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**ATTITUDES TOWARDS MARRIAGE ON THE SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR OF FEMALE
ADOLESCENTS RAISED BY SINGLE MOTHERS**

BY

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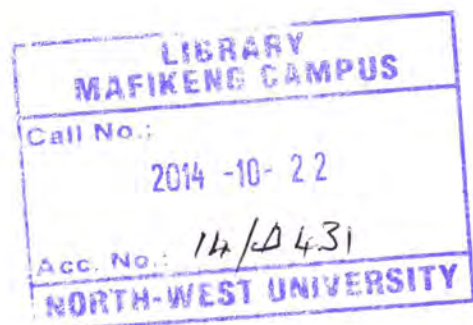
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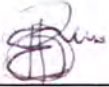
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Declaration

I, Nikiwe Eunice Belo, hereby declare that this study, titled; “**Attitudes towards marriage on the sexual behaviours of female adolescents raised by single mothers**”, is my own original work and has not, previously in its entirety or in part, been submitted at any university for a degree.



SIGNATURE

17 / 06 / 2014

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I would first like to thank my Father, God, the all sufficient saviour, Jesus Christ, as well my guide, the Holy Spirit, for I know without the Holy Trinity I would not have had even the breath to do this.

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ABSTRACT

Attitudes towards marriage on the sexual behaviours of female adolescents raised by single mothers

Key words: attitudes, marriage, sexual behaviours, female adolescents

The aim of this study was to explore the role of attitudes towards marriage on the sexual behaviour of female adolescents raised by single mothers. The main objectives of this study were to compare attitudes towards marriage and sexual behaviour of female adolescents raised by single mothers and those raised by both parents and to investigate the influence of female adolescents' attitudes towards marriage on their sexual attitudes and their sexual behaviour. Data were collected from a purposively sampled group of 300 (150 for experimental and comparison group respectively) from around Mahikeng in the North-West Province. The ages of participants ranged from 18-24 years. The results showed a significant mean difference in birth control among female adolescents who have been raised by single mothers as compared to those who are raised by both parents ($p < .01$). There was a positive significant correlation between general concepts and permissiveness $p < .001$. General concepts also correlated positively with birth control $p < .001$. A positive significant relationship was found between feelings and communion $p < .001$. There was also a positive significant relationship between general concepts and instrumentality $p < .001$. The relationship between general concepts and behaviour facet was positive and significant $p < .001$. A negative significant relationship was found between feelings and attitude facet $p < .001$. There was a significant positive relationship found between general concepts and the desire facet $p < .001$.

In conclusion, the results of this study can be used to develop programmes targeting the parenting of single mothers.

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CHAPTER 1

ORIENTATION TO THE RESEARCH

1.1. INTRODUCTION

Single mother families are families that comprise of one or more children and mothers as head of the households. Most of single mother families are built on a foundation of loss of a relationship or loss of a dream they had for the future. They are commonly the result of reasons that fall under three categories which are the divorced, the widowed and the never married (Knox & Schacht, 2010). The never married category is the focus of this study. Some single mothers live alone with their children, others live with their parents and others have a significant adult in their homes together with their children. Some single mother families also have a network of supportive family and friends but others are relatively isolated (Anderson, as cited in Walsh, 2012). Anderson states that in certain circumstances, some have material and child care support from the father and others do not have that. It is contended that these single mothers socioeconomic and psychological characteristics, the reasons for single parenthood, the amount of social and cultural support, all play a role in their parenting quality and the psychological health and development of their children (Anderson, as cited in Walsh, 2012).

Growing up in the presence or absence of another parent is critical for adolescents to learn the successful navigation of different areas in their lives (Garrett-Akinsanya, 2011). According to Garrett-Akinsanya (2011), women raised by single mothers often experience challenges because they lack the presence of a father. Furthermore, psychological studies on the impact of fathers on the biological and emotional development of female adolescents concluded that there is compelling evidence that girls need a father figure in their lives (Carlson & Hognas, 2010; Chrysalis & Wright, 2010; East, Jackson & O'Brien, 2007; Hall, 2009). In support of the above

findings, the relationship between a father and a daughter was found to be important at social, mental, physical and emotional levels (Goossen, 2009). The above studies showed that girls who grow up without fathers may either have difficulties relating to men in healthy ways, look for attention inappropriately, fall in love with older men or avoid relationships or engagement of emotions. However, all the above depends on the different circumstances the girls may be raised in (Garrett-Akinsanya, 2011).

There is a belief that humans are inherently social animals that have a need to belong. This need is apparently universal and applies to both women and men from both parents and single parent families (Walsh, 2008). Marriage is believed to be one of the most common ways to fulfill that need to belong. It is also seen as offering benefits such as living together, functional division of labour, financial security, emotional support, rearing children together, social and legal recognition. There is, however, a culture-wide redefinition of marriage and that has affected the rates of marriage over time. Marriage seems to have lost much of its significance in some cultures but not in others (Walsh, 2008). In agreement, Edin and Kefelas (2011) stated that the practical significance of marriage has diminished in some cultures but the symbolic significance of it has grown. Some women from single parent families are married and some are not and this study attempts to investigate their attitudes towards marriage while they are still adolescents and how these attitudes affect how they behave sexually.

The manner in which human beings experience and express their sexuality is considered as their sexual behaviour. It is contended that these behaviours consist of conducts and activities which are directed to elicit the sexual interest of others. The behaviours can be displayed as strategies to attract partners, display behaviour as well as ways to personal interactions with others (Katchadourian, 1979). It is also universally accepted that biological mechanisms underlie

human sexual arousal and response but sexual behaviours are greatly shaped by social and cultural contexts in which individuals develop. It is therefore widely accepted that adolescents raised in families that have permissive attitudes about sexuality are more likely to behave differently than those that are raised in families that have conservative ideas about sexuality. This confirms the view that ultimately, sexual behaviour is mediated by social context and also cultural beliefs (Crooks & Baur, 2011).

1.2. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

The prevalence of single mother families has increased over the past three decades in most countries of the world and this is also apparent in South Africa. Marriage rates in South Africa are believed to have declined even further during the post-apartheid period. Posel, Rudwick and Casale (2011) reported that the decline is greater in both absolute and relative terms among African women than among white women stating that by 2008, only 24 % of all African women aged 20-45 were married compared to 67% of White women in the same age category. These statistics could include women raised by single parents since the literature available suggests that they find it difficult to maintain relationships that could lead to marriage. In support of the previous statement, Hall (2009) argued in his study that fathers are in a unique position to influence their daughters' heterosexual relationships which implies that their absence may have an influence on how they perceive those relationships.

Interestingly, personal experience and demographic factors have long been known to influence attitudes toward marriage (Caldwell & Woolley, 2008). According to Strong, Devault and Cohen (2011), values and beliefs about what families are or should be like and the norms are cultural influences that guide how we choose to live in relationships and families. The authors further

stated that although each of us makes decisions about the kinds of families we want, the choices we make are often the products of societies we live in.

Most adolescents naturally take risks in sexual relationships as the physiology of the changes in the reproductive organs often serve as a motivating force for them to experiment with sex. It was observed that as part of their experimentation, some of them may change partners frequently and some may have sex with more than one partner in the same time period or even engage in unprotected sex (Imaledo, Peter-kio & Asuquo, 2012). This may be true for most adolescents but risky sexual behaviour has been shown by international research to be one of the potential outcomes of young females growing up in dysfunctional families and fatherless families have been studied and known to have a significant effect on young people's sexual attitudes and relationships (Goossen, 2009; Simons, Burt & Tambling, 2013). British research has also found that engaging in early sexual activity is more common among children raised by single mothers and those from divorced families than those growing up with both parents (Holborn, 2011; Holborn & Eddy, 2011).

Adolescents in tertiary institutions are mostly young, single and the nature of campus life often predisposes them to risky sexual behaviours. The Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS, for example, found the highest rate of newly acquired HIV infections to be the highest in the 15-25 years age-group which accounts for approximately 60% of the global total of infected persons. In modern days, this age group is mostly found in tertiary institutions where the extent of risky sexual behaviours among the youth is most prevalent (Imaledo et al., 2012). A survey conducted by the Kaizer Family Foundation and the South African Broadcasting Corporation among nearly 4000 adolescents in the age group of 15-24 years reported that 40 % of the sample reported to

have changed their sexual behaviours as a result of the HIV/AIDS programmes in the media. The indication of the above study is that the other 60% may be at risk (Lovell, 2012).

1.3. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Throughout history and in most countries, marriage has been viewed as significant in anchoring an adult's life course but in recent years and in some regions, marriage now plays a less central role in an adult's life course (Walsh, 2008). The significance of marriage has changed, women no longer prioritise getting married. The reviewed literature indicates that more South African women do not marry and others marry rather later in comparison to other countries in Africa hence there is a high rate of single motherhood (Amoateng, as cited in Amoateng & Heaton, 2008).

It has been noted that while single motherhood is becoming more and more common to society, it is not generally in the best interest of the child. The literature indicates that young women raised by single parents are more likely to exhibit behavioural problems such as engaging in risky sexual behaviour and become single parents themselves (Schmid, 2009). Among these problems is the inability, for some women, to form lasting relationships which extends to adulthood and this may also indicate the inability to maintain relationships long enough to lead to marriage (Ndwandwe, 2009). In agreement with this viewpoint, Hognas and Carlson (2010) state that being born to unmarried parents remains a significant predictor of daughters delaying marriage or not marrying at all and consequently having out of wedlock births.

Furthermore, the literature suggests that sexual behaviour or the attitudes of adolescents shifted drastically during the 20th century until the present in the sense that adolescents have come to believe that any sexual encounter in the context of a committed relationship is acceptable

(Sigelman & Rider, 2012). The authors also agree that the traditional belief that premarital sex is morally wrong is also disregarded due to the lack of clear and regular peer-mother communication about sexuality. This has placed adolescents at a high risk of engaging in premarital sexual activities (Sigelman & Rider, 2012).

