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# Peculiarities of children-parental relationships and family factors of social risk that affect formation of dependent behaviour in children and adolescents

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### ABSTRACT

The research aim was to determine the characteristics of child-parental relations and the psychological climate in the school community, depending on the socio-economic situation in the area, where the teenager and his family live. Sample group consisted of 156 teenagers (11-15 years), 43 percent of them live in districts with a high rate of unemployment. As the leading methods, the authors used the following: «Child-parental relations of adolescents»; «Diagnosis of the psychological climate in the team (group)»; «A modified version of the methodological complex to identify probabilistic predictors of possible involvement in the consumption of narcotic drugs». These methods made it possible to investigate intra-family interaction, study the features of the psychological climate in the school team, and identify probabilistic predictors of the formation of dependent behaviour in a teenager. The comparative analysis of researched parameters depending on the area of residing by U-criterion by Mann –Whitney has shown, that there are significant differences in parameters: «Autonomy encouragement», «Control», «Varieties of encouragements» (studying of aspect «Children-parental relationships of adolescents»); «Friendliness», «Consent», «Satisfaction», «Efficiency», «Affection», «Cooperation», «Mutual support», «Enthusiasm», «Entertaining», «Success» (studying of aspect «Diagnostics of psychological climate in a community (group)»). Thus, it is possible to make a conclusion that psychological situation is better in classes and in families of adolescents living in areas with a low rate of unemployment. There are no authentic differences in technique parameters on revealing of probable predictors of adolescents involving in drug usage, but in areas with a low rate of unemployment parameters «Addiction to gadget-dependence» and «Problem of self-control» are higher within boys. The scientific novelty of this study consists in the analysis (study) of child-parental relations in families of adolescents living in regions of Tatarstan with different levels of unemployment, which confirmed that the economic situation of the region has an impact on child-parental relations and on the situation in the school team. The study made it possible to consider the current problem of dependent behaviour of adolescents in the context of the deterioration of the socio-economic status of the family, accompanied by crisis, disharmonic inter-parent and child-parental relations.

**Keywords:** Adolescents; Rate of unemployment; Children-parental relationships; Probable predictors; Psychological climate; Dependent behaviour.

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## INTRODUCTION

Formation of dependent behaviour of adolescents has multifactorial conditionality. Personality development of a modern adolescent in our country occurs on the background of complex social and economic situation which is directly reflected in functioning of family system and essentially influences social bonds of teenager with significant peer group. It is possible to change the situation if to expand borders of cooperation between school and parents, using opportunities of micro community for preventive maintenance of emotional and behavioural disorder. In the modern literature there is no sufficient number of the demonstrative researches analysing influence of financial stress of parents (loss of work, significant decline in a level of the income, change of a place of residing) on formation of asocial, aggressive, dependent behaviour of children and adolescents. In the given article peculiarities of children-parental relationships in families with worsening social and economic position are shown, specificity of interpersonal relationships of adolescents in a class is reflected, and predictors of dependent behaviour formation are determined.

In modern conditions the problem of formation of dependent, aggressive, asocial behaviour of adolescents is undoubtedly highly topical. The behaviour of a person, being consciously chosen way of interaction with environment, is characterized by ability to be transformed under influence of internal and external factors. The basic strategy of behaviour, its social aspects (drawing the lines, acceptance of moral norms) are established in family, under influence of family rules, role sets, educational, religious and social and economic status of family. Due to the ageing of children and growth of their needs social and economic status of family becomes more and more significant. Deterioration of economic conditions of family is reflected not only on psychoemotional state of parents, but also on personal development, on self-estimation, on emotional background and on behaviour of children and adolescents. Increase of intensity in interfamilial relationships, dysfunctional children-parental relationships on the background of chronic stress of parents, social anxiety of the adolescents considering that decline in family well-being will be reflected in their mutual peer relationships, are risk factors of formation of aggressive, disturbing, dependent behaviour. Studying of influence of children-parental relationships, interpersonal relationships and behavioural patterns of adolescents from the families that are in difficult social and economic position, is important and actual as the given information will allow to realize preventive psychological help to the adolescent and family, and also to predict and prevent occurrence of dependent and asocial behaviour.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

