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A study to assess the peer influence and the behavior among adolescents of pre-university colleges of Udupi taluk

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"Abstract

Background: Adolescence is a transitional phase which begins at the end of childhood and lasts till the beginning of adulthood- and characterised by the physical and mental improvement. Peer influence, development of attitudes and behavioural changes are some of the impacts that happen in this phase. Objective: The objective of the study was to assess the peer influence among the adolescents and their behaviour and to find out the association between peer influence and behaviour. Method: A survey design was used in the study and total of 355 adolescents were selected randomly from five pre university colleges. Result: The study shows that almost 54.1% of the adolescents were in the age group of 17 years and 53.2% were females. There were 51.5% of them studying in 2nd PUC. Around 53.2% of adolescents does not know driving and 98.9% adolescents do not have driving licence. Adolescents who do not use two wheelers was 61.1%. Almost 88.2% of the adolescents prefer non veg. Public transport as the medium of transport to school were used by 45.9% of adolescents. 99.7% adolescents do not consume any sort of substance. Adolescents who were moderately influenced by their peers were 56.1%. Whereas adolescents who were highly influenced by their peers were 43.9%. 69.0% of adolescents showed normal behaviour, 23.1% adolescents showed borderline behaviour and only 7.9% of adolescents were showing abnormal behaviour. The study concludes that there is an association between peer influence and behaviour among the adolescents of pre university colleges. The relationship with friends can influence a person's behaviour.

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