




Predicting Adolescent Risk-Taking Behavior from Sensation Seeking and Peer Pressure

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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The sentence “Adolescents’ engagement in behaviors such as substance use, delinquency, reckless driving, and unsafe sexual practices raises considerable public health concerns globally...” would benefit from clearer regional contextualization. Given the focus on Nigerian adolescents, it would strengthen the argument to provide Nigerian-specific data or examples of risk behaviors to contextualize the global concern locally.

The phrase “convenience sampling from several secondary schools...” raises concerns about selection bias. Please clarify the criteria used to select schools and participants to address potential threats to external validity.

In the “Peer Pressure” subsection, the RPI scale is described. However, it is unclear how the scoring was handled (reverse-scoring, sum vs. average). Adding a sentence on scoring procedure would improve transparency and replicability.

While mean scores are reported, no information is given about the interpretation benchmarks (e.g., what score range defines “high” or “moderate” for these constructs). Clarify how these interpretations were determined to avoid arbitrary conclusions.

The authors mention “visual inspection of residual scatterplots showed homoscedasticity...” This is vague. Consider including statistical support (e.g., results from Breusch-Pagan or White’s test) or specify what patterns were sought during visual inspection.

The regression table lacks effect size measures such as Cohen’s f^2 or standardized beta squared. Including these would improve understanding of the strength of the predictors beyond statistical significance.

The authors state, “...might seek peers who reinforce or encourage risky behaviors...” This points to a possible mediational or reciprocal process. Consider suggesting longitudinal designs to explore directional or dynamic influences between peer networks and personality traits.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The sentence “Nigeria presents a valuable context for exploring these dynamics due to its rapidly evolving societal structure...” introduces valuable sociocultural justification. However, this claim would be more robust with empirical support (e.g., statistics or cited studies on urbanization, shifting adolescent norms, or family dynamics in Nigeria).

The final sentence, “This integrated approach seeks to contribute significantly to the theoretical understanding...”, is ambitious but vague. Consider specifying the theoretical frameworks being extended or tested (e.g., social learning theory, dual systems model) to reinforce the study’s conceptual relevance.

Although the intercept is significant, its interpretation is missing. Please briefly explain what a constant of 0.61 means in the context of risk-taking behavior, to facilitate interpretability for non-statistical readers.

The sentence “...confirm that sensation seeking and peer pressure significantly predicted adolescent risk-taking behavior...” could be strengthened by explicitly discussing the unique contribution of each predictor (as seen from beta values), rather than reiterating their statistical significance.

The authors write, “Peer acceptance represents a fundamental social reward for adolescents...” This is an insightful point. However, referencing psychological theories (e.g., self-determination theory or Maslow’s hierarchy) could enrich the theoretical discussion.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.