

# Construction and Validation of the Conflict Expression in Meaning Formation Scale for Adolescents

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The sentence “Adolescence is a critical and vital stage in personality development (Blakemore, 2019)” is quite general. Consider elaborating on how these changes specifically relate to the formation of conflict expression and meaning.

In the discussion about developmental theories, the article mentions “exploration and discovery” (Yoon et al., 2021). It would strengthen the argument to link these theories more explicitly to the process of conflict expression.

The description of the sampling method “cluster sampling from five regions” is clear, but it would be helpful to explain why these regions were chosen and how they might represent the wider population.

When discussing the content validity ratio (CVR) and content validity index (CVI), it would be helpful to elaborate on how feedback from the experts led to specific item revisions.

The confirmatory factor analysis results mention fit indices like “ $X^2/df=2.28$ ,  $CFI = .954$ ,  $GFI = .951$ .” Include a comparison with recommended thresholds for these indices to validate the model’s fit.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

## 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The paragraph referencing “Brassai et al. (2012)” discusses the role of meaning in reducing negative behaviors. The argument could benefit from connecting this to the relevance of the new scale being developed.

The sentence “Many physiological, psychological, and social changes occur...” could be supported with recent data or statistics to emphasize the prevalence and importance of meaning-making in adolescents.

Consider adding more context or examples of how cultural factors influence meaning formation, especially since the study focuses on adolescents in an Iranian context.

When discussing “15 experts in the field of psychology,” specify the criteria used to select these experts and their areas of specialization to enhance transparency.

The phrase “data analysis was conducted using Glaser’s (1987) method” is mentioned briefly. Expound on how the seven stages of this method were applied specifically in this research.

The discussion of the hierarchical three-component model could be enhanced by explaining why this model was chosen over alternative models.

The section analyzing “Problematic Coping” references “Fowers, 1992” and other studies. Elaborate on how this component’s findings are consistent or inconsistent with prior research.

When interpreting “Emotional Confusion,” the link to “emotional regulation” is strong, but it would be beneficial to suggest possible interventions or strategies for managing these emotions based on the findings.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

## 2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.