In modern researches influence of family factors on formation of behaviour disorder of adolescents is given: the role of family breakdown and adverse life events (Rasmussen et al., 2014), influence of family conflicts on self-harm behaviour and long-term victimization of adolescents (Wadman et al., 2018), influence of the interparental conflict on interpersonal peer relationships of an adolescent and occurrence of antisocial behaviour (Weymouth et al., 2019), influence of emotional intelligence on formation of behaviour disorder (Fedorenko, Belousova & Chetyrchinskaya, 2019) are proved.

K. Ponnet (2014), studying influence of financial stress on functioning of parents (798 heterosexual pairs) and occurrence of problem behaviour in adolescents of 11-17 years old, has revealed that family stressful processes proceed in families with low, average and high level of the income differently. The financial stress of mothers and fathers in families with low income had significant direct and indirect influence on problem behaviour of adolescents; significant indirect effects more often were found out in families with average and high income.

P. Harland et al. (2002), having studied the data of national sample of 4480 parents and working on recognition of groups of children with increased risk of behavioural or emotional problems on the basis of social - demographic characteristics, characteristics of family and recent events in a life with emphasis on unemployment and divorce or disunion, found out, that family characteristics and recent adverse life events are risk factors of behavioural and emotional problems in children. Children with recent experience of parental unemployment, parental divorce or separation have higher risk of behavioural and emotional problems.

A.D.Benner and S.Y.Kim (2010), studying influence of family stress on adolescents (444 adolescents and their families), living in the Chinese American families, found out that economic stress and financial position of family (level of income, availability and stability of work) were reflected in emotional state of parents; depressive symptoms of parents were shown in more hostile and coercive parenting, that has been connected directly to the academic success and social - behavioural features of adolescents.

W.L. Johnson et al. (2016), investigating ways of influence of methods of upbringing and problem behaviour of parents on formation of antisocial behaviour of their children (number of surveyed - 1242), have found out, that antisocial experiences of parents, their rigid parenting influence personal development of adolescents. Authors consider that the position of parents and their way of life actively form trajectories of behaviour of adolescents, as far as adolescents, whose parents had higher point in antisocial behaviour parameter, also had tendencies to a social behaviour.

L.N. Miley et al. (2020) studying data of 64329 minor offenders, have found out, that the certain forms of victimization of children in family (physical violence, sexual violence, being present at drug use at home) raise risk of similar forms of offences of adolescents during their ageing process (increased risk of violence, sexual offending and drug use). The high results of concurrence revealed by the authors allow to predict risk of similar criminal behaviour during adolescence.

M.McCann et al. (2019), analysing peer, family and school contextual influences on adolescent drinking frequency, came to the conclusion, that the adolescents realizing (or simulating) the script of dependent behaviour with alcohol use, found support of other adolescents abusing alcohol. Adolescents whose life proceeded under the high parental control befriended with peers of low parental level of control more seldom, while pupils with low parental control befriended with each other more often. In the opinion of authors optimum strategy in the work with adolescents is use of resources of family intervention among others.

Many researchers consider that family factors, children-parental relationships, mutual peer relationships are not only pathologizing components of environment, but also main source of resources for improvement of psychoemotional state, for formation and rendering of parental and friendly support, for development of adequate behavioural strategy and emotional reaction in difficult life situations for an adolescent.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

As the leading methods, we used the following: «Child-parental relations of adolescents» (Trojanovskaya, 2003); «Diagnosis of the psychological climate in the team (group)» (Fiedler, 1981); «Methodological complex to identify probabilistic predictors of possible involvement in the consumption of narcotic drugs» (Dontsov et al., 2016). These methods made it possible to investigate intra-family interaction, study the features of the psychological climate in the school team, and identify probabilistic predictors of the formation of dependent behaviour in a teenager.

