




Examining the Mediating Role of Self-Concept in the Relationship between Object Relations and Narcissistic Personality

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Introduction, "The study of narcissism has a long history dating back to the late 19th century...":

Comment: This historical overview is useful, but it would be beneficial to include more recent developments in the field of narcissism research, particularly in the context of self-concept and object relations.

Introduction, "From a psychoanalytic perspective, Freud described narcissism...":

Comment: While Freud's theory is foundational, consider expanding on contemporary psychoanalytic perspectives and how they differ or build upon Freud's original ideas.

Methods and Materials, "This research was descriptive and conducted using a correlational method":

Comment: Provide a rationale for choosing a correlational design over other possible methodologies, such as experimental or longitudinal designs.

Methods and Materials, "Self-Concept: The Tennessee Self-Concept Scale (TSCS) developed by Fitts and Warren (1996) consists of 100 items...":

Comment: Explain why the TSCS was chosen over other self-concept measures. Discuss its suitability and any known limitations.

Methods and Materials, "The sample was selected through non-random convenience sampling using the formula $5Q < n < 15Q$; $2 < n < 10$ resulting in 397 students":

Comment: Explain the sampling formula used ($5Q < n < 15Q$; $2 < n < 10$) and how it ensures an adequate sample size for the study's statistical analyses.

Findings, "The results indicated that object relations directly explained 63% and indirectly through self-concept explained 25% of the variance in narcissistic personality":

Comment: Discuss the potential for multicollinearity between object relations and self-concept. Explain how this was assessed and ruled out in your analysis.

Table 1, Descriptive Statistics of Research Variables:

Comment: The table provides useful data, but it would be helpful to include confidence intervals for means to better understand the precision of these estimates.

Methods and Materials, "The statistical population included all students studying at universities in the city of Qom...":

Comment: Discuss potential biases introduced by using convenience sampling and how these biases might affect the generalizability of the findings.

Conclusion, "Narcissistic personality could be explained and predicted both directly through object relations and indirectly through the mediating variable of self-concept":

Comment: Suggest practical applications of these findings in clinical settings. How might therapists use this information in treating narcissistic personality disorder?

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Introduction, "Object relations theorists such as Kernberg (1976), Mahler (1975), and Jacobson (1964) focus primarily on the role of interpersonal relationships...":

Comment: Include a brief discussion of how object relations theory has evolved since these seminal works, incorporating more recent theorists and empirical findings.

Methods and Materials, "Participants completed questionnaires on narcissistic personality, object relations, and self-concept scales":

Comment: Specify the reliability and validity of each questionnaire used. Include information on how these measures were previously validated in similar populations.

Methods and Materials, "The Narcissistic Personality Inventory (NPI) is a shortened version of the 40-item Narcissistic Personality Inventory developed by Ames et al.":

Comment: Justify the use of the NPI-16 over the full 40-item version. Discuss any limitations this shorter version might impose on the study's findings.

Findings, "Values above 0.90 for GFI and AGFI, a Chi/df ratio of 3 or less, SRMR values close to zero...":

Comment: Explain why these specific thresholds for goodness-of-fit indices were chosen and provide references to support these choices.

Findings, "The standardized root mean square residual (SRMR), goodness-of-fit index (GFI), and adjusted goodness-of-fit index (AGFI)...":

Comment: Provide a more detailed explanation of each goodness-of-fit index and why each is important in evaluating the model.

Discussion, "The primary goal of the present study was to provide a scientific model through the variables of object relations and self-concept in predicting narcissistic personality":

Comment: Clearly state the theoretical implications of your findings. How does this model advance our understanding of the interplay between object relations, self-concept, and narcissistic personality?

Discussion, "The findings of this study are consistent with Gurol Isik's (2016) research showing that these four components of object relations have a significant positive correlation with narcissistic personality disorder":

Comment: Compare and contrast your findings with Gurol Isik's study in more detail. Highlight any differences and suggest possible reasons for these discrepancies.

Conclusion, "This distorted self-concept may be related to the inability to empathize and issues with self-reflection characteristic of narcissistic personality disorder":

Comment: Propose future research directions that could further investigate the relationship between self-concept distortion and empathy in narcissistic personality disorder.

Introduction, "According to Freud's model, the emphasis is on drives and fixation at an early stage of development":

Comment: Discuss alternative theories that explain narcissism through different mechanisms, such as cognitive-behavioral or social learning theories, to provide a more comprehensive background.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.