




Structural Equation Modeling of the Relationship Between Parents' Religious Orientation and Adolescents' Tendency Towards Critical Thinking and Happiness with the Mediating Role of Cognitive Flexibility

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Clearly specify which theoretical frameworks underpin the structural equation model, particularly how cognitive flexibility is modeled as a mediator. This could improve understanding of the model's theoretical contributions.

Expand on the rationale for using cluster random sampling and its implications for the generalizability of the study results. Include a discussion about potential biases that might have arisen from this sampling method.

Provide more detailed evidence of the construct validity for the scales used, especially for the Ricketts Critical Thinking Questionnaire and the Cognitive Flexibility Inventory, within the specific context of your study population.

Consider including additional statistical tests, such as confirmatory factor analysis, to substantiate the dimensionality of the scales used before proceeding with the structural equation modeling.

Enhance the discussion by comparing your findings with those of similar studies in different cultural contexts to address potential cultural influences on the observed relationships.

Offer more concrete suggestions for educators and counselors on how they can practically apply findings from this study in educational settings to enhance critical thinking and happiness among students.

Elaborate on the limitations regarding the cross-sectional design of the study and propose how longitudinal approaches could further elucidate the dynamics of the relationships studied.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Provide histograms or Q-Q plots to visually support the claim of data normality. This will help readers assess the appropriateness of the parametric tests used in your analysis.

Expand the discussion on how multicollinearity was addressed and its impact on the regression coefficients within your model, considering the high correlations reported between some variables.

Include additional fit indices such as the Incremental Fit Index (IFI) and the Standardized Root Mean Square Residual (SRMR) to provide a more comprehensive assessment of the model fit.

Report effect sizes for the significant relationships to help determine the practical significance of the findings, complementing the p-values provided.

Address how missing data was handled in your study and discuss the potential impact of any imputation methods used on the results.

Provide a more detailed interpretation of the path coefficients, especially discussing the mediating role of cognitive flexibility in simpler terms to make it accessible to non-specialist readers.

Expand on the ethical considerations, particularly how participant confidentiality is ensured and the steps taken to minimize potential harm or discomfort to participants.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.