

# The Role of Self Esteem on Early Adolescents Delinquency

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**Abstract:** *The study intended to assess the role of self-esteem on early adolescent delinquency. The study adopted a descriptive design. The target population were adolescents aged 12-14 years. The sample of 20 students was purposively selected. Data for this study was collected using the adopted standardised questionnaire which was used to test the levels of self-esteem, the very same measure was used as an interview schedule to capture the feelings and personal perspectives. The study proved a positive relationship between the levels of self-esteem with delinquency behaviour. The children who marked high in self-esteem seem to be active, happy and self-confident. Positive assessment of one self reduces the effect of extreme anger towards others, reduces jealousy, hate and such feelings which in other way are the leading cause to delinquency. Adolescents with high self-esteem seem to have a good control of their negative emotions. The difference between adolescents with high self-esteem and those with low self-esteem is their response towards negative feelings and their resolutions to solve the problem. Really feeling of being enough comes from within a person but for those with low self-esteem they can portray a positive self-esteem but their feeling good and respect is drawn from the environment or circumstances*

**Keywords:** “early adolescence delinquency”, self-esteem, juvenile delinquency

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