





Predicting the Emotional Social Adjustment of Children with Autism Based on Mother-Child Anxiety and the Adaptability of Maternal Parenting

Alaa Najm Abed. Alhammashi¹, Zahra. Yousefi*², Abboud Jawad. Radhi³, Floor. Khayatan²


¹ PhD Student in Educational Psychology, Department of Psychology, Isfahan (Khorasgan) Branch, Islamic Azad University, Isfahan, Iran

² Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Isfahan (Khorasgan) Branch, Islamic Azad University, Isfahan, Iran



³ Faculty of Education Specialization, Wasit University, Wasit, Iraq

* Corresponding author email address: z.yousefi@khuif.ac.ir

Editor

Niloofer Mikaeili¹
Professor of Psychology
Department of Mohaghegh Ardabili
University, Ardabil, Iran
nmikaeili@uma.ac.ir

Reviewers

Reviewer 1: Sedigheh Rezaei Dehnavi¹
Associate professor, Department of Psychology, Payame Noor university, Tehran, Iran. Email: srezaeidehnavi@pnu.ac.ir
Reviewer 2: Roodi Hooshmandi¹
Department of Psychology and Counseling, KMAN Research Institute, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada. Email: roodishooshmandi@kmanresce.ca

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The convenience sampling method used poses limitations to the generalizability of the findings. Future revisions could benefit from a discussion on how the results may not represent all mothers with autistic children. Consider suggesting a stratified sampling method for future studies to enhance representativeness.

The manuscript employs Pearson correlation coefficient and stepwise regression analysis. However, the choice of stepwise regression warrants caution due to its known limitations, such as inflated R-squared values and potential overfitting. It would be beneficial to justify the use of this method over others and consider including additional analyses (e.g., hierarchical regression) to validate the findings.

The manuscript would benefit from clearer operational definitions of key constructs, particularly "emotional social adjustment." Providing specific criteria or behaviors that constitute this adjustment could enhance the clarity and applicability of the findings.

The influence of potential confounding variables (e.g., the severity of autism, socio-economic status, maternal education) on the study's outcomes is not thoroughly discussed. Addressing how these factors might affect the results and suggesting ways to control for them in future research would strengthen the study.

The manuscript notes negative relationships between mother-child anxiety and emotional social adjustment but could delve deeper into the implications of these findings. Discussing potential psychological mechanisms, such as the impact of maternal anxiety on parenting practices or child perceptions, would provide a more comprehensive understanding.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The review could benefit from a broader examination of previous work on the influence of parental anxiety and adaptability on children's emotional and social outcomes, not limited to autism. This broader context could help situate the study within the larger field of developmental psychology.

Incorporating a more explicit theoretical framework to guide the study would enhance the manuscript. For instance, discussing how attachment theory or family systems theory might provide insights into the relationships observed could add depth to the analysis.

Providing more detail about the scales used, including sample items or the dimensions they cover, would give readers a better understanding of what exactly was measured and how.

The manuscript discusses parental adaptability in terms of dimensions like concern and control but could further explore how these dimensions specifically relate to the challenges faced by parents of children with autism. This could include discussing practical strategies for enhancing adaptability in this context.

Concluding with specific, actionable recommendations for future research, such as exploring intervention models to reduce mother-child anxiety or enhance parental adaptability, would make the paper more valuable to the field.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.