



RESEARCH ARTICLE

The Effect of Parenting on Young Adult Romantic Relationship Quality: A Longitudinal Study on Young Adults

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ABSTRACT

Parenting has been considered an important aspect of the development and success of an individual. However, how parenting may affect young adults in a very social-emotional-focused aspect of their life, a romantic relationship, is still undetermined. As such, this study is carried out to explore the relationship between parenting and aspects of the romantic relationship of young adults, namely the age of which the romantic relationship began, the age at which sexual relationship began, vaginal and oral sex, pregnancy, marriage, violence, and cohabitation in the relationship. Three data sets from the ICPSR's National Longitudinal Study of Young Adults (age 18 to 27) were used after the completion of the merging, cleansing, and transformation process. SPSS was used to analyze the correlation between parenting and aspects of the romantic relationship. The results revealed that of the 1727 relationships (47.0% of which are current), balanced between both genders (42.8% males, 57.2% females), all are listed as the first relationship. Furthermore, Pearson's correlation analysis showed that parenting had several significantly related covariates with romantic relationship. This study plays an important role in highlighting the certain limitations of good parenting to the expected outcome of young adults, especially in their social life, while serving as an entry point for further studies to investigate more significant predictors of these aspects of a young adult's romantic relationship ensuring quality well-being.

1. INTRODUCTION

The family background and previous parenting experience of an individual are important to many aspects of his or her life. This is because parenting has a great influence on the emotional, social, cognitive, and sexual development of a child (Altenburger and Schoppe-Sullivan, 2021; Dong et al., 2022; Wang et al., 2022; Cheshire et al., 2019). Therefore, it is often stated that the future success of an adolescent is largely based on the quality of parenting they receive. However, in addition to these fundamental development aspects of growth, romantic relationships also play an important role in the well-being of adolescents (Gómez-López et al., 2019; Ting et al., 2022). Youth who engage in romantic relationships are more mature psychosocially, while being more competent compared to peers who are not (Beckmeyer and Weybright, 2020; Ting et al., 2022). Therefore, it is important to determine how parenting affects romantic relationships that ensure the quality of the well-being of young adults. Previous studies have also shown how unhealthy interparental relationships such as interparental conflict and divorce have been shown to affect the romantic relationship of their children (Dijk et al., 2020; Lee 2018; Lee, 2019). Furthermore, parental expectations for their children might also affect how they approach the establishment of a romantic relationship, as

children seek the acceptance of their parents (Jamison and Lo, 2020; Szwedo et al., 2022). The core of this study is to discover how parenting affects multiple aspects of a young adult’s romantic relationship.

Problem Statements

Expressing and recognizing parenting is important for young adults’ view of romantic relationships. The family relationship is the first intimate relationship of the child’s life, and the children will apply what they learn to later relationships (Rutkowski, 2018). The family environment and the quality of parenting experienced during adolescence are two family factors that could exert enduring influences on the functioning of young adults’ romantic relationships (Xia et al., 2018). Children who grow up in positive family settings with effective parenting are more likely to have healthy social relationships as young adults. Studies have also shown that different styles of parenting may affect children's development and performances in many ways, including their academic performance (Wang et al., 2018), creativity (Dong et al., 2022), and even emotion regulation (Wang et al., 2022). However, various emotional traits and behaviors of adolescents have a correlation with their romantic relationship (Sidhu et al., 2019; Golmaryami et al., 2021). Yet, few studies have shown parenting directly related to their romantic relationships.

Chan and Leung (2020) research has shown that parental status, such as marriage and pregnancy, would have serious effects for the children’s future development and romantic relationship. As parents are the children’s model, children would follow their parents’ behavior as they are too young to clarify what is correct and what is wrong. For example, if parents show love to their children, the children will show love to the person they have met and were to meet. Few studies have shown how children with inferior parenting quality will affect their romantic relationship.

Research Objectives

1. To explore the relationship between parenting and the age of young adults beginning sexual activity in a romantic relationship.
2. To explore the relationship between parenting and the oral sex in romantic relationship.
3. To explore the relationship between parenting at the age of a young adult when their romantic relationship began.
4. To explore the relationship between parenting in young adult vaginal intercourse in romantic relationship.
5. To explore the relationship between parenting and domestic violence in a young adult’s romantic relationship.
6. To explore the relationship between parenting and the cohabitation of young adults with their romantic partner.
7. To explore the relationship between parenting and pregnancy in young adult’s romantic relationship.
8. To explore the relationship between parenting and marriage in the romantic relationship of young adults.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Parenting is viewed as a key factor in the multi-aspect development of a child, especially since they are the first party the child meets from birth, as well as being the predominant dependency of the child in the initial decade of their lives. Parents act as the first educators of their children, directly and indirectly influencing what they learn and care of (Learning Disabilities Association of America). In line with this, many studies have been conducted to show how parenting affects various areas of child development, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Impacts of parenting on child development.

