



Comparing Defensive Mechanisms and Suicidal Thoughts in Addicted Men and Women

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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
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1. Round 1

1.1 Reviewer 1

Date: 01 September 2023

Reviewer:

Abstract: The abstract mentions "multivariate analysis of variance" but does not provide specific results or key statistics. Consider including key findings with p-values and effect sizes for a clearer summary.

Introduction, Paragraph 1: The citation for the 2004 UNODC report is outdated. Please find a more recent source to support the prevalence of drug use worldwide.

Introduction, Paragraph 4: There is an extensive discussion on the relationship between BAS/BIS scales and psychopathy. This section could benefit from more clarity on how it directly relates to the study's focus on defensive mechanisms and suicidal thoughts.

Methods, Study Design and Participants: The selection of 112 participants (56 men and 56 women) via convenience sampling is mentioned, but the potential biases this introduces are not discussed. Please address the limitations of this sampling method.

Methods, Measures, Defense Style: The DSQ-40 is described with its three levels (mature, neurotic, immature) but does not detail which specific mechanisms fall into each category. Consider adding this information for clarity.

Results, Paragraph 2: The statement "women tend to use somatization more while men predominantly utilize acting out" should be supported with specific statistical results from your study for credibility.

Discussion, Paragraph 2: The paragraph mentions that "women tend to manage internal/external stresses through physical symptoms" but lacks a discussion on how these findings align or conflict with previous research. A comparison with other studies would be beneficial.

Discussion, Paragraph 3: The statement "a significant difference in suicidal thoughts between men and women dependent on substances" should be directly followed by specific p-values and effect sizes from your analysis.

Discussion, Paragraph 4: The potential role of opioids in increasing suicidal thoughts among men is mentioned but should be backed by direct references to literature that supports this claim.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

1.2 Reviewer 2

Date: 07 September 2023

Reviewer:

Introduction, Paragraph 2: The sentence "Therefore defensive mechanisms play a fundamental role in substance use and addiction" lacks a direct citation. Please provide a reference to support this statement.

Measures, Suicide Ideation: The section on BSSI describes its structure but does not mention how cultural differences might affect responses. Consider discussing the cultural validity of the BSSI in your sample population.

Data Analysis: The choice of MANOVA is appropriate but lacks a justification for why this statistical method was chosen over others. A brief rationale would enhance the methodological rigor.

Results, Table 2: The table presents means and standard deviations but lacks a note explaining what each score range means in practical terms. Consider adding a note for interpretative clarity.

Results, Table 3: The significance values for immature, mature, and neurotic defensive styles are presented without corresponding effect sizes. Including these would provide a more comprehensive understanding of the results.

Discussion, Paragraph 1: The explanation of gender differences in defensive mechanisms mentions "cross-cultural factors" but does not provide examples or references. Including specific studies or examples would strengthen this argument.

Conclusion, Paragraph 2: The recommendation to use clinical interviews in future research is valuable but should also include specific types of interviews or additional methods that could be beneficial.

Conclusion, Paragraph 3: The suggestion that the Ministry of Education prepare educational programs is important but should be supported with examples of successful programs or initiatives from other regions or countries.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.