide information to the youth. This study's importance lies in helping different stakeholders' potential. It offers experiences into the elements adding to the degenerate way of behaving among youth in Davao City, Philippines, empowering the advancement of local area-based mediations for adolescent misconduct counteraction. Also, it recognizes gambles and defensive elements impacting youth conduct, working with the production of projects advancing positive youth advancement. For University of Mindanao students, this study gives essential information on the reasons for degenerate ways of behaving and the job of family structure in young adult turn of events, improving their capacity to work successfully with youth and families. Furthermore, it adds to the group of information on the anomie hypothesis and its application in figuring out youth conduct, offering scientists and policymakers the apparatuses to foster more compelling mediations for adolescent wrongdoing avoidance.

II. METHODS

The researcher presents the research design, the respondents, the sampling design, the research instrument, the data-gathering procedure, and the statistical tools used in the study.

Research Respondent

The youth in the community of Davao City, particularly in barangay Bunawan, Panacan, and Sasa, were the 400 participants of this study. That area is chosen as a respondent for the study due to its accessibility and relevance to the research focus, providing valuable insights into how local family structures may influence deviant behavior among youth within the community. The researchers employed convenience sampling that entails the inclusion of individuals who are easily accessible to the researcher and capable of providing the necessary information sought for the study (Mweshi, 2020). This approach facilitated the inclusion of participants based on their availability and willingness to participate, which involved members of the population who had yet to be equally selected. The data needed for the analysis was modified and distributed in different areas in Davao City.

Research Instruments

The study adopted a researcher-made questionnaire with supporting articles correlating to the survey. The questionnaire consists of three parts. In the first part, respondents would answer demographic questions regarding age and gender. The second part focuses on respondents selecting the types of family structures they represent. The third part involves rating statements on a Likert scale of 1 to 5. High scores in this section measure the level of the Anomie perspective on youth behavior in Davao City. This questionnaire addresses two variables: the independent variable refers to family structure, and the dependent variable is deviancy. The responses of the participants of the study are analyzed using the following scale: With a range of the mean of 4.20-5.00, described as very high, that the level of deviancy of the respondents is very evident; 3.40-4.19 described as high, that the level of deviancy of the respondents is often obvious; 2.60-3.39 describe as

moderately high, that the level of deviancy of the respondents is sometimes evident; 1.80-2.59 describe as low which means that the level of deviancy of the respondents is rarely evident; and 1.00-1.79 describe as very low which means that the level of deviancy of the respondents is extremely not evident.

Research Design and Procedure

The researchers focused on the descriptive-correlational design used in the research project. This study adopted a quantitative methodology (Saro et al., 2023). Correlational research design examines correlations between variables without including any control or manipulation on the researcher's part (Bhandari, 2021). Descriptive research is to precisely and methodically characterize a population, circumstance, or phenomenon (McCombes, 2019). It can respond to inquiries about what, where, when, and how, but not why. The researcher used this as an appropriate design in assessing the Family Structure and Deviancy: An Anomie Perspective on Youth Behavior. By investigating how different family structures influence youth behavior in terms of Deviancy. Identify specific risk factors within family structure that may lead to higher rates of deviant behavior among Youth. And lastly examine how the relationship between family structure and deviancy may change as youth age and develop.

In addition, before gathering survey data, the researchers requested approval from the dean's office to conduct a study on the youth of Davao City to collect data. As a result, researchers can begin the survey among youth in Davao City and hand out survey questionnaires to participants. The researchers would start to gather and tabulate the data after the target number of respondents has been reached before sending it to a statistician for numerical data, which would be used for further analysis and study interpretation. The study's goals were used to evaluate and interpret the results.

