Modeling Dark Personality Traits Based on Childhood Traumas with the Mediation of Guilt, Anxiety, and Depression

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The link between childhood traumas and dark personality traits, mediated by guilt, anxiety, and depression, needs a stronger theoretical grounding. Specifically, it would be beneficial to include more recent literature that discusses the psychological mechanisms underlying these relationships.

The sampling method (convenience sampling) may limit the generalizability of the findings. Future research should consider using a stratified sampling method to ensure a more representative sample.

The reliance on self-reported questionnaires can introduce bias. Incorporating clinical interviews or third-party assessments could provide a more objective measure of dark personality traits and childhood traumas.

A more detailed explanation of the non-significant mediation effect of guilt is needed. Discussing potential reasons for this finding and its implications would enrich the analysis.

The significant indirect relationships through anxiety and depression are intriguing but warrant further exploration. The paper could benefit from a deeper examination of these pathways, perhaps by considering different types of childhood traumas separately.

The conclusion section should be expanded to offer more concrete suggestions for practitioners. This could include specific intervention strategies or preventive measures aimed at addressing the identified mediators (anxiety and depression) in individuals with a history of childhood traumas.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2.   Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

While comprehensive, the review could be updated to include studies published in the last three years, ensuring that the paper reflects the current state of research in this area.

Providing additional details on the model fit indices in the results section would help readers evaluate the adequacy of the structural equation model.

Consider conducting post hoc analyses to explore the potential moderating effects of demographic variables (e.g., age, gender) on the relationships between childhood traumas, mediating variables, and dark personality traits.

Enhance the discussion by comparing your findings with those of similar studies. Highlighting both consistencies and discrepancies can offer insights into the complexity of the studied phenomena.

The limitations section is well-noted, but the addition of suggestions for future research based on these limitations would be beneficial.

Ensure that all citations and references follow the journal's formatting guidelines.

A thorough proofreading pass would help catch and correct any typographical or grammatical errors, improving the overall quality of the manuscript.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

2.   Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.
Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.