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A Relationship between Adolescent Males and Sexual Deviance: A Descriptive Study

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The absence of male supervision in a home might explain why adolescent males are more likely to commit sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses, and felony sex offenses. For this study, the social control theory was the perspective that could explain why adolescent males may be prone to delinquent or criminal behavior. The study included a sample of 539 adolescent males. The study was a quantitative descriptive design utilizing data from Florida Department of Juvenile Justices' male offenders' Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) transcripts. Sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and felony sex offenses inferential statistics from PACT was used to compare differences between adolescent male offenders who had a mother and father present at home and adolescent male offenders who did not have a father at home. International Business Machines Corporation IBM® SPSS® software was used to provide inferential statistical data. A chi-square statistical method was used to analyze and interpret the quantitative data. The quantitative analysis was a descriptive analysis. The results suggested there was no statistical significance. However, the study illustrated that sexual offenses statistically were different from non-sexual offenses, and further research should be conducted to determine why there are differences.

A Relationship between Adolescent Males and Sexual Deviance: A Descriptive Study

Against-person sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and felony sex offenses are a serious social problem in the United States (U.S. Department of Justice: Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2014). According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Uniform Crime Report (2014), 84,041, forcible rapes incidents occurred, which was a 26.4% volume and rate per 100,000 inhabitants. For the State of Florida, 5,260 forcible rape incidents occurred, which was a 27.2% volume and rate per 100,000 inhabitants. When analyzing the

Florida Department of Corrections (2016) database, males accounted for 93% of the inmate population. Therefore, the data suggests males commit the majority of sexual criminal acts. From a macro perspective, scholars suggested the etiology of crime is a result of sociological issues such as economic inequality created by government, racial inequality, and community disorganization (Agnew, 1991; Booth, et al., 2008; Hechter, & Kanazawa, 2008; Hoffmann, 2006; Jones, Cauffman, & Piquero, 2007). From a micro perspective, other scholars reported the etiology of crime is a result of biological, sociological, psychological, and micro-sociological issues like dysfunctional families. The focus of this research was on micro-sociological issues about adolescent males who had no male caretaker (Ghazarian, & Roche, 2010; Kobayashi, Sales, Becker, Figueredo, & Kaplan, 1995; Laird, Marrero, & Sentse, 2010; Stinson, Becker, & Sales, 2008; Voller, Long, & Aosved, 2009).

Because the focus of this research relates to adolescent male social constructs, the social control theory was used to evaluate family social constructs (Jones, et al., 2007). According to Merriam-Webster (n.d.), social control is defined as “the rules and standards of society that circumscribe individual action through the inculcation of conventional sanctions and the imposition of formalized mechanisms” (para. 1). For this discussion, the focus centered on how parents inculcate conventional sanctions and formalized mechanisms for their children; therefore, parental social control could be social forces that teach social control and buffer against delinquent or criminal behavior (Smalleger, 2009; Williams, & McShane, 2014). For example, according to Jacques and Wright (2010), social control relates to delinquent or criminal behavior because social control is the normative aspect of social life that responds to delinquent behavior or criminal behavior. Moreover, the study added to the micro-social perspective by studying how adolescent males without a male caretaker may be a determinant of delinquent or criminal behavior. The terms *delinquent* or *criminal act* are used interchangeably.

Research supports the hypothesis that a single parent family construct does not provide ample parental supervision for a child(ren) and may be linked to delinquent or criminal behavior regardless (Demuth, & Brown, 2004; Martin, Marsh, Cheng, & Ginns, 2010). Empirical investigations reported by Murray and Farrington (2010), postulated family risk factors for adolescent conduct disorders and delinquency. They suggested poor parental supervision is the most replicable predictor related to poor adolescent behavior outcomes. They go on to state that poor parental supervision may occur from dysfunctional homes where a father figure was absent (either the father was never part of the family unit or the father was incarcerated). The references to a father’s absence as a predictor of delinquent or criminal behavior are comingled with other family risk factors that explain male crime (Murray, & Farrington, 2010). Current research does not specifically explain the possible relationship between males who had no biological or non-biological caretaker compared to males who had a biological or non-biological caretaker and how this relationship is related to male crime. For this reason, the theoretical framework focused on this and attempted to explain the determinants of against-person sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and felony sex offenses.

