




Modeling Narcissistic Personality and Object Relations with the Mediating Role of Defense Mechanisms


Morteza. Gholami Zarch¹, Davoud. Taghvaei^{2*}, Zabihollah. Pirani²

¹ PhD student, Department of Psychology, Arak Branch, Islamic Azad University, Arak, Iran



² Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Arak Branch, Islamic Azad University, Arak, Iran

* Corresponding author email address: Davodtaghvaei@yahoo.com

Editor

Thseen Nazir
Professor of Psychology and
Counseling Department, Ibn
Haldun University, Istanbul,
Turkey
thseen.nazir@ihu.edu.tr

Reviewers

Reviewer 1: Shahrokh Makvand Hoseini
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Semnan University, Iran.
Email: shmakvand@semnan.ac.ir
Reviewer 2: Davoud Taghvaei
Department of Psychology, Arak Branch, Islamic Azad University, Arak, Iran.
Email: d-taghvaeii@iau-arak.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The reliability and validity of the Narcissistic Personality Inventory (NPI-16) should be discussed more comprehensively. Provide more details on the psychometric properties and any limitations observed in its application to the Iranian population.

The description of the Defense Style Questionnaire (DSQ) mentions its standardization in Iran but does not provide sufficient detail on the validation process. Include more specifics on how the Persian version's reliability and validity were established.

The explanation of the Bell Object Relations Inventory (BORI) should include a brief overview of the four subscales and their relevance to the study. This will help readers understand how these subscales are connected to narcissistic personality.

Ensure that the standard deviations, skewness, and kurtosis values are clearly linked to the corresponding variables in the text. This will help readers interpret the data more effectively.

The sentence "Initially the normality of the data related to the research variables and their correlations was tested" is vague. Specify which normality tests were used (e.g., Shapiro-Wilk, Kolmogorov-Smirnov) and report the results explicitly.

The correlation matrix should include significance levels for each correlation coefficient to clarify which relationships are statistically significant.

The explanation of the SEM results would benefit from a more detailed description of the model fit indices. Discuss what each index indicates and why the values obtained suggest a good model fit.

The claim "Research indicates that the development of narcissistic personality disorder may be related to early childhood experiences" should be supported by specific studies. Cite recent empirical research to substantiate this point.

More clearly link the findings on defense mechanisms to the broader literature on narcissistic personality. Discuss how these findings align with or differ from previous research.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The statement "Among personality disorders narcissistic personality disorder is characterized by grandiosity a need for admiration and a lack of empathy" needs citation to support these characteristics. Include references from the DSM-5 or recent studies.

The transition between Freud's primary narcissism and Kernberg's object relations theory is abrupt. Add a sentence or two to smooth the transition and highlight the theoretical development.

The description of the convenience sampling method lacks detail. Specify how participants were approached and selected, and discuss any potential biases introduced by this sampling method.

The practical implications of the study are not fully explored. Discuss how the findings could inform clinical practice, particularly in the context of therapeutic interventions for narcissistic personality disorder.

The limitations section should address potential issues with generalizability given the specific demographic (university students in Qom). Suggest how future studies might address these limitations.

Mention any potential biases introduced by the use of self-report measures, and suggest the inclusion of other assessment methods (e.g., clinical interviews, observational data) in future research.

The conclusion reiterates the study's main findings but lacks a strong take-home message. End with a clear statement on the study's contribution to the understanding of narcissistic personality and its clinical significance.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.