Covariate	Detailed Variables	Previous Studies
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Demographic	Age, level of parental education, income of parents, family socioeconomic status (SES). Primary caregiver, family asset index, and parents' migration for work	Qian et al., 2020; Wang et al., 2022 Wang et al., 2022; Altenburger and Schoppe-Sullivan, 2021 Wang et al., 2022
Emotional development	Effortful control subscale score of the Early Adolescent Temperament Questionnaire Revised (EATQ-R) Effortful Control Subscale Score Emotion Regulation Checklist (ERC) Score Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social Emotional Score NIH Toolbox Cognitive Function Battery Computerised Flanker Task Score, The Impulsivity Scale for Children Score, and Revised Infant Behavior Questionnaire-Very Short Form Score	Wang et al., 2018 Qian et al., 2020 Wang et al., 2022 Altenburger and Schoppe-Sullivan, 2021
Social development	Four-Dimensional Classroom Engagement Score Infant-Toddler Social-Emotional Assessment (ITSEA) Attention Subscale Score Problem-solving, interpersonal and assertiveness skills, constructive communication and negotiation strategies	Wang et al., 2018 Altenburger and Schoppe-Sullivan, 2021 Xia et al., 2018
Cognitive development	Bayley Scales of Infant Development (BSID) Mental Development Index, Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence-Fourth Edition (WPPSI-IV) Full Scale Intelligence Quotient (FSIQ) and Griffith Mental Development Scale (GMDS-ER) Score Creative Self-Efficacy Scale (CSC) Score, Kaufman Domains of Creativity Scale (K-DOCS) Score, Aurora battery creative subtest score and Evaluation of Potential Creativity product-orientated measure score Chinese, English and Math test scores and teacher's rating on students' global academic performance	Wang et al., 2022 Dong et al., 2022 Wang et al., 2018
Sexual development	Sexual agency, sexual health Parent-child communication about sexuality, behaviors indicative of sexual risk Perceptions of teens' experiences of sexuality communication, reasons for sexuality communication, comfort (or discomfort) talking about sex, and perceptions of teens' experiences of sexuality communication Sexual risk and knowledge, timing of sex and contraception, parental disapproval, parent-adolescent sexual communication, sexual attitudes, and behaviours	Klein et al., 2018 Padilla-Walker, 2018 Grossman et al., 2018 Cheshire et al., 2019

One of the fields of child development in which studies have shown that parenting affects is emotional development. The effort of a child to control himself, which refers to his ability to manage emotions through appropriate suppression of behavioural responses, has a direct relationship with parenting (Wang et al., 2018). If a child had experiences with harsh parenting, be it from paternal, maternal, or

both sources, they are less able to control their emotions and subsequent actions. This can be understood because their parents too instigated that there was no need of emotion regulation through their harsh parenting styles, hence imprinting this mindset and passing it down to their children. Regarding the coparenting relationship, it is found that the better the relationship, the more capable the children are of regulating emotions (Qian et al., 2020). In addition, parental beliefs are also said to influence the emotional development of children (Wang et al., 2022) when belief of parenting roles transforms into practical acts and actual care for the children. Within the same scope of development, impulsive behaviours decreased as parental quality and supportive co-parenting increased (Altenburger and Schoppe-Sullivan, 2021).

The social development of a child is another major aspect affected by parenting. Negative parenting qualities, such as harsh parenting, lower the social acceptance and ability of a child, seen through lower participation in classroom studies (Wang et al., 2018; Ting et al., 2024). Due to the lack of positive parenting and support, children may lack the motivation to pay attention to given instructions and to participate in activity participation. Furthermore, interpersonal skills of an adolescent were shown to be affected by parenting practices (Xia et al., 2018). Parenting quality has also expanded to affect one's social impulsivity and attention capacity (Altenburger and Schoppe-Sullivan, 2021), two very important contributors to maintaining comfortable communication and social interaction.

In addition to emotional and social development, cognitive development is significant for a child and, as research shows, is equally affected by parenting. An authoritative parenting style, though strict, allows warmth and affection to be felt, has positive effects on a child's intelligence compared to a strict but punishment-based authoritarian parenting style (Wang et al., 2022). As children are cared for, they are more willing and encouraged to better learn compared to the fear caused by the opposite. Other studies also show that the autonomy and participation support of both parents positively influenced a child (Dong et al., 2022). Furthermore, academic performance, which is often emphasized by parents, is directly impacted by parenting styles. Harsh parenting causes decreased academic performance regardless of gender (Wang et al., 2018).

The study also shows that parental influences play an important role in determining sexual behaviour and beliefs (Klein et al., 2018). Communication about sex and matters regarding sex between parents and children will influence the way children deal with it in their life. Emotional support and encouraging autonomy can contribute to a healthier sexual behaviour and reproductive health in young adulthood. Sex education and information provided by parents to their children, especially during the period of their adolescence, is important, although some may still find the topic sensitive for the age group. Teen-parent conversations about sexuality are important not only for exposure but also in promoting safer sexual activity (Padilla-Walker, 2018; Crandall et al., 2017). It has been proven to be effective in reducing pregnancies in teens and preventing sexually transmitted infections (Grossman et al., 2018). In addition to parenting methods, parents themselves, coupled with their religious beliefs and their disapproval of adolescent sexual engagement, have also seen a trend in decreasing the total number of sexual partners an adolescent might have in their lifetime (Cheshire et al., 2019).