Statistical Treatment of the Data

The researcher's method of choice was the Chi-Square test and Descriptive statistics. Chi-square analysis can be used as a tool for statistics to examine the relationship between variables such as family types: single-parent, nuclear, extended, and grandparents' families—deviant behavior like gambling, truancy, alcoholism, and drug use. The Chi-square test is a great option to help us comprehend and analyze the relationship between our two category variables (Biswal, 2023). Descriptive statistics can be used to summarize the characteristics of both variables. For family structure, descriptive statistics might include frequencies or percentages of different types of families. For deviancy, descriptive statistics could involve measures like the mean or median of deviant behavior scores or the percentage of individuals engaging in specific deviant behaviors within each family type. They summarize how data points are distributed and related to each other (Sheard, 2018). Both the Chi-Square test and Descriptive statistics are invaluable tools in statistical analysis. The Chi-Square test allows for examining relationships between categorical variables, making it particularly useful for understanding associations within datasets. On the other hand, Descriptive statistics provide a comprehensive summary of data characteristics, facilitating a deeper understanding of the distribution and relationship between variables. Together, these tools offer researchers powerful means to analyze and interpret data, ultimately enhancing our comprehension of complex phenomena.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents a discussion of the data and findings of the study. These results are gathered from 400 participants within the vicinity of Davao City that helped to identify the correlation among variables used in the study with specified demographic considerations and frequencies. Tables are arranged in the following subheadings: Level of family structures among Youth, Level of deviancy among youth, and the Significant relationship between Family structures and deviancy.

Prevalent Family Structures among Youth

Table 2 provides the figure of the examined family structures prevalent among the participants. The analyzed distribution of family types includes four diverse indicators: extended families, grandparent families, nuclear families, and single-parent families. The results revealed that most youth participants belonged to nuclear families, 38.8%, followed by single-parent families, which comprised 30.5% of the overall sample. At the same time, extended families and grandparent families showed 16% and 14.8% of the sample, respectively.

Table 2. Prevalent Family Structures among Youth

Indicators	Frequency	Percentage
NuclearFamilies	155	38.8
Single-parentFamilies	122	30.5
ExtendedFamilies	64	16.0
GrandparentFamilies	59	14.8
Overall:	400	100

This shows that deviant behavior tendencies will come primarily from youth belonging to nuclear families and single-parent family structures. A demographic study focusing on Filipino family structure shows that nuclear familial relationship remains the most prevalent household in the Philippines (Abalos, 2023). This supports the numeric data, wherein the study sample revolves around the same commonality. The nuclear family structure is considered the traditional familial setup that shows that belonging to this family environment affects a higher level of well-being (Sukach et al., 2019).

Level of Deviancy among Youth

Table 3 shows the mean scores for the indicators of deviancy among youth, with an overall mean of 2.53, which is described as low with a standard deviation of 0.96. This low level is attributed to the low rating given by the respondents in all indicators. This means that the respondent's response to the level of deviancy among youth is low, meaning it could be, in most cases, rarely manifested.

Table 3. Level of Deviancy among Youth

Indicator	Mean	SD	DescriptiveLevel
DrugUse	3.05	1.10	Moderately High
Truancy	2.88	0.94	Moderately High
Alcoholism	2.76	1.12	Moderately High
GangInvolvement	2.09	0.91	Low
Gambling	1.87	0.74	Low

Overall	2.53	0.96	ModeratelyHigh
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The cited overall mean score of 2.53 (SD = 0.96) or moderately high was the result gathered from the following mean scores from highest to lowest: 3.05 (SD = 1.1) or moderately high for drug use; 2.88 (SD = 0.94) or moderately high for Truancy; 2.76 (SD = 1.12) or moderately high for alcoholism; 1.87 (SD = 0.74) or low for gambling. Studies consistently show that intact families provide better guidance against drug use, with children in such families less likely to engage in substance abuse compared to those in single-parent households (Saladino et al., 2021). The quality of the parent-child relationship is more influential than the family structure in mediating youth drug use (Hoffmann, 2022). Addressing drug abuse among youth requires significant adult support globally, particularly among males (Mohammed et al., 2021; Raffle et al., 2021). Despite awareness of the risks, easy access to drugs continues to influence youth behavior, often exacerbated by familial environments (Onele, 2024). Strong family bonds are crucial in deterring youth truancy, regardless of family structure, while single-parent households are not seen as the primary cause (Ramberg, 2019). Parental involvement and positive perceptions about education are key factors in reducing truancy rates (Hasan, 2023). Dysfunctional family environments contribute to absenteeism and behavioral challenges among youth (Priresh et al., 2020). Despite awareness of alcohol's impact on well-being, youth continue to engage in alcohol use due to availability and peer pressure, negatively affecting their academic and professional lives (Olsson et al., 2019; Mathibe et al., 2022). Youth vulnerability to alcohol is shaped by familial and 13 peer influences, affecting decision-making despite awareness of risks (Buvik, 2021; Pourmovahed et al., 2021). Family structure has limited influence on youth gang involvement, with strong parental support correlated with lower participation rates (Bacchini, 2020; Dijken, 2023). Societal interventions for addressing gang issues remain inadequate, despite declines in membership in some postindustrial societies favoring violent group activities (Breen, 2019; Mguzulwa et al., 2019). Gambling among youth is often perceived as harmless despite its significant social and economic impacts (Latvala et al., 2019). Parental monitoring is effective in mitigating gambling risks, although single-parent families are identified as more vulnerable (Armitage, 2021; Riley et al., 2021).

