



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

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

MASOUMEH HOMAUNI

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By

MASOUMEH HOMAUNI

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

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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.



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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By

MASOUMEH HOMAUNI

May 2014

Chairman: Mariani btMansor, Ph.D.

Faculty: Human Ecology

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**

Oleh

MASOUMEH HOMAUNI

Mei 2014

Pengerusi: Mariani bte Mansor, Ph.D.

Fakulti: Ekologi Manusia

Kelangsangan dalam kalangan remaja di Iran semakin meningkat. Kebelakangan ini perhatian yang diberikan ke atas kesan kelangsangan terhadap kesejahteraan remaja semakin meningkat. Sungguhpun perkaitan antara kecerdasan emosi, hubungan ibu bapa-anak dan afiliasi rakan sebaya devian dengan kelangsangan remaja telah dibuktikan, namun tumpuan yang diberikan amat kecil di Iran. Bagi mengatasi kekurangan ini, kajian ini telah dijalankan untuk meneliti perkaitan antara kecerdasan emosi, hubungan ibu bapa-anak, afiliasi rakan sebaya devian dengan kelangsangan remaja. Selain itu, kajian ini juga meneliti peranan hubungan ibu bapa dan anak sebagai pembolehubah moderator dalam perkaitan antara kecerdasan emosi dan afiliasi rakan sebaya devian dengan kelangsangan remaja. Justeru itu kajian ini adalah penting dan perlu dijalankan.

Kajian ini berbentuk kuantitatif dan menggunakan rekabentuk korelasi. 400 orang remaja yang berumur antara 16-18 tahun daripada 20 buah sekolah tinggi kerajaan di lima daerah yang terpilih di Tehran, Iran telah dipilih sebagai responden kajian. Kaedah persampelan kelompok pelbagai peringkat telah digunakan bagi memperoleh sampel kajian. Data telah dikumpul dengan menggunakan borang soal selidik yang dijawab sendiri oleh responden. Borang soal selidik tersebut mengandungi ciri-ciri demografik, *Emotional Intelligence Scale* (Bar-one's EI), *Aggression Questionnaire* (Bus dan Perry), *Deviant Peer Affiliation Questionnaire* (*National Youth Survey Questionnaire*) dan *Quality of Parent-Child Relationships Questionnaire* (PCRS). Kesemua instrument yang digunakan dalam kajian ini mempunyai kebolehpercayaan yang tinggi. Kaedah statistik deskriptif, bivariat dan multivariat telah digunakan dalam menganalisis data.

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 ujian-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 kelangsangan dalam 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 bapa - anak berada pada tahap yang tinggi, terdapat perkaitan positif yang lemah antara afiliasi rakan sebaya devian dengan kelangsangan, dan apabila hubungan ibu bapa - 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 bapa-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 perhubungan ibu bapa-anak mempunyai kesan yang berfaedah kepada tingkah laku remaja. Kajian ini juga menyarankan bahawa hubungan ibu bapa-anak adalah penting diambil kira dalam perancangan, pelaksanaan dan penilaian program untuk remaja.

Kajian ini mempunyai saranan signifikan kepada amalan dan penyelidikan akan datang. Memandangkan kajian ini hanya dijalankan di kalangan remaja di Tehran, Iran, maka untuk mengeneralisasikan 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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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:

Mariani bt Mansor, PhD

Senior Lecturer
Faculty of Human Ecology
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Chairman)

Mansor bt Abu Talib, PhD

Associate Professor
Faculty of Human Ecology
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Member)

Siti Nor bt Yaacob, PhD

Senior Lecturer
Faculty of Human Ecology
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Member)

BUJANG BIN KIM HUAT, PhD

Professor and Dean
School of Graduate Studies
Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date:

Declaration by Members of Supervisory Committee

This is to confirm that:

- the research conducted and the writing of this thesis was under our supervision;
- supervision responsibilities as stated in the Universiti Putra Malaysia (Graduate Studies) Rules 2003 (Revision 2012-2013) are adhered to.

Signature: _____
Name of
Chairman of
Supervisory
Committee: _____

Signature: _____
Name of
Member of
Supervisory
Committee: _____

Signature: _____
Name of
Member of
Supervisory
Committee: _____

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