The development of emotional, social, cognitive and sexual capacities, as mentioned in these previous studies, is a fundamental part of each adolescent's current and ongoing life, whether from an academic, career or even familial perspective. Therefore, it is no question that these areas of development shown to be affected by parental-related covariates, such as parenting quality, parenting style, parenting support and interparental relationship will, too, extend to impact the romantic relationship of adolescents. This can be seen as the commitment to romantic relationships also requires (i) social-emotional support such as being understanding and trustworthy, both of which stems from well-executed and established developments of social-emotional capacities; (ii) cognitive intelligence in sharing intellectual ideas and resolving disputes in the relationship, which is derived from the general ability to understand knowledge as well as problem-solving skills; and (iii) sexual intimacy in terms of being the sexual partner to the other party in the relationship (Kim, 2006). Therefore, if all these aspects are affected by parenting, and these aspects will have an impact to one's romantic relationship, it can be said that parenting, in fact, indirectly affects the romantic relationship with the different areas of development as mediator. This brings about a desire to

discover whether there is a direct relationship between parenting and areas within romantic relationships.

From the perspective of romantic relationships, there has also been interests in the factors that affect the relationship. As the relationship develops and is well-preserved, the couple may take a step towards marriage; whilst dissatisfied couples may just go their separate ways, never making it to marriage. As such, although there was little research, it was done in an attempt to connect different factors to the satisfaction levels of romantic relationships (Table 2).

Table 2. Covariates of the romantic relationship in previous studies

Covariate	Detailed Variables	Previous Studies
Demographic	Age Gender Ethnicity	Golmaryami et al., 2021 Golmaryami et al., 2021; Balzen et al., 2022; Heifetz et al., 2019; Brauer et al., 2022 Golmaryami et al., 2021
Emotional development	MSCEIT measure of emotional intelligence, Trait Meta-Mood Scale (TMMS), Bar-On Emotional Quotient Inventory, and Goleman: Mixed Model of Emotional Intelligence Inventory of Callous-Unemotional Traits, General Delinquency Scale, Revised Sociosexual Orientation Inventory, Explicit Facet of the Perceptions of Dating Infidelity Scale, Revised Conflict Tactics Scale, Resource Control Strategies Inventory (RCSI), and Perceived Relationship Quality Component (PRQC)	Sidhu et al., 2019 Golmaryami et al., 2021
Social development	Narcissistic Admiration and Rivalry Questionnaire (NARQ), Brief Pathological Narcissism Inventory Vulnerability Subscale, Daily Diary Questionnaires regarding relationship satisfaction, jealousy, and availability for alternatives Romantic Desire, The Dating Questionnaire (DQ), Courting Behavior Scale (CBS), The Teen Timetable and The Children's Social Behaviour Questionnaire (CSBQ)	Balzen et al., 2022 Heifetz et al., 2019
Intellectual development	Wechsler Abbreviated Scale of Intelligence (WASI)	Heifetz et al., 2019
Partner similarity	Values-in-Action Inventory of Strengths (VIA-IS)	Brauer et al., 2022

The seemingly main factor researchers are interested in is how emotional intelligence plays a role in a romantic relationship. Emotionally aware partners are more satisfied with their relationship with the other party (Sidhu et al., 2019). This is due to the increased number of agreements through understanding and tolerating, both coming from an emotionally aware partner. Further extended research is also in line with this finding that emotional intelligence is important in a relationship. A person who has callous unemotional traits, one that lacks respect for other's feelings and empathy, is reported to have lower relationship satisfaction (Golmaryami et al., 2021). This is because they do not take much care on their partners and the needs in the relationship. The same study also linked that this lack of emotional capacity is also a predictor of relationship dominance and violence.

Another factor that raised suspicion in affecting the satisfaction levels in a romantic relationship is an individual's social skills. Certain dimensions of narcissism were shown to have impact relationship satisfaction, more predominantly vulnerable traits of narcissism (Balzen et al., 2022). These people

who have this trait are more sensitive towards social isolation and rejection, which might suggest one to believe that they will try their best to maintain a healthy relationship with their partner; yet this overattachment and fear might be interpreted as distrust and constraint, which causes the relationship to deteriorate. Social capacities, coupled with intellectual development, are also influential in a romantic relationship. This can be seen when a partial portion of youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) were unable to differentiate romantic relationships from friendships (Heifetz et al., 2019). This may also affect your romantic awareness and, ultimately, the relationship itself.

The similarity between partners has also shown a pattern in romantic relationships, especially heart-related and spirituality similarities. Similarities between partners in terms of spirituality, mostly affected by their religious beliefs, have the strongest effect size, which is understood as partners from the same religion will also share many aspects of similarities (Brauer et al., 2022). In addition to that, similar character strengths and emotional expressiveness are also observed between partners in a romantic relationship.

In conclusion, we can see that the emotional, social, cognitive, and sexual development of children, including adolescents, is affected by parenting. Studies on romantic relationships have also revealed that one's emotional, social, intelligence, and similarity are factors considered in romantic relationships. Of these factors, most of them are influenced by parenting. Therefore, this study is motivated to derive a direct connection between parenting and romantic relationships, without various developmental aspects as mediator.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A total of three ICPSR datasets were used: DS8 on demographics and parenting, DS9 regarding romantic relationships, and DS11 regarding romantic relationships in detail. The variables relevant to this study were merged from these data sets using IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor, which is 53 variables in the final data set (Table 3). There are a total of 16 variables in the demographic and parenting category, while the category of romantic relationship and its details have 9 and 26 variables, respectively.

