





Predicting Addiction Tendency in Adolescents Based on Dark Personality Traits, Social Isolation, and Psychological Hardiness

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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
Salahadin Lotfi ^{id} PhD in Cognitive Psychology & Neuroscience, UWM & Rogers Behavioral Health Verified, Lecturer at University of Wisconsin slotfi@uwm.edu	Reviewer 1: Mohammadreza Zarbakhsh Bahri ^{id} Associate Professor (Department of Psychology, Tonekabon Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tonekabon, Iran. Email: M.Zarbakhsh@Toniau.ac.ir) Reviewer 2: Parvaneh Mohammadkhani ^{id} Professor, Department of Clinical Psychology, University of Rehabilitation Sciences and Social Health, Tehran, Iran. Email: Pa.mohammadkhani@uswr.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

While the need to study addiction tendencies is outlined, the introduction would benefit from more elaboration on the prevalence or urgency of adolescent addiction in the Iranian context.

The terms “Machiavellianism,” “narcissism,” and “psychopathy” are discussed, but their operational definitions (as measured in the study) should be briefly introduced here for alignment with the methods.

While beta values are reported, effect sizes (e.g., Cohen’s f^2 or partial η^2) are not mentioned. Including these would help assess the practical significance of predictors.

The text states that psychopathy “positively and significantly predicted addiction tendency” (Abstract), but Table 4 shows a negative β (-0.328). Please resolve this inconsistency.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The manuscript discusses the interaction of traits and environment but lacks reference to a unifying theoretical framework (e.g., diathesis-stress model). Adding such a framework would strengthen conceptual clarity.

“Adolescents in District 2 of Shiraz” is too vague. Please specify how many schools were included and the selection criteria for those schools.

The addiction scale’s origin is described as “adapted from Farjad’s book,” but no psychometric validation is described from the original author. Please provide clearer justification for using this instrument.

Much of the discussion repeats theoretical insights already stated in the introduction. Consider focusing more on interpreting your findings in light of new or conflicting literature.

You reference Asadi et al.’s wastewater-based epidemiology data. Clarify how this indirect measure of drug use supports your psychological findings, as the link is presently speculative.

The statement “These findings collectively suggest that hardiness training programs could be integrated into school-based education...” is strong. Add cautionary wording given the cross-sectional nature of your study.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.