

Effect of Peer Pressure on the Development of the Adolescents

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Abstract

During the present age, the system of family is being weak and the teenager children in the families are more prone to the influences of neighbors, society and friends. Friends or peers can create both positive and negative effects on the behavior of adolescents as adolescence is a stage which is full of doubts and confusions.

The present study deals with the positive and negative effects of the peer pressure on the development of adolescents.

KEYWORDS- Peer Pressure, Adolescents

Introduction

The adolescence is a phase of transformation from childhood to adulthood. The adolescent children have to manage physical, emotional and social changes at a time. Therefore it is a crucial age from the point of view of education.

While dealing with the development of the adolescents, the impact of the peers cannot be overlooked. Along with family, relatives and the society, the teenagers are influenced by peers too. Many times, the behavior of the adolescents is found to be altered because of the impact of their friends.

This phenomenon of peer pressure may cause either positive or negative alterations in the behavior. Tracing these causes may help a investigator to find some valuable conclusions for using the peer pressure for positive development of the personality of the adolescents.

Significance

Adolescent children, their development and their problems have been given utmost importance in the field of both psychology as well as education. The factors affecting the development of adolescents are considered crucial. Hence this research study will help significantly in finding out reasons behind typical behavior of the adolescents. It will prove to be significant from the point of view of analyzing the pressure exerted by the peer group. The present research study is important as it gives insights regarding the peer pressure resulting in positive effects or negative changes.

It may also lead towards the utilization of peer pressure for changing the personality towards improvement. Thus this study is significant for developing the teenagers personality into successful adults.

Statement of the Research Problem

To study the effects of peer pressure on the development of the adolescents

Operational Definitions of the Important Terms

1. **Peer** : Members of the same group
2. **Pressure**: The stress or mental tension created due to the demands and expectations of the peer group.
3. **Development**: The overall changes occurring in a human being in both quantitative and qualitative aspects.

4. **Adolescent:** The child between the ages of 13 to 19 or the child entering puberty.

Objectives of the research study

1. To study the various effects of peer pressure on the development of the adolescents.
2. To differentiate between the positive and the negative effects of the peer pressure.
3. To suggest the remedies for avoiding the negative effects and strengthening the positive effects of peer pressure for the best possible development of the personality.

Research Methodology

Present research study is a sort of fact finding mission related with present time problem. So, descriptive survey method was used for collecting the data.

Sample of the study

20% students from total 500 students from K.T.H.M Junior College, Nasik were selected as a sample. The number comes out to be 100.