Table 3. Details of the variables in the final data set.

	Total variables	Description	
AID	1	Respondent identifier	
RRELNO	1	Number of romantic relationships	
DS8 Demographic and parenting	- 16	Biological sex Calculated age Month of interview Ever adopted Ever live in a foster home Where respondent lives Ever run away from home? Ever been homeless a week/more	Ever stayed homeless shelter Parents ever ordered to move out Ever lived care/treatment home By 6 grd times left home alone By 6 grd needs not taken care By 6 grd times being hit/kick By 6 grd times touch sexual way By 6 grd often social service investigate
DS9 Romantic relationship	- 9	Partner's age at interview Sex of partner Relationship current Relationship >= 3 months Sex in relationship	Pregnancy in relationship Pregnancy no. in relationship Marriage in relationship Cohabitation in relationship
DS11 Romantic	- 26	A romantic relationship R's age at meeting P P's age at meeting R	VI once or more P performed oral sex (POS) POS occasions

<p>relationship in detail</p>		<p>R's age romantic relationship began P's age romantic relationship began Month romantic relationship began Year romantic relationship began R's age sexual relationship began P's age sexual relationship began Month sexual relationship began Year sexual relationship began Vaginal Intercourse (vi) Length acquaintance pre-VI</p>	<p>R performed oral sex (ROS) ROS occasions Freq. R violent to P Freq. P violent to R Freq. R hits P Freq. P hit R Freq. R forced sex on P Freq. P forced sex on R Freq. R injured by P Freq. P injured by R</p>
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The merged data set is then cleansed according to the specified steps (Figure 1). Cases without number of romantic relationships and month of interview are removed, leaving only cases with data for both variable categories for analysis. Subsequently, variables that have missing values of above 30% are removed. The missing values for the remaining variables are examined for suitability of replacement; those that fulfil preset assumptions are replaced with suitable values as assumed; otherwise, cases which contain missing values are removed. At the end of the cleansing, a total of 1727 cases are valid for subsequent analyses. In the data transformation stage, multiple of the detailed questionnaire items (sub questions asked only if certain conditions are fulfilled in the main question) contain missing values, indicating that these cases are not involved in the event. As such, these missing values are replaced with relevant new values reflecting their responses in the main question item. This assumption holds for three variables. If the answer to the main question 'partner has ever performed oral sex' (H3RD58) is 'no', there will be a missing value in the sub-question 'partner has performed oral sex occasions' (H3RD60) due to a legitimate skip. Therefore, this missing value is replaced by '0' to indicate that when the partner has never performed oral sex, there are no occasions. The same assumption is applied to 'respondent ever performed oral sex' (H3RD70) and its associated sub-question "respondent performed oral sex occasions' (H3RD72), as well as "pregnancy in relationship' (H3TR9) and its associated sub-question 'number of pregnancies' (H3TR10). After the transformation process, the final data set is analysed. Microsoft Excel was used to plot multiple column charts that reflect the demographics as well as interesting patterns such as the age distribution based on the age of which the romantic relationship began. Then, by using bivariate Pearson's correlation analysis in IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor, the correlation between parenting and romantic relationship was analysed.

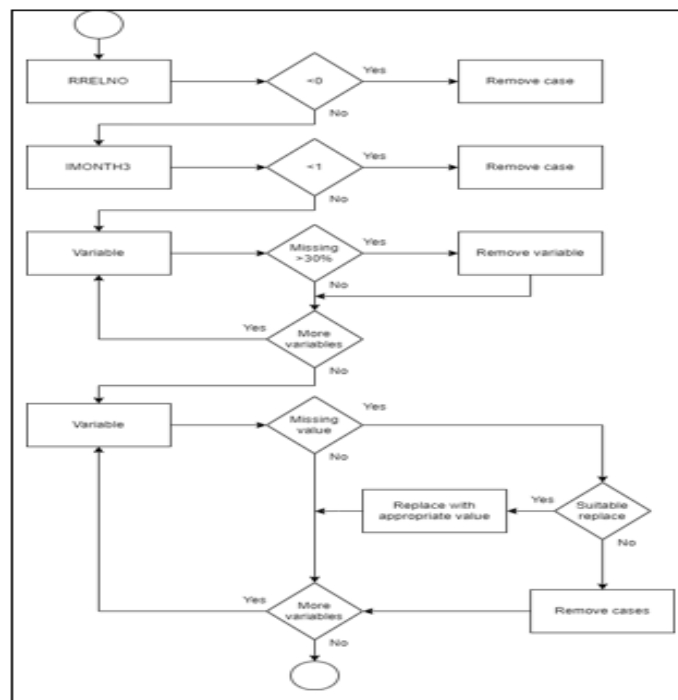


Figure 1. Data cleansing and transformation procedure.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Respondent (R) Demographics

In the final dataset, there are 1727 valid cases. Of these cases, 100% of them have listed their experience of romantic relationship as 1st (first) relationship (Table 4). Furthermore, the gender distribution of the respondents is slightly inclined towards women at 57.2% with 987 cases recorded, while men comprise 42.8% at 740 cases. Regarding the age distribution, it is consistent with a normal distribution (Figure 2), and most of the respondents aged between 19 and 24, peaking at 23 years of age.

