

# Program and Abstracts



**International Society for Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection**  
**CHISINAU, MOLDOVA**

## **5<sup>th</sup> International Congress on** **Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection**

**June 24-27, 2014**

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5<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON  
INTERPERSONAL  
ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION



PROGRAM  
AND  
ABSTRACTS



CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

June 24 - 27, 2014



Many thanks to the  
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## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

On behalf of the Executive Council of the International Society for Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection (ISIPAR), I welcome you to the 5<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Interpersonal Acceptance-Rejection. As you may know, ISIPAR was founded in 2006 following the first International Congress on Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection in Istanbul, Turkey. The mission of the Society is to support and encourage research and practice related to interpersonal acceptance and rejection. I hope this Congress will provide opportunities for researchers and practitioners from around the world to participate in and share information and opinions about issues related to all aspects of interpersonal acceptance and rejection. Deliberations of this Congress will help the Society achieve its goals.

Finally, I would like to thank all members of the Society, especially Program Chair Karen Ripoll-Nuñez, Ronald P. Rohner, and Nancy Rohner, who have been so actively involved in organizing this Congress. Moreover, I express my sincere gratitude to the members of the Local Organizing Committee, especially Vadim Moldovan, William Divale, and Justin Grotelueschen for their untiring effort and support to make this Congress a success.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Khaleque', is written over a horizontal line.

Abdul Khaleque  
President, ISIPAR

# NAVIGATION



- 1 ***ULIM - Universitatea Libera Internationala din Moldova***
- 2 ***Sala cu Orga (Teatrul Mihai Eminescu)***
- 3 ***Posta Moldovei Oficiul Central (Centru Comercial "Gemenii")***
- 4 ***Primaria Municipiului Chisinau***
- 5 ***Catedrala si Arcul de Triumf***
- 6 ***Guvernul Republicii Moldova***
- 7 ***Monumentul lui Stefan cel Mare (Cinematograful "Patria")***

# PROGRAM







<b>Tuesday, June 24th</b>		
08:30-18:00	Registration & ISIPAR Membership Desk	Entrance
09:00-11:00	<p><b>Opening Ceremony</b></p> <p>Chair: R. P. Rohner, Executive Director, ISIPAR</p> <p>Greetings from Rector ULIM</p> <p>Greetings from Moldovan Authorities</p> <p>Congress Organizers' Welcome</p>	Mediateca
11:00-11:30	Tea/Coffee Break	Library
11:30-12:30	<p><b>Plenary Session</b></p> <p>President's <b>Keynote Address:</b> Abdul Khaleque</p> <p><b><i>International Society for Interpersonal Acceptance and rejection: Progress and Prospects</i></b></p>	Mediateca
12:30-14:00	Lunch	Library
14:00-15:30	<p><b>Plenary Session</b></p> <p><b><i>Introduction to Parental Acceptance-Rejection Theory and Evidence</i></b></p> <p>Video with Q &amp; A moderated by Ronald P. Rohner</p>	Mediateca
15:30-16:00	Tea/Coffee Break	Library
16:00-17:30	<p><b>Psychological &amp; Behavioral Adjustment (Part I)</b></p> <p>Schneider, B. H. <b>Literature Review: When Aggression by Children and Adolescents is Associated with Peer Acceptance and Not Rejection.</b></p> <p>Gribincea, V. <b>Exploring the Relationship between Gratitude, Depressive Symptoms, and Perceived Social Support</b></p> <p>Gürel, C. &amp; Erkman, F. <b>The Mediating Role of Psychological Adjustment on the Relations among Perceived Parental Acceptance, Parental Control, and Cross-Situational Coping Styles During Early Adolescence</b></p> <p>Izadikhah, Z., Rohner, R. P., Khajavi, Z., &amp; O'Connor, P. <b>Remembrances of Maternal Acceptance-Rejection in Childhood Predict Cognitive Schemas of Abandonment and Emotional Deprivation in Iranian Women</b></p>	Aula Magnifica
18:30	<b>Welcome Reception</b> Buffet Dinner	Mediateca

<b>Wednesday, June 25th</b>		
08:30-18:00	Registration & ISIPAR Membership Desk	Entrance
09:00-10:30  Chair: M. A. Carrasco          * denotes <i>in absentia</i>	<u><b>Family Interaction (Part I)</b></u> Țărnă, V. & Haraz, S. <b>Suicidal Tendencies Among Adolescents Determined by Environmental Factors</b> Finzi-Dottan, R. & Cohen, O. <b>Paternal Warmth and Involvement: The Impact of Paternal Narcissism</b> Vladica, S. <b>Parental Alienation—A Form of Emotional Abuse</b> Malik, F. & Rohner, R. P. <b>Spousal Rejection as a Risk Factor for Parental Rejection of Children Among Pakistani Families in the U.S.</b> *Ripoll-Nuñez, K. J. & Carrillo, S. A. <b>Perceived Warmth and Relationship Quality in Non-Biological Sibling Relationships: Experiences of Half and Stepsiblings</b>	Aula Magnifica
10:30-11:00	Tea/Coffee Break (Poster session)	Library
11:00-12:30  Chair: M. Lewis          * denotes <i>in absentia</i>	<u><b>Family Interaction (Part II)</b></u> Lewis, M. L. <b>Race-Based Childhood Experiences of Acceptance and Rejection and Parenting Style During Hair Combing Interaction</b> Pritsch, H., Mikulincer, M., & Berant, E. <b>Parental Acceptance-Rejection and Mindfulness</b> Carrasco, M. <b>Exploring the Moderator Role of Parental Power/Prestige Using the Johnson-Neyman Technique</b> *Almeida, A. I., Machado, M., & Machado, F. <b>Perceived Father and Parental Acceptance Manifested by Couples Following the Birth of Their First Child</b> *Parmar, P. <b>The Changing Face of Love Relationships and Its impact on Parental Acceptance-Rejection</b>	Aula Magnifica
12:30-14:00	Lunch	Library
14:00-15:30  Chair: A. Khaleque          * denotes <i>in absentia</i>	<u><b>Intimate Partners</b></u> Lazar, C. <b>Communication as a Process of Joining and Transforming</b> Van Arsdale, A. <b>Intimate Partner Violence Experiences of Asian Immigrant Women in the United States</b> Giovazolias, T. A. & Giaouzi, A. <b>Remembered Parental Rejection and Social Anxiety in Young Adults: The Mediating Effect of Intimate Partner Acceptance</b> Ohring, R. <b>Maladaptive Perfectionism and Intimate Relationships</b> *Starr, B. A. & Brown, C. M. <b>Perceived Parental Rejection and Intimate Partner Violence: Are They Connected?</b>	Aula Magnifica
15:30-16:00	Tea/Coffee Break (Poster session)	Library
16:00-17:30	<b>Documentary Film “REJECT”</b> Q & A moderator Ronald P. Rohner	Aula Magnifica
18:30	Gala Dinner	

