RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN FAMILY VALUES, DOMINANCE, MARITAL SATISFACTION, ROMANTIC JEALOUSY WITH FEMALE AGGRESSION IN SHIRAZ, IRAN

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By

ALI EDALATI

Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

June 2010
DEDICATION

Dedicated to:

All the dear members of my family, who have supported and encouraged me, especially my father, mother and brothers: Babak, Peyman and Payam.

My dear wife for her love and moral support and to my children Nima and Negar for their patience and understanding during the course of my study.
Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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Chairman: Mariani Binti Mansour, PhD

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Female aggression is a complex pattern of behaviour that may include physical, sexual, and psychological aggression. Despite the increase in public awareness, female aggression remains high in the Iranian society. Aggression among females has negative impact on female offenders, their spouse, children and the society in general. Regardless of the consequences of female aggression and its implication to both the family and the society at large, the knowledge of the prevalence and factors that may predict aggression in the Iranian society still remains limited. The current study examined the relationship between family values, marital satisfaction, romantic jealousy and dominance with female aggression in Shiraz, Iran. The study utilized complimentary mixed method approach. Ecological systems and neo-associationistic theories were used to underscore the assumptions of the study. The respondents of the study were 337 women aged 18-58 years with records of physical and psychological aggression. The sample was selected based on proportional random sampling technique. In the second phase of the study ten women were purposively
interviewed. Physical and psychological aggressions were measured using Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS) by Straus (1979). Romantic Jealousy Scale (RJS) by White (1981) was used to measure jealousy. Dominance Scale (HDS: Hamby, 1996) was used to measure dominance. Kansas Marital Satisfaction Scale (KMS: Schumm et al., 1986) was used to measure marital satisfaction and Iranian family values Scale (Kazeruni, 2005) was used to measure Iranian traditional family values. Descriptive statistics, t-test, Pearson product moment correlation and regression analysis were used in the study. Complimentary mixed method approach was used to combine the findings from both the quantitative and qualitative approach. Semi-structure interview technique was used to collect the qualitative data. The findings of the study using complimentary mixed method approach indicated that the level of female psychological aggression was higher than physical aggression scores. Findings further revealed that marital satisfaction, romantic jealousy and female dominance were significantly correlated with female physical and psychological aggression. The results also revealed significant correlations between family values and psychological aggression. Multivariate Regression suggested that of the four predictor variables examined in the study (family values, marital satisfaction, romantic jealousy and dominance) only romantic jealousy and marital satisfaction significantly explained psychological aggression. However, only marital satisfaction significantly explained physical aggression. Generally, the total model explained 22.6% variance in psychological aggression and 15.4% for physical aggression. The results of the complimentary mixed method approach revealed that marital satisfaction, romantic jealousy and dominance have relationship with both physical and psychological aggression. More so, family values and female psychological aggression also showed significant relationship using the approach. The findings of
the study provide support for the Ecological systems and neo-associationistic theory revealing that female aggression maybe caused by varying degrees of influence and human interaction in the society. The study recommended that future research may examine female aggression longitudinally to enhance results.
Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah

PERKAITAN ANTARA NILAI-NILAI KEKELUARGAAN, DOMINASI WANITA, KEPUASAN BERUMAHTANGGA DAN SENTIMEN CEMBURU DENGAN KEKASARAN WANITA DI SHIRAZ, IRAN

Oleh

ALI EDALATI

Jun 2010

Pengerusi: Mariani Binti Mansour, PhD

Fakulti: Ekologi Manusia

pendekatan kaedah percuma campuran mendedahkan bahawa kepuasan perkahwinan, kecemburuan romantis dan dominasi mempunyai hubungan baik dengan pencerobohan fizikal dan psikologi. Lebih dari itu, nilai-nilai keluarga dan pencerobohan psikologi perempuan juga menunjukkan hubungan yang signifikan dengan menggunakan pendekatan ini. Penemuan kajian ini memberikan sokongan bagi sistem ekologi dan teori neo-asosiasionistik mendedahkan bahawa pencerobohan perempuan mungkin disebabkan oleh pelbagai peringkat pengaruh dan interaksi manusia dalam masyarakat. Penelitian ini mengesyorkan agar kajian di masa depan boleh menyemak pencerobohan perempuan secara longitudinal untuk meningkatkan hasil kajian.
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A person cannot go through life without the help and guidance from others. One is invariably indebted, knowingly or unknowingly. These debts may be of physical, mental, psychological or intellectual in nature but they cannot be denied. To enlist all of them is not easy. To repay them even in words is beyond my capability. The present work is an imprint of many persons who have made significant contribution to its materialization. The success of this thesis would not have been possible without various contributions and support to this work directly or indirectly, and I would like to convey my special appreciation to those who made it possible. I wish to express my deep sense of appreciation and gratitude towards my committee chairman and supervisor, Dr. Mariani Mansour for her valuable help, guidance and supervision of this dissertation. Your constant support and encouragement have helped me to press on until the research written and completed. I learned and experienced a lot in doing a good research.

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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 8 Jun 2010 to conduct the final examination of Ali Edalati on his thesis entitled “Relationship between family values, marital satisfaction, romantic jealousy and dominance with female aggression in Shiraz, Iran” in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U. (A) 106] 15 March 1998. The committee recommends that the student be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy.

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This thesis was submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The members of the Supervisory Committee were as follows:

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Date:12 August 2010
DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is my original work except for quotations and citations, which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously, and is not concurrently, submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or at any other institution.

ALI EDALATI

Date: 20 June 2010
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