Table 4. Respondent demographics.

		Frequency	Percentage (%)
Relationship number	1st	1727	100.0
Gender	Male	740	42.8
	Female	987	57.2
Total number of respondents		1727	100.0

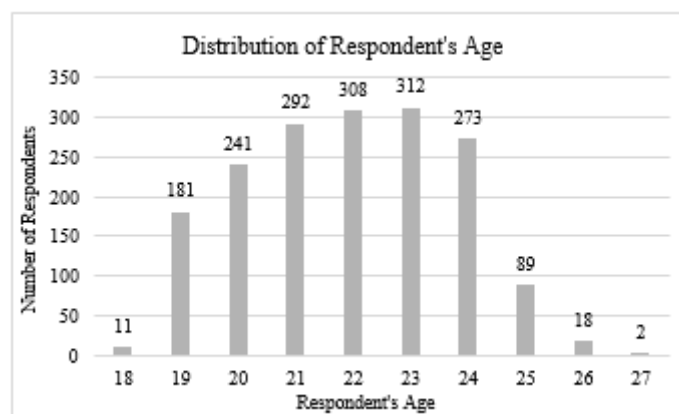


Figure 2. Distribution of the age of the respondent

Romantic Relationship Patterns

Of the 1727 romantic relationships, most occurred when the respondents are between 14 and 21 years of age (Figure 3), showing an adherence to a normal distribution. The peak of the beginning of these relationships is at the age of 18, in which a total of 303 cases (17.54%) were recorded (17.54%). This may be because age 18 is when an adolescent truly develops adult-like thinking and begins to think and plan for their future (Vanbuskirk, 2022). These young adults want to make personal decisions, especially those in their social life, and may decide to step into romantic relationships.

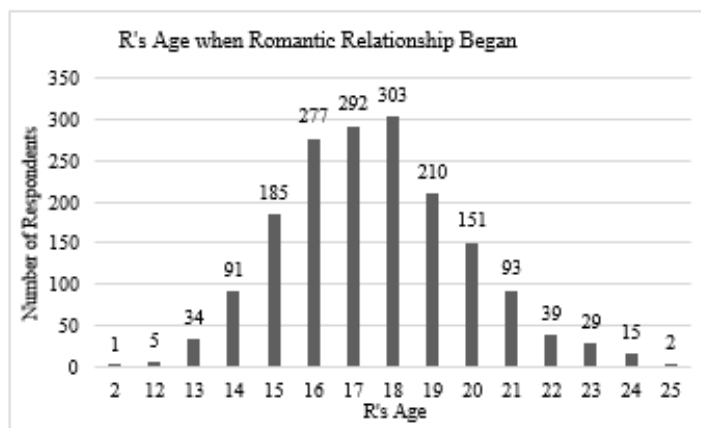


Figure 3. Distribution of the age when romantic relationship began.

However, the romantic partners to whom the respondents are attached in these relationships may not be new to them. A total of 1052 respondents @ have known their romantic partners (P) before the age of 17, while the remaining contribute to the other ages (Figure 4). This sheds light on an interesting perspective on romantic relationships on whether the duration of acquaintance may affect the choice of romantic partner. However, it is still evident that the age distribution of respondent's age when meeting their partner follows a normal distribution centered around age 16, which is mildly resemblant to the age when the romantic relationship began.

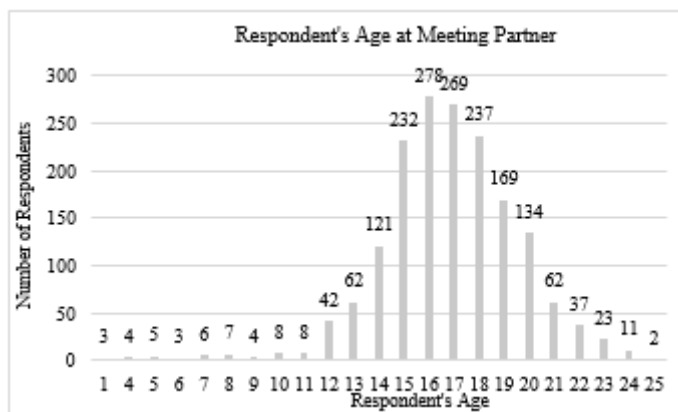


Figure 4. Distribution of the age at meeting their partner

Parenting and Romantic Relationship (RR)

According to the analysis, parenting is not substantially associated with the age at which sexual activity started in the romantic relationship (Table 5). This remains in line with articles that have shown a variety of factors that may influence the age in which sexual activity is started, including parenting and other factors. For example, parenting covariates included living in a family with alcohol abuse, while other factors such as lack of knowledge of sexual health and attitude towards schooling also played a role (Lara and Abdo, 2016). Other factors that reduce the chances that young adults have an early sexual debut are living in urban areas, attending private schools, and orientation to pregnancy (França and Frio, 2018). An interesting finding is that if young adults have experienced

that their needs are not taken care of, the age at which they begin sexual activity in a romantic relationship is reduced.