Table-1: Table showing the sample distribution

Male	Female	Total
45	55	100
45%	55%	100%

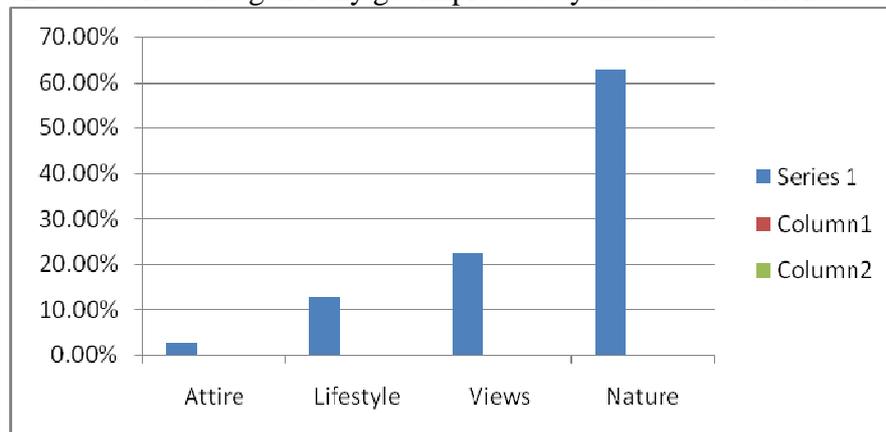
Tools used for the study

Questionnaire was used as a tool for present research study

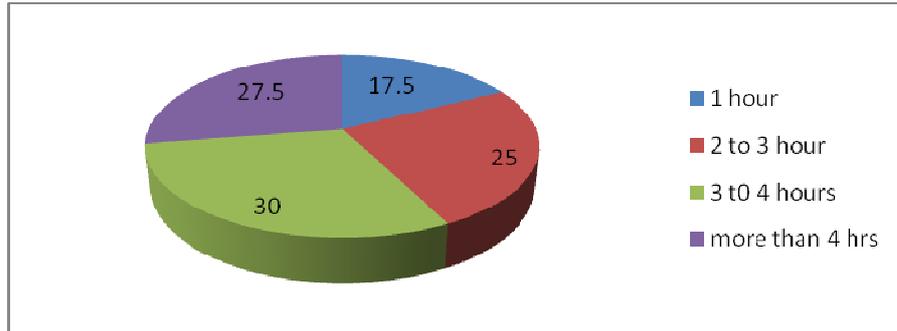
Procedure of the Study

Findings of the Study

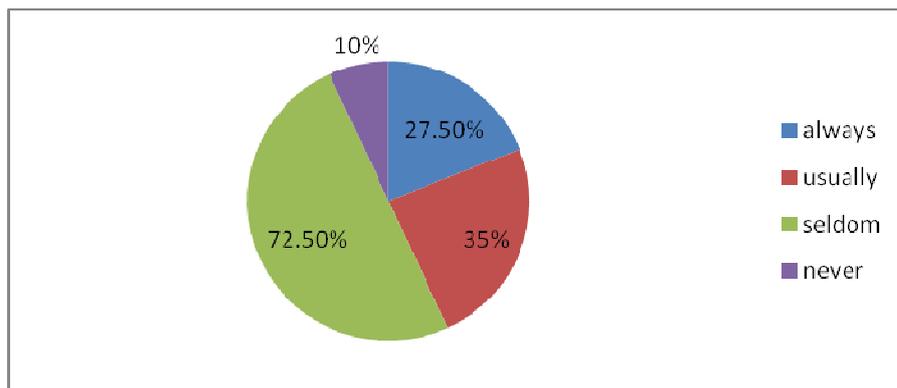
1. 62.5% adolescents generally get impressed by the nature of friends.



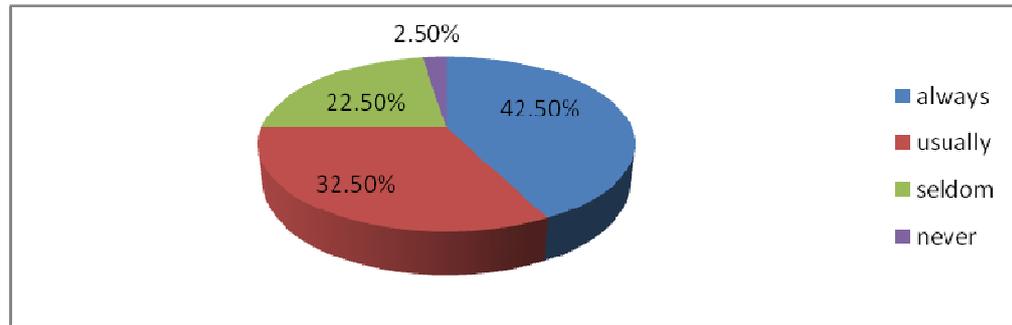
2. Generally 30% adolescents spend as much as 3 to 4 hrs with their friends. They are influenced more by their friends.



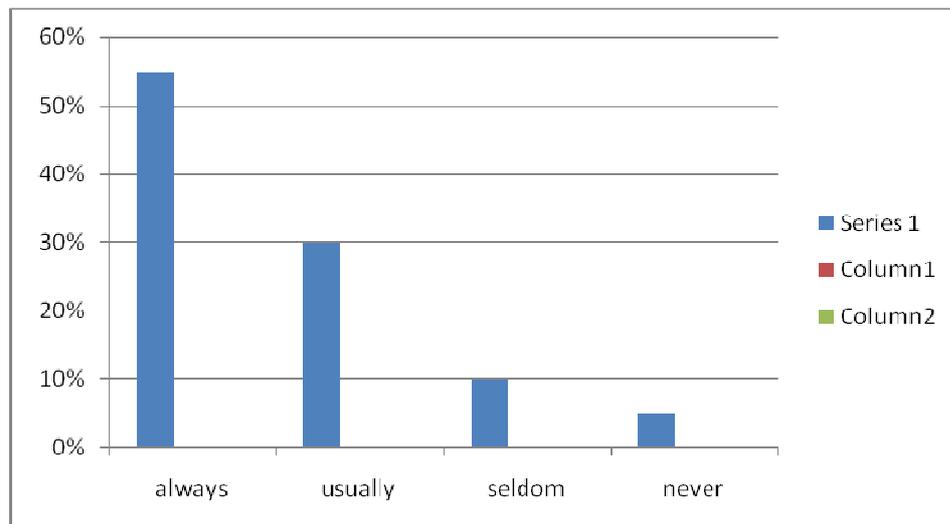
3. 85% of the adolescents are mature enough to accept the fact that their friends have got new laptop.
4. Generally, the adolescents avoid roaming along with their friends, but there are some who always hang out with friends.
5. Usually 35% adolescents prefer watching movies with their friends.
6. 87.5% adolescents never smoke but at least a few of them do smoke with friends.
7. Many (72.5%) adolescents prefer surfing internet with friends.



