

3rd World Conference on Psychology and Sociology, WCPS- 2014

## The Relationship between Personality Characteristics, Perfectionism of Mothers and Emotional Problems of Their Daughters

Sona Samiei Sarkhanlou<sup>a\*</sup>, Alireza Kiamanesh<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Islamic Azad University, Science and Research Branch, Department of Humanity, Tehran 1477893855, Iran

---

### Abstract

In an examination of the relationships between personality characteristics, perfectionism of mothers and the emotional problems of their daughters, two hundred high school students and their mothers were asked to answer Terry-short, Neo-FFI, and Dass-21 questionnaire. To analyze data, Pierson Correlation and Stepwise Regression were used which showed that the relationship between mothers' negative perfectionism and daughters' emotional problems was negatively significant. It was observed that mothers' perfectionism was a predictor of their daughters' emotional problems. Results demonstrated that neuroticism, extroversion, agreeableness, and conscientiousness of mothers were related to their daughters' emotional problems. Furthermore, neuroticism and agreeableness were found to be the predictors of daughter's emotional problems.

© 2015 The Authors. Published by Elsevier Ltd. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>).

Peer-review under responsibility of Academic World Education and Research Center

*Keywords:* Personality characteristics; perfectionism; mothers; emotional problems; daughters

---

### 1. Introduction

Relationships between parents and children are one of the most important indicators of mental health of family members, especially children, so the negative relationships between parents and children can be one of the most important causes of mental disorders in children, especially in adolescents. According to Lovibond and Lovibond (1995), the definition of mental health, ability to control the internal and external world, is defined as a situation in which the person has a feeling of control over his internal and external world. They also believed that whatever the individuals sense of control decreases, those person losses her/his health state, and she/he goes further toward emotional and mental problems. Moreover, these two researchers proposed continuum control which is started by controlling over the internal and the external worlds (feel irritated) and continues with no control over these two

---

\* Sona Samiei Sarkhanlou. Tel.: +98-936-406-2983.  
E-mail address: [ssona\\_34@yahoo.com](mailto:ssona_34@yahoo.com)

worlds (severe depression). In the middle of this continuum, these researchers believed two states which are stress and anxiety. Under stress situation, an individual has a sense of control with an oppressed feeling. However, in anxiety situation, she has lost control over the inner world in the hope of controlling the outer world. The level of feeling control over inner and outer worlds as an indicator of mental health is dependent on several factors (Samani et al., 2011). These factors can be divided into two general categories such as environmental and personal factors. In terms of environmental elements, researches indicate that parents play fundamental role in terms of providing mental health and wellbeing to their children (Desi & Ryan, 2008) or making behavioral and emotional problems. In a research conducted by Samani et al. (2011), dysfunctional parenting styles through increased negative cognitive emotion regulation strategies can increase emotional problems in adolescents. Comopas et al. (2001) showed that poor family relationships and stressful environments lead to emotional and behavioral problems in childhood which remains until adolescence and adulthood. The influence of behavior and mindset of parents on shaping the character and behavior of children is crucial. This is because children spend more time with their mothers so that they are highly affected by their mothers and on this basis, the social behavior of children is more affected by the behavior that their mothers have (Ahadi & Banijamali, 2003). Riahi et al. (2012) examined the relationship between children's behavioral problems and mothers' mental health. The results indicated that behavioral problems in children are reflection of the psychological problems of parents, especially mothers. In this regard, parental personality traits and characteristics are various factors influencing the mental health of children. According to personality theory proposed by Rohner (2007), personality, aptitude and readiness to respond (emotion, cognition, perception and motivation) and the actual response (overt behavior) in various real life situations or contexts are defined. In recent studies, the five-factor model, as the most common model, is introduced to identify psychological characteristics of individuals' personality. According to this model, the five personality traits are: neuroticism, extraversion, openness, agreeableness, and conscientiousness. Abester et al. (2012) examined the relationship between maladaptive personality traits of parents with mental disorders among female students aged 12-14 and showed that parents' neuroticism factors play an important role in predicting mental disorders of children. Khanjani and Hadavandkhani (2012) showed that maternal neuroticism factor is a predictor of externalization and internalization disordered girls, however, mothers' psychosis and extraversion do not predict disorders of internalization and externalization. Hayes and Joseph (2003) showed that high scores on each of the health measures with higher extraversion were associated with lower neuroticism and higher conscientiousness. These findings indicated that personality can predict 32 to 56 percent of the variance in mental health scores. Stability and change in parental extraversion and neuroticism were studied in transaction with their views of their child's temperament from the age of six months to the age of five-and-a-half years in 109 mother-father-child triads (parent-daughter:  $n=61$ , parent-son:  $n=48$ ) (Komsu et al., 2008). While parental traits showed high stability, infants' higher positive affectivity predicted an increase in parental extraversion over 5 years, and infant's higher activity predicted a decrease in parental neuroticism. Initially higher parental extraversion predicted an increase in the child's effortful control, and higher parental neuroticism predicted an increase in the child's negative affectivity. The results indicate that parental personality and child temperament develop in transaction promoting change in each other (Komsu et al., 2008). Yazdkhasti and Ghasemi (2010) showed that in female students there is a significant relationship between conscientiousness and openness to mothers' experience with rejection and acceptance to children. Results showed that parents with personality traits of conscientiousness, openness to experience, agreeableness and extroversion are adoptive parents, but parents with neuroticism are rejecter parents. Perfectionism as a personality, with features such as efforts to be perfect, benchmarking of extreme performance, along with a critical assessment of trends was characterized (Besharat et al., 2011). Research findings confirmed the existence of a normal perfectionism (positive) against neurotic perfectionism (negative) (Hamachek, 1978). Besharat (2004), in an investigation of the relationships between perfectionism of parents and anxiety of students, showed a negative correlation between positive perfectionism of parents and test anxiety of children. Moreover, parents' negative perfectionism was positively correlated with children's anxiety. Yavari Kermani et al. (2011) studied the relationship between perfectionism of mothers and mental health of daughters in Tehran city. The results showed that mothers' perfectionism can predict mental health of daughters and mothers who have less perfectionism tendencies, daughters will have higher mental health. Significant positive correlation was achieved between parents' and children's perfectionism in which perfectionist parents have perfectionist children (Chang, 2000). Young et al. (2004) showed that there was a negative correlation between parental perfectionism and self-esteem in children. Feris abadi and Mehri (2007) found that there was a

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/1111062>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/1111062>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)