We have carried out research of children-parental relationships of adolescents depending on area of residing - with low and high rate of unemployment. The data on the rate of unemployment of areas are taken from the site of the Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Tatarstan (RT). Participants of research were 156 children and adolescents in the age of 11-15 years old - pupils of schools of RT. 90 people (Group 1) live in areas with low rate of unemployment, that makes 57 %; 66 children of teenage years (43 %) live in areas with high rate of unemployment (Group 2). Groups have been separated for more detailed research of the given problem: according to sexual attribute, Group1<sub>g</sub>- girls, Group2<sub>b</sub>- boys; according to age, Group1<sub>youn.</sub>- younger (11-13 years), Group2<sub>sen.</sub>- senior (14-15 years).

Full and differentiated picture of children-parental relationships from a position of adolescents can be found out with the help of the technique «Children-parental relationships of adolescents» developed by P. Troyanovskaya(2003). The technique includes 15 scales combined into the following groups:

1. The block of scales describing features of emotional relations of the parent and the adolescent:
  - 1) Acceptance (demonstration of love and attention by the parent);
  - 2) Empathy (parental understanding of feelings and states of the child);
  - 3) An emotional distance (quality of emotional bond between the parent and the adolescent).
  
2. The block of scales describing features of dialogue and interaction:
  - 4) Cooperation (joint and equal performance of tasks);
  - 5) Decision-making (peculiarities of decision-making in diad);
  - 6) Proneness to conflict (intensity of conflicts, winner in a conflict);
  - 7) Encouragement of autonomy (transfer of the responsibility to the adolescent).
  
3. The block of the control:
  - 8) Exactingness (quantity and quality of declared requirements);
  - 9) Monitoring (awareness of the parent of affairs and interests of the adolescent);
  - 10) Control (peculiarities of the monitoring system on the part of the parent);
  - 11) Authoritativeness (absoluteness and indisputability of the parent authority);
  - 12) Peculiarities of encouragements
  - 13) Peculiarities of punishments (quality and quantity of rendered estimative influences).
  
4. The block of discrepancy / consistency of relationships:
  - 14) Inconsistency (variability and inconstancy of educational methods of the parent);
  - 15) Uncertainty (doubt of the parent in fidelity of his educational efforts).

For the characteristic of the psychological atmosphere developed in group (community), a «Diagnosis of the psychological climate in the team (group)» Fiedler (1981) was applied as diagnostic scale. The method of semantic differential underlies it. The estimation to the group on the suggested bipolar scales is given by examinees: 1) friendliness - animosities; 2) consent - disagreement; 3) satisfaction - dissatisfaction; 4) efficiency - unproductiveness; 5) affection - distance; 6) cooperation - inconsistency; 7) mutual support - malevolence; 8) enthusiasm - indifference; 9) entertaining - boredom; 10) success - unsuccessfulness.

«Methodological complex on revealing probable predictors involving in drug use» (Dontsov et al., 2016) reveals certain personal characteristics which are most typical for children inclined to use psychoactive substances. Scales for interpretation are 1) scale of risk-taking; 2) scale of opportunities of any regulation (problem of self-control); 3) scale of antisocial tendencies (propensity for gadget-dependence); 4) scale of

mutual understanding in children-parental relationships (absence of emotional support); 5) scale of coping-strategy, search of social support, avoiding, resolution of problems (problem of interaction).

Statistical processing of the received data was performed by means of Microsoft Excel and STATISTICA software package.

## RESULTS

Results of our research have shown that the parameters testifying that in areas with low rate of unemployment children-parental relationships are more harmonious from the point of view of adolescents, (Table 1) are authentically higher. In this group adolescents estimate interaction with parents as cooperation and recognize that parents trust them.

Table 1. The comparative analysis of parameters of the technique «Children-parental relationships of adolescents» by U-criterion of Mann-Witney ( $p < .05$ ) depending on the area of residing.