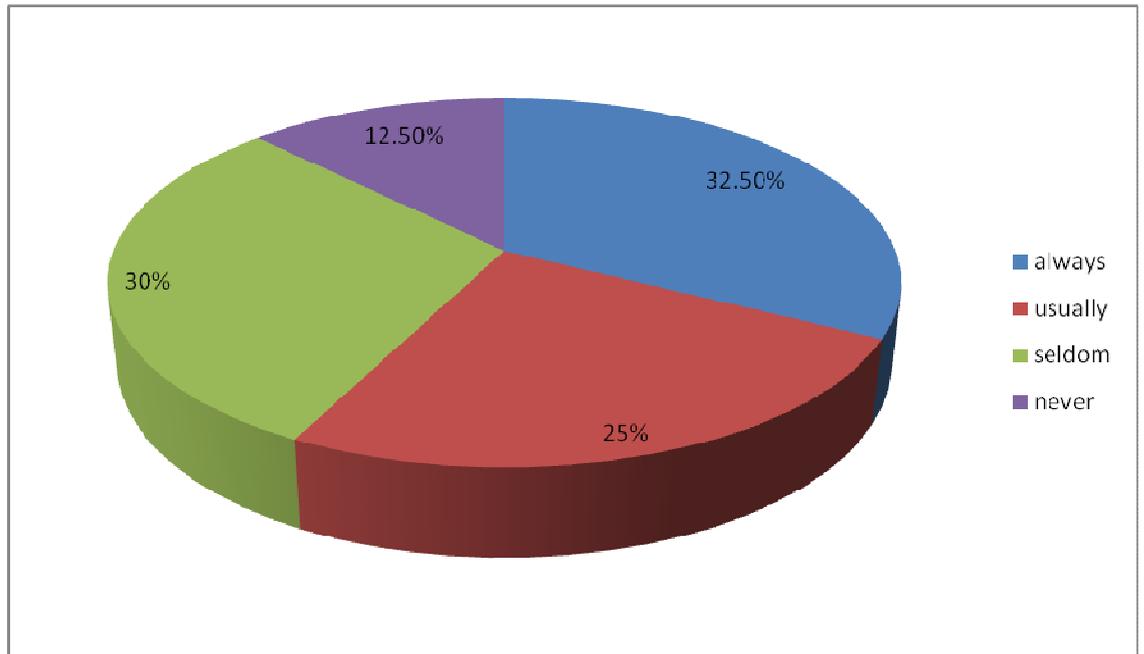
8. Not many adolescents attend career conferences with friends; they don't seem to be much serious about career.
9. Only some adolescents always enjoy picnics with friends.
10. Generally, adolescents like to compete with friends for marks in examination.
11. Usually adolescents practice sports in the company of friends. The company of friends motivates them to play better.
12. Only a few adolescents like to discuss sex related issues amongst the friends. Rests avoid such discussions.
13. Generally, adolescents like to go for shopping with friends as their choices match with their friend's choice.
14. Most of the adolescents are sure that they accept the positive or better changes in behavior from their friends.



15. Maximum adolescents are alert to avoid the negative changes in their behavior due to their friends.
16. Only a few adolescents do not find the issue of peer pressure important. But for most of them it is an issue that can never be ignored.
17. Maximum adolescents consider that the positive peer pressure enriches the personality.



18. Maximum adolescents are in the company of friends who help them in their studies.
19. Maximum of the adolescents accept the need of choosing the friends cautiously as wrong choice of friends may cause problems in their lives.
20. Some adolescents do experience mental stress due to peer pressure.
21. According to most of the adolescents, they are mature and alert enough to follow and imitate only the good qualities that lie in their friends.
22. Only a few adolescents learn bad things from their friends. They cannot judge what is good and what is bad.
23. Though few adolescents become members of fan clubs and do idol worship, most of them stay away from fan clubs.
24. Most of the adolescents and their friends are addicted to the social sites as they love communication all the time.



Conclusion

Peer Pressure affects the adolescents in positive and in negative manner as well. Positive pressure enriches the personality of the adolescents and negative peer pressure spoils the personality of the adolescents. Parents are the best judges regarding the choice of friends. So the adolescents ought to adhere the advice of their parents. The adolescents should be careful while choosing the friends. So that the positive peer pressure helps them to build their personality in a better way.

References

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