An excess of literature relating to the etiology of crime discusses biological, psychological, and sociological theories related to deviance and crime. Several studies were designed from the philosophical postpositive, social constructionist, and advocacy and participatory worldviews. From the biological, psychological, and sociological underpinnings and assumptions, and the many variables discussed in the literature that may link delinquency and crime using the studies designed from the philosophical worldview, no dominant determinant of deviance or crime are reported in the literature. The many variables that may be related to crime and deviance are comingled. Therefore, political and criminal justice leaders have no epicenter to develop comprehensive policies and procedures to manage crime and deviancy. If the study delineates when no biological or non-biological parent existed for adolescent males were a reason for sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses, and felony sex offenses, then political and criminal justice leaders may create programs for at risk adolescent males who have no biological or non-biological male caretaker who lives with the mother and child.

Male caretakers may teach male adolescents social control and teach the adolescent males how *not* to commit delinquent or criminal behavior. A strategy political and criminal justice leaders might use is to provide male supervision for adolescent males who have no biological or non-biological male supervision. A study reported by Thurber, Scanlin, Scheuler, and Henderson (2007) suggested that youth camps are beneficial in improving youth attitudes. After youths between the ages of 8-14 finished a summer youth camp for more than one week, the data showed that children, parents, and camp counselors reported growth in the youth's positive identity, social skills, physical and thinking skills, and positive values, and spirituality skills (Thurber, et al., 2007)

Conversely, Gao, Raine, Chan, Venables, and Mednick (2010) reported consequences an adolescent may acquire from not having the opportunity to bond and learn from his or her parents. Gao et al. (2010) reported how a male adult psychopathic personality disorder may occur because the adolescent did not bond with or was not adequately supervised by the parent or parents when he or she was a child. Gao et al. (2010) postulated the primary findings from their data theorized that a lack of parental bonding is associated with an increased level of adult psychopathic personality. Furthermore, a lack of bonding is more primary in causing delinquent or criminal behavior compared to child abuse. Gao et al. (2010) further stated when parents are not involved or monitoring their child(ren), a child's ability to bond with his or her parent(s) decreases, especially when the *father* is not involved.

However, very little is known relating to specifically why adolescent males who had no biological or non-biological male caretaker are more prone to commit sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses, and felony sex offenses. The current literature comingles several disorganized family variables that explain deviance and crime; hence, a research gap occurs for this topic. However, current research does not specifically explain the possible relationship why males who had no biological or non-biological caretaker compared to males who had a biological or non-biological caretaker are related to male crime.

The purpose of the descriptive study was to compare sexual delinquent or criminal data from a family with a biological or non-biological male caretaker present in the adolescent's home compared to a family who had no biological or non-biological male caretaker living in the home. The only family member the study focused on were adolescent males who were referred to Florida's Juvenile Justice System. This research focused on adolescent males who had a male caretaker compared to adolescent males who had no male caretaker. In other words, a comparison was made between two home constructs—one had a male caretaker and the other did not.

The distinction of a family where no male caretaker exists in a family construct is important to define for this study. When discussing home constructs with no male caretaker, the construct would include adolescent males who live with only their mother, and no other male lives in the home and no male ever visited the adolescent male's home. From the many variables that may cause sex misconduct misdemeanor offenses, and felony sex offenses, the absent biological or non-biological independent variable is an important consideration because the United States correctional population is composed of 82% males (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2014).

The emergence of this study is relevant from research relating to criminological and criminal justice discipline because criminological and criminal justice researchers have shown their data was inconclusive in determining the etiology of deviancy and crime. The study may also spur further inquiry because this descriptive study only compared the differences between males who had no biological or non-biological caretaker verses males who had biological or non-biological caretaker. Furthermore, larceny, robbery, burglary, forcible rape, and murder crimes were the only dependent variables measured in this study. There were two research questions used to explore the problem.