	Rank Sum	Rank Sum	U	Z	p-level	Z	p-level	Group1	Group2
Cooperation	6516	5730	2421	-1.96	.04	-1.97	.048	90	66
Encouragement of autonomy	6510	5736	2415	-1.99	.04	-1.99	.04	90	66
Control	6424.5	5821.5	2329.5	-2.29	.02	-2.3	.021	90	66
Peculiarities of encouragements	6189	6057	2094	-3.14	.001	-3.2	.001	90	66

Comparison of parameters of children-parental relationships in groups of younger and senior adolescents, as it can be seen in Table 2, shows authentically higher parameters in the group of senior adolescents. 14-15 years old adolescents have more democratic relationships in families (parameters «Decision-making» and «Acceptance» are authentically higher), but at the same time parameters «Control» «Conflictness», «Peculiarities of encouragements» are authentically higher in group of senior adolescents.

Table 2. The comparative analysis of parameters of the technique «Children-parental relationships of adolescents» by U-criterion of Mann-Witney ( $p < .05$ ) depending on age of adolescents.

	Rank Sum	Rank Sum	U	Z	p-level	Z	p-level	Group 1 youn.	Group 2 sen.
Acceptance	5015	7075	2025	2.71	.006	2.73	.006	55	100
Decision-making	5033	7057	2007	2.77	.005	2.78	.005	55	100
Conflictness	3547.5	8542.5	2007.5	-2.776	.005	-2.8	.005	55	100
Control	5044.5	7045.5	1995.5	2.82	.004	2.8	.004	55	100
Peculiarities of encouragements	4892	7198	2148	2.25	.024	2.3	.021	55	100

The parameter «Monitoring» shows that parents of girls are more informed on their affairs (Table 3). Parents show love and attention more to girls; besides «Peculiarities of encouragements» also the parameter «Peculiarities of punishments» authentically differs.

Table 3. The comparative analysis of parameters of the technique «Children-parental relationships of adolescents» by U-criterion of Mann-Witney ( $p < .05$ ) depending on the sex of adolescents.

	Rank Sum	Rank Sum	U	Z	p-level	Z	p-level	Group1 <sub>g</sub>	Group 2 <sub>b</sub>
Acceptance	6102	5833	2361	-2.04	.04	-2.06	.038	86	68
Monitoring	6122.5	5812.5	2381.5	-1.97	.048	-1.98	.047	86	68
Peculiarities of encouragements	6121	5814	2380	-1.97	.047	-2.02	.04	86	68
Peculiarities of punishments	7894	4041	1695	4.47	.00	4.51	.00	86	68

According to the results of the analysis of psychological atmosphere in class it was revealed, that in group of the adolescents living in areas with a low rate of unemployment, the parameters of the technique determining comfortable psychological climate in a class are authentically higher: «Friendliness», «Consent», «Satisfaction» «Efficiency» «Affection» «Cooperation». The parameters «Mutual support» and «Enthusiasm» were higher in the group of the adolescents living in the areas with high rate of unemployment. The parameter «Boredom - entertaining» is the only one in this technique, not having authentic differences in groups. (Table 4).

Table 4. The comparative analysis of parameters of technique «Diagnostics of a psychological climate in a small group» by U-criterion of Mann-Witney ( $p < .05$ ) depending on area of residing of adolescents.

	Rank Sum	Rank Sum	U	Z	p-level	Z	p-level	Group 1 <sub>g</sub>	Group 2 <sub>b</sub>
Friendliness	5944	5532	2116	-2.51	.011	-2.57	.01	87	64
Consent	5735	5590	1907	-3.17	.001	-3.21	.001	87	63
Satisfaction	5898	5427	2157	-2.26	.023	-2.29	.02	86	64
Efficiency	5598	5280	1943	-2.71	.006	-2.75	.005	85	62
Affection	5879.5	5596.5	2051.5	-2.75	.005	-2.81	.004	87	64
Cooperation	5761	5414	1933	-2.94	.003	-2.99	.002	87	62
Mutual support	5455	5870	1714	-3.94	.000	-4.02	.00	86	64
Enthusiasm	5535	5640	1794	-3.51	.000	-3.57	.00	86	63
Success	5808.5	5516.5	2067.5	-2.60	.009	-2.65	.01	86	64

Table 5. The comparative analysis of parameters of the technique «The modified version of a methodical complex on revealing probable predictors involving in drug use» by U-criterion of Mann-Witney ( $p < .05$ ) depending on the sex of adolescents living in areas with low rate of unemployment.

