

# Designing a Model of Fear of Missing Out (FoMO) Based on Parenting Styles with the Mediating Role of Brain Behavioral Systems in Female University Students Using Virtual Space

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

In the sentence “FoMO is conceptualized not merely as a transient emotional response but as a stable dispositional tendency...”, the authors assert dispositional stability without acknowledging ongoing debates about state vs. trait FoMO. This claim requires qualification and citation of contrasting perspectives, or at minimum, a clarification of how FoMO is operationalized in this study (trait vs. state).

The second paragraph states that “FoMO is strongly associated with problematic social media use, emotional distress, and diminished well-being,” yet it aggregates multiple outcomes without distinguishing directionality or causality. The authors should refine this paragraph by clarifying whether FoMO is treated as a predictor, mediator, or outcome variable in prior studies, thereby strengthening the logical progression toward the present model.

The section introducing BIS/BAS states that they are “fundamental neuropsychological systems,” yet no justification is provided for their selection over alternative neurocognitive frameworks (e.g., executive functioning or affective neuroscience models). The authors should explicitly justify why BIS/BAS is the most appropriate mediator in this context.

In the sentence “Individuals with heightened BAS sensitivity are more likely to engage in reward-driven behaviors,” the manuscript assumes a direct link to social media without discussing contextual moderators. The authors should clarify whether this relationship is contingent on environmental affordances such as platform design or peer norms.

The paragraph on integration (“The integration of psychological and neurobiological perspectives...”) is conceptually important but remains largely rhetorical. The authors should explicitly state how their model advances beyond prior studies, preferably by identifying a specific theoretical or empirical gap.

The final paragraph of the introduction states “several gaps remain in the literature,” but these gaps are described in general terms. The manuscript would benefit from a more precise articulation of the research gap, including what has not been tested empirically and why SEM is particularly suited to address it.

In the Methods section, the sentence “224 participants were retained as the final sample” lacks a detailed account of data screening procedures. The authors should specify how missing data, outliers, and normality violations were handled, including any statistical thresholds used.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

### 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

In the paragraph discussing personality traits, the sentence “FoMO operates within a broader network of psychological constructs...” is conceptually valid but overly general. The manuscript would benefit from specifying the structural relationships among these constructs (e.g., whether personality traits precede FoMO or interact with it), possibly through a conceptual diagram or more precise narrative integration.

The paragraph introducing parenting styles relies heavily on Baumrind’s typology but does not justify its contemporary relevance. Given recent developments in parenting research, the authors should briefly address critiques or extensions of Baumrind’s model to demonstrate theoretical currency.

In the sentence “parenting styles have been shown to influence adolescents’ and young adults’ engagement with social media,” the authors do not clarify the mechanisms of influence. The paragraph would be strengthened by explicitly linking parenting styles to mediators such as self-regulation, attachment security, or emotional needs satisfaction.

The paragraph beginning with “Recent research has increasingly focused on the role of parenting styles in shaping FoMO” introduces relevant findings but lacks synthesis. The cited studies are presented sequentially rather than analytically integrated; the authors should identify patterns, contradictions, or gaps to better justify their model.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

## 2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.