Significant Relationship between Family Structures and Deviancy

The primary purpose of this study is to determine whether family structures have a significant relationship with deviancy among youth. The chi-square test was used to determine the correlation between variables. Table 4 presents the results of the computation.

Variable	Value	Phi	p-value
Family Structure and Gambling Associated Deviancy	73.197	0.428	0.000
Family Structure and Alcoholism Associated Deviancy	157.195	0.627	0.000
Family Structure and Truancy Associated Deviancy	176.550	0.664	0.000
Family Structure and Gang Involvement Associated Deviancy	204.266	0.715	0.000
Family Structure and Drug Use Associated Deviancy	119.648	0.547	0.000
Overall	219.008	0.740	0.000
(Between Family Structure and Deviancy)			

**Significance at 0.05 significance level*

The table shows significant correlations between family structure and various deviant behaviors among youth: gambling ($\phi = 0.428$), alcoholism ($\phi = 0.627$), truancy ($\phi = 0.664$), gang involvement ($\phi = 0.715$), and drug use ($\phi = 0.547$), and an overall ϕ value of 0.740 or a strong association of variables with all with a p-value of 0.000 meaning it is statistically significant indicating strong associations (Saladino et al., 2020). The study finds that youth from nuclear and single-parent families are more prone to deviant behaviors like gambling, alcoholism, truancy, and drug use (Saladino et al., 2020). This underscores the influence of parental relationships in shaping these 14 behaviors and supports rejecting the null hypothesis. Positive family connections are crucial for youth behavior, with males often less satisfied (Dullas, 2021). Single-parent families are especially vulnerable compared to those with both parents present, offering support and supervision (Yang, 2023). Family closeness, guidance, and reinforcement significantly impact youth development and behavior.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This section reveals the conclusion created out of the results of this study. The prevalent family structure from the selected samples belonged to nuclear families and single-parent families. The results indicate moderately high levels of drug use, alcoholism, and truancy while showing low levels of gang involvement and gambling. There is a significant relationship between family structures and deviant behaviors. Furthermore, the findings do not support the null hypothesis. This implies that specific family structures are consistently associated with higher levels of deviant behavior than others, reflecting that parental involvement directly impacts youth tendencies to engage in deviant activities.

Additionally, it can be concluded that the numerical data shows practical implications since family structure appears to have a significant role, interventions targeting family dynamics, parenting style, and support systems could potentially be effective in mitigating such negative behavior among youth. While the familial setting is a significant factor, it is essential to consider another contextual variable that may also influence the youth's behavior, such as peers, community environment, and individual characteristics. In light of the foregoing findings and conclusion, interventions and support programs are recommended to be developed to strengthen familial dynamics that can mitigate its pronounced influence. Furthermore, this intervention could include cooperation from distinct agencies that could implement the substantial contribution of understanding deviancy among youth: Collaborating families into faith-based counseling and support groups among churches could improve parenting strategies and positive community involvement. 18 Institutions can also play a crucial part in implementing monitoring programs providing focused guidance on conflict resolution and familial communication. On the other hand, schools could also develop educational programs addressing behavioral issues and involving family members, such as parents for counseling and support resources.

Lastly, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) agency could establish outreach programs that target highly susceptible families and provide support services programs and beneficial parenting workshops. The study can also give recommendations to future researchers to measure contextual variables that show potential influence delving more inside the familial environment including the family's socioeconomic status, community environment, and parenting style. These interventions aim to focus on mitigating deviant behavior among youth, promoting positive youth development in the context of familial structures. Taking this all into account, addressing these recommendations and emphasizing the substantial results the study revealed would influence an enhanced awareness and mitigation of deviant behaviors among youth.

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