Table 5. Pearson’s correlation coefficient of parenting on young adult’s age that starts sexual activity in an RR.

		Sex in relationship?	R’s Age Sexual Rel. Began	P’s age sexual relationship Began	Month Sexual Rel. Began	Year sexual relationship Began
Where respondent lives at	Pearson Correlation	-0.026	-0.027	0.023	-0.065**	-0.128**
	Sig.	0.289	0.266	0.331	0.007	0.000
Ever run away from home	Pearson Correlation	-0.012	-0.056*	0.030	-0.032	-0.057*
	Sig.	0.617	0.021	0.215	0.187	0.017
Ever been homeless a week/more	Pearson Correlation	0.002	-0.022	-0.006	-0.061*	-0.017
	Sig.	0.926	0.365	0.812	0.011	0.469
Ever stayed homeless shelter	Pearson Correlation	-0.055*	-0.021	0.006	-0.003	-0.012
	Sig.	0.022	0.372	0.817	0.909	0.632
Parents ever ordered move out	Pearson Correlation	-0.012	-0.076**	-0.024	0.005	-0.032
	Sig.	0.606	0.002	0.325	0.824	0.188
Ever lived care/treatment home	Pearson Correlation	-0.036	-0.053*	-0.001	-0.024	-0.016
	Sig.	0.133	0.027	0.981	0.328	0.495
By 6 grd needs not taken care	Pearson Correlation	-0.039	0.090**	0.048*	-0.006	0.049*
	Sig.	0.109	0.000	0.047	0.789	0.043

* The correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

According to the analysis, parenting is not substantially associated with the oral sex in romantic relationship (Table 6). Parenting is not the main and direct influence on the young adult’s performing of oral sex performance in their romantic relationship. The most prominent factors include lower self-efficacy in refusing sex and having peer norms supportive of risky sexual behaviours, both of which will more likely cause young adults to perform oral sex (Salazar et al., 2011).

Table 6. Pearson’s correlation coefficient of parenting on young adult oral sex in a romantic relationship.

		P Performed Oral Sex (POS)?	POS Once or More	R Performed oral sexual sex (ROS)?	ROS Once or More
Where respondent lives at	Pearson Correlation	0.078**	0.071**	0.074**	0.076**
	Sig.	0.001	0.003	0.002	0.002
Parents ever ordered move out	Pearson Correlation	0.074**	0.065**	0.055*	0.056*
	Sig.	0.002	0.007	0.022	0.020
By 6 grd times being hit/kick	Pearson Correlation	-0.047	-0.024	-0.056*	-0.043
	Sig.	0.051	0.315	0.020	0.076

* The correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

The four dependent variables: The age of R, the age of P, the month and the year when the romantic relationship began were analysed for their correlation with the 13 independent variables representing parenting. According to the analysis, the result shows that parenting is not correlated with the age of the young adult when their romantic relationship started (Table 7). It is more likely that a young person’s mental state is a more impactful factor that affects the age of the young adult when their romantic relationship begins (Richardson et al., 2021). Lack of love and companionship may also be a key to their early or delayed start to their romantic relationship, hence the starting age.

Table 7. Pearson’s correlation coefficient of parenting on young adults’ age when their RR began.

		R's age romantic relationship began	P's age romantic relationship began	Month romantic relationship began	Year romantic relationship began
Where respondent lives at	Pearson Correlation	-0.04	0.01	-0.05	-.121**
	Sig.	0.10	0.60	0.05	0.00
Ever run away from home	Pearson Correlation	-.060*	0.04	-0.02	-.051*
	Sig.	0.01	0.08	0.37	0.03
Ever been homeless a week/more	Pearson Correlation	-0.01	0.00	-.049*	0.01
	Sig.	0.81	0.96	0.04	0.75
Parents ever ordered move out	Pearson Correlation	-.056*	-0.01	0.03	-0.01
	Sig.	0.02	0.54	0.28	0.81
By 6 grd needs not taken care	Pearson Correlation	.078**	0.03	-0.03	0.04
	Sig.	0.00	0.18	0.26	0.09
By 6 grd often social service investigate	Pearson Correlation	-0.04	0.02	0.00	-.054*
	Sig.	0.09	0.35	0.93	0.03

* The correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

The two dependent variables: length of acquaintance before the first vaginal intercourse and occasions of vaginal intercourse (once or more) are analysed to determine whether a correlation is present with the 13 independent variables. The analysis shows that not all dependent variables are significantly correlated with the covariates of parenting (Table 8). According to previous studies, in addition to one-sided and constrictive parenting, it is also important to establish two-way communication and emotional support. This coupled with the encouragement of autonomy can contribute to healthier sexual behaviour in young adulthood (Klein et al., 2018).

Table 8. Pearson’s correlation coefficient of parenting on young adults’ age when their RR began.

		Length Acquaint. Pre-VI	VI Once or More

Ever live in foster home	Pearson Correlation	-.092**	0.03
	Sig.	0.00	0.16
Ever run away from home	Pearson Correlation	-.105**	.060*
	Sig.	0.00	0.01
Ever been homeless a week/more	Pearson Correlation	-.083**	0.05
	Sig.	0.00	0.05
Ever stayed homeless shelter	Pearson Correlation	-.069**	0.03
	Sig.	0.00	0.21
Parents ever ordered move out	Pearson Correlation	-.129**	0.04
	Sig.	0.00	0.09
Ever lived care/treatment home	Pearson Correlation	-.086**	-0.01
	Sig.	0.00	0.65
By 6 grd times left home alone	Pearson Correlation	.071**	0.02
	Sig.	0.00	0.38
By 6 grd needs not taken care	Pearson Correlation	.109**	0.03
	Sig.	0.00	0.15
By 6 grd times being hit/kick	Pearson Correlation	.084**	0.00
	Sig.	0.00	0.88
By 6 grd times touch sexual way	Pearson Correlation	.070**	.062**
	Sig.	0.00	0.01

* The correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

It is seen that, in the scope of our analysis, parenting is not significantly correlated with domestic violence in the romantic relationship (Table 9). This may be because dating violence is not only dependent on parenting, but also on various other factors such as an individual’s self-description, social desirability, and also interparental and parental violence (Cénat et al., 2022). Although parenting styles may contribute to the possibility of violence in a romantic relationship (Muiz-Rivas et al., 2019), the variables chosen to represent parenting in this study depicts the parents’ closeness and providence of parents to their children, as opposed to their parenting styles, hence why an association was not reached. An interesting finding that can be noted for four variables, being left at home, needs not taken care of, being hit or kicked, and touching in sexual way, all by the sixth grade, is that they are all negatively associated, with most of them significantly, with violence in the romantic relationship. This means that if young adults have any of such experiences listed, the domestic violence in the relationship is reduced. This phenomenon can be attributed to partner selection, where abusiveness, composed of both aggressiveness and violence, remains one of the factored dealbreakers of mate preference (Csajbók and Berkics, 2022).

Table 9. Pearson’s correlation coefficient of parenting on domestic violence in young adult RR.

		Freq. R Viole nt To P	Freq. P Viole nt To R	Freq. R Hit P	Freq. P Hit R	Freq. R Force d Sex On P	Freq. P Force d Sex On R	Freq. R Injure d By P	Freq. P Injure d By R
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Ever live in foster home	Pearson Correlation	0.093*	0.087*	0.095*	0.093*	0.019	-0.006	0.024	-0.003
	Sig.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.429	0.790	0.313	0.916
Ever run away from home	Pearson Correlation	0.116*	0.102*	0.118*	0.089*	0.102*	0.047	0.064*	0.047
	Sig.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.052	0.007	0.051
Ever been homeless a week/more	Pearson Correlation	0.102*	0.120*	0.128*	0.111*	0.059*	0.031	0.080*	0.061*
	Sig.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.015	0.203	0.001	0.012
Ever stayed homeless shelter	Pearson Correlation	0.033	0.034	0.013	0.004	0.049*	0.030	0.005	-0.014
	Sig.	0.172	0.156	0.583	0.855	0.042	0.220	0.850	0.570
Parents ever ordered move out	Pearson Correlation	0.085*	0.097*	0.075*	0.100*	0.034	0.076*	0.076*	0.050*
	Sig.	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.160	0.002	0.002	0.037
Ever lived care/treatment home	Pearson Correlation	0.061*	0.116*	0.044	0.100*	0.069*	0.014	0.013	-0.002
	Sig.	0.011	0.000	0.069	0.000	0.004	0.550	0.590	0.938
By 6 th grade times left home alone	Pearson Correlation	-0.073*	-0.040	0.067*	-0.033	-0.049*	-0.050*	0.052*	0.049*
	Sig.	0.002	0.100	0.005	0.167	0.040	0.036	0.030	0.040
By 6 th grade needs not taken care	Pearson Correlation	-0.053*	-0.055*	0.071*	0.063*	0.118*	-0.061*	-0.032	-0.028
	Sig.	0.029	0.022	0.003	0.008	0.000	0.011	0.183	0.243
By 6 th grade times being hit/kick	Pearson Correlation	0.090*	-0.039	0.085*	0.053*	0.111*	0.082*	0.056*	0.071*
	Sig.	0.000	0.105	0.000	0.028	0.000	0.001	0.020	0.003
By 6 th grade times touch sexual way	Pearson Correlation	0.073*	-0.047	0.069*	0.077*	0.146*	0.073*	0.094*	0.106*
	Sig.	0.002	0.052	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.000
By 6 th grade often social service investigate	Pearson Correlation	0.068*	0.053*	0.056*	0.044	-0.009	0.031	0.080*	0.052*
	Sig.	0.005	0.028	0.019	0.066	0.721	0.199	0.001	0.032

* The correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

From the tabulated Pearson correlation coefficients between parental and cohabitation (Table 10), it is found that parenting is not the only factor that influences cohabitation in a romantic relationship. Other factors such as the number of sexual partners in adolescence and parental education also play a role in this influence (Thorsen, 2017). Furthermore, cohabitation in a relationship can also be affected by the growing trend, popularity, and general acceptance of premarital cohabitation (Cohena and Manning, 2010). This may explain why variables such as age, birth cohort, and other generational-representative variables always have a significant association as predictors of cohabitation. In the analysis, it is worth noting that the three variables highlighted in green, which

have ever lived in foster home, or have run away from home, ever been homeless for a week or more, have significant correlations with cohabitation in a romantic relationship. This may be the case as they have not found comfort and safety in their own family and/or homes, and therefore when they are committed in a romantic relationship, they cohabit to satisfy the search for this sense of security.

