




Examining the Role of Stressful Events, Behavioral Brain Systems, and Ego Strength with the Mediating Role of Impulsivity in the Tendency Toward Addiction Among Youth in Yasuj


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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction provides a good overview of addiction as a global issue but lacks sufficient historical context. For instance, in the sentence, “In 2017, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared the opioid epidemic a public health emergency...,” consider briefly explaining the events leading up to this declaration to provide more background.

The inclusion criteria mention “literacy in reading and writing” as a requirement. However, it’s not clear how this was assessed. Consider revising to clarify the method used to determine literacy levels among participants.

The description of the Psychosocial Ego Strength Scale mentions that “the score range is 64 to 320,” but it would be helpful to explain what specific scores indicate in terms of ego strength. Adding a brief explanation of how these scores translate to ego strength levels would improve clarity.

While path analysis is an appropriate method, the rationale for choosing this method over others is not fully discussed. Consider adding a sentence that explains why path analysis was specifically suited to this study’s objectives and data structure.

The correlation matrix is presented clearly in Table 2, but the interpretation in the text could be expanded. For example, the sentence, “There is a significant negative correlation between Addiction Tendency and the components of Ego Strength,” could be followed by a brief discussion on what this implies for the study’s hypotheses.

The explanation of the path analysis results is somewhat brief. In the sentence, “The model analysis results indicated that the degree of freedom was equal to zero...,” consider elaborating on the implications of a saturated model and how this affects the interpretation of the results.

The conclusion suggests that strategies can be developed, but it would be beneficial to outline specific applications. After the sentence, “Based on these findings, strategies can be developed to prevent the youth from gravitating toward addiction...,” provide examples of such strategies that could be implemented in educational or clinical settings.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The theoretical framework is discussed, but the link between Behavioral Brain Systems and addiction is not well elaborated. The sentence, “The adolescent and young adult brain is often likened to a car with a fully functioning gas pedal (dopamine reward system) but weak brakes (prefrontal cortex),” could benefit from further explanation on how this analogy applies specifically to addiction tendencies.

The discussion on impulsivity as a mediating factor is insightful but could be enhanced by discussing potential interventions. After the sentence, “Impulsivity plays a significant mediating role in the relationship between stressful events, behavioral brain systems, and ego strength...,” suggest possible interventions that could mitigate impulsivity among at-risk youth.

The limitations section acknowledges the potential impact of confounding variables but does not specify which variables could be most problematic. Consider revising the sentence, “The lack of control over confounding variables such as the socio-economic status of the youth in Yasuj...,” to include a brief discussion of how these variables could have influenced the study’s findings.

The discussion mentions prior studies, but the comparison could be more detailed. For instance, after the sentence, “These results are consistent with the prior findings...,” consider elaborating on how your findings align or differ from specific studies cited, including possible reasons for any discrepancies.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.