Key Words: Father-figure, parents, adolescent, development, morals, values, Mexican-American parents, personality, deviance, childhood.


Topic: The role of a father

- Fathers being the “head of the household” are key components in their moral and emotional development in later life. Fathers in particular mold the adolescent’s attitudes, deviance and core morals and values. Fathers are looked upon as model figures by adolescents when growing up aside from the mother. Many of the fathers personality is later picked up by the adolescent, or he/she can develop a reaction to the father depending on the relationship between the two. Depending on the daily interaction both have on a daily basis and type of engagement they have whether it is direct or indirect care coming from the father. (Saenz, 214)

- The interaction of a father with the adolescent has a lot to do with the adolescent’s deviance levels. The way the adolescent acts out has a lot to do with the child-father relationship. Studies show that in many cases deviance is led by miscommunication and lack of closeness from the father and the child. Close
relationships between the adolescent and the father tend to have a positive impact
giving lower levels of deviance and depression as a result. (216)

Assessment: This article provides insight to the importance of fathers in the life of an
adolescent. It provides information on the relationship of a father and his son/daughter. It is a
strong source because it focuses on the topic of the father figure that has been a common topic in
the narratives. This article is strong because it made up of the evaluation of European-American,
Mexican-American, and Mexican immigrant men evaluating their relationships with their
children which gives a broader prospect in the different situations.