## Thursday, June 26th

07:30	Executive Council Breakfast	Jazz Hotel
08:30-18:00	Registration & ISIPAR Membership Desk	Main Entrance
09:00-10:30  Chair: V. Moldovan	<p><b>Teachers, Schools, &amp; Academic Issues (Part I)</b></p> <p>Balode, N. <b>Teacher Burnout and Perceived Psychoemotional Climate in Organization</b></p> <p>Ali, S., Khaleque, A., &amp; Rohner, R. P. <b>Influence of Perceived Teacher Acceptance and Parental Acceptance on Youth's Psychological Adjustment and School Conduct: A Multi-Cultural Meta-Analysis</b></p> <p>Giovazolias, T. A. &amp; Karagiannopoulou, E. <b>The Mediating Effect of Defense Mechanisms in the Relationship Between Perceived Parental Rejection and Bullying Behaviors in a Sample of Greek Pupils</b></p> <p>Giotso, A. &amp; Zergiotis, A. <b>Teachers' Evaluation of Students Conduct in Greece</b></p> <p>*Kourkoutas, E., Smirnaki, M. &amp; Linardakis, M. <b>Perceived Parental Acceptance-Rejection, Family Functioning, and Conduct Problems Among Elementary School Students in Greece</b></p>	Aula Magnifica
10:30-11:00	Tea/Coffee Break (with Poster session)	Library
11:00-12:30  Chair: A. Giotso          * denotes <i>in absentia</i>	<p><b>Teachers, Schools, &amp; Academic Issues (Part II)</b></p> <p>Moldovan, V., Grotelueschen, J., &amp; Gutu, I. <b>Teaching Conflict: The Dialectic Method in Social Work Education</b></p> <p>Rusnac, S., Musienko, N., &amp; Zmuncila, L. <b>Work-Related Stress of University Didactic Personnel as a Factor of Communication Difficulties</b></p> <p>Zubenschi, M. <b>Sociocultural Correlation Between Poverty and Vocational Training in Moldova</b></p> <p>Shelyakhina, N. &amp; Yarskaya, V. <b>The Issues of Language Acculturation of Immigrants in Europe</b></p> <p>*Machado, M., Machado, F., &amp; Viera, E. <b>The Importance of Teacher Acceptance and Rejection on Academic Achievement: The Role of Self-Efficacy, Attributions, and Causal Dimensions</b></p>	Aula Magnifica
12:30-14:00	Lunch	Library
14:00-15:30  Chair: R. P. Rohner          * denotes <i>in absentia</i>	<p><u>Methodological Issues</u></p> <p>LaBuda, M. A. <b>We Met Online: A Qualitative Study of Successful Online Dating</b></p> <p>Giotso, A. &amp; Kaminioti, O. <b>Children's Representations of their Parents Behavior in Early Childhood</b></p> <p>*Fajmonová, V. &amp; Širůček, J. <b>The Czech Standardization of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire</b></p> <p>*Brown, C. M. et al <b>An Investigation of the Psychometric Properties of the Interpersonal Relationship Anxiety Questionnaire</b></p> <p>*Lloyd, J., Rohner, R. P., Kirkham, Journal., &amp; Yilmaz, M. <b>The Adult Offspring Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire (AOARQ): A valid and reliable tool for assessing adult offspring's perceptions of their current acceptance of their parents</b></p>	Aula Magnifica

## Thursday, June 26th

15:30-16:30	<b>ISIPAR Business Meeting</b> Installation of new Officers & Regional Representatives Chair: A. Khaleque	Mediateca
Open	Dinner with new friends and colleagues	

## Friday, June 27th

09:00 -10:30  Chair: T. A. Giovazolias           * denotes <i>in absentia</i>	<u><b>Mental Illness</b></u> Nacu, A. <b>Maternal Rejection as an Origin of Narcissistic Psychopathology of a Child</b> Aftene, V. <b>Dealing with Family Rejection of the Mentally Ill Through Mental Health Reform</b> Cislali, D. & Sterpu, V. <b>Influence of Parenting in the Development of Depressive Disturbances Among Patients Suffering from Chronic Alcoholism</b> Sterpu, V. <b>Psychopathological Personality Traits Among Patients with Mood Disorders and Chronic Alcoholism</b> *Kavianpoor, Y., Jaber Ghaderi, N., & Farnia, V. <b>Perceived Parental Acceptance and Rejection Among Psychiatric Inpatients in Kermanshah, Iran</b>	Aula Magnifica
10:30-11:00	Tea/Coffee Break	Library
11:00-12:30  Chair: A. Khaleque	<u><b>Gender Issues</b></u> Ali, S., Khaleque, A., & Rohner, R. P. <b>Gender Differences in Perceived Parental Acceptance and Psychological Adjustment of Children and Adult Offspring: a Multi-Cultural Meta-Analysis</b> Almenara, C. A. & Jezek, S. <b>The Source and Impact of Appearance Teasing</b> Sultana, S. & Khaleque, A. <b>Differential Effects of Perceived Maternal and Paternal Acceptance on Male and Female Adult Offspring's Psychological Adjustment</b> Verdes, V. <b>Characteristics of Self-Actualization of Women and Men in Adulthood Crisis</b>	Aula Magnifica
12:30-14:00	Lunch	Library
14:00-15:30  Chair: F. Erkman           * denotes <i>in absentia</i>	<u><b>Psychological &amp; Behavioral Adjustment (Part II)</b></u> Bunescu-Chilimciuc, R. <b>Psychological Approach to Identity</b> Sterpu, V. & Antonova, D. <b>Parental Family Characteristics as Factors of Alcoholism Development in Adulthood</b> Rohner, R. P. & Ibrahim, D. M. <b>Remembrance of Parental Rejection in Childhood Predicts Heightened Rejection Sensitivity in Adulthood.</b> *Machado, F., Almeida, C., & Machado, M. <b>The Role of Parental Acceptance and Rejection Perception on the Development of Rejection Sensitivity and Disruptive Behavior in Adolescents</b> *Gürmen, M. S., Ki, P., Rohner, R. P., & Rigazio-DiGilio, S. A. <b>Psychological Adjustment of Asian Adults Living in the USA: The Influence of Parental Acceptance and Intimate Partner Acceptance.</b>	Aula Magnifica
15:30-16:00 Chair: A. Giotsa	Closing Ceremony	Mediateca

Sightseeing around Chisinau and surrounding area

# INDEPENDENT POSTER and “IN ABSENTIA” PRESENTATIONS

(To be available for viewing/presentation  
separately from Program sessions)

Brown, C. M., Homa, N. L., Cook, R. E., et al. **A Modified Replication of a 1982 Study on Perceived Parental Acceptance-Rejection and Artistic Preference.**

Fareedi, E. & Bashir, K. **Maternal Acceptance-Rejection and Spiritual Well-Being in Young Adults.**

Almeida, A. I. S., Machado, M., & Machado, F. **Parental and Intimate Partner Acceptance-Rejection Perceived and Expressed by Couples after the Birth of their First Child.**

Tufeanu, M. & Robu, V. **Gender Differences in Emotional and Social Competencies: A Comparative Study on Romanian Adolescents.**



# ABSTRACTS



# PAPERS

## AND

# *IN ABSENTIA* PRESENTATIONS

Aftene, V.

**Dealing with Family Rejection of the Mentally Ill Through Mental Health Reform.** vadim.aftene@gmail.com

The plight of the mentally ill throughout the world is marked by alienation from society and the family. Prolong hospitalization exacerbate this problem by socializing the mentally ill into the hospital environment as a replacement for the family, with the doctor being the ultimate paternal authority and other patients - surrogate siblings. The longer a mentally ill person is hospitalized, the fewer chances he has to return to his family. In the meantime, the family also grows distant from the patient, delegating the troubles of caring for the mentally ill to the medical establishment. As a doctor and a hospital administrator, I have been involved in the mental health reform in Moldova for the past three years. The thrust of the reform is a community-based approach to treatment of the mentally ill with an emphasis on family involvement. This paper will present the imperative for the mental health reform in Moldova as a vehicle for integration of the chronically mentally ill into society, plans for such reform, and accomplishments toward the goal of community-based treatment of the mentally ill.

Ali, S., Khaleque, A., & Rohner, R. P.

**Gender Differences in Perceived Parental Acceptance and Psychological Adjustment of Children and Adult Offspring: A Multi-Cultural Meta-Analysis.** ali.sumbleen@gmail.com.

This meta-analysis is based on 220 studies involving 33,081 respondents from 23 nations across five continents. The study addressed two questions drawn from the basic postulates of PARTheory: (1) Are there any gender differences in offspring's (children's and adults') perceived parental (maternal and paternal) acceptance and their psychological adjustment? (2) Does one parent's acceptance has a greater impact on the offspring's (children's and adults') psychological adjustment than acceptance of the other parent? All studies included in this meta-analysis used the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire for Mothers and Fathers (child and adult PARQ: Mother and Father) and the Personality Assessment Questionnaire (child and adult PAQ). Results showed that both paternal and maternal acceptance correlate significantly with psychological adjustment of both children and adults across cultures. The study also showed that there are no gender differences in children's perception of parental acceptance and their psychological adjustment. However, remembrance of maternal acceptance showed significantly stronger relation with adult sons' current psychological adjustment than that of adult daughters'. Moreover, paternal acceptance (not maternal acceptance) was found to have significantly stronger relation with adult daughters' psychological adjustment than that of adult sons'.