Table 10. Pearson's correlation coefficient of parental cohabitation in the RR of a young adult.

Variables	Pearson Correlation	Significance
Ever adopted	0.059*	0.014
Ever live in foster home	0.101**	0.000
Where respondent lives at	0.089**	0.000
Ever run away from home	0.141**	0.000
Ever been homeless a week/more	0.110**	0.000
Parents ever ordered move out	0.098**	0.000
By 6 grd times touch sexual way	-0.049*	0.043
By 6 grd often social service investigate	0.081**	0.001

* The correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

Shelter provided by parents has significant positive impact on pregnancy in young adult RR (Table 11). This also means that if young adults are staying outside of home, the possibility of getting pregnant in the romantic relationship is greater than those staying with parents at home. However, there are a variety of more detailed factors under parenting that influence pregnancy, for instance, parenting experience, parenting sense of competence, among others, as supported by Rouse et al. research (2020).

Table 11. Pearson's correlation coefficient of parenting during pregnancy in young adult RR.

		Pregnancy in Relationship	Pregnancy no. in Relationship
Ever live in foster home	Pearson Correlation	.063**	.076**
	Sig.	0.009	0.002
Where respondent lives at	Pearson Correlation	.070**	.064**
	Sig.	0.004	0.008
Ever run away from home	Pearson Correlation	.078**	.063**
	Sig.	0.001	0.009
Ever been homeless a week/more	Pearson Correlation	.057*	.064**
	Sig.	0.019	0.008
Ever stayed homeless shelter	Pearson Correlation	0.036	.059*
	Sig.	0.138	0.014
Parents ever ordered move out	Pearson Correlation	.067**	.075*
	Sig.	0.005	0.002
Ever lived care/treatment home	Pearson Correlation	.067*	.054*
	Sig.	0.005	0.025

By 6 grd often social service investigate	Pearson Correlation	.083**	.091**
	Sig.	.000	.000

* The correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

There is only one dependent variable in this analysis, which is marriage in relationship. In this analysis, only three factors are significantly correlated with marriage in the romantic relationship, which are the place respondent lives, the number of times touch sexual way of grade 6 and the frequency of social service investigation (Table 12). Other articles revealed that parental marital problems will affect young adult romantic relationships (Fincham et al., 2008).

Table 12. Pearson's correlation coefficient of parental relationship with marriage in the romantic relationship of young adults.

		Marriage in Relationship
Where respondent lives at	Pearson Correlation	.180**
	Sig.	.000
By 6 grd times touch sexual way	Pearson Correlation	-.050*
	Sig.	.037
By 6 grd often social service investigate	Pearson Correlation	.054*
	Sig.	.025

* The correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis above, within the scope of this study, parenting has a significant influence or effect on the multiple aspects of a young adult's romantic relationship, supported by previous studies that prove such relationships. The main difference lies in the definition of parenting, in which the covariates parked under this independent variable are more inclined to reflect the providence and care of parents. The providence of the parents is reflected in variables such as whether the child has experienced homelessness, whilst care of the parents is described through whether the child experienced violence and/or abuse originating from them. Other studies consider parental quality, such as how much time parents spend with their child, as well as parenting styles, such as authoritative and authoritarian styles. The wide perspective on parenting between this study and others may explain the difference in the results obtained. Furthermore, the aspects of the romantic relationship referenced in this study are much more in detail, such as the number of pregnancies and details regarding sexual activities. Other studies on romantic relationships only touch on a very subjective scale of relationship satisfaction, while this study accounts for the objective number of times and presence-absence of a particular item. All in all, this study acts as a pilot step into more research conducted in the same direction and to discover how parental providence and care may affect their child in other aspects as well.

The limitations present in this study are mainly from a geographical point of view. Since all data collected are from young adults in the US, these results reflect only how parenting does (or does not) their romantic relationships. It is understood that Western and Eastern cultures share similarities, but also possess differences, and hence if the same study were to be conducted in other countries, it may yield different results.

Recommendation for further research work

Following this study, further research can be conducted to compensate for the limitations of this current study. A similar study could be conducted to discover the effect of parental providence and care towards the romantic relationship of young adults in Southeast Asian countries, as they have deeper cultural imprints toward respect and authority of a parental figure. This can also be extended to other countries on different continents and areas to compensate for an overall conclusion for

location-specific results, as well as combined cumulative results from the compilation of multiple studies for a worldwide view. Furthermore, studies may also be conducted to reveal more details on specific parental views towards specific items and the corresponding correlation. For example, this study takes into account how parenting can affect sexual activity. Further research may consider studying how the view of parents towards sexual activity coupled with their parenting style, care, and providence and how these affect the actual sexual activity of young adults.

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