There is no adequate research in South Africa in the area of single motherhood and its impact on adolescent females' attitudes towards marriage and how it affects their sexual attitudes and behaviours. There is, however, evidence of declined marriage statistics, cohabitation and high out of wedlock birth rates. The latter is due to unsafe sex. The argument is that this decline in marriage statistics may be influenced by young people's attitudes towards marriage as a result of socialization and internalization of cultural or even sub-cultural values (Dixon, 2009).

The available literature indicates how the absence of a father influences a girl's sexual behaviour. There appears to be a need to investigate the extent to which the sexual behaviour of adolescents is influenced by the attitudes that adolescents have towards marriage, particularly in South Africa hence this study. The study further compares how these marital and sexual attitudes and behaviours differ between adolescents raised by single mothers and those not raised by single mothers.

1.4. AIM OF THE STUDY

- The aim of the study is to explore the role of attitudes towards marriage on the sexual behaviour of female adolescents raised by single mothers.

1.4.1. Objectives of the study

The specific objectives of the study are:

- To compare attitudes towards marriage and sexual behaviour of female adolescents raised by single mothers and those raised by both parents.
- To investigate the influence of female adolescents' attitudes towards marriage on their sexual attitudes including permissiveness, birth control, communion and instrumentality.
- To find out whether female adolescents' attitudes towards marriage have an influence on their sexual behaviour including the behaviour facet, the attitude facet and the desire facet.

1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

1.5.1. Theoretical contribution

- This study will, hopefully, contribute by adding to the literature on attitudes of adolescents raised by single mothers towards marriage as well as how those attitudes influence their sexual behaviour as there is lack of literature related to this topic.
- It will also add on to the literature on the difference between marital and sexual behaviours of adolescents raised by single mothers and adolescents raised by both parents.

1.5.2. Practical relevance

- The study focuses on several variables of interest. It will, thus assist in creating programmes that focus on interventions of adolescents in relation to their sexual risk taking behaviour and the variables that affect their decisions thereof.
- It may also influence the development of programmes aimed at improving the parenting styles of single mothers.

CHAPTER 2

DEFINITION AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides operational definition of terms used in this study as well as a theoretical framework for the whole study and theories covering variables measured in this study.

2.2. OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

Attitudes in this study refer to the learned tendencies to negatively or positively evaluate marriage and sexual behaviours (Psychology dictionary, 2013). Scores obtained on the Marriage Attitude Scale will determine attitudes of the participants (Braaten & Rosen, 1998). In this scale, marriage attitudes are categorised into two dimensions which are feelings (the emotions they have towards marriage) and general concepts (the general understanding of marriage).

Female adolescents in this study refer to women in the developmental stage with ages ranging from 18-24. The stage is defined as late adolescence (Iowa Department of Public Health, 2013).

Single mothers in this study refer to never married women who solely raise their children without fathers (Collins English dictionary, 2013).

Marriage in this study refers to an institution whereby individuals are joined in a consensual and contractual relationship recognized by the law (The free dictionary, 2013).

Sexual behaviour in this study means any activity between males and females that involves sexual contact and induces sexual arousal (Dictionary.com, 2013). Scores obtained on the Revised Sociosexual Orientation Inventory will determine sexual behaviours of participants

(Penke, 2006). The three scale dimensions are the behaviour facet (their acts of sexual encounter), attitude facet (how they feel about sexual activity) and desire facet (the fantasies they have about sexual activity).

Sexual attitudes in this study refer to the beliefs that adolescents have about sexuality that are displayed by their behaviour and are based on cultural views (Psychology dictionary, 2013). Scores obtained on the Brief Sexual Attitude Scale will determine sexual attitudes of participants (Hendrick & Hendrick, 2012). The scale is divided into the following categories: permissiveness (what they accept or tolerate in terms of sexual activity), birth control (how they feel about the prevention of conception), communion (the intimacy they associate with sex) and instrumentality (what they think the purpose of sex is).

2.3. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY

2.3.1. Bowenian family systems theory

The study seeks to investigate perceptions of marriage and sexual behaviour of adolescents who were raised in families of single mothers and hence this model of family systems is used. The model was first developed by Murray Bowen in 1978 (Corey, 2009). It is a theoretical and clinical model that evolved from psychoanalytic principles and practices. It is also called a multigenerational model which considers one's family of origin as a determinant of one's present relationship patterns (Corey, 2009). This theory views a family as an emotional unit and is systematic in describing complex interactions in a unit (Lieberman, 1979), which is useful in this study to understand emotional transactions between daughters and mothers and how it affects their perceptions about marriage as well as their sexual attitudes and behaviour.

Bowen (1978) believed that family members affect each other's cognitions and also affect behaviour which ultimately determines the relationships that they have with one another. This theory helps in understanding the possibility of the difference in adolescents' perceptions and sexual behaviour which is dependent on the extent of emotional connection between them and their mothers. Families are interdependent based on the belief that in most relationships, people seek each other's attention, approval, support and they also react to each other's needs and expectations (Bowen, 1978). This may be true for female adolescents and their mothers to the extent that the former live up to the expectations of the latter in terms of their desirable relationships and also the support they get. They may also engage in sexual behaviours depending on the extent of approval and disapproval from their mothers.

Bowen's theory posits that there are predictable patterns of interpersonal relationships across generations (Corey, 2009), and this may mean that female adolescents will relate to men the same way their mothers do in the present study. Kerr and Bowen (1988), interestingly stated that according to this approach, emotional fusions to one's family member determine the extent of maturity and uniqueness of one's personality. The same authors further argue that if this fusion is unresolved then emotional problems will be transmitted from one generation to another. When applied to the present study, this may have implications on the emotional regulation capacity of adolescents which may also influence their perceptions regarding being married and also their sexual behaviour. The above argument links with the concept of differentiation of the self, also incorporated in this theory. This concept explains the importance of both the psychological separation of intellect, and emotions and also the independence of the self from others. It will also explain the adolescents' ability or inability to accept personal responsibility for their

perceptions, feelings and actions as a determinant of their resulting positive or negative perceptions and attitudes towards marriage and also sexual behaviours (Corey, 2009).

2.3.2. Theoretical perspectives

2.3.2.1. Psychoanalytic theory by Chodorow (1978)

This theory explains why the study focused on female adolescents raised by single mothers and not male adolescents. It is a gender theory developed by Chodorow in 1978 which was framed using an object relations psychoanalytic perspective (Chodorow, 1978). The assumption of the theory is that both boys and girls initially see their mothers as sex objects but girls form intense attachment to their mothers more than boys. It further argues that girls form longer and lasting bonds with their mothers as they are of the same gender and usually have more experiences in common with them (Ryckman, 2004). The present study seeks to investigate marriage attitudes and sexual behaviours as influenced by mothers hence female adolescents were selected as they usually identify with their mothers and model them according to the theory. According to Chodorow (1978), mothers are more likely to relate to their sons as different and separate due to the fact that they are not of the same sex. This, according to the theory, results in mothers bonding more with girls and having more influence on girls than boys. This is the reason why the study seeks to investigate the influences of being raised by a single mother on female adolescents and not male adolescents. Marital attitudes and sexual behaviour usually involve a set of values which can be transferred from one generation to another. Girls identify strongly with their mothers and are usually more accepting of their values and characteristics hence their suitability for this study.

2.3.2.2. Symbolic Interaction Theory

The above theory was influenced by George Mead, Charles Cooley and William Thomas but was made popular by the ideas of Herbert Blumer in 1969 (Lindsey, 2005). It is a sociological view focusing on social interactions at the micro-level. It emphasizes micro-level connections between the subjective consciousness, interpersonal relationships and self-concept formation as well as the symbolic and socially constructed nature of macro-systems. The theory argues that individuals do not respond directly to the world around them but instead they react to the meaning they attach to it (Lindsey, 2005). This assists the present study in understanding the perceptions that adolescents have on the importance of marriage as influenced by their everyday encounters and their interpretations thereof. This perspective is a micro-level perspective but it acknowledges that social interaction is a process governed by societal norms which are largely shaped by cultures that people exist in which may also affect the way adolescents raised by single mothers perceive marriage (Lindsey, 2005).

2.3.2.3. Life Course Perspective Theory

According to Zastrow and Kirst-Ashman (2010), the life course perspective theory was developed in the 1960's by Glend Elder and attempts to understand individuals' lives within a historical, social and cultural context. Life course is conceptualised to be in seven divisions as transitional points and they are entry, childhood; adolescence, emerging adulthood, adulthood, later adulthood, and old age. The theory argues that individuals with divergent characteristics and backgrounds can experience these transitional points differently (Zastrow & Kirst-Ashman, 2010). Adolescents raised by single mothers may have a similar background of being raised by a single parent but their circumstantial backgrounds and characteristics may be different and may

therefore differ in their perceptions of marriage. This theory places fundamental importance on considering historical conditions and change as basis for understanding individuals' development (Katz, Peace & Spurr, 2012) and consequently their value systems in relation to socially recognized institutions such as marriage.

2.3.2.4. Social exchange theory

Thibault and Kelley developed this theory in 1952. According to the theory, individuals unconsciously weigh social rewards and costs and in many social exchanges, they try to maximize rewards while minimizing their costs (Coon & Mitterer, 2010). This study aims at looking at the value that adolescents raised by single mothers place on marriage and this theory is used as a perspective for determining that. An individual is considered in a broader social context and therefore choices of individuals may be affected by their position in the larger social network (Hollander, Renfrow & Howard, 2011). In making such choices, individuals consider the future as well as the past when valuing their options. Adolescents may, according to this theory, have certain perceptions regarding the value of marriage based on their past experiences of being raised by a single parent and the feeling that what the marriage may bring may be different in their lives.