Ali, S., Khaleque, A., & Rohner, R. P.

**Influence of Perceived Teacher Acceptance and Parental Acceptance on Youth's Psychological Adjustment and School Conduct: A Multi-Cultural Meta-Analysis.** ali.sumbleen@gmail.com.

This multi-cultural meta-analysis tests the contribution of parents' and teachers' acceptance to youth's psychological adjustment and school conduct. It is based on nine studies involving 2,422 school-going youth in 12 nations. The study addressed two questions drawn from one of the basic postulates of parental acceptance-rejection theory (PARTheory): (1) To what extent are boys' and girls' perceptions of teacher acceptance related multi-culturally to their psychological adjustment and school conduct? (2) To what extent are boys' and girls' perceptions of maternal and paternal acceptance related multi-culturally to their psychological adjustment and school conduct? All studies included in this meta-analysis used the child version of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire for Mothers and Fathers (child PARQ: Mother and Father), child version of the Personality Assessment Questionnaire (child PAQ), the Teacher's Evaluation of Student's Conduct (TESC), and the Teacher Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (TARQ). Results showed that both parental and teacher acceptance correlate significantly in all countries with psychological adjustment and school conduct of children, regardless of gender differences. The study also showed that perceived teacher acceptance has a significantly stronger relation with the school conduct of boys' than of girls'.



Almeida, A. I. S., Machado, M., & Machado, F. \*

**Parental and Intimate Partner Acceptance-Rejection Perceived and Expressed by Couples after the Birth of their First Child.** analmeida\_3@hotmail.com.

The first child's birth is an important event in parent's romantic relationships. This experience has a significant impact not only on the child's development but also on the functioning of the couple and the relationship within this triad. Our research aimed to establish the relationship between the perception that participants have about their intimate partner's expression of acceptance-rejection towards themselves and their first child and the participants' perception of their own expression of acceptance-rejection towards their first child and their intimate partner. To attain our goals, we asked 56 couples with a single son/daughter aged up to 24 months, and used the Adult PARQ (Rohner, 2005), Parent PARQ/Control: Infant (Rohner, 2005), Intimate Partner ARQ/Control (Rohner, 2005), and two newly-adapted measures to evaluate the perception of intimate partner's expression of acceptance-rejection towards a common child and one another other to access the participant's perception of their own expression of acceptance-rejection towards their intimate partner. Our results show an association between the participants' perception of being accepting or rejecting toward their child and the levels of acceptance-rejection expressed by their intimate partner toward their child and them. Moreover the perception of the participants about their intimate partner's acceptance-rejection is associated with the expression of acceptance-rejection that the participants themselves manifested toward their intimate partners. Thus more research is needed to further explore and explain the connection found between interpersonal acceptance and rejection and the relationship dynamics in the couple and in the triad Mother-Father-Child. Is also important to validate these newly-adapted measures for Portugal and promote parental educational programs to help families to increase the quality of their interpersonal relationships.

Almeida, A. I. S., Machado, M., & Machado, F. \*

**Perceived Father and Parental Acceptance Manifested by Couples Following the Birth of Their First Child.** analmeida\_3@hotmail.com.

The notion that paternal affection is as significant for child development as maternal affection emerged in 1960's. Father affection and involvement in child's care has a significant impact in subsequent child development (Rohner & Veneziano, 2001), namely in their ability to establish significant relationships in the future (Blair & Raven, 2012). Our study aims to analyze the relationship between perceived Parental Acceptance-Rejection (more specifically about fathers' warmth/rejection) and the level of acceptance-rejection expressed by our respondents (parents) when interacting with their first child and their intimate partner. We assessed 56 couples (mother and father) with a common single son/daughter aged up to 24 months using the Adult Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (Father and Mother versions, Rohner, 2005), Parent PARQ/Control: Infant (Rohner, 2005) and Intimate Partner Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire (Rohner, 2005). Our results show that the levels of acceptance-rejection that participants express towards their first child and their intimate partner are associated with the perception of parental acceptance-rejection that they have about their own parents. More specifically, the female participants' perception about their fathers' warmth/rejection seems to be more important than mothers' warmth/rejection. Results also show that participants' fathers are perceived as more rejecting and less accepting than mothers, unlike the participants' acceptance-rejection levels toward their own children/intimate relationship, where both male and female participants seem to be more accepting than rejecting of their first child and their intimate partners. Our study's data seems to indicate that the quality of relationships in adulthood tends to be associated with quality of the individuals' relationships with their parents, and more specifically with the father figure.

Almenara, C. A. & Jezek, S.

**The Source and Impact of Appearance Teasing: An Examination by Gender and Weight Status Among Early Adolescents from the Czech Republic.** carlos.almenara@mail.muni.cz.

Some adolescents are victims of negative appearance-related feedback (e.g. appearance teasing) and this may have lasting adverse effects in their self-evaluations. The aim of this study was to examine the frequency and impact of appearance teasing across gender and weight status. Participants were 570 Czech adolescents (47.9% girls) evaluated at age 13 during the European Longitudinal Study of Pregnancy and Childhood (ELSPAC). Instruments used were body mass index and an adapted version of the Physical Experiences Survey which measures appearance teasing sources (parents, peers, among others), body part teased, and impact of teasing. Chi-square and multivariate analysis of variance were conducted to compare groups by gender and weight status. Logistic regression was then used for adjusted analyses. Girls were more likely to report appearance teasing than boys. Overweight adolescents, either girls or boys, were more likely to be teased than were non-overweight adolescents. Overweight compared to non-overweight adolescents reported higher levels of impact by body-related teasing. Czech adolescents continue adopting societal standards of Western countries, stigmatizing overweight peers. This may affect more adolescent girls and obese adolescents. Further research should be done to evaluate different sources of appearance-related teasing. Interventions in schools are suitable to reduce appearance-related prejudices.

Balode, N.

**Teacher Burnout and Perceived Psychoemotional Climate in Organization.** nelly.balode@gmail.com.

Traditionally in the research literature the syndrome of burnout is presented as a homogenous phenomenon with a set of predefined symptoms that manifests similarly in all subjects. While much research was conducted on burnout viewed in its classical three dimensions (emotional exhaustion, depersonalization and reduced personal accomplishment) proposed by Maslach, very few researchers considered adopting a differentiating approach in its examination. This study aims to investigate teacher burnout from the perspective of an existing burnout typology proposed by B. Faber. Faber in his research describes three clinical profiles of teacher burnout, i.e., Frenetic, Underchallenged and Worn-out. In our study we surveyed 155 high school teachers from the Republic of Moldova. The research purpose was to measure the level of burnout among Moldovan teachers and identify the structure of the described types of burnout. A further goal was to examine how teachers of each type of burnout perceived the psychoemotional climate in their schools. The results show that the majority (52%) of Moldovan teachers belong to the Frenetic type of burnout, around 30% display symptoms of the Worn-out type and 18% of the Underchallenged type. As a whole, teachers subjected to burnout perceive negatively the psychoemotional climate in the organization. When looking from the perspective of burnout typology the negative perception of the school psychoemotional climate is a greater factor for teachers of Underchallenged and Worn-Out types, while teachers of the Frenetic type are less subjected to its influence.

Brown, C. M., Orcel, L., Flynn, K., Galio, A., Hodge, S., Parsons, K., Pulice-Farrow, L., Sherman, M., Flowers, M., & Jones, D. C.

**An Investigation of the Psychometric Properties of the Interpersonal Relationship Anxiety Questionnaire** dr.carrie.brown@gmail.com

The Interpersonal Relationship Anxiety Questionnaire, or IRAQ (Rohner Research Publications, 2013), is a nine-item measure of the common symptoms of anxiety that people feel in the context of interpersonal relationships. The IRAQ was developed in conjunction with Parental Acceptance-Rejection Theory (PARTheory) as a possible correlate of perceived parental rejection. The IRAQ is still in its developing phases; therefore, the purpose of the present study was to help establish some of the scale's psychometric properties. The participants were 78 females ( $M$  age = 20 years,  $SD$  = 2 years) living in the US. The majority of the participants reported their race as European-American (41%) or African-American (35%). A principal components factor analysis with varimax rotation revealed one factor upon which all nine items of the IRAQ loaded, explaining 50% of the variance. The nine items had a Cronbach's alpha of .87. Test-retest reliability was assessed by administering the IRAQ to the participants once in October (Cronbach's alpha = .88) and another time in November (Cronbach's alpha = .88). A Pearson correlation analysis revealed that scores at Time 1 were positively and significant correlated with scores at Time 2:  $r(62) = .70, p < .01$ . The results of the present study reveal that the IRAQ is a one-factor measure with strong internal consistency and good test-retest reliability. Future research will measure the IRAQ's psychometric properties in other cultures and determine if the IRAQ is a correlate of perceived parental rejection.