Research Question 1. There is a difference between adolescent males who committed sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males who had a male caretaker and committed a sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses?

H₁ for Research Question 1. There is a statistical difference between adolescent males who committed sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males who had a male caretaker and committed a sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses?

H₀ for Research Question 1. There is no statistical difference between adolescent males who committed sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males who had a male caretaker and committed a sexual misconduct misdemeanor offense?

Research Question 2. There is a difference relationship between adolescent males who committed felony sex offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males who had a male caretaker and committed a felony sex offense?

H_1 for Research Question 2. There is a statistical difference relationship between adolescent males who committed felony sex offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males who had a male caretaker?

H_0 for Research Question 2. There is no statistical difference relationship between adolescent males who committed felony sex offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males who had a male caretaker?

The intended study's methodological assumptions were considered. A descriptive study may not show a difference of sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and felony sex offenses between males who had a biological or non-biological male caretaker versus male who did not have biological or non-biological male caretaker. Furthermore, other variables not tested may have had an effect on sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and felony sex offenses. Theoretical assumptions were also considered. Current research suggests broken homes were associated with the etiology of delinquent or criminal behavior. The theoretical assumption for this research assumed the broken home variable most responsible for male delinquent or criminal behavior were homes where no biological or non-biological male caretaker existed. The potential that the study may not support the theoretical assumption were also considered.

Because of directionality problems, drawing descriptive conclusions can be hazardous (Bordens, & Abbott, 2014). Directionality problems may occur because family homes with no biological or non-biological caretaker (independent variable) may not be the only variable that causes sexual misconduct misdemeanor offense and felony sex offenses. It was also considered that other independent variables like poverty, bad peer influence, disorganized communities, or genetic and psychological abnormalities may cause sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and felony sex offenses. Studying the home construct with no biological and non-biological father was limited to a few dependent variable outcomes produced from quantitative data.

The study used a research design that acquired quantitative non-identifiable data from Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) reports that were transcribed into SPSS file. A chi-square test and the data was used for quantitative interpretation and analysis. The advantages of descriptive research compares one group against the other group so other researchers can analyze hypotheses to further study the etiology of male delinquent or criminal behavior (Bordons, & Abbott, 2014).

The primary themes focused on social control theories, which articulate how a child learns from their social constructs and parental behavior. The theoretical framework for reviewing the reasons for delinquent or criminal behavior would be researching family

contexts to determine the possible relationship between family contexts and adolescent delinquent or criminal behavior. The theoretical assumption for this proposed research assumed a broken home is *responsible* for male delinquent or criminal behavior. Current research *does not* specifically focus or specify the absent male caretaker in an adolescent's life as a primary variable that causes delinquency. Instead, the current literature suggests a causal link between family constructs and delinquent or criminal behavior. The research is extensive and the link between a family environment and poor adolescent behavioral problems entail many different variables that are integrated and comingled. Therefore, the aim of this research was the causation of sexually related problem behaviors

Male aggression is an important biological consideration when researching how males learn from their social environments. Compared to females, males are traditionally more predatory and aggressive because their physiological characteristics are different—notable hormones (Booth, Granger, Mazur, & Kivlighan, 2006). Therefore, because male aggression is a biologically given, how adolescent males are socialized by their parents may have implications on how adolescent males control their natural predatory and aggressive behavior.

When describing why adolescent males lack self-control to control anger, a theoretical framework would focus on social learning theories when an adolescent male would learn social control from his parents, and more specifically, he would learn from his father or male caretaker. When the family context is only a single mother and no male caretaker, a child would receive less male supervision.

The social control theory has a surplus of research that links an adolescent's inability to have self-control and developing behavioral problems to include delinquent or criminal behavior. A child learns self-control from his or her caretakers, and when the child's caretaker closely monitors, supervises, and disciplines his or her child. When the child lacks a caretaker's attention, the child may not learn how to maintain social control thereby becoming delinquent or criminal. The literature supports this theory by discussing the consequences of disorganized families, poor parental efficacy, and mother single families.

Many studies have postulated the relationship between parental supervision and delinquency. What is considered an organized family may entail many variables. Socially speaking, the family consisted of a mother and father who were married and made enough money to provide for their family. Today, families idealistically are not always constructed in the manner previously described. Research suggests a child from a disorganized family may be more prone to problem behavioral outcomes. In other words, even when a parent or parents provide good parental efficacy, because the community or family contexts are disorganized, children may be more at risk for problem behaviors.

Research suggested that community-level family structure effects crime and delinquency. Porter, Rader, and Cossman (2012) noted families who have married parents compared to non-married parents were less likely to have children who became delinquent or criminal.

The non-married families were not necessarily single mother families, but families who had a mother and father that were not married.

Wong (2005) pointedly discussed how the relationship between a child and parent(s) reduce the chances the child will become delinquent or criminal. Wong reported that results from the data suggested that when certain activities constitute a social setting between parents and children and a strong relationship develops, children would learn self-control and may commit less delinquent or criminal acts. Furthermore, Wong reported the more quality time children spend with their parents the less likely children were to have negative behavioral outcomes. Wong's study is significant because parental involvement demonstrates quantitatively that parental absence and involvement may be related to poor behavioral outcomes.

Voller, Long, and Aosved (2007) reported the relationship between sexual deviancy and poor childhood experiences because of poor parental efficacy. Voller et al. noted the relationship between anti-social behavior and sexual aggression. Voller et al. stated previous research reported that studies have shown how anti-social behavior, sensation seeking, and an extensive history of sexual experiences were related to sexual coercion. Voller et al. also stated that sexual offenders were likely to have committed other delinquent or criminal acts.

Kobayashi, Sales, Becker, Figueredo, and Kaplan (1995) specifically studied the relationship between adolescent male sexual deviance and family constructs. Therefore, Kobayashi et al. noted family constructs that may be related to sexual deviance are parental violence, abuse and sexual abuse, and a child's lack of bonding with his parents. The results of Kobayashi et al. research statistically supported the relationship between parental deviancy and sexual abuse and adolescent male sexual deviant aggression and would suggest that parent efficacy is related to adolescent sexual deviant aggression.

Research suggests that parents who closely monitor their children provide a buffer against juvenile behavioral problems. Parents can recognize poor behavior, delinquent behavior, or criminal behavior. Therefore, it may be concluded that children raised in a single parent family home will not receive the same supervision and monitoring, as would a two-parent family home.

To illustrate the importance of parental supervision and monitoring, Laird, Marrero, and Sentse (2010) tested the hypothesis so they could determine whether parents' monitoring activities are associated with low levels or reductions in antisocial behavior – antisocial behavior served as the dependent. Laird et al. noted that adolescent males reported more antisocial behavior than adolescent females. Laird's et al. research did not specify whether the mother, father, or both supervised the child. Ghazarian and Roche (2010) also studied the correlation between parental monitoring and delinquent or criminal behavior. Ghazarian and Roche hypothesized that maternal social support during early adolescences will minimize adolescence behavioral problems. Accordingly, Ghazarian and Roche's study

revealed low levels of social support were related to American youth more likely to engage in delinquent or criminal behavior, and higher levels of social support were associated with lower levels of delinquent behavior or criminal behavior. Therefore, according to Ghazarian and Roche, parenting represents an important mechanism as a buffer against delinquent or criminal behavior.

An adult male caretaker is important and necessary because adolescent males need to learn self-control, especially how to control their aggressive behavior. The biological given is how males are more aggressive because of androgen male hormones. The hormones pose a problem for males because research suggests that hormones are related to aggressive behavior (Booth, Granger, Mazur, & Kivlighan, 2006). Not only is testosterone related to aggressive behavior, adolescent males have higher levels of testosterone than adult males (Booth, Granger, Mazur, & Kivlighan, 2006).

The literature suggested when family contexts are disorganized, or parents do not provide adequate supervision, or when the parents are abusive or delinquent, adolescents may become sexually delinquent or criminal, especially for adolescent males. However, the literature did not separate the many variables related to adolescent delinquency or criminal behavior.

The data from Florida Department of Justice Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) specifically identifies male juvenile offenders who are referred to Florida Department of Juvenile Justice who committed sexual offenses. The only permission needed came from the Florida Juvenile Justice Department who granted access to the transcripts that contain the data. Using SPSS software, simple samples were used to select adolescent records for the year 2015 from the (PACT). The PACT is specifically used by Florida Juvenile Justice Department as an assessment and case management process that addresses criminogenic needs and protective factors, from the moment a youth enters the system to the moment they exit. The data collected and studied for this study were delinquent records from male adolescents between the ages of 13-17 who committed sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and felony sex offenses and who had male supervision and who had no male supervision.

The target population consisted of 539 adolescent males from the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) transcripts detained at the facility for year 2015. A 95% confidence level with a confidence interval of $p < .05$ was used for the sample.

The relevant data collected from the sample included variables that represented a standard set of demographic controls based on age, race, and socioeconomic levels. The sample included an equal representation of Whites, Blacks, and others. Other races other than Whites or Blacks were identified as others and the other races represented the same as Whites and Blacks. The sampling taken from the PACTS provided information about the juvenile's delinquent act, and if the juvenile had a male caretaker prior to his commitment to a residential program. The instrument acquired data so a measurement could be made

to determine if there was a significant difference between the numbers of delinquent or criminal offenses between adolescent males who came from homes where a male caretaker existed.

The independent variable that was defined was a home absent of a male caretaker and a home with a male caretaker, and the dependent variable was delinquent or criminal behavior. Delinquent or criminal behavior were adolescent males who committed sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and felony sex offenses. A chi-square test of independence was used for this research. If the data suggested that an adolescent male committed sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and felony sex offenses, then delinquency or criminal conduct was coded as one and if delinquent or criminal acts were committed, but were not related to sex offenses, then it was coded zero.

The data was analyzed to determine if there was a significant difference in recidivism between adolescent males who lived with both a father and mother cohort and adolescent males who lived with their mother only cohort. The examination was to determine if having a male living in the home with both his mother and father showed a significant difference in delinquent rates compared to an adolescent male who lived with his mother only. Furthermore, information analyzed from offenses classified as sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses, and felony sex offenses were statistically tested and analyzed to determine if a statistical significance existed for delinquent rates between adolescent males who had a father and mother compared to adolescent males who had a mother only.ⁱ

Table 1

Frequencies of the category of offense

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cum. percent
Felony	494	91.7	91.7	91.7
Misdemeanor	45	8.3	8.3	100.0
Total	539	100.0	100.0	

Table 1 displays the frequencies of the category of offense. The categories include felony and misdemeanor offenses. The sample size was 539 juveniles which 494 (91.7%) committed felony offenses and 45 (8.3%) juveniles committed misdemeanor offenses. The valid percent and cumulative columns shows that the data set has no missing values.

Table 2

Frequencies of all persons with whom youth is currently living

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cum. Percent
Female caretaker only	310	57.5	57.5	57.5
Male and female caretaker	229	42.5	42.5	100.0
Total	539	100.0	100.0	

Table 2 displays the frequencies of all persons with whom youth is currently living. The categories include juveniles having a female caretaker only and both a male and female caretaker. Downloaded from <http://npjs.org/jajjs/> ©2020 National Partnership for Juvenile Services. All rights reserved. Not for commercial use or unauthorized distribution.

caretaker. The sample size was 539 juveniles, of those juveniles 310 (57.5%) had only a female caretaker and 229 (42.5%) had a male and female caretaker. The valid percent and cumulative columns shows that the data set has no missing values.

Table 3

Case processing summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
Category of Offense *	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
All persons with whom youth is currently living:	539	100.0%	0	0.0%	539	100.0%

Table 3 is the case processing summary that sums up the statistics for all cross tabulations that were run. This table reviews the total statistics for the variable groups selected for the study. There is a sample size of 539 (N) with 100% participation and no missing data.

Table 4

Cross tabulation for category of offense and all persons with whom youth is currently living

		All persons with whom youth is currently living			
		Other Female Caretaker	Male and female Caretaker	Total	
Category of Offense	Felony	Count	287	207	494
	% within category of offense		58.1%	41.9%	100.0%
	% within all persons with whom youth is currently living		92.6%	90.4%	91.7%
	% of total		53.2%	38.4%	91.7%
	Misdemeanor	Count	23	22	45
	% within category of offense		51.1%	48.9%	100.0%
	% within all persons with whom youth is currently living		7.4%	9.6%	8.3%
	% of total		4.3%	4.1%	8.3%
Total		Count	310	229	539
	% within category of offense		57.5%	42.5%	100.0%
	% within all persons with whom youth is currently living		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	% of total		57.5%	42.5%	100.0%

Table 4 is a cross tabulation with percentages of youth in their current living situation. There were 494 juveniles with felony convictions, 287 juveniles were living with a female caretaker and 207 juveniles were living with a male and female caretaker. The juveniles with a felony offense that were living with a female caretaker comprise of 58.1% and those living with a male and female caretaker consist of 41.9% of the 494 juveniles recorded in the data set. From the total 539 juveniles in the data set 92.6% with currently living with only a female caretaker and 90.4% were currently living with a male and female caretaker, equaling 91.7% of the 494 juveniles that had committed felony offenses.

There were 45 juveniles with misdemeanor convictions, 23 juveniles were living with a female caretaker and 22 juveniles were living with a male and female caretaker. The juveniles with a misdemeanor offense that were living with a female caretaker comprise of 51.1% and those living with a male and female caretaker consist of 38.4% of the 45 juveniles recorded in the data set. From the total 539 juveniles in the data set 7.4% with currently living with only a female caretaker and 9.6% were currently living with a male and female caretaker, equaling 8.3% of the 45 juveniles that had committed misdemeanor offenses.

The total juveniles living with a female caregiver, felony and misdemeanor offenses comprised 310 (57.5%) and the juveniles living with both a male and female caregiver comprised 229 (42.5%) juveniles for a total sample size of 539.

Table 5
Chi-square test statistics

	Value	df	Asymptotic Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	.824 ^a	1	.364		
Continuity Correction ^b	.563	1	.453		
Likelihood Ratio	.816	1	.366		
Fisher's Exact Test				.431	.226
N of Valid Cases	539				

* 0 cells (0.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 19.12.

Table 5 is the test statistics for chi-squares. This analysis was conducted to show the significance of youth living with a male caretaker present. The Pearson and Fisher test show that there is no statistically significant relationship. Both tests were run with a degree of freedom of 1. The Pearson asymptotic significance is .346, which is above the 0.05 significance showing there is not a significant relationship between the variables in the data set. The Fisher exact significance is .431 and .226, which is above the 0.05 significance showing there is not a significant relationship between the variables in the data set.

Table 6

Chi-square symmetric measures

		Value	Approximate Significance
Nominal by Nominal	Phi	.039	.364
	Cramer's V	.039	.364
N of Valid Cases		539	

Table 6 is a symmetric measure for phi. Phi = 0.039 and shows a weak positive relationship between the two variables. The p -value is .364 meaning there is slight probability that the variables have a significant relationship. A frequency, chi-square, and cross tabulation test was used for this study.

Research Question 1. There is a difference between adolescent males who committed sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males who had a male caretaker and committed sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses?

The study examined if there was a significant difference in sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses from adolescent males who lived with his mother and father cohort and adolescent males who lived with his mother only cohort (Tables 1 & 2). A cross tabulation was calculated comparing the frequency of offenses for the two cohorts (Table 4). The analysis showed a 95% confidence level. The sample was overrepresented by adolescent males who came from homes with a single mother only (Table 4). Further statistical analysis showed that there was not a statistically significant relationship between male adolescents living with or without a male caretaker present in sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses.

Research Question 2. There is a difference between adolescent males who committed felony sex offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males who had a male caretaker and committed felony sex offenses?

The second research question examined whether there is a significant difference in felony sex offenses from adolescent males who lived with his mother and father cohort and adolescent males who lived with only his mother cohort. A chi-square test of independence was calculated for the research question comparing male delinquency construct for the two cohorts (Table 5 & 6). However, from the 539 adolescent male samples, the sample was overrepresented by adolescent males who came from homes with a single mother only. Further statistical analysis showed there was not a statistically significant relationship between male adolescents living with or without a male caretaker present in felony sex offenses. The results of this study could accept the null hypotheses so alternative hypotheses should be researched. In addition, study results suggested single families may be the reason why adolescent males commit more sexual delinquent or criminal acts

compared to adolescent females. The study had limitations, and the study might provide more insight about the etiology of sexual misdemeanors and sexual felonies.

Despite the achievement of this study's goals, this study had several limitations. The goals achieved included a descriptive comparative study that compared delinquent and criminal data from two different family constructs. One of the limitations was the data only provided a comparison of adolescent males who lived with a male and female caretaker compared to a home with only a female caretaker. Because one of the goals of the study were to detangle the many variables that may cause sexual deviance, the study's results may be limited, and further research should be conducted to determine the etiology of male sexual deviance.

Another limitation of this study may be the definitions used by the data source. The source classified sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses as misdemeanor sex offenses. And felony sex offense as either sexual battery or other felony sexual behavior. Because their data was coded under sexual misdemeanors offenses, and sexual felony offenses, the study was not able to examine delinquent and crime categories between the two cohorts.

The focus of this research study was to investigate whether adolescent males who had no father would explain determinants of sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and felony sex offenses. The hypothesis that there was a statistical difference between adolescent males who committed sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males with a male caretaker was not statistically significant. The hypothesis that there was a statistical difference relationship between adolescent males who committed felony sex offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males with a male caretaker was not significant. Therefore, there was no statistical difference between adolescent males who committed sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males with no male caretaker. In addition, there was no statistical difference between adolescent males who committed felony sex offenses and had no male caretaker compared to adolescent males with a male caretaker.

The social control theory was the primary theory and the backbone for this study (Jones, et al., 2007). Therefore, when analyzing the data, the study determined if there was a significant difference (95% confidence level) that an adolescent male who came from only a single mother home is more inclined to lack social control and commit sexual misdemeanors or felony sex offenses than if an adolescent male came from a home where a male father resided with the mother, which was supported by the current research from other studies (Ghazarian, & Roche, 2010; Laird, et al., 2010; Perrone, et al., 2004). The study determined that adolescent males might lack social control; however, the data did not suggest sexual misconduct misdemeanor offenses and felony sexual offenses were caused because of single family homes.

Quantitatively, the descriptive study produced the anticipated results. However, the study findings did not conclusively answer the microscopic sociological perspective, which was a home construct where a single mother family may be linked to sex misdemeanors or felony sex offenses. The study's findings did not show how other variables may be related or linked to misdemeanors or felony sex offenses.

The results of this research study has not achieved a consensus whether delinquent or criminal data from a family with a biological or non-biological male caretaker was present in the adolescent's home compared to a family who had a biological or non-biological female caretaker in the adolescent male's home. Therefore, more research that includes quantitative, qualitative, or a mixed method would be necessary. Furthermore, research should be conducted that involves other theoretical frameworks to include biological, psychological, sociological, or political perspectives.

It would also be suggested that other state delinquent databases be utilized in the data collection process. In addition, other questions relating to how single families affect adolescent male behavior and do different levels of criminal conduct matter when researching this topic should be explored. Finally, further research should be conducted so comingled variables remain separated when studying the effects of single-family variables compared to homes where both a father and mother reside. The information from this study may also prompt further research that delineates from the current literature about the etiology of adolescent male delinquent behavior.

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ⁱ 539 statistics collected and this table shows the valid and missing data from each of the categories surveyed. This sample did not have any missing data.