2.3.2.5. Social learning theory

According to Amarasing (2013), this is a theory which evolved from behaviourism and was developed to include some cognitive aspects which is why it is sometimes called social cognitive learning theory. This view asserts that environmental factors and cognitions interact to influence social learning and behaviour. It was developed by Albert Bandura in 1977. Bandura believed that a learning environment, the innate person and behaviour are three variables which are

interdependent, reciprocal and influence one another (Amarasing, 2013). Family, as a basic learning environment and personal experiences can influence the development of one's unique set of sexual attitudes and behaviours (Molina, 1999), hence the theory serves as the guiding perspective in this study.

Important concepts in this theory are observation, imitation and modelling (Bandura, 1997). According to Newman and Lewman (2009), observational learning occurs when a person learns behaviour and is motivated to perform the behaviour or is resistant to perform that behaviour depending on the consequences associated with it. People take significant others as models. Adolescents may unconsciously take their mothers as models, observe their behaviours and imitate them depending on whether the behaviour of the model is rewarded or punished (Newman & Lewman, 2009). In support of this view, Molina (1999) stated that individuals will role play the behaviours of those they respect and consider as models. Molina (1999) also stated that children acquire gender roles considered appropriate in society through positive or negative reinforcement of these gender appropriate behaviours. Negative reinforcement to sexual exploration will most likely suppress the behaviour by bringing feelings of guilt and anxiety and positive reinforcement will tend to encourage the behaviour (Molina, 1999).

This learning process takes cognitive factors into consideration and follows a process called efficacy. Efficacy includes one's plans of intentional actions, guiding and directing one's behaviours towards a specific goal and reflecting on the quality, impact and purpose of the planned actions carried out. Learning whether certain behaviour is rewarding or punishable is therefore also influenced by efficacy (Newman & Lewman, 2009). The theory is relevant in the present study in guiding the researcher in understanding the reported sexual behaviours or attitudes of adolescents as influenced by what they observed and learned to be rewarding or

punishable from being raised by single mothers and also explain how cognition may have influenced the learning.

CHAPTER 3

LITERATURE REVIEW

3.1. INTRODUCTION

This section attempts to appreciate existing literature around the topic and to also demonstrate areas that might not have received adequate attention yet. The review provides a brief overview of single mother families and their parenting, how women generally view marriage and the factors contributing to their perception. It also attempts to describe how young women brought up by single mothers are affected by the absence of a father, how they view relationships and marriage and how this view ultimately affects their sexual behaviours.

3.2. QUALITY OF PARENTING: SINGLE PARENTS VS BOTH PARENTS

One of the factors contributing to the existence of many female single parents is the low sex ratio of 92 men to 100 women among Africans aged 20-40. This indicates a shortage of marriageable men and may explain marriage patterns. An economic theory was used in the work of Gustafsson and Worku (2006) and it predicts less attractive marital outcomes for women when the sex ratio is low. The hypothesis was analysed by using the 2001 Census of South Africa. Also in the study, a comparison of plain sex ratios between African women and White women in South Africa showed that White women have a better marriage market. This provides evidence for the high rates of single women, especially among blacks.

A study comparing maternal parenting between single and two parent families conducted in the Western Cape on a sample consisting of 245 children between 10 and 12 years with 64% females

and 36% males showed that children of single and married mothers had similar perceptions of maternal parenting practices (Roman, 2011). The above study suggests that there is no significant difference between single and married mothers in terms of how they raise their children.

In a study conducted in the United Kingdom, 27 families headed by single heterosexual mothers and 20 families headed by lesbian mothers were compared with 36 two-parent heterosexual families as the child entered adulthood. The findings were that female-headed families were similar to the traditional two parent families on a range of measures of the quality of parenting and young adults' psychological adjustment (Golombokl & Badger, 2009). The findings of the study further identified differences between family types and where there were positive family relationships in female headed homes, the results showed greater psychological wellbeing among young adults from those homes (Golombokl & Badger, 2009). Long-term effects were not considered in this study and the sample was different from the present study.

3.3. PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP EFFECTS: DO GIRLS NEED THEIR FATHERS?

Young women generally learn about male-female relationships by seeing how their parents relate to each other. They learn about values such as trust, intimacy and caring between the sexes. Parents' relationships provide a model of the most meaningful relationships that the young women themselves will have during the course of their lives (Popenoe, 2009). To concur with this viewpoint, Tomas (2012) states that family decisions such as marriage and motherhood are influenced by parental characteristics and events in parents' lives which are important long-term consequences as they bare intergenerational effects.

According to Hall (2009), a common perception stemming from daughter-father relationship studies is that fathers play an important role in influencing their young daughters' future and their choice of heterosexual relationships though the means by which paternal influence and relational outcomes are linked is unclear. The absence of a father may contribute to daughters' development of expectations about adult relationships and the contexts that are conducive to bearing and raising children (Hognas & Carlson, 2010). Anticipations put forward are that positive paternal influences would be related to a greater desire to marry and that is based on the reasoning that the female child would have more positive perceptions about long term relationships by generalizing her experiences with her father to other men. Adolescents who grow up without that positive father influence would experience the opposite of those who do (Hall, 2009).

3.4. ATTITUDES OF FEMALES TOWARDS MARRIAGE IN THE PRESENT CENTURY

Being married is known to provide the benefit of being emotionally and physically healthier than the being unmarried but even so, it is no longer a goal for most people to marry (Dixon, 2009). According to Knox and Schacht (2010), women won't marry or delay marriage and the following are given as standard reasons of remaining single or divorcing: the freedom to do as one wishes, a spontaneous lifestyle, being able to have a variety of lovers, close friends of both sexes, avoiding being controlled and avoiding emotional and financial stress in the case of dissatisfaction which will lead to divorce. Broide (2007) conducted a study on a sample of single professional mothers and it was revealed that a new generation of women who have their own source of income can leave a dissatisfying marriage or decide not to get married even if they

become pregnant. These women who have entered the work-force stay longer at work than the previous generation before they eventually choose to raise their children.

Mindry, Maman, Chirowodza, Muravha, Van Rooyen and Coates (2011) attribute the lower rates of marriage and separation from partners to increased unemployment and socio-economic inequalities. A study conducted on African women showed that the payment of bride price by a man to the prospective wife's family contributes as a financial constraint to low rates of marriage among Africans (Posel & Casale, 2009). In support of the above, Harrison and O'Sullivan (2010) had in-depth interviews with 47 young adults aged 18-24 of KwaZulu-Natal to analyse domains such as primary partnerships, love and romance, secondary partnerships, pregnancy/parenthood, condom use/ prevention, and contextual influences, including schooling and future aspirations. The emergent themes confirmed the reality that fewer than half of South African adults are married, with marriage rates continuing to decline. An explanation that emerged in the study was that the modern goal of marriage was based on love and romance and that may mean that people from rural areas who have financial constraints may remain unmarried (Harrison & O'Sullivan, 2010). These studies do not take into account the familial background of these women which may influence their decisions to either get married or not.

Other participants in a study conducted by Reddy (2011) saw marriage as an inhibiting factor for one's independence. Dixon (2009) also conducted research on African-Americans in 2009 and the results showed that people from that group were least likely to marry. According to the above study, factors believed to be contributing to the marriage status of African-Americans are said to include cultural and individual factors. Cultural factors are those that include changing cultural trends such as marriage not being a prerequisite for sex, women's independence and cohabitation

as an option of being together. Dixon (2009) further stated that individual factors stem from individual's internalization of cultural values that affect their perceptions of marriage and also their willingness to be in a committed relationship that can lead to marriage. This study does not specify what cultural values may affect women's perceptions of marriage hence the significance of the present study that seeks to investigate factors determining the perceptions of women towards marriage.

Reddy (2011), stated that some women have positive views towards marriage. A study was conducted to explore young adults' understandings of and preparedness for marriage. It was carried out with a diverse group of 208 fourth-year students, 127 female and 81 males, at a South African university. The results revealed that for young women, marriage continues to be a significant social, cultural and economic way in which they give meaning to their future lives (Reddy, 2011). The results of the study, however, did not indicate whether these young women were from two parents or single mother households. Another factor was that they viewed marriage as an instrument for attaining better economic conditions. Marriage was also seen as a way to control and regulate men's reckless sexual urges (Reddy, 2011).

The above positive view towards marriage has been confirmed through the findings in one study conducted by Tomas (2012) indicating that middle class women viewed marriage special but difficult to achieve and meant more than just financial achievement but a lifelong commitment but the study did not consider whether these perceptions of women were influenced by the way they were brought up. Another study by Du Toit (2007) that concurs with the view that there is still a general positive regard for marriage was conducted among 77 undergraduate South

African students from different universities and the aim was to investigate young people's perceptions towards marriage as well as demographic differences in their attitudes. Age, race, religiosity, relationship status and primary caregiver(s) were used as demographic variables of interests. Religiosity was revealed to be the greatest variable influencing attitudes towards marriage (Du Toit, 2007). The study only focused on students from different familial backgrounds whereas the present study focuses on any adolescent raised by a single mother regardless of their educational background.

The women in a study conducted by Nemoto (2008) in Japan indicated that women had intentionally or unintentionally distanced themselves from marriage in general, which they viewed as inhibiting autonomy, marriage with a sexist man, marriage with a man who has rejected them, and marriage with a man who has less income and/or education than they do. The conclusions were drawn from in-depth interviews with 26 highly educated Japanese women indicating that those individuals sought the intimacy associated with marriage through a less rigid social arrangement such as cohabitation (Nemoto, 2008). To concur with the findings, a study in Nigeria examined various indicators of women's autonomy in women aged 15-49 years through data generated from a sample of 500 women of varying socioeconomic backgrounds showing that women with higher levels of education were more prone to delay marriage compared to women with lower levels of education (Oke, 2009). These findings only offer reasons of postponing marriage due to autonomy whereas the present study seeks to investigate the influence of being raised by a single mother.

Tower and Alkadry (2008) believe that individuals choose to marry later because they do not view marriage as a priority. This belief resulted from a study they conducted with respondents from different levels of the public sector who were members of the National Institute for Government Procurement in America. They reported that individuals may delay marriage because of their perceptions that they cannot handle both work and family at the same time. Socioeconomic status, education status and career progression are also reported as contributing factors to women delaying their marriage.

3.5. HOW WOMEN RAISED BY SINGLE MOTHERS VIEW MARRIAGE

Personal experience and demographic factors have long been known to influence attitudes toward marriage (Caldwell & Woolley, 2008). According to Strong, Devault and Cohen (2011), values and beliefs about what families are or should be like and the norms are cultural influences that guide how we choose to live in relationships and families. The authors further stated that although each individual makes decisions about the kinds of families they want, the choices one makes are often the product of societies individuals live in.

According to Hognas and Carlson (2010), women raised by single mothers or unmarried parents may develop normative attitudes and beliefs that may contribute to their perceptions of non-marital birth and marriage as an institution to raise children. A study that sought to investigate the messages about romantic relationships that are passed from mothers to daughters indicated that as daughters enter adulthood and are faced with decisions, they recall a variety of messages including messages about valuing the self, characteristics of a good relationship and valuing the sanctity of love (Shannon & Shaw, 2008).

Women who come from single parent families are commonly from working mothers' families and have been exposed to how a family can function in those circumstances (Tower & Alkadry, 2008). Tower and Alkadry (2008) argued that working mothers' may develop a certain perception of whether they will be able to cope with working and having a husband or decide not to get married as they have perceived it as having lesser burdens when remaining single based on what they have grown up to experience.

3.6. THE EFFECTS OF BEING RAISED BY A SINGLE MOTHER

East, Jackson and O' Brien (2007) explored the perspectives of nine women aged 22-46 who experienced the absence of a father during their childhood and/or adolescent years. The study revealed that these women had difficulties in forming healthy relationships with men and they attributed the difficulties to the experience of the absence of a father. Women from this study also expressed their poor relationships as a result of growing up without their fathers. Poor relationship decisions include being with exploitative partners to fulfill the revealed strong need for affection and attention by these women (East et al., 2007). The literature describes single parent families and their adaptations. It also describes the well-being or challenges that may be experienced by children from single parent families but does not provide adequate information on how they are affected in their life choices as young adults. An area that further needs to be explored is how the female adolescents' perceptions towards marriage may affect their sexual behaviour.

In contrast to the common perceptions that women from single mother families experience several challenges as they enter adulthood, Golombak and Badger (2010) reported that children raised by single mothers function well from a young age as well as when they enter adulthood. The study was conducted with children as they entered adulthood from 27 families headed by

single mothers in comparison to 36 two parent families and it appeared that they were similar on psychologically adjusting to adulthood. It was a third phase longitudinal study which investigated the quality of parent-child relationships and the psychological adjustment of children raised by single mothers without the presence of a father figure from infancy. Golombak & Badger (2010) argue that research consistently reports that children from single parent families are at greater risk for emotional and behavioural problems but argue that the focus of those studies was largely on single mothers as a result of parental separation or divorce.

3.7. FACTORS INFLUENCING SEXUAL ATTITUDES AND RISKY SEXUAL BEHAVIOURS OF FEMALE ADOLESCENTS

Sexual behaviour is an important aspect in the development of adolescent girls and it is shaped by cognition, beliefs and the environment. The literature shows that ample studies have been conducted to determine how personal, perceived peer pressure and perceived family attitudes towards adolescents' sexual activities influence their behaviours (Akers, Gold, Bast, Adimora, Orr & Fortenberry, 2011). A study in the United States of America was done to explain and identify mediators that explain the effect of family structure and supportive parenting on risky sexual behaviours. The study was a survey which consisted of 2000 college students, both males and females. The results indicated that adolescents from married families had a more positive view towards marriage and that it reduced the probability of risky sexual behaviour both directly and indirectly through its negative impact on unrestricted sociosexuality (Simons, Burt & Tambling, 2013). There are inadequate studies indicating how sexual behaviour is shaped by the adolescents' views on the type of relationships they are in or wish to have, especially in the South African context, hence the present study.

A cross-sectional study conducted in Taiwan with 545 adolescent girls of 12-15 years indicated that a higher proportion of girls' intentions to engage in unprotected sexual intercourse were determined by the perceived parental and friends' approval. Sexual self-concept which is also influenced partly by what the adolescents grow to believe in was also reported to be a factor affecting the sexual health behaviour of adolescents (Pai & Lees, 2011). The study did not indicate the difference between those who come from single-parent families and those from two-parent families but parental influence seems to be significant.

Adolescents raised by single mothers experience behavioural challenges. Goossen (2009), believed after his research with Masters's college students, that girls from fatherless families are prone to developing more promiscuous attitudes. The author also reported that these girls also experience challenges in forming romantic relations and the behavioural patterns are said to be carried into womanhood. This may cause them to have unfulfilling relationships with men (Goosen, 2009). Mancini (2010) also reported that previous research regarding girls and young women who grow up without their fathers shows that they are more liable to end up with unplanned pregnancies, low self-esteem, high school and college drop out, poverty, divorce and sexually promiscuous behaviour. This suggests increased risks of being infected with HIV. These are most likely their circumstantial consequences while their counter parts who grow up with fathers are more likely to have higher self-esteem, lower levels of risky behaviour and fewer difficulties in forming and maintaining romantic relationships in later life (Holborn & Eddy, 2011).

Brakfield, Wilson and Donenberg (2012) used the social learning theory to examine pathways of female caregivers' risky sexual behaviour and substance abuse to adolescent girls' sexual behaviours and substance abuse. The study used 214 low-income urban female caregivers and

daughters in Chicago. The findings, using the structural equation modelling, indicated that the female caregiver's sexual behaviour was associated with their daughters' sexual behaviours. Another study on the effect of parental attachment and law abidance among 437 Caucasians in North California adolescents of over 19 years also revealed that parental attachment relationships are important to provide secure bases to explore and establish relationships outside the family. Law abiding adolescents who have secure attachments were reported to engage less in sexual behaviours (Christopherson & Conner, 2012). The above findings relate to the present study which goes further by investigating how these sexual behaviours are then influenced by the adolescents' views on long term relationships like marriage which may be shaped by their mothers' beliefs and behaviours.

Other factors that seemingly affect sexual behaviours of adolescents are the media and internet, urbanisation and electronic communication. These factors were also said to influence the apparent permissiveness in risky sexual behaviours of adolescents in rights-driven cultures (Szabo, 2006). Adolescents' beliefs about delaying sex before marriage is one factor that could influence their sexual behaviours which this study is aiming to add in the literature.

Young adults were also found to endorse boundaries that influence their sexual behaviours. This was from a cross sectional study of 518 students attending 10th grade in the United States of America. The study addressed the extent to which adolescents set vaginal sexual boundaries, types of sexual boundaries and the most likely endorsed boundary. The findings indicated that the most frequently endorsed boundaries were maturity, commitment, trust, love and marriage. Adolescents were found not to use effective protection as it seemed like they did not trust their partners in doing so; they also did not feel that they should wait for marriage to have sex (Wolf, Morrell, Halpern & Felsher, 2013). This study used students under the age of 18 years which is

below the age of the sample used in this study. The results also did not give a clear indication of how marriage was a mediator of sexual behaviour.

Almost similar to the present study, the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal students were used as a sample to conduct research on individual influences and sexual risk taking behaviour. It was a cross-sectional study with data obtained between 2008 and 2010 by (Mutinta, Govender, Gow & George, 2012). About 80 Participants were interviewed individually as well as part of four focus group discussions. The young adults' sexual behaviours were found to be influenced by their personal beliefs about long-term relationships, their desire for sexual variety, drive to accumulate material wealth, unsatisfying present relationships, desire for more attention, being in denial about HIV and mostly related to the present study, their pursuit of marriage as their long-term goals (Mutinta, Govender, Gow & George, 2012).

3.7.1. Marital attitudes affecting sexual behaviours

Mutinta et al. (2012) found out that the institution of marriage lost its significance and this was concluded based on the participants' views that marriage or any permanent relationship inhibits one to express themselves sexually. The finding indicated a contradictory approach to relationships where these young adults desired to be in relationships that offered greater freedom, sexual and emotional security of marriage but they still wanted to retain the status of being single (Mutinta et al., 2012). Risky sexual behaviours include non-use of condoms during intercourse. A study that consisted of a sample of 7686 South Africans was conducted to examine and correlate the use of condoms of sexually experienced young adults with ages ranging from 15-24. Interestingly, the findings were that young adults who were involved in a relationship for six months or more were the significant group that was less likely to use condoms during most of

their intercourse. The authors further indicated that in long-term relationships that are not mutually monogamous, the lesser use of condoms might be risky for people who were not aware of their partners' unfaithfulness (Hendrikson, Petiffor, Lee & Coates, 2007).

The present study goes on further to examine whether such risky behaviours like less condom use among young adults' are influenced by their perceptions of marriage regarding those relationships they have. Mutinta et al. (2012) stated that perceptions towards marriage do influence risky sexual behaviours. The authors's reasons differed from the above study by Hendrikson and his colleagues. Mutinta et al. (2012) indicated that young adults tended to be engaged in risky sexual behaviour by having different partners whilst they had a long-term partner but because of their need to experience a partner before they got married, they went about searching for a life partner who could satisfy them. Participants also argued that there were other alternatives to permanent relationships than being single as they view society as offering options for unique individuals. The above studies did to examine the influence of how these young adults were raised or what they were raised to believe and who raised them which this study seeks to address.

3.8. HYPOTHESES

After the review of literature, the following hypotheses were formulated:

1. There will be a significant mean difference of attitudes towards marriage and sexual behaviours between female adolescents raised by singles mothers and those raised by both parents.
2. Female adolescents' attitudes towards marriage will have a significant influence on their sexual attitude including permissiveness, birth control, communion and instrumentality.
3. Attitudes of female adolescents towards marriage will have a significant influence on their sexual behaviour including the behaviour facet, attitude facet and the desire facet.

CHAPTER 4

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

4.1. INTRODUCTION

The process of how this study was conducted is discussed below. It includes the following; the study design, the participants sampled for this study, the research instruments used and their psychometric properties, procedure for data collection, the statistical methods used to analyze data as well as ethical considerations undertaken.

4.2. STUDY DESIGN

The study is a quantitative approach or method with a cross sectional design to investigate the influence of the independent variable (attitudes towards marriage) and dependent variables (sexual attitudes and sexual behaviours).

A cross-sectional design was used in this study to describe the characteristics of a population of female adolescents raised by single mothers on their opinion on marriage. It also assisted in making inferences about a possible relationship between the attitudes of these adolescents about marriage and their sexual behaviours.

4.3. PARTICIPANTS

The study made use of 300 female adolescents. 150 were raised by single mothers (experimental) and 150 by both parents (comparison). Purposive sampling was employed to select participants. The participants were late adolescents between the ages of 18- 24. The mean age for the experimental group was 20.46, SD=2.44 and for the control group the mean age was 21.27, SD=1.87. The participants comprised of 95.3 % Blacks (286), 1.3 % whites (4) and 3.3% Coloured

(10). The ethnicity was largely Tswana representing 74.7 % of the total population, followed by Xhosa population by 9.3% and English with .3 % of the total population. This was due to the fact that data was collected in an area where Setswana speaking people are prevalent.

4.4. INSTRUMENTS

4.4.1. The questionnaire

A questionnaire comprising four sections (A, B, C and D) was used to collect data for this study.

4.4.1.1. Section A: Biographic questionnaire

This included biographic data such as age, race and ethnicity.

4.4.1.2. Section B: Marital Attitude Scale (MAS)

The Marital Attitude Scale (MAS) is used to measure perceptions and attitudes towards heterosexual marriage. It was developed by Braaten and Rosen in 1998 (Braaten & Rosen, 1998). It consisted of 23 items that participants had to read and rate the degree to which they agree with the items. The first six items (1-6) measure participants' feelings regarding their present or possible future marriage and the items that follow (7-23) require participants to rate their general concepts regarding marriage. The rating ranges on a scale from 1 (strongly agree) to 5 (strongly disagree). The minimum total score of the scale is 23 and the maximum is 92. Higher scores indicate a more positive attitude and lower scores indicate a negative attitude towards marriage. The MAS was retested for reliability using psychology students at Colorado State University and the test-retest reliability was found to be 0.85. The scale is suited for both the unmarried and married population (Bassett, Lee, Braaten & Rosen, 1999). Suitability of the scale was assessed in South Africa by a pilot study with 10 University of Western Cape students and

the pilot sample found the items clear, understandable and comprehensible. According to Memani (2003), earlier studies of the scale showed high internal consistency. The coefficient alpha was calculated to be .82. All items were found to be significant at the $p < .001$ level and all items except two of them were found to be significant at the $p < .0001$ level. For this study the alpha coefficients for the full scale was .59 but for the feelings subscale, and general concept, the alpha coefficient was .21 and .57 respectively meaning that the data needs to be interpreted with caution.

4.4.1.3. Section C: Brief Sexual Attitude Scale

According to Hendrick and Hendrick (2012), the Brief Sexual Attitude Scale was a revision of the Sexual Attitudes Scale (SAS) which was developed by the same authors in 1987 to assess sexual attitudes in a more comprehensive and multidimensional context. Permissiveness was seen to be the most important aspect of measuring sexual attitudes and other aspects (birth control, communion, instrumentality) were added as well to broaden the assessment of sexual attitudes. The SAS was constructed to assess the attitudes for marital, premarital and nonmarital couples. The 43 items of the original SAS were retained from extensive analyses with 1400 university students from Florida and Texas. The final items were as follows: Permissiveness (21 items), Practices (7 items), Communion (9 items) and Instrumentality (6 items). The items were written as statements and respondents had to rate their own degree of agreement using a Likert format of response (Hendrick & Hendrick, 2012).

According to Hendrick and Hendrick (2006), research was conducted by the same authors and the findings indicated that factor structure had shifted and that rapid technology change in society was influencing attitudes and language usage. The findings also indicated that the shorter the measure, the more practical it is for research and clinical use. The results of the above

mentioned research led to a development of the Brief Sexual Attitude Scale (BSAS) in 2006. The scale was developed based on data from two existing data sets and one prospective study and the confirmatory factor analyses, alphas, subscale intercorrelations, test-retest correlations with relevant measures as well as the assessment of gender differences. The 43 items of the SAS were refined to the 23 items of the BSAS which consists of four subscales which are permissiveness (10 items), birth control (3 items), communion (5 items) and instrumentality (5 items). There is no adequate available literature on the psychometric properties of the measure. According to the authors, information pertaining to the format, scoring, validity and reliability is available in Fisher, Davis, Yarber and Davis's *handbook of sexuality related measures* (Hendrick & Hendrick, 2012). The handbook could not be assessed though Casey (2011) stated that according to existing literature, the 23 item BSAS is reliable and valid. This current study revealed the Cronbach alpha of this scale at .82. The Cronbach alphas of the subscales were as follows; permissiveness .82, birth control .70, communion .77, and instrumentality .72.

4.4.1.4. Section D: Revised Sociosexual Orientation Inventory (SOIR)

Penke (2006) stated that the SOIR comprises the SOI-R which was introduced by Alfred Kinsey as the Sociosexual Orientation Inventory (SOI) and used it to describe individual differences in sexual permissiveness and promiscuity. The original scale was criticized for its low internal consistency, multifactorial structure, skewed score distribution and multiple alternative scoring that yielded incoherent results (Penke, 2006), hence the development of the present scale.

The items in the present scale were selected using exploratory factor analysis and item analysis (Penke, 2006) and assess three facets being the past behaviour in terms of the number of casual sex partners, explicit attitudes towards uncommitted sex, and sexual desire for people who are

not in any romantic relationship. It has nine items and three of the items are for each of the three facets. One to three are behaviour facets. The first two items ask for a number of sexual partners in the past 12 months and the lifetime number of “one night stands”. The third item assesses the number of partners with whom one had sex despite long term relationship interest. Items number four to six are attitude items. The first two attitude items ask for acceptance of sex without love and comfort with casual sex and the third item asks for requiring the prospects of a long-term relationship before consenting to sex. Finally, items number seven to nine assess the desire facet and ask for the frequency with which one experiences spontaneous fantasies or arousal when encountering people in everyday life with whom they do not have a committed relationship (Penke & Asendorpf, 2008). The analysis done with an online study indicated that the scale is appropriate for individuals of any normal range of educational level, for hetero-,bi- and homosexuals, single and people in any relationship and individuals within the age range of 18-60 years (Penke, 2006).

The scale consists of 9-point responses which were developed to allow for combining the present scale with the original SOI. Values of 1 to 9 are assigned to all responses. The SOI-R 9-point scale has good internal consistency. All scores except the desire facet also have good 1 year retest stability.

- Items 1 to 3 should be aggregated to form the behaviour facet (Cronbach's alpha coefficient .85).
- Item 6 should be reverse-keyed and then items 4 to 6 can be aggregated to form attitude facet (Cronbach's alpha coefficient .87).
- Items 7 to 9 will be aggregated to form the desire facet (Cronbach's alpha coefficient .87) and

- all nine items are thereafter aggregated to the full score of the original SOI (Cronbach's alpha coefficient .83) (Penke & Asendorpf, 2008).

A detailed analysis revealed that there is a highly distinctive pattern of relationships for the three facets of the SOI-R and that gives support for discriminant validity. All three facets were discovered to reflect unique components of sociosexuality that should be investigated for understanding the dynamic underlying sociosexual orientations (Penke & Asendorpf, 2008). The current study revealed the alpha coefficients for this scale at .79. The subscales ranged as follows; behaviour facets at .80, attitude facets at .16, and the desire facets was .77.

4.5. PROCEDURE

Approval was sought from the North-West University ethics committee prior to collecting data. Purposive sampling was used to identify female adolescents raised by single mothers and those raised by both parents around Mahikeng a few weeks prior to data collection. They were informed of the topic and also the time and nearest place of data collection. Data was collected in small groups since participants could not be accessed all in one place. They were all requested to sign informed consent forms on the day of data collection at the different centers they were allocated (His people church, Ipopeng Primary school hall, and Atlegang early learning centre). Verbal permission was obtained from heads of the selected centers prior data collection. The questionnaires were administered and returned the same day. Clarity was provided for those that did not understand the instructions and the items in all scales were directly translated in a language suitable to the level of each participant that did not understand.

4.5.1 Statistical methods used

The T-test was used as one of the statistical techniques as there was a need to compare two independent groups (Maree, 2007), i.e. adolescents raised by single mothers and adolescents raised by both parents. The Pearson-r correlation was then utilized to measure the strength and direction of the relationship between the dependent and independent variables. It also enabled the researcher to determine whether the relationship is statistically significantly different from zero (Maree, 2007). Simple linear regression analysis was also used as a statistical method for data analysis. Regression analysis was employed in an attempt to predict values of the criterion using values of predictor. It allowed for estimation of the form and accuracy of the relationship between the two or variables identified in this study (Allen, 1997). Berk (2004) stated that regression analyses can be used to describe a large variety of data sets and for predicting outcomes and relationships of many situations.

4.6. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Adolescents were selected to participate by first explaining the purpose of the study. An informed consent form explaining the purpose of the study was issued to the participants to sign. Respondents were made aware of the point that they would not be paid, in that manner they were allowed to refuse to take part in the process and that addressed the issue of the right of voluntary participation. Individuals were granted the right to confidentiality in a way that their information would not be available to anyone else besides the relevant parties and that information would be handled in a professional manner. It was also explained to them that the questionnaires they completed would be destroyed after analysis. Participants were also informed that they had the right to withdraw when they felt uncomfortable at any point.

CHAPTER 5

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

5.1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides the presentation of results according to the statistical methods selected in the previous section. The first results presented are the T-test, the second is the correlation analysis and lastly of regression analysis. Interpretations of each analysis is also be provided.

Table 5.1: Summary of t-test analysis showing the difference on attitudes towards marriage and sexual behaviour among female adolescents who have been raised by single mothers compared to those raised by both parents.

Variables	Single Mothers N (150)		Both Parents N (150)		t	Df	P
	M	SD	M	SD			
Feeling	20.75	3.23	20.49	3.57	.66	298	.37 n.s
General Concepts	50.71	7.58	49.57	6.65	1.37	298	.14 n.s
MAS	71.46	9.04	70.08	8.17	1.39	298	.35 n.s
Permissiveness	23.07	8.86	21.52	7.74	1.62	298	.11 n.s
Birth-Control	11.40	3.07	12.32	2.68	- 2.77	298	.01
Communion	18.76	4.36	19.01	4.58	-.61	298	.55 n.s
Instrumentality	16.20	4.38	16.46	4.41	-.51	298	.61 n.s
BAS	69.43	13.94	69.37	13.16	.04	298	.80 n.s
Behavior Facet	3.87	4.46	3.23	3.21	1.43	298	.16 n.s
Attitude Facet	8.06	3.13	7.95	2.58	.34	298	.73 n.s
Desire Facet	7.09	4.97	6.27	4.82	.14	298	.15 n.s
SOI-R	19.01	10.52	17.45	7.89	1.46	298	.00

5.2. THE RESULTS

The results from Table 5.1 showed a significant mean difference in attitude towards birth control among female adolescents who have been raised by single mothers as compared to those who are raised by both parents ($t = -2.765$; $df = 298$, $p < .01$). Another significant mean differences were observed on the SOI-R scale among participants ($t = 1.46$; $df = 298$, $p < .00$). An observation of the mean difference revealed that female adolescents who have been raised by both parents scored higher on birth control ($\bar{X} = 12.32$) compared to those who are raised by single mothers ($\bar{X} = 11.40$). Other results indicated no significant difference in permissiveness among female adolescents who have been raised by single mothers as compared to those who are raised by both parents ($t = 1.617$; $df = 298$, $p = n.s$). It could not be concluded that adolescents raised by single mothers are more permissive than those raised by both parents.

Table 5.2: Summary of correlation analysis showing the correlation between measures of marital attitudes and sexual attitudes and behaviours of adolescents raised by single mothers.

Variables	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Feelings	1								
2.GC	.289**	1							
3. Permissiveness	.123	.396	1						
4. BC	-.026	.163**	-.044	1					
5. Communion	.006**	.052	.194**	.347**	1				
6.Instrumentality	.038	.206**	.317	.167	.453**	1			
7.BF	.016	.131**	.489	-.318	.195	.102	1		
8.Attitude facet	-.014**	.081	.284**	-.210**	-.013	.085*	.481	1	
9.Desire facet	.043	.198**	.379	-.286	.093**	.131**	.700**	.386**	1

NB: GC=general concepts, BC= birth control, BF= behaviour facet

Table 5.2 shows that there were no correlations between feelings and permissiveness $r(150) = .123$, $p = ns$. There was also no significant correlation between general concepts and permissiveness $r(150) = .396$, $p = n.s$. A negative non-significant relationship was found between feelings and birth control $r(150) = -.026$, $p = ns$ but general concepts correlated positively with birth control $r(150) = .163$, $p < .001$. Interestingly, a positive significant relationship was found between feelings and communion $r(150) = .006$, $p < .001$ but there was no significant relationship found between general concepts and communion $r(150) = .052$, $p = n.s$. No significant relationship was found between feelings and instrumentality $r(150) = .038$, $p = n.s$. There was, however, a positive significant relationship between general concepts and instrumentality $r(150) = .206$, $p < .001$.

There was also no significant relationship found between feelings and behaviour facets $r(150) = .016$, $p = n.s$ but the relationship between general concepts and behaviour facet was positive and significant $r(150) = .131$, $p < .001$. A negative significant relationship was found between feelings and attitude facet $r(150) = -.014$, $p < .001$ and general concepts did not correlate significantly with attitude facet $r(150) = .081$, $p = n.s$. There was no significant relationship found between feelings and desire facet $r(150) = .043$, $p = n.s$. There was however a significant positive relationship found between general concepts and the desire facet $r(150) = .198$, $p < .001$.

Table 5.3 : Summary of regression analysis showing the influence of feelings and general concepts on adolescents' permissiveness, birth control, communion, instrumentality, behaviour facet, attitude facet and desire facet.

Variables	Feelings			General concepts						
	β	t	P	β	t	P	R	R^2	F	P
Permissiveness	.009	.109	n.s	.394	4.979	<.000	.396	.157	13.706	<0.05
BC	-.080	-.941	n.s	.186	2.195	<.030	.180	.032	2.460	n.s
Communion	-.010	-.120	n.s	.055	.642	n.s	.053	.003	.209	n.s
Instrumentality	-.023	-.277	n.s	.123	2.526	<.013	.207	.043	3.303	<0.05
BF	-.024	-.283	n.s	.138	1.681	n.s	.133	.018	1.333	n.s
AF	-.041	-.484	n.s	.093	1.088	n.s	.091	.008	.608	n.s
DF	-.015	-.180	n.s	.202	2.392	<.018	.198	.039	3.004	n.s

NB: BC=birth control, BF= behaviour facet, AF=attitude facet, DF= desire facet

Results from Table 5.3 showed a significant joint influence of feelings and general concepts on permissiveness $R = .394$, $R^2 = .157$, $F(2,297) = 13.707$, $p < .000$. This means that the two variables contributed about 16% to the variation in permissiveness. Independently, feelings did not contribute significantly to permissiveness ($\beta = .009$, $t = .109$, $p = n.s$). However, there was a significant influence of general concepts on permissiveness ($\beta = .394$, $t = 4.979$, $p < .000$).

There was no significant joint influence of feelings and general concepts on birth-control $R = .180$, $R^2 = .032$, $F(2,297) = 2.460$, $p > 0.05$. It indicates that the two variables contributed about 3% to the variation in birth-control. Independently, feelings did not contribute significantly to birth-control ($\beta = -.080$, $t = -.941$, $p = n.s$). There was also no significant influence of general concepts on birth-control ($\beta = .186$, $t = 2.195$, $p > 0.05$).

A non-significant joint influence of feelings and general concepts on communion was found $R = .053$, $R^2 = .003$, $F(2,297) = .209$, $p > 0.05$. This suggests that the two variables contributed about 0% to the variation in communion. Independently, feelings did not contribute significantly to communion ($\beta = -.010$, $t = -.120$, $p > 0.05$). There was also no significant influence of general concepts on communion ($\beta = .055$, $t = .642$, $p > 0.05$).

There was a significant joint influence of feelings and general concepts on instrumentality $R = .207$, $R^2 = .043$, $F(2,297) = 3.303$, $p < 0.05$. It therefore means that the two variables contributed about 4% to the variation in instrumentality. Independently, feelings did not contribute significantly to instrumentality ($\beta = -.023$, $t = -.277$, $p = n.s$). However, there was a significant influence of general concepts on instrumentality ($\beta = .123$, $t = 2.526$, $p < 0.05$).

Results indicated no significant joint influence of feelings and general concepts on behaviour facet $R = .133$, $R^2 = .018$, $F(2,297) = 1.333$, $p > 0.05$. The two variables contributed about 2% to the variation in behaviour facet. Independently, feelings did not contribute significantly to behaviour facet ($\beta = -.024$, $t = -.283$, $p > 0.05$). The influence of general concepts on the behaviour facet was not significant ($\beta = .138$, $t = 1.621$, $p > 0.05$).

There was no significant joint influence of feelings and general concepts on the attitude facet $R = .091$, $R^2 = .008$, $F(2,297) = .608$, $p > 0.05$. This means that the two variables contributed about 1% to the variation in attitude facet. Independently, feelings did not contribute significantly to attitude facet ($\beta = -.041$, $t = -.484$, $p > 0.05$). There was also no significant influence of general concepts on attitude facet ($\beta = .093$, $t = 1.088$, $p > 0.05$).

Feelings and general concepts also did not have a significant joint influence on the desire facet $R = .198$, $R^2 = .039$, $F(2,297) = 3.004$, $p > 0.05$. In other words, the two variables contributed about

4% to the variation in the desire facet. Independently, feelings did not contribute significantly to desire facet ($\beta = -.015$, $t = -.180$, $p = \text{n.s.}$). However, there was a significant influence of general concepts on desire facet ($\beta = .202$, $t = 2.392$, $p < .05$).

CHAPTER 6

DISCUSSION OF RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

6.1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides a discussion of the results and the conclusion of the discussion. The strengths and limitations of the study will be elaborated on and recommendations are provided.

6.2. DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

This study examined the influence of female adolescents raised by single mothers' attitudes towards marriage on their sexual attitudes and behaviour. Hypothesis 1 is discussed, followed by hypothesis 2 and lastly, hypothesis 3.

The first hypothesis looked at the differences in the attitudes towards marriage and sexual behaviour between female adolescents who have been raised by single mothers and those who were raised by both parents. The mean difference revealed that female adolescents raised by single mothers had a less positive attitude towards considering birth control in their sexual activities than those raised by both parents. A previous study indicated that female adolescents raised by single mothers were more liable to end up with unplanned pregnancies (Schimid, 2009). This can be attributed to perceptions about birth control or probably lack of proper education about birth control.

There was no mean difference indicating that female adolescents raised by single mothers were more sexually permissive than those raised by both parents. In support of these findings, some studies showed no difference in sexual behaviours and attitudes between adolescents raised by single mothers and those raised by both parent. Pai and Lees (2011) believe that attitudes like permissiveness are influenced by the adolescents' perceived approval by parents and friends

regardless of whether they were raised by single mothers or both parents. Akers et al. (2011) also reported that adolescents' sexual behaviours were influenced by perceived parent attitudes towards their sexual activities. Similar to this view, even though their findings showed a correlation between family structure and risky sexual behaviours, Simons et al. (2013) added that there was evidence that adolescents were influenced by the dating behaviour of their single parents. This is to say that parental influence may be a significant determinant of sexual permissiveness. Perhaps future studies need to explore the extent of parental influence on adolescents' behaviours when it comes to sexual relationship engagements.

These results as indicated above contradict the assumptions of the social learning theory that adolescents' sexual attitude is reinforced by either rewards or punishment (Molina, 1999). This theory maintains that the high sexual permissiveness for those adolescents would be due to the absence of a father figure. The presence of a father would serve as negative reinforcement for risky sexual behaviour (Molina, 1999). In support of this, Simons et al (2013) also found that family structure had an indirect influence on risky sexual behaviour as children raised by single mothers were found to have a more cynical view towards marriage which in turn was correlated with risky sexual behaviour.

Hypothesis 2 predicted that adolescents' attitudes towards marriage would have a significant influence on their sexual attitudes including permissiveness, birth control, communion and instrumentality. These aspects of sexual attitudes are discussed below.

The results indicated joint influence of feelings and general concepts of marriage on the sexual permissiveness of adolescents. There was no influence of feelings towards marriage on the latter and the general concepts of marriage were also found to have no influence on permissiveness.

The correlation results also supported the above findings by revealing no relationship between feelings and permissiveness and a non-significant relationship between general concepts and permissiveness. These findings could not be supported by current literature. However, there are contradictory studies which focused on attitudes towards cohabitation and marriage which revealed that since the concepts of cohabiting became more common, marriage became less significant (Edin & Kefalas, 2011; Posel et al., 2011). This has, according to the studies, led to increased permissiveness of sexual activities since most adolescents are likely to engage in sexual behaviours with different partners (Auchmuty, 2012). There is a need for research on these concepts in the South African context, it is a country that is diverse and consists of areas that are still very much traditional and uphold their cultural expectations on individuals' sexual and marital choices.

An interesting finding indicated in the reviewed literature was that young people who had the perception that they would most probably get married before the age of 25 were later found to be more sexually permissive. However, these findings could not be supported by valid reasons and a need for research is indicated (Davis & Niebes-Davis, 2010). The above findings can be validated by the life-course theory which indicates that hoping to marry sooner than later is a determinant of sexual activity and the total number of sexual partners one has (Clark, Poulin & Kohler, 2009). This then contradicts the previous research which found that adolescents raised by single parents had a negative attitude towards marriage and often postponed marriage (Simons et al, 2013). It therefore raises a question of the extent to which their sexual permissiveness is indeed influenced by their life course aspirations with respect to marriage. Further research is therefore necessary to investigate how the life-course theory assumptions are

true using a sample of adolescents raised by single never-married mothers in a South African context.

There was no significant joint influence of feelings and general concepts on birth control found and feelings also did not have a significant influence on birth control individually. General concepts had a significant influence on birth control. Consistent with the above results, there was also no relationship found between feelings and birth control. However, general concepts had a significant relationship with birth control. There were no South African studies found to have addressed the issue of marriage and specific birth control studies. Some studies (Hendrickson, 2007; Wolf et al., 2013; Harrison and O'Sullivan, 2010), revealed that most couples who are in long and committed relationships feel no need to use safer sex methods as they feel using a condom in their situation means a lack of trust in their partners. Furthermore, some adolescents in the above studies were most likely to report boundaries related to commitment and ultimate marriage. They were more likely to not use protection if they had hope that their present partners were going to be their marriage partners. The above mentioned studies did not focus specifically on adolescents raised by single mothers. A distinction on perceptions between those raised by single mothers and by both parents may be an interesting area for future research. Cultural factors also come to play, some young women may have control over their sexual encounters and some may not as it is common that in some cultures, men decide whether preventative measures are used or not. Research with a different sample needs to be carried out, further studies are also necessary to focus on how culture plays a role in the use of birth control and the influence of attitudes towards marriage.

The results also showed that feelings and general concepts did not have a significant influence on communion jointly as well as individually. There was, however, a positive significant

relationship between feelings and communion. This could mean that adolescents' future marriage aspirations do not necessarily have a bearing on their sense of communion but their feelings towards marriage could affect it. Currently, no literature is available to support how attitudes towards marriage influence the sense of communion in relation to sex. There is, however, a common religious notion that sex connects souls (Lamour, 2010). Research is therefore needed to investigate the extent of how beliefs such as these influence feelings and general concepts towards marriage.

Finally, there was an indication of a significant joint influence of feelings and general concepts on instrumentality. However, individually, feelings had no significant influence on instrumentality but a significant relationship was found between general concepts and instrumentality. There was also no relationship between feelings and instrumentality whereas a significant relationship was found between general concepts and instrumentality. This area has also not been researched. The influence of general concepts about marriage on instrumentality of sex could be attributed to the seemingly common cultural views about the purpose of sex especially among Africans. Cultural studies are therefore needed to explore the extent of these influences as the present study did not take into consideration cultural differences.

Hypothesis 3 predicted that adolescents' attitudes towards marriage would have an influence on the three facets of sexual behaviour including the behaviour facet, attitude facet and desire facet. The results of hypothesis 3 are discussed below according to the three facets.

There was no significant joint or individual influence of feelings and general concepts on the behaviour facet but general concepts towards marriage were shown to have a relationship with the behaviour facet. However, it is reported though in the reviewed literature that adolescent

sexual behaviours are influenced by their desire for marriage as their long term goal (Mutinta et al., 2012). According to those findings, young adults seem to feel that marriage inhibits their sexual expression which gives an indication that the more negative attitude they have towards marriage, the more or less they are likely to engage in risky sexual behaviours. This could explain the positive relationship found between general concepts and the behaviour facet. Clark et al. (2009) had a supportive view of the above findings and also reported that young people's sexual behaviours were influenced by their desire to find a suitable marital partner based on the life course theory. The theory does not disregard the views that sexual behaviours are largely shaped by their social and cultural environments. It only emphasizes the urgency of the need for adolescents to shape their life trajectories. This urgency could, however, be influenced by socio-cultural life and future research can take that direction.

The results also indicated no joint or individual influence of feelings and general concepts on the attitude facet. However, there was a significant relationship indicated between feelings towards marriage and the attitude facet and no relationship between general concepts and the attitude facet. To contradict the above results, a study by Wolf, Morrell, Halpern & Felsner (2013) indicated the relationship between general concepts of marriage and sexual attitudes. It appears that sexually experienced adolescents do not believe that marriage is a necessary boundary to engage in sexual behaviours (Wolf et al., 2013). The social exchange theory claims that individuals unconsciously weigh rewards and costs in social engagements (Coon & Mitterer, 2010). Adolescents who have sexual experience may be motivated or demotivated by the consequences of their previous encounters. This in turn, may be the determinant of their relative attitudes towards marriage. Casual sex is actually considered a tool to make a decision of who to marry (Davis & Niebes-Davis, 2010).

Seemingly, feelings and general concepts have been shown to have no joint influence on the desire facet. Feelings also individually had no significant influence on the desire facet, however, general concepts were alone shown to have a significant influence on the desire facet. Likewise, no relationship was found between feelings and the desire facet while a significant relationship was found between general concepts and the desire facet. The supporting literature indicates that, casual sex, which often results in risky sexual behaviour was found to be less desirable for adolescents who have positive concepts or views towards marriage, particularly those raised by married parents as those raised by single parents had doubts about marriage (Simons et al., 2013). This view is supported by the Bowenian family system theory which is the theoretical framework of the present study. This theory argues that adolescents relate to men the same way their mothers do as there are predictable patterns of interpersonal relationships in family units which are also interrelated (Corey, 2009). This is, however, not applicable to all families as there seems to be adolescents who were raised by single mothers and still have a positive view towards marriage. Religious factors may also shape sexual desires and must be taken into consideration in future studies.

6.3. CONCLUSION

This study revealed that there are no major significant differences of marriage attitudes in relation to sexual behaviours between female adolescents raised by single mothers and those raised by both parents. There were, however, differences in birth control between the two groups whereby those raised by single parents were less likely to consider birth control than those raised by both parents. The differences can be attributed to the perception that the presence of a father serves as negative reinforcement to risky sexual behaviour (Mancini, 2010; East et al., 2007; Golombok & Badger, 2010). Marriage attitudes were found to have some influence on aspects of

sexual attitudes and behaviours but there is no adequate literature to support the finding showing a need for further studies in this area. The significance of the results of the study will inform birth control programmes, parenting styles programmes and add on the literature on how attitudes towards marriage influence sexual behaviours.

6.4. STRENGTHS AND LIMITATIONS

The strengths of this study include the fact that this is one of the few studies in South Africa to research how marriage attitudes and behaviours influence adolescents' sexual behaviours. It has therefore contributed to the existing body of literature in a significant way and has opened the door for future research. Another factor is that this study compared two groups of adolescents raised by single mothers and those raised by both parents instead of one group. This also contributes to the literature about marriage attitudes and sexual behaviours of adolescents raised by both parents even though they were a control group. This study also used a psychometrically reliable instrument that was validated in South Africa to measure marriage perceptions and attitudes.

There are, however, several limitations of this study that are worth considering. The respondents were not recruited in a systematic way and this limits the generalisability of these findings. This resulted in over-representation of Setswana speaking adolescents. Cultural factors may influence the findings differently. The study also used self-report measures and the desire to appear good may have influenced the responses as sex is a sensitive issue. It is also worth mentioning that the Marital Attitude Scale had a low alpha coefficient which may have placed limitations on the accuracy of the results even though it was interpreted with caution. This study also only looked at whether being raised by a single mother influences adolescents more negatively than being

raised by both parents. It did not take into consideration the difference in ages, sex, culture, religion and other social aspects worth considering. The findings were mostly supported by literature from other countries. Future studies are necessary to explore these factors in a South African context.

6.5. RECOMMENDATIONS

The findings of this study indicated some differences in the way adolescents raised by single mothers perceive marriage and behave sexually as compared to those raised by both parents. Theories in the literature indicate how these influences may be passed on from mother to daughter. Psycho-educational programmes by the Department of Health are therefore recommended for single mothers to equip them with adequate parenting skills as some literature indicates that adolescents raised in a more structured homes can also function well into adulthood.

This can be spread widely in the form of support groups where experienced single mothers can share their strengths and give others ways of grooming their daughters to be as well functioning as others. Single parents should be encouraged to have a trusted male figure for their children even if it is not their biological fathers, to give these children the opportunity to get the attention, protection, approval and affection they may look for in relationships with men. The mothers may also provide these conditions for their children. This may reduce their sexual permissiveness and give them more control over their sexual encounters.

The support groups can also be implemented for the young women themselves to serve as forums of support where successful individuals raised by single mothers may share their experiences on how they navigated through life. These adolescents may be mentored especially

those identified to be having challenges as identified by parents, teachers or the community. These can be implemented at any level starting from when the child is at primary school.

The benefits of not engaging in risky sexual behaviour and waiting for marriage to have sex may be revised. The Department of Health may collaborate with the Department of Arts and Culture to incorporate their efforts in getting adolescents to view marriage in different perspectives and knowing the benefits thereof as well as the benefits of non-risky sexual behaviours. The local Pastors may also be involved by bringing forth their knowledge of how young people can be discouraged from having sex outside marriage. It is, lastly, recommended that males also be involved as they are part of the rising concern of risky sexual behaviours.

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APPENDIX A

INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Enquiry: Nikiwe Belo
Cell: 0738978746
Email: nikiwebelo@gmail.com

Date: April 2013.

Research Title: Attitudes

Attitudes towards marriage on the sexual behaviour of female adolescents raised by single mothers.

Dear Participants

My name is Nikiwe Belo I am a post-graduate student of the Department of Psychology in the North West University (Mafikeng Campus).

You are invited to participate in this research. I will like you to assist me in filling the questionnaire. This will take about 25-30 minutes to complete.

You may choose to take part in the study or not. If you decide not to participate in the study, the quality of education you receive in this class will not be affected in any way. Even when you have chosen to participate, you are free to withdraw from the study at any stage you wish.

The questionnaire is completely anonymous, and you cannot be identified in any way. Your name will not be mentioned on the questionnaire. The information you will provide is confidential, and will only be available to my supervisor and myself.

I, _____, hereby **consent/ do not consent** to participating in the research being undertaken by Ms. Nikiwe Belo

Signature: _____

Date: _____

APPENDIX B

QUESTIONNAIRE

SECTION A

Dear Participants

This is a social psychology survey and the following questions are designed to measure your response to certain situations. There are many differences of opinions about this subject. We would like to know what you think of the subject. There are no rights or wrong answers; we are only interested in your opinion. It is important you answer every item. Please do not sign your name.

Biographical Data

1. Your age in _____ (Years).

Please tick the most appropriate response:

2. You are/were raised by single mother/caregiver ☐
Both parents/caregivers ☐

Please circle the response that is most appropriate to you (for statistical purpose)

3. Which racial group do you belong to?

1. Black
2. White
3. Coloured
4. Indian
5. Other (please specify)

4. Please indicate your ethnicity (e.g. tswana, zulu etc.)

SECTION B

Marital Attitude Scale

Please indicate by ticking how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding marriage:

1. People should marry

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

2. I have little confidence that my marriage will be a success

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

3. People should stay married to their spouses for the rest of their lives

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

4. Most couples are either unhappy in their marriage or are divorced

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

5. I will be satisfied when I get married

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

6. I am fearful of marriage

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

7. I have doubts about marriage

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

8. People should only get married if they are sure that it will last forever

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

9. People should be very cautious about entering into a marriage

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

10. Most marriages are unhappy situations

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

11. Marriage is only a legal contract

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

12. Marriage is a sacred act

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

13. Most marriages aren't equal partnerships.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

14. Most people have to sacrifice too much in marriage

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

15. Because half of all marriages end in divorce, marriage seems futile

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

16. If I divorce, I would probably remarry

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

17. When people don't get along, I believe they should divorce

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

18. I believe a relationship can be just as strong without having to go through the marriage ceremony

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

19. My lifelong dream includes a happy marriage

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

20. There is no such a thing as a happy marriage

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

21. Marriage restricts individuals from achieving their goals

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

22. People weren't meant to stay in one relationship for their entire lives

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

23. Marriage provides companionship that is missing from other types of Relationships

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	----------	-------------------

SECTION C

Brief Sexual Attitude Scale

Listed below are several statements that reflect different attitudes about sex. For each statement fill in the response on the answer sheet that indicates how much you agree or disagree with that statement. Some of the items refer to a specific sexual relationship, while others refer to general attitudes and beliefs about sex. Whenever possible, answer the questions with your current partner in mind. If you are not currently dating anyone, answer the questions with your most recent partner in mind. If you have never had a sexual relationship, answer in terms of what you think your responses would most likely be.

For each statement:

A = Strongly agree with statement

B = Moderately agree with the statement

C = Neutral - neither agree nor disagree

D = Moderately disagree with the statement

E = Strongly disagree with the statement



1. I do not need to be committed to a person to have sex with him/her.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

2. Casual sex is acceptable.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

3. I would like to have sex with many partners.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

4. One-night stands are sometimes very enjoyable.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

5. It is okay to have ongoing sexual relationships with more than one person at a time.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

6. Sex as a simple exchange of favours is okay if both people agree to it.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

7. The best sex is with no strings attached.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

8. Life would have fewer problems if people could have sex more freely.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

9. It is possible to enjoy sex with a person and not like that person very much.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

10. It is okay for sex to be just good physical release.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

11. Birth control is part of responsible sexuality.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

12. A woman should share responsibility for birth control.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

13. A man should share responsibility for birth control.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

14. Sex is the closest form of communication between two people.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

15. A sexual encounter between two people deeply in love is the ultimate human interaction.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

16. At its best, sex seems to be the merging of two souls.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

17. Sex is a very important part of life.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

18. Sex is usually an intensive, almost overwhelming experience.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

19. Sex is best when you let yourself go and focus on your own pleasure.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

20. Sex is primarily the taking of pleasure from another person.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

21. The main purpose of sex is to enjoy oneself.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

22. Sex is primarily physical.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

23. Sex is primarily a bodily function, like eating.

Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Neutral	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	------------------	---------	---------------------	-------------------

SECTION D

The Revised Socio-sexual Orientation Inventory (SOI-R)

Please respond honestly to all of the following questions. Tick the response most appropriate to you. Your responses will be treated confidentially and anonymously.

1. With how many different partners have you had sex within the past 12 months?

0	1	2	3	4	5-6	7-9	10-19	20 or more
---	---	---	---	---	-----	-----	-------	------------

2. With how many different partners have you had sexual intercourse on one and only one occasion?

0	1	2	3	4	5-6	7-9	10-19	20 or more
---	---	---	---	---	-----	-----	-------	------------

3. With how many different partners have you had sexual intercourse without having an interest in a long-term committed relationship with this person?

0	1	2	3	4	5-6	7-9	10-19	20 or more
---	---	---	---	---	-----	-----	-------	------------

4. Sex without love is OK.

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

5. I can imagine myself being comfortable and enjoying "casual" sex with different partners.

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

6. I do not want to have sex with a person until I am sure that we will have a long-term, serious relationship.

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

7. How often do you have fantasies about having sex with someone you are not in a committed romantic relationship with?

Never	Very seldom	About once every two or three months	About once a month	About once every two weeks	About once a week	Several times per week	Nearly every day	At least once a day
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

8. How often do you experience sexual arousal when you are in contact with someone you are not in a committed romantic relationship with?

Never	Very seldom	About once every two or three months	About once a month	About once every two weeks	About once a week	Several times per week	Nearly every day	At least once a day
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

9. In everyday life, how often do you have spontaneous fantasies about having sex with someone you have just met?

Never	Very seldom	About once every two or three months	About once a month	About once every two weeks	About once a week	Several times per week	Nearly every day	At least once a day
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!!!

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6th June 2014

CERTIFICATE OF LANGUAGE EDITING

TITLE OF DISSERTATION

Attitudes towards marriage on the sexual behavior of female adolescents raised by single mothers.

SUBMITTED BY

Nikiwe Eunice Belo
(Student No. 21438072)

FOR THE DEGREE OF

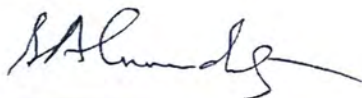
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