Comparative Analysis of Executive Laws Related to the Rehabilitation Support of Exceptional Children in Iran and the International Organization UNICEF

Abdolrahim Tajeddin[1], Mansoureh Shahriari Ahmadi[2*], Gholamali Afrooz[3], Hassan Pasha Sharifi[3]

[1] Ph.D. Student, Department of Psychology, Central Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran
[2] Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Central Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran
[3] Professor, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran
[4] Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Central Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

* Corresponding author email address: mansure_shahriari@yahoo.com

E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
Parvaneh Mohammadkhani Professor, Department of Clinical Psychology, University of Rehabilitation Sciences and Social Health, Tehran, Iran. Email: Pa.mohammadkhani@uswr.ac.ir	**Reviewer 1:** RoodiHooshmandi Department of Psychology and Counseling, KMAN Research Institute, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada. Email: Roodihooshmandi@kmanresce.ca **Reviewer 2:** Seyed Ali Darbani Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology and Counseling, South Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran Ali.darbani@iau.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1 Reviewer 1

Date: 20 May 2024

Reviewer:

The introduction mentions "exceptional children" several times. Please provide a clear and precise definition of "exceptional children" early in the introduction to ensure all readers understand the scope of the study.

The description of the checklist as a data collection instrument (p. X) needs further elaboration. Consider including a sample of the checklist in an appendix and provide more information about its development, validity, and reliability.

The study utilizes the phi correlation coefficient to analyze the data. However, the choice of this statistical method is not justified. Please explain why the phi coefficient was chosen and whether other statistical methods were considered.

In the results section, where it states, "The phi correlation coefficient... was not significant, indicating no correlation or agreement" (p. X), the implications of this lack of correlation should be explored more deeply. Discuss what this might mean for the rehabilitation support system in Iran.

The comparison between Iran and UNICEF's reported statistics (p. X) should include a discussion of potential reasons for the observed differences, such as socioeconomic, cultural, or policy differences between Iran and the countries covered by UNICEF reports.

The caption for Figure 1 should be more descriptive. Currently, it only states, "Number of Disabled Individuals Covered by the National Welfare Organization from 2011 to 2019." Consider expanding the caption to explain what the figure demonstrates and its relevance to the study.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

1.2   Reviewer 2

Date: 22 May 2024

Reviewer:

In the introduction, the section discussing the World Health Organization's call for increased efforts could benefit from the inclusion of specific examples of successful interventions in other countries. This would help contextualize Iran's efforts within a broader global framework.

The sampling strategy mentioned in the "Methods and Materials" section (p. X) lacks detail on how the purposeful sampling was conducted. Please include more specific criteria used for selecting the reports and documents, and justify why these criteria were appropriate for the study.

The significance levels reported in Table 2 (p. X) should be discussed in the context of the study. Please clarify what these significance levels indicate about the effectiveness of rehabilitation services over time.

The discussion section should more explicitly connect the findings to policy implications. For example, how should Iranian policymakers respond to the finding that rehabilitation services have only seen a 5% improvement over ten years?

The limitations section mentions "cultural challenges" but does not elaborate. Consider discussing specific cultural factors that might influence the provision and reception of rehabilitation services in Iran.

In the conclusion, the recommendations are quite general. Please provide more specific recommendations for future research or policy, such as particular areas of the law that need reform or specific strategies to improve rehabilitation service delivery.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

2.   Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.