	Rank Sum	Rank Sum	U	Z	p-level	Z	p-level	Group 1	Group 2
Problem of self-control	1801	2294	720	-2.35	.018	-2.36	.018	46	44
Propensity for gadget-dependence	1758.5	2336.5	677.5	-2.7	.007	-2.713	.006	46	44

Authentic differences in the results of the technique, allowing to reveal predictors of successful socialization of adolescents, are given in Tables 5 and 6. Authentic differences, depending on area of residing, are not revealed. But the analysis of differences inside the group of the adolescents, living in areas with low rate of unemployment, shows authentically higher parameters «Problem of self-control» and «Propensity for gadget-

dependence» of boys. Also, the factor «Problem of interaction» is authentically higher in the group of senior adolescents.

Table 6. The comparative analysis of parameters of a technique «The modified version of a methodical complex on revealing probable predictors involving in drug use» by U-criterion of Mann-Witney ( $p < .05$ ) depending on the age of adolescents.

	<b>Ran Sum</b>	<b>Rank Sum</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>Z</b>	<b>p-level</b>	<b>Z</b>	<b>p-level</b>	<b>Group 1<sub>youn.</sub></b>	<b>Group 2<sub>sen.</sub></b>
Problem of interaction	3651	8439	2111	-2.38	.016	-2.41	.016	55	100

## DISCUSSIONS

The research has allowed to examine an actual problem of dependent behaviour of adolescents in the context of deterioration of social and economic status of a family accompanied with crisis, disharmonious interparental and children-parental relationships. The results received by authors are comparable to the results of C.S. Rasmussen et al. (2014) who considers that children with high level of adverse vital events are put at risk of high risk of formation of chronic problem behaviour. Our results are consistent with conclusions of C.M.W. Livesey and A.L. Rostain (2017) - examining adolescence as the time of formation of identity and autonomy of an adolescent and studying influence of family factors and changes of family relationships, we also suggest to use opportunities for estimation of resources of family more actively, with the purpose of its subsequent including into correctional work.

The creation of safe conditions for the childhood in family and system of psychological support of children in the educational environment is necessary on the background of increase of dependent and deviant behaviour among adolescents. Authors are solidary with the position of E.G. Artamonova, O.I. Efimova and A.V. Khydyrova (2016), concerning necessity of studying and generalization of positive experience of formation of effective approaches on preventive maintenance of dependent and deviant behaviour of children and adolescents. The results of the research are consistent with the results of L.F. Bayanova and E.N. Gilemhanova (2017), E.N. Gilemhanova (2019) as regards to the necessity to pay close attention to social cultural aspects of environment where the adolescent lives and is brought up. The important direction of work is development of integrative models of interaction of family and educational environment, motivating an adolescent to change behavioural stereotype (dependent, asocial behaviour) with active participation of parents and social support of peers.

## CONCLUSION

In the areas with low rate of unemployment children-parental relationships, according to adolescents, are safer, and they are characterized by trust and emotional acceptance on the part of parents; adolescents characterize interaction as cooperation in family relationships. They have less problems in class community, they are more adaptive to social group. They characterize their relationships with peers as friendly, supporting, assisting, and psychological state in a class - as affectionate, comfortable.

In the group of the adolescents living in economically unfavourable areas, mutual support in a school community is higher, these adolescents are more often keen on common causes. The results of the research confirm the problem with gadget - dependence and self-control of emotional state of the boys living in areas with low rate of unemployment.

Thus, the research of children-parental relationships carried out by us in families of the adolescents living in areas of the Republic of Tatarstan with different rate of unemployment, allows to draw a conclusion that the economic situation of the region influences children-parental relationships and atmosphere in school community. The given research has not revealed authentically significant predictors involving of adolescents in the drug use, but as indirect probable criteria it is necessary to consider formedness of skills of self-control of an emotional state of an adolescent, and also - efficiency and an emotional solvency of children-parental relationships.

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