Brown, C. M., Homa, N. L., Cook, R. E., Nadimi, F., & Cummings, N.

**A (Modified) Replication of a 1982 Study on Perceived Parental Acceptance-Rejection and Artistic Preference**

In 1982, Rohner and Frampton published a research article in the *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology* titled "Perceived Parental Acceptance-Rejection and Artistic Preference: An Unexplained Contradiction." Rohner and Frampton sought to investigate if there is a relationship in the U.S. between the degree to which adults recall themselves as having been accepted or rejected as children and their current preference for graphic art varying in complexity of design. The researchers found that there is indeed a relationship, as the participants' perceived parental acceptance in childhood was associated with a preference for more complex art forms, which differed from their expectations based on the findings of previous studies. The purpose of our study was to replicate Rohner and Frampton's study, 30 years later. Similar to Rohner and Frampton's findings, our adult participants' ( $N = 144$ ) perceived maternal acceptance in childhood was associated with a preference for more complex art forms,  $r = -.27, p < .01$ . However, our participants' perceived paternal acceptance in childhood had no association with artistic preference,  $r = -.06, p > .05$ . Our study differs from Rohner and Frampton's in that our sample size is larger and consists of women only, and we conducted the study online. Despite these differences, our results are similar to Rohner and Frampton's. Like Rohner and Frampton, we do not have a clear theoretical explanation for these results, and therefore the reason for the relationship between complexity of design and perceived parental acceptance-rejection remains uncertain. Ideas for future research to help explain this relationship will be discussed.

Bunescu-Chilimciuc, R.

**Psychological Approach to Identity.** bunescurodica@gmail.com.

Identity problem is one of the most difficult provocations on which social psychology is called to answer. Taking into consideration the advanced dynamics from contemporaneity, we could appreciate without doubt that identities are undergone by permanent changes and obviously the concept meaning is not yet stable, being open to polemics and fertile debates, especially among field research in the social sciences. The teenage personal identity and social one represent a nascent construct in the process of formation and transformation, which faithfully reflect environmental influences that turn them into internal states and behaviors, involving repercussions in accepting or rejecting of others. We believe that three determinants of self-identity are present – the sense of unity, the agreement between the various aspects of self; the sense of continuity in time of the selves perceived and the sense of reciprocity between self-perception and modality of how the person is perceived by others. These relationships are closely linked with social environment context, especially in the immediate reference of the emotions which mark these relationships, in this way balancing the importance of supporting an affective process of identity formation in adolescence. Many ideas have emerged through various theories and definitions where authors mention the role of identity in: 1) social space integration, 2) the self-knowledge formation of an optimal necessities the need and location identification among others (the acceptance of distinctive features of a person, group, or their repulsion), and the tendency to self-development and self-efficacy orientation; 3) the personal uniqueness gathering the importance of the authentic self and others.

Carrasco, M. A.

**Exploring the Moderator Role of Parental Power/Prestige Using the Johnson-Neyman Technique.** macarrasco@psi.uned.es

Previous research has shown the moderator role of perceived interpersonal power-prestige in the relation between perceived parental acceptance and children's psychological adjustment. However, this moderator role has been probed by a pick-a-point approach analyzing the simple slopes of conditional effects. This approach requires the selection of various values of moderator and it is often made arbitrarily taking the mean as well as plus and minus one standard deviation. This study analyzes the moderator role of perceived interpersonal power-prestige taking the percentiles of the distribution (10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup>, and 90<sup>th</sup>) within the range of the data by the Johnson-Neyman technique. The sample consisted of 573 adolescents (46% boys) from 12 through 16 years of age ( $M = 12.84$ ). The measures used were the child versions of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire, the youth version of the Parental Power-Prestige Questionnaire, and the child version of the Personality Assessment Questionnaire. Results revealed a moderating role of perceived interpersonal power-prestige on the relations between perceived *paternal* acceptance and children's psychological adjustment and provide a significant region of the moderator values where this interaction becomes relevant.

Cislali, D. & Sterpu, V.

**Influence of Parenting in the Development of Depressive Disturbances Among Patients Suffering from Chronic Alcoholism.** dr.sterpu@mail.ru

The influence of parenting on the development of depressive disturbances was studied. Sixty patients with diagnosis of alcohol-dependency (ICD10, F10) and depressive symptoms were included in experimental group. The results were compared with the same number (60) of common population samples. Correlation between parenting styles and development of pathological symptoms in adulthood was estimated, using comparison of Hamilton scale score and scores of the Personality Assessment Questionnaire and the Adult Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire. The role of rejecting parenting as etiological factor in the development of pathological symptoms among patients suffering from chronic alcoholism is estimated.

Fajmonová, V. & Širůček, J. \*

**The Czech Standardization of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire.** veronika.fajmonova@nuv.cz

The Czech standardization of Rohner's Parental Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire was launched as part of a project called "Diagnostics of Children and Pupils with Special Educational Needs". The project was run by the National Institute for Education in Prague from September 2010 to August 2013. The process dealt with the translation of the measure, a preliminary study, and a phase of data collection throughout the Czech Republic. Psychometric analyses of the questionnaires filled out by 1,211 children between the ages of 9 and 15, and by 901 of their parents were completed. Results showed almost the same percent of children in the population who perceived themselves to be rejected as reported by Rohner. Results also found the same amount of congruence/incongruence between children's and parents' reports of parental acceptance and behavioral control as reported by Rohner. These and other findings will be discussed in detail, as will the entire standardization process with its successes and the difficulties in the context of diagnostics in the Czech Republic.

Fareedi, E. & Bashir, K. \*

**Maternal Acceptance-Rejection and Spiritual Well-Being in Young Adults.** elveena.fareedi@gmail.com

The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between maternal acceptance-rejection and spiritual well-being in young adults. We hypothesized that there is a significant relationship between maternal acceptance/rejection and spiritual well-being in young adults. The research focused on finding the co-relational effects between the two variables. In order to empirically test this, Parental Acceptance/Rejection Questionnaire (Mother form) (Rohner, 2005) and Spiritual Health and Life Orientation Measure (Gomez and Fisher, 2003) were administered on a convenience sample of 100 participants (Male= 50, Female= 50) from different universities in Karachi, Pakistan. The participants belonged to an age bracket of 18-24 years. The results indicated that there is no significant relationship between the two variables, however there was an indication of weak negative correlation ( $r = -.13, p < .19$ ). Interestingly, significant negative correlation was found between maternal acceptance-rejection and the transcendental sub-domain of the spiritual well-being ( $r = -.23, p < .02$ ). A non-significant negative correlation exists between maternal acceptance-rejection and Personal Subdomain ( $r = -.26, p < .8$ ); Communal Subdomain ( $r = -.11, p < .27$ ) and Environmental Subdomain ( $r = -.01, p < .94$ ) of the Spiritual measure. The research leaves space to examine significant age-related differences for the future (possibly an older age bracket) in subsequent spiritual well-being, within the context of childhood acceptance-rejection.

Finzi-Dottan, R. & Cohen, O.

**Paternal Warmth and Involvement: The Impact of Paternal Narcissism.** rikifnz@biu.013.net.il

This study examined the impact of paternal narcissism on the caregiving behavior in predicting paternal warmth and involvement during two critical periods of parenting – when children are infants and adolescents. We hypothesized that the children's characteristics would moderate these associations. One hundred fifty fathers of infants (aged 0-3) and 192 fathers of adolescents (aged 12-17) participated in the study. All fathers completed the following: the Instrument of Father Involvement, the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire: Father (Short form); the Narcissistic Personality Inventory; the Caregiving System Function Scale; and the "Difficult" Child questionnaire. Results indicated that while fathers of infants were more involved in their rearing and reported feeling more warmth towards them, fathers of adolescents perceived their children as more difficult. Interestingly, the interaction Groups X Child Characteristics indicated that the more difficult the child, the more involved fathers of adolescents were in raising him/her, as opposed to fathers of infants. Moreover, further interactions indicate that when children were perceived as "difficult", narcissism and avoidant caregiving lessened paternal warmth. The interaction Groups X Narcissism indicated that, unlike fathers of infants, narcissistic fathers of adolescents intensified their involvement in child rearing. This finding can be explained by literature arguing that paternal narcissism drives fathers to be over-involved in their adolescent children's lives. We conclude that paternal narcissism has a differential effect on fathering adolescents vs. infants.

Giotsa, A. & Kaminioti, O.

**Children's Representations of their Parents Behavior in Early Childhood.** agiotsa@uoi.gr.

The Early Childhood Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire (ECARQ) is a newly-developed instrument of PARTheory for children of early childhood ranging between 4-7 years old. The ECARQ measure comprises 24 items about parents' behavior. Children are asked to report their agreement or disagreement on a 4-point Likert scale also using two flash cards during the procedure. The purpose of the present study is to present the first implementation of the ECARQ in Greece. Data was analysed to investigate the preschool children's perceptions about the behaviour of their mothers and fathers separately. The sample consisted of 108 children, 45% Males (43), and 55% females (52) with a mean age of 4.92 years ( $SD=.64$ ). Data was analyzed using factor analysis to explore the structure of the Greek version of the Early Childhood Parental Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire (EARQ). Internal consistency of the factors (sub-scales) and the global scale were examined through obtaining Chronbach's alpha and Gutman's split half coefficients.

Giotsa, A. & Zergiotis, A.

**Teachers' Evaluation of Students Conduct in Greece.** agiotsa@uoi.gr.

This study explored the psychometric properties of the Greek version of the TESC (Teacher's Evaluation of Student Conduct) (Rohner, 2005; Translation: A. Giotsa, 2010). The TESC measure is designed for classroom teachers to evaluate school conduct-problems of their students, and encompasses 18 items tapping into student's conduct. The sample consisted of 73 Greek teachers (East Attiki), 29% Males (21), 70% Females (51), who completed 1245 TESC's. The teachers' mean age was 37.22 years ( $SD =11.7$ ). Exploratory factor analysis was selected to investigate the construct validity of the measure. EFA revealed that while a one factor solution explained 56% of the variance, a three factor solution explained 69% of variance. Prior to analysis, the sampling adequacy was tested through KMO that was excellent (.956) and the strength of the relationship among items was tested through Bartlett's test of sphericity that was also excellent ( $p<.001$ ).

Giovazolias, T. A. & Karagiannopoulou, E.

**The Mediating Effect of Defense Mechanisms in the Relationship Between Perceived Parental Rejection and Bullying Behaviors in a Sample of Greek Pupils.** giovazot@uoc.gr.

It has been well documented in the literature that parental rejection is a robust predictor of bullying behaviors. Further, previous research suggests that mature defense mechanisms protect against psychological symptoms, whereas immature defenses could predispose to various forms of emotional and behavioral difficulties. However, the relationship among these variables has never been studied so far. This study examines the relationship between perceived parental acceptance and rejection with bullying and victimization. Moreover, it explores the mediation effect of youth's defense mechanisms in this relationship. 265 pupils of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade, with mean age  $M=11.43$ , completed questionnaires about maternal and paternal acceptance-rejection (Child PARQ), defense mechanisms (DSQ) and bullying/victimization (PEQ). Regression analyses were employed for the prediction of defense mechanisms by parental acceptance-rejection, whereas the indirect (mediation) effects were examined using the PROCESS program. The results showed that maternal acceptance predicted the development of more mature defenses and paternal rejection of more immature ones. Further, immature defenses mediated the relationship between parental rejection and bullying. The theoretical as well as the clinical implications of the findings are discussed.

Giovazolias, T. A. & Giaouzi, A.

**Remembered Parental Rejection and Social Anxiety in Young Adults: The Mediating Effect of Intimate Partner Acceptance-Rejection.** giovazot@uoc.gr.

This study examined the mediating effect of perceived intimate partner rejection in the relationship between remembered parental rejection and social anxiety in a sample of 365 Greek university students. Further, we investigated the moderating effect of gender in the relationship between remembered parental rejection and social anxiety in the same sample. Participants completed measures on remembered paternal and maternal acceptance-rejection (Adult PARQ), perceived Intimate Partner Attachment Questionnaire (IPAQ) and social anxiety (SIAS). The indirect (mediation) and conditional effects (moderating) effects were examined using the PROCESS program. Results showed that perceived intimate rejection mediated partly the relationship between both remembered paternal and maternal rejection and social anxiety. Further, it was found that both remembered paternal and maternal rejection is linked with higher levels of social anxiety in males than in females. The implications of the findings for the development of effective therapeutic interventions are also discussed.

Gribincea, V.

**Exploring the Relationship between Gratitude, Depressive Symptoms, and Perceived Social Support.** gribincea.vica@gmail.com.

This study explored the relationship between gratitude, depressive symptoms, and perceived social support in a non-clinical population of undergraduate students selected by the convenience sampling method. The sample consisted of 220 students, 71 males (32%) and 149 (68 %) females, mean age 20.17. Results revealed a weak negative correlation between gratitude and depression ( $r = -.296, p < .01$ ). Also, the findings showed that dispositional gratitude is positively related to social support ( $r = .382, p < .01$ ). The more grateful the individual, the less depressive symptoms the person experiences, and the more grateful a person is the higher their perceived social support. In addition, the relationship between social support and depressive symptoms was explained by a small negative correlation coefficient between the two variables ( $r = -.247, p < .01$ ). Although the results may not be clinically significant in terms of developing therapy techniques that would boost appreciation and positive affect in a clinical population, the study is important because these techniques may be relevant to organizational, academic, and private settings such as family and other significant relationships. In conclusion, gratitude and social support may have a positive effect on psychological health and emotional well-being by protecting individuals from developing depressive symptoms and by fostering a supportive community.

Gurel, C. & Erkman, F.

**The Mediating Role of Psychological Adjustment on the Relations among Perceived Parental Acceptance, Parental Control, and Cross-Situational Coping Styles During Early Adolescence.** cisem.gurel@boun.edu.tr

Present study investigated the mediating role of psychological adjustment on the relations among perceived parental acceptance-rejection, perceived parental control, and cross-situational coping styles during early adolescence. The sample consisted of 339 secondary school students between the ages of 12-14 coming from intact families with low SES levels. Child version of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire - Mother and Father Forms, child version of the Personality Assessment Questionnaire and German Stress and Coping Questionnaire for Children and Adolescents were administered. Six mediational models were prepared to examine the mediating role of psychological adjustment on the relation among perceived parental acceptance-rejection, perceived parental control, and six dimensions of the cross-situational coping styles. The analysis was carried out with multiple-regression and Sobel test. Results revealed that adolescents' perceptions of parental rejection and parental control additively accounted for 42% of the variance in adolescents' psychological maladjustment. In combination, parental rejection, parental control, and psychological maladjustment explained 36% of the variance in adolescents' cross-situational anger-related emotion regulation. The positive association between parental rejection and cross-situational anger-related emotion regulation was significantly suppressed by adolescents' psychological maladjustment which consequently seems to have had a negative effect on anger-related emotion regulation. Adolescents who perceive more rejection from their fathers reported poorer psychological adjustment and consequently they reported less use of social support seeking, problem solving, palliative emotion regulation, and anger-related emotion regulation as a coping style across interpersonal and academic stressors. This preliminary study has many potential applications for understanding perceived parental acceptance-rejection, parental control, psychological adjustment, and adolescents' cross-situational coping styles within the field of counseling.

Gürmen, M. S., Ki, P., Rohner, R. P., & Rigazio-DiGilio, S. A.\*

**Psychological Adjustment of Asian Adults Living in the USA: The Influence of Parental Acceptance and Intimate Partner Acceptance.** selengagurmen@gmail.com

This research explores the relationship between remembrances of parental acceptance in childhood, perceived intimate partner acceptance at the present time, and self-reported psychological adjustment of Asian adults living in the USA. Prior studies have revealed significant relationships among these variables in nine regions of the world (Rohner & Melendez, 2008). Findings from those studies motivated us to explore the same relationship with Asian populations in the USA. Our sample consisted of 138 respondents (83 women and 55 men) ranging in age from 18 through 67 years ( $M = 30.94$ ,  $SD = 8.49$ ). The sample is diverse with respect to length of residence in the USA, current relationship status, and reported Asian ethnicity. The following measures were used: a) Adult version of the Personal Information Form (PIF: Adult), (b) Adult version of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire for mothers and for fathers (Adult PARQ: Mother and Father), (c) Intimate Adult Relationship Questionnaire (IARQ), and the (d) Adult version of the Personality Assessment Questionnaire (Adult PAQ). Results revealed that women remembered significantly more maternal acceptance and marginally more perceived partner acceptance than did men. Hierarchical regression analysis showed that perceived partner acceptance was a unique contributor to psychological adjustment of both Asian men and women living in the USA.

Izadikhah, Z., Rohner, R. P., Khajavi, Z., & O'Connor, P.

**Remembrances of Maternal Acceptance-Rejection in Childhood Predict Cognitive Schemas of Abandonment and Emotional Deprivation in Iranian Women.** rohner@uconn.edu.

Parental acceptance-rejection theory (PARTheory) postulates that one of the consequences of perceived parental rejection in childhood is the tendency to develop distorted mental representations of self, others, and the experiential world. Included in these cognitive distortions is the tendency to construct mental images of personal relationships as being unpredictable, untrustworthy, and often hurtful. This postulate has not been well tested in PARTheory, however—especially in international contexts. As a consequence, the goal of this research was to assess in Iran the relationship between adults' (women's) remembrances of parental (maternal) acceptance-rejection in childhood and women's cognitive schemas of abandonment and emotional deprivation. The sample included 132 women with a mean age of 31 years. All women responded to the Persian language short form of the Adult Parental Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire. (Only the perceived acceptance-rejection scales were used.) Women also responded to the Persian language version of the Young Schema Questionnaire-Short Form. (Only the abandonment and emotional deprivation scales were used.) Results showed that the women tended on the average to remember substantial maternal acceptance in childhood. But they also tended to self-report slight problems with emotional deprivation schemas and moderate problems with abandonment schemas. Results also showed positive correlations between remembered acceptance-rejection in childhood and both abandonment and emotional deprivation schemas. Regression analysis confirmed that the less maternal acceptance the women experienced in childhood, the more intensely they experienced both emotional deprivation and abandonment schemas.

Kavianpoor, Y., Jaber Ghaderi, N., & Farnia, V.\*

**Perceived Parental Acceptance and Rejection Among Psychiatric Inpatients in Kermanshah, Iran.** n\_jg004@yahoo.com

There is a dearth of research examining remembered parental rejection in mentally ill patients in Iran. The aim of this research is the assessment of perceived parental acceptance and rejection among psychiatric inpatients in Kermanshah, Iran.

A convenience sample of 30 psychiatric inpatients (15 men; 15 women) with severe mental illness responded to the Adult PARQ (father and mother versions). The mean age of patients was 26.48 years ( $SD = 9.95$ ). All respondents resided in an inpatient psychiatric hospital in Kermanshah, Iran. Both men and women perceived both their mothers and fathers to have been extremely rejecting when the patients were children. Patients' perceptions of maternal rejection correlated significantly with their perceptions of paternal rejection. However, independent  $t$  tests showed that men experienced significantly more maternal rejection in childhood than did women. More particularly, men reported having experienced less maternal warmth/affection and more maternal hostility/aggression than did women. Men also reported having experienced more paternal indifference/neglect and more paternal undifferentiated rejection than did women. This research indicates the impact of parental positive rearing on the emotional development of children across the lifespan. Advance home treatment and family intervention for those who have been diagnosed with a mental illness is needed.

Khan, S.\*

**Perceived Grandparental Acceptance, Parental Acceptance, and Psychological Adjustment of African American Students.**

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Relationships among perceptions of grandparental and parental acceptance-rejection, and psychological adjustment of African American college students in Mississippi were investigated. Short form of adult versions of Grandparental and Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (PARQ), Personality Assessment Questionnaire (PAQ), and the Personal Information Form (PIF) (Rohner, 2005), were administered to 127 (24 males and 103 females) college female students who ranged in age from 18 through 43 years ( $M=20.96$ ,  $SD=3.09$  years). No significant difference was found in psychological adjustment, perceived grandparental and parental rejection between males and females. Results of simple bivariate correlations suggested that psychological adjustment was associated with their perceptions of rejection by grandmother ( $r=.398$ ,  $p<.001$ ), grandfather ( $r=.255$ ,  $p<.01$ ), mother ( $r=.404$ ,  $p<.001$ ) and father ( $r=.315$ ,  $p<.001$ ). Simple multiple linear regression analysis found that rejection by grandmother ( $\beta=.252$ ,  $t=2.81$ ,  $p=.006$ ) and mother ( $\beta=.278$ ,  $t=3.14$ ,  $p=.002$ ) contributed significantly to psychological adjustment, but rejection by grandfather ( $\beta=.104$ ,  $t=1.17$ ,  $p=.246$ ) and father ( $\beta=.136$ ,  $t=1.50$ ,  $p=.136$ ) did not. Even when the effect of perceived parental rejection were removed, only rejection by grandmother ( $\beta=.275$ ,  $t=3.28$ ,  $p=.001$ ) and mother ( $\beta=.276$ ,  $t=3.25$ ,  $p=.001$ ) were found to contribute significantly to psychological adjustment. Rejection by grandfather ( $\beta=.159$ ,  $t=1.77$ ,  $p=.079$ ) and father ( $\beta=.166$ ,  $t=1.79$ ,  $p=.077$ ) were found to have no significant contribution. It may be concluded that while perceived acceptance-rejection by grandmother and mother significantly impact psychological adjustments of African American students, perceived rejection by grandfather and father do not. Perhaps the unique nature of family structure growing up, and closeness to grandparents, particularly to grandmother, all play a role in such relationships.

Kourkoutas, E., Smirnaki, M. & Linardakis, M.\*

**Perceived Parental Acceptance-Rejection, Family Functioning, and Conduct Problems Among Elementary School Students in Greece.**

hkourk@edc.uoc.gr.

This is the first study in a Greek student population and cultural context that attempts to investigate Perceived Parental Acceptance-Rejection (PPAR) in relation to Family Functioning and Behavioral/Conduct Problems. The sample of the study was 110 elementary school students with and without behavioral and school adjustment problems from a high risk and culturally very particular area (traditional patriarchal communities of low socioeconomic status) in the island of Crete. Instruments used to assess the PPAR were Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire, the CIF to evaluate the Family Functioning, the ASEBA scales and teacher ratings to assess students' behavioral problems. PATH analysis was conducted to explore the complex and dynamic interactions and mediations between various forms of PPAR, Conduct problems, and Family Cohesion and Conflict to create models that reliably predict the presence of behavioral problems. Most significant findings of this study were, among others, the following (a) students' low levels of behavioral problems were strongly linked with high levels of perceived maternal warmth/affection; (b) high levels of perceived maternal warmth /affection were strongly associated with low family conflict; (c) high levels of perceived *paternal* indifference neglect are largely associated with high levels of family conflict, strongly predicting the presence of behavioral problems; (d) high levels of perceived *maternal* hostility/aggression are largely associated with high levels of *paternal* hostile/aggressive behavior and largely with high levels of family health/capacity. Some findings need to be discussed and interpreted within the particular cultural context of our sample population. Overall, perceived maternal warmth/affection seemed to play the most important role in predicting the presence or absence of behavioral problems in this population compared to other dimensions of perceived maternal or paternal acceptance-rejection.

LaBuda, M. A.

**We Met Online: A Qualitative Study of Successful Online Dating.** mal151@psu.edu

One in ten Americans are now finding love online according to pewinternet.org (2013). I was interested in learning the process of being successfully matched through an online dating site. A qualitative research study based on Corbin & Strauss' grounded theory methodology was conducted. In accordance with grounded theory methodology, eight semi structured interviews were conducted. The goal of grounded theory research is to create a theory grounded in the data. One of the first questions asked of the participants was why they chose online dating. Interestingly, all eight participants noted that they utilized online dating sites because it was the only way they believed that they would meet a significant other. The participants also discussed how engaging in this process allowed them to explore who they were and what they wanted in a significant other. The process engendered an awareness of themselves. Another part of this process was handling rejection. Each participant discussed rejection as part of the process, but did not seem to be as bothered because the rejection happened in cyberspace. The process of online dating allowed the participants to experience a new beginning in their lives. In the end, "The process of finding a committed relationship for successful online daters began with the belief that there is no other way to meet. These individuals were successful because they had control over the process and were risk takers and open to new experiences in their lives."

Lazar, C.

**Communication as a Process of Joining and Transforming.** corina\_lazar@mail.ru

*The strength of a couple depends largely on the validity of its communication system.* (Jacques Cosnier, 1981). Beyond any social role, first of all we are men and women, boys and girls, male and female--in other words, we represent two complementary principles which act harmoniously. The eternal bipolarity expressed by our biological and psychological nature enable a dialogue between sexes which is always renewed and gives them a chance to fulfill each other. The communication process between spouses reveals its importance and role for couple stability. The partners of a stable couple communicate and confess all their problems, analyzing (using verbal/nonverbal communication), the causes of satisfaction and dissatisfaction. The style and ways of communication are learned first within the family. Afterward the process is forming and developing in groups and society. That is why communication blocks stem from family and are used in future relationships. Investigating the phenomenon of communication in the couple, the researchers concluded that the young couples focus on the common family patterns taking into consideration the partner's desire and communicating easily within the couple. Over the years every couple changes their level of communication and behavior, and partners learn from each other how to improve these processes, because some abilities/character features are inborn, while others are acquired over a lifetime.

Lewis, M. L.

**Race-Based Childhood Experiences of Acceptance and Rejection and Parenting Style During Hair Combing Interaction.** mlewis@tulane.edu.

Unconditional love and acceptance of a child by a parent may be influenced by the historical racial context. Rohner (1986) argues that two domains consistently emerge in studies of children's perceptions of parenting practices across all cultures. A behavioral domain in the form of parental control, and an affective domain related to the child's feelings of acceptance and rejection. The purpose of this study was to examine how the racial context may influence the acceptance or rejection of African American children. Two racial characteristics of the child is his or her dark skin color and nappy or kinky hair texture, which have been stigmatized by stereotypes for centuries. A mother's childhood experiences of race-based acceptance or rejection may influence how accepting or rejecting she is with her child. These biased behaviors and attitudes may be evident during the hair combing task. A survey and qualitative analysis of interviews of the mother's childhood experiences of racial acceptance and rejection (Lewis, 1993/2004), a measure of her internalized stereotypes, and her self-rating using the Parental Acceptance and Rejection Questionnaire, were administered to a sample ( $N = 42$ ) of African American mothers. The mother's parenting style (authoritative, authoritarian, permissive or disengaged), was rated during videotaped interaction during the hair combing task, a teaching task and free play. Findings suggest that mothers with early experiences of race-based rejection had higher levels of internalized stereotypes, perceived themselves as more rejecting of their children, and were rated as more authoritarian in their parenting style during the hair combing task. The implications for future cross-cultural collaborative research studies is discussed.

Lloyd, J., Rohner, R. P., Kirkham, Journal., & Yilmaz, M. \*

**The Adult Offspring Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire (AOARQ): A valid and reliable tool for assessing adult offspring's perceptions of their current acceptance of their parents.** julian.lloyd@chester.ac.uk

For over forty years, the Parental Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire (PARQ; Rohner, 2005) has been used to assess either the concurrent perceptions of child and adolescent offspring, or the retrospective perceptions of adult offspring of parental acceptance and rejection. The parent-adult offspring relationship provides different contexts for the study of acceptance and rejection compared to relationships between parents and child and adolescent offspring. During the transition from adolescent to adult offspring, the parent assumes less responsibility for the care of the offspring, and over time, in some cases at least, the offspring assumes increasingly greater responsibility for the care of the parents. Nevertheless, compared to earlier parent-offspring relationships, much less is known about interpersonal acceptance and rejection in the context of parent-adult offspring relationships (Rohner, 2004). Furthermore, to our knowledge, the PARQ has never been adapted to assess offspring perceptions of their own acceptance or rejection of parents. This poster reports preliminary findings from a study of the validity and reliability of a new measure derived from the PARQ, the Adult Offspring Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire (AOARQ), which was administered to a sample of UK adults who were mainly university students and graduates. The results showed that the AOARQ is a valid and reliable tool for assessing adult offspring's perceptions of their current acceptance of parents (mothers and fathers). The implications of the AOARQ for studies of the intergenerational transmission of interpersonal acceptance and rejection are considered.

Machado, M., Machado, F., & Vieira, E.\*

**The Importance of Teacher Acceptance and Rejection on Academic Achievement: The Role of Self-Efficacy, Attributions, and Causal Dimensions.** marciamsmachado@gmail.com.

We believe that the quality of teacher-student interpersonal relations, namely in the way student's perceive themselves to be accepted or rejected by their teachers, is decisive for student's academic achievement and psychological adjustment. Considering the importance that a good and secure relationship between teacher and student has on the last academic achievement, our research's main goal was to analyze and explore the connection between perceived teacher acceptance or rejection and student's academic achievement. Specifically, we wanted to explore which key variables involved in academic achievement, namely self-efficacy, attributions and causal dimensions, would be associated with perceived teacher acceptance or rejection and how this association would work. To achieve our goals, we applied the Teacher Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (Rohner, 2005), the Academic Self-efficacy Scale (Neves & Faria, 2005) and the Attributions and Causal Dimensions Questionnaire (Neves & Faria, 2005), to a sample of 347 Portuguese high school students. Our results show that perceived teacher acceptance is associated with higher levels of self-efficacy, higher levels of perceived control over academic tasks and academic achievement in students. Also, self-efficacy was shown to be a predictor of academic achievement. Our results underline the importance of warmth expression in the teacher-student dyad, not only in terms of global academic achievement, but also in terms of specific key variables by which academic achievement is attained. These results reinforce the important role that warmth\acceptance expression has in the learning experience and suggest that educational institutions should reinforce their teacher's ability to integrate pedagogical\technical issues with emotions expression.

Machado, F., Almeida, C., & Machado, M.\*

**The Role of Parental Acceptance and Rejection Perception on the Development of Rejection Sensitivity and Disruptive Behavior in Adolescents.** flbsmachado@gmail.com

Our objective was to analyze and explore possible connections between adolescents' perception of being rejected by their parental figures and the quality of their relationships with their peers, as well as their rejection sensibility and proneness to express antisocial and delinquent behavior. In other words we're interested in the way by which perceived parental acceptance or rejection can contribute to how adolescents see and manage their social interactions. We believe that perceived parental rejection plays an important role on the development of high levels of rejection sensibility in adolescents, thus contributing to more difficulties in establishing meaningful relationships with peers and to an increase of disruptive behaviors. Secondly, we aimed to compare the relative importance of parent-adolescent and peer-to-peer relationship quality in the way adolescents express disruptive behaviors. To achieve our goals, we applied Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (Rohner, 2005), Rejection Sensitivity Questionnaire (Downey & Feldman, 1996), Peer Attachment Inventory and Antisocial (Armsden & Greenberg, 1987) and Delinquent Conduct Scale (Formiga & Gouveia, 2003) to a sample of 297 high school students. Our results showed that adolescents with higher levels of parental rejection and lower levels of peer attachment tend to present higher levels of rejection sensibility as well as higher levels of antisocial and delinquent behavior. Higher levels of parental rejection were also found to be related with lower levels of peer attachment. Globally, our results point to the importance of focusing on warmth and rejection expression in the family and peer group when trying to work with troubled youth.

Malik, F. & Rohner, R. P.

**Spousal Rejection as a Risk Factor for Parental Rejection of Children Among Pakistani Families in the U.S.** rohner@uconn.edu

This study explores the primary question: To what extent are Pakistani American children's perceptions of maternal and/or paternal rejection related to their parents' perceptions of spousal rejection? The research draws from a sample of 102 Pakistani families living in the USA, with children between the ages of nine through 13 years. The Urdu language version of the Intimate Partner Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire was used by husbands and wives separately. The English language version of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (for both fathers and mothers) was used by children. Results of hierarchical multiple regression analyses showed that wives' perceptions of husbands' rejection predicted children's perceptions of both maternal and paternal rejection. Similarly, husbands' perceptions of wives' rejection predicted children's perceptions of both maternal and paternal rejection. These results suggest that the "spillover effect" explains the association between spousal rejection and perceived parental rejection. A secondary issue explored in this study deals with the dramatic deterioration in the quality of marital relationships and parent-child relations among Pakistani American families in comparison to a comparable sample of families living in Pakistan.

Moldovan, V., Grotelueschen, J., & Gutu, I.

**Teaching Conflict: The Dialectic Method in Social Work Education.** moldovan@york.cuny.edu.

The social work profession is called upon in situations of complexity and conflict. Social workers are trained to assist humanity in trouble – individuals, families, collectivities, communities, and the society as a whole. Professional social work methodologies deal with all kinds of conflict – from intra-personal to inter-personal to social, manifested as mental illness, domestic violence, poverty, etc. However, the fundamental nature of conflict in human society is insufficiently examined in social work education. This paper builds on recent efforts to offer the dialectic method as an alternative to the scientific method in social work education. The authors present the dialectic method as an ethical imperative for the social work profession in the post-modern world. This deontological frame is then utilized in examining the experience of two semesters of a study-abroad program in Moldova. The program constituted a group of undergraduate students from Moldova and the United States who were taught by a team of American teachers through classroom sessions, field practice, and research projects. The inter-cultural aspects of this program were both educational and conflictual. This paper examines the experience of the students and faculty in terms of insight and personal/professional growth. It also promotes the dialectic method in social work education through innovation in curriculum, values base, and theoretical foundation.



Nacu, A.

**Maternal Rejection as an Origin of Narcissistic Psychopathology of a Child.** anatolnacu@yahoo.com.

The inability of a mother to secure adequate care for her child is linked with certain narcissistic aspects of the mother's personality. The failure on the part of the mother to identify with the needs of the child leads to damage in organizing the child's interests and a deficit in the child's ability to develop appropriate relationships with others. This narcissistic defect results in a number of psychopathological states, including psychotic, borderline, and psychosomatic. This paper, based on years of practice and research, examines personality formation of a narcissistic patient in the context of her/his relationship with the mother and reports on the methodological challenges and effective psychotherapeutic interventions.

Ohring, R.

**Maladaptive Perfectionism and Intimate Relationships.** richardohring@gmail.com

Demanding high standards from significant others is a core component of Hewitt & Flett's (1990) multidimensional model of perfectionism. Although this feature has been proposed to be associated with interpersonal acceptance, empirical findings are inconclusive. A tendency to evaluate whether standards have been met in a dichotomous manner has been suggested to be critically involved in maladaptive consequences of perfectionism (Shafran, Cooper, & Fairburn, 2002). The aim of the present study is to examine whether both demanding high standards from intimate partners and a tendency to evaluate whether partners are meeting these standards in a dichotomous way negatively impact partner acceptance. Ten couples who came to a clinic for couple's therapy completed measures of perfectionism, dichotomous thinking, and interpersonal acceptance. Demanding high standards in and of itself from one's partner did not influence partner acceptance. However, demanding high standards from partner and possessing dichotomous thinking style was associated with lower levels of partner acceptance. These results offer preliminary support for the maladaptive role of dichotomous thinking in demanding perfection from intimate partners. Although this finding needs to be replicated in a larger sample, it implies that targeting dichotomous thinking in individuals who demand high standards from partners, may be beneficial in couple's therapy.

Parmar, P. \*

**The Changing Face of Love Relationships and Its impact on Parental Acceptance-Rejection.** prp104@psu.edu.

Parental acceptance-rejection theory has moved beyond looking at parental acceptance and its' effect on the psychological adjustment and the wellbeing of children. The step forward is to document how interpersonal acceptance-rejection affects our development and relationships everywhere in the world regardless of differences in gender, SES, age, race, ethnicity, culture, or any other defining conditions. The research provides such powerful evidence for positive outcomes of acceptance as opposed to rejection (Rohner & Veneziano 2001, Khaleque & Rohner, 2002, Khaleque & Rohner, 2011, Erkman, Carrasco, & Rohner 2013, Rohner, 2014). The research also provides evidence that if taught, parents who are rejecting can learn to become accepting parents and can ameliorate the negative aspect of relationships (Landreth & Lobaugh, 1998; Kaminski, Valle, Filene & Boyle, 2008). This presentation looks at the evidence from the past and present, and points to some steps forward. A new phenomenon which is rising in new/future family units is multiple fertility partners (MFP). In the light of blurred relationship boundaries, how will children's perception of acceptance change is the main focus of discussion in this presentation. The concept of MFP is explained and discussed in detail. It also aims to generate discussion, construct research plans, and chart directions for future research.

Pritsch, H., Mikulincer, M., & Berant, E.

**Parental Acceptance-Rejection and Mindfulness.** hilitpr@gmail.com

In this research we focused on mindfulness, a concept derived from Buddhism, and the parent-child relationship. Mindfulness in parenting is reflected by the extent to which parents are attentive and aware while interacting with their children, and by the extent to which they create an atmosphere of non-judgment acceptance and compassion during these interactions. With the notable changes during adolescence, the importance of mindfulness becomes greater. Our main hypothesis was that the parents' mindfulness will go along with decreased parental rejection and enhance acceptance and warmth. To examine the above hypothesis, we measured mindfulness and parental acceptance-rejection in mothers and their adolescent offspring. In addition, we videotaped interactions between mother and the adolescent in order to assess the relationship also through actual interactions. Our hypothesis was confirmed: The findings showed that the higher is the mother's mindfulness the more she perceives herself as warm and accepting towards her child and less rejecting and hostile towards him/her. Furthermore, the more mindful the mother is there are less discrepancies between mothers' self-reports and her actual behavior. As for the compatibility between parental and child's perception of the parenting, the more mindful the mother was, the smaller the gap was between the child and the mother's report about the mothers' hostility and aggressiveness. Our findings support the assumption that mindfulness might be a useful skill to enhance mothers' acceptance and to acknowledge and deal with mothers' rejection. This is important given the severe consequences of parental rejection on child development and well-being.

Ripoll-Nunez, K. J. & Carrillo, S.\*

**Perceived Warmth and Relationship Quality in Non-Biological Sibling Relationships: Experiences of Half and Stepsiblings.** kripoll@uniandes.edu.co

Most studies on stepfamilies focus on the parent-child relationship, while research on the quality of sibling relationships in these families is scarce. It has been suggested that the quality of the relationship between half- and step-siblings varies according to siblings' age, sex, and the quality of the interaction with their parents. This study focused on youth's perceptions of warmth and other qualities of their relationship with half and stepsiblings. A mixed-methods approach was used to describe and compare youth's perceptions of their relationships with their siblings. 131 adolescents and young adults (ages 14 thru 25) reported on the quality of their relationship with a step- or a half-sibling. Dimensions such as warmth, conflict, and status/power were evaluated. Also, we conducted in-depth interviews with nine youths to evaluate the same

dimensions, in order to expand the results from quantitative analyses. Self-report questionnaire data were analyzed using MANOVA, while interview transcripts were coded using a grounded-theory approach. We found variations in siblings' perceptions of the quality of their relationship based on age and type of sibling dyad (step- vs. half-sibling). Interviews allowed us to explore both meanings attached to sibling relationships and family dynamics that may be associated with such differences. Implications of these results for future research and intervention program development are presented.

Rohner, R. P. & Ibrahim, D. M.

**Remembrance of Parental Rejection in Childhood Predicts Heightened Rejection Sensitivity in Adulthood.** rohner@uconn.edu.

Parental acceