UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

MEDIATING EFFECT OF SELF-ESTEEM AND RELIGIOSITY IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STRESS, PEER SUBSTANCE USE, DEPRESSION AND DRUG ABUSE AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN SOMOLU, LAGOS, NIGERIA

UBA IKECHUKWU UZODINMA

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By

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Thesis submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

December 2013
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DEDICATION

This academic work is dedicated to the Almighty God and to the memory of my late father Emmanuel Chukwunyere Uba
Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

MEDIATING EFFECT OF SELF-ESTEEM AND RELIGIOSITY IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STRESS, PEER SUBSTANCE USE, DEPRESSION AND DRUG ABUSE AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN SOMOLU, LAGOS, NIGERIA

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December 2013

Chairperson: Siti Nor Yaacob, PhD

Faculty: Human Ecology

The present study examined the mediating effect of self-esteem and religiosity in the relationship between stress, peer substance use, depression and drug abuse in Somolu, Lagos, Nigeria, given the high drug abuse cases reported in the zone. Three hundred and fifty two adolescents aged 13 to 18 years (M=15.48, SD=1.53) participated in the study. The two theories (Bandura, 1977; Stryker, 1980) used in the present study highlighted two main assumptions. First, adolescents with high self-esteem can overcome stress, peer substance use and depression in relation to drug abuse. Second, adolescents with high levels of religiosity can also triumph over stress, peer substance use and depression in relation to drug abuse. Respondents were identified using multi-stage cluster sampling. The data was analyzed using descriptive statistics, t-test, ANOVA, Pearson correlation and regression analysis. Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST: Skinner, 1982) was used to assess drug abuse. Perceived Stress Scale (PSS) by Cohen (1983) was used to measure stress. Peer substance use sub-scale of the Communities that Care Youth Survey developed by Hawkins et al. (1992) was used to measure peer substance use. Beck Depression Inventory (BDI II) by Beck, Gregory and Steer (1996) was used to measure depression. Self-esteem was measured with the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale (Rosenberg, 1965), while Religiosity was measured with the Religious Background and Behaviors Questionnaire (RBB: Connors, Tonigan & Miller, 1996). The findings revealed that 36.9% (n = 130) of the adolescents in the study were substantial drug abusers, while 27% (95) were severe drug abusers. The results also indicated significant relationships among the main variables of the study (self-esteem, religiosity, stress, peer substance use, depression and drug abuse). Controlling for age and gender in the study, self-esteem appeared as the strongest unique predictor of drug abuse (Beta = -.407, p <.05) among adolescents, followed by peer substance use (Beta = .317, p <.05). The study also highlighted that self-esteem and religiosity are partial mediators of stress, peer substance use and depression in relation to drug abuse among respondents. The results emanating from
the present study lend support to the theories of Bandura (1977) and Stryker (1980) by emphasizing the partial mediation potential of self-esteem and religiosity in the relationship between stress, peer substance use, depression and drug abuse. Future research may broaden these early findings, to help achieve a clearer and comprehensive depiction of these relationships.
Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah

KESAN PERANTARAAN PENGHARGAAN DIRI DAN KEWARAKAN DALAM PERKAITAN ANTARA TEKANAN, PENGUNGAAN BAHAN RAKAN SEBAYA, KEMURUNGAN DAN PENYALAHGUNAAN DADAH DALAM KALANGAN REMAJA DI SOMOLU, LAGOS, NIGERIA

Oleh

UBA IKECHUKWU UZODINMA

Disember 2013

Chairperson: Siti Nor Yaacob, PhD

Fakulti: Ekologi Manusia

ini, penghargaan diri muncul sebagai peramal unik paling kuat penyalahgunaan dadah (Beta = -.407, p < .05) dalam kalangan remaja, diikuti dengan penggunaan bahan rakan sebaya (Beta =.317, p < .05). Kajian ini juga menunjukkan bahawa penghargaan diri dan kewarakan adalah pengantara separa bagi tekanan, penggunaan bahan rakan sebaya dan kemurungan berkaitan dengan penyalahgunaan dadah dalam kalangan responden. Hasil daripada kajian ini menyokong teori Bandura (1977) dan Stryker (1980) dengan menekankan potensi pengantara separa penghargaan diri dan kewarakan dalam perkaitan antara tekanan, penggunaan bahan rakan sebaya, kemurungan dan penyalahgunaan dadah. Kajian masa depan boleh meluaskan penemuan awal ini bagi menggambarkan perhubungan yang lebih jelas dan menyeluruh.
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I am also using this medium to appreciate my siblings and my mother for their relentless prayers for me in the course of this programme. Although in the progression of this programme, I lost my father who also doubles as my prayer warrior, however I know he will be smiling down for this academic achievement.

I am equally indebted to the numerous friends I made in the course of my academic pursuit at the University, many of whom are very close to my heart. Essentially, I am unable to express how all your sacrifices of love have helped in bringing me thus far. I am happy to note that you have all made immeasurable contribution to my life and for this I will forever remain grateful.

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December 2013
This thesis was submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The members of the Supervisory Committee were as follows:

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Declaration by graduate student

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Declaration by members of supervisory committee
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