RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP, DEVIANT PEER AFFILIATION, AND AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN TEHRAN, IRAN

By

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DEDICATION

It is dedicated to my husband for all the love and encouragement that he has given to me and without whose caring support it would not have been possible, and also to my patient, caring and understanding parents.
RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP, DEVIANT PEER AFFILIATION, AND AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN TEHRAN, IRAN

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Aggression has considerably increased among adolescents in Iran. Recently, there has been growing attention on the effects of aggression on adolescents and their well-being. Even though the relationships between emotional intelligence, parent-child relationship and deviant peer affiliation with adolescents’ aggression have been established, however, it has received little attention in Iran. To address this paucity, the present study was conducted to examine the relationship between emotional intelligence, parent-child relationship, deviant peer affiliation and adolescents’ aggression. Additionally, this study examined the moderating role of parent–child relationships on the relationship between emotional intelligence and deviant peer affiliation with adolescent’s aggression. Thus, the present study is essential and necessary.

This study is a quantitative study and utilized a correlation design. 400 adolescents between 16 -18 years old from 20 government high schools in five selected districts in Tehran, Iran were selected as respondents for this study. Multi-stage cluster sampling technique was employed to obtain the research sample. Data were collected using a self-administered questionnaire. The questionnaires consisted of Emotional Intelligence Scale (Bar-one’s EI), Aggression Questionnaire (Bus and Perry), Deviant Peer Affiliation Questionnaire and Quality of Parent-Child Relationships Questionnaire (PCRS). All the instruments used in this study were highly reliable. Descriptive, bivariate and multivariate statistics were used in data analysis.

The results of the Pearson correlation analyses indicated that emotional intelligence; parent-child relationship and deviant peer affiliation were significantly related to adolescents’ aggression. The result of t-test showed that there is no significant
difference in total aggression between male and female adolescents. The hierarchical regression analyses revealed that emotional intelligence, parent-child relationship and deviant peer affiliation were significant predictors of aggression among adolescents. Emotional intelligence emerged as the strongest predictor of aggression among adolescents in Tehran, Iran. The results of this study highlighted the important role of emotional intelligence, the quality of parent-child relationship and deviant peer affiliation to prevent aggression among adolescents in Tehran, Iran.

The findings also unveiled that parent-child relationship moderate the relationship between emotional intelligence, deviant peer affiliation and adolescents’ aggression. When parents-child relationship was at high level (positive), there was a weak negative relationship between emotional intelligence and aggression. It means, as emotional intelligence decreased, adolescents with moderate to high levels of parents-child relationship report lower level of aggression than those with a low level of parents-child relationship.

Findings of this study also revealed that when parents-child relationship was at high level, there was a weak positive relationship between deviant peer affiliation and aggression, and when parents-child relationship was at low level, there was a strong positive relationship between deviant peer affiliation and aggression. As deviant peer affiliation increased, adolescents with moderate to high levels of parents-child relationship reported a lower level of aggression than those with low level of parents-child relationship. This study revealed that the quality of parent-child relationship have beneficial effects on adolescents’ behavior. This study also suggested that parent-child relationship is important to consider in planning, implementation and evaluating programs for adolescents.

The present study has significant recommendation for future research and practices. Since this study was conducted among adolescents in Tehran, Iran, therefore to generalize the result of the study to other population it is recommended similar study can be conducted in other regions of the country and with different age group and demographic characteristics.
Abstrak tesis yang dipersembahkan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Doktor Falsafah

PERKAITAN DI ANTARA KECERDASAN EMOSI, HUBUNGAN IBUBAPA-ANAK, AFILIASI RAKAN DEVIAN DAN KELANGSANGAN DALAM KALANGAN REMAJA DI TEHRAN, IRAN

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Hasil analisis korelasi Pearson menunjukkan bahawa kecerdasan emosi, hubungan ibu bapa-anak dan afiliasi rakan sebaya devian mempunyai perkaitan yang signifikan dengan kelangsangan remaja. Keputusan uji-t menunjukkan bahawa tiada perbezaan yang signifikan bagi kelangsangan antara remaja lelaki dan perempuan. Analisis regresi hierarki menunjukkan bahawa kecerdasan emosi, hubungan ibu bapa-anak dan afiliasi rakan sebaya devian merupakan peramal yang signifikan kepada kelangsangan di kalangan remaja. Kecerdasan emosi merupakan predictor terkuat kepada kelangsangandalam kalangan remaja di Tehran, Iran. hasil kajian ini juga menunjukkan pentingnya peranan kecerdasan emosi, kualiti hubungan ibu bapa-anak yang berkualiti dan pengaruh afiliasi rakan sebaya dalam menghalang sifat agresif remaja di Tehran, Iran.

Dapatan kajian juga mendedahkan bahawa hubungan ibu bapa-anak memoderasikan kesan perkaitan antara kecerdasan emosi, afiliasi rakan devian dengan kelangsangan remaja. Apabila hubungan ibu bapa-anak adalah tinggi (positif), wujud perkaitan yang lemah dan negatif antara kecerdasan emosi dengan kelangsangan. Ini menunjukkan apabila kecerdasan emosi rendah, remaja yang mempunyai hubungan yang sederhana tinggi dengan ibu bapa melaporkan mempunyai tahap kelangsangan yang rendah, berbanding dengan mereka yang mempunyai hubungan yang rendah dengan ibu bapa.

Hasil kajian ini juga menunjukkan bahawa apabila hubungan ibu - anak berada pada tahap yang tinggi, terdapat perkaitan positif yang lemah antara afiliasi rakan sebaya devian dengan kelangsangan, danapabila hubungan ibu - anak berada pada tahap yang rendah, terdapat hubungan positif yang kuat antara afiliasi rakan sebaya devian dengan kelangsangan. Semakin meningkatnya afiliasi rakan sebaya devian, remaja yang mempunyai tahap hubungan ibu-anak yang sederhana ke tahap tinggi, dilaporkan mempunyai tahap kelangsangan yang rendah berbanding dengan mereka yang mempunyai hubungan ibu-bapa-anak yang rendah. Kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa kualiti perhubunganibu-bapakemempunyai kesan yang berfaedah kepadatingkah lakukan. Kajian ini juga menyarankan bahawa hubungan ibu-bapakah perlu diselesaikan dengan kira dalam perancangan, pelaksanaan dan penilaian program untuk remaja

Kajian ini menunjukkan saranan signifikan kepada amalan dan penyelidikan akan datang. Memandangkan kajian ini hanya dijalankan di kalangan remaja di Tehran, Iran, maka untuk menggeneralisasikan hasil kajian kepada populasi lain adalah disarankan agar kajian yang sama dapat dijalankan di tempat lain dalam negara dengan umur dan ciri-ciri demografi yang berbeza.
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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 27 May 2014 to conduct the final examination of Masoumeh Homauni on her thesis entitled "Relationships between Emotional Intelligence, Parent-Child Relationship, Deviant Peer Affiliation, and Aggressive Behavior among Adolescents in Tehran, 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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DECLARATION

Declaration by graduate student

I hereby confirm that:

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This is to confirm that:

- the research conducted and the writing of this thesis was under our supervision;
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