ABSTRACT

This study explored the ways in which older siblings influence younger siblings in African American families. The researchers employed a qualitative research design, using four focus groups and in vivo coding. The first focus group was conducted in Ghana, and the remaining three focus groups were conducted in the United States. The focus groups were video and audio recorded, and participants were accompanied by two of the researchers. The data were analyzed using thematic analysis, and the researchers identified five salient themes: sibling caregiving, sibling relationships, parenting styles, role models, and sibling comparisons. The researchers also considered how these themes interact with each other. The results of this study provide insights into the ways in which older siblings influence younger siblings in African American families, and they can inform future research and practice in this area.