

An Exploratory Study of the Link between Ego-maturation Task and Ego-maturation Crisis during Adolescence in a Nigerian Sample

O.S. Akinyele, E.E. Idehen* and M.A. Bakare

*Department of Psychology, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria
E-mail: *<idehenee@oauifa.edu.ng>*

KEYWORDS Ego-maturation. Task. Adolescence. Crisis. Nigeria

ABSTRACT The study explored the relationship between ego-maturation task and ego-maturation crisis during adolescence as postulated by Ausubel (1977) and Kirk (1977). The participants employed for the purpose of the study include 50 male and 50 female adolescents randomly picked from four secondary schools in Ondo State, Nigeria. Their ages ranged from 16 to 20 years with a mean age of 18 years. The study made use of Adolescent Ego Maturation Questionnaire (AEQ). Data analysis using Person Product Moment Correlation Technique and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) led to the acceptance of the three hypotheses stated above. This result implies that Ausubel's (1977) and Krik's (1977) position regarding the relationship between ego-maturation task and crisis during adolescence may not adequately and appropriately explain the reality of this phenomenon in Nigeria. Consequently, it was suggested that African researchers in the area of human development should focus more on studies aimed at revealing the dynamics of development task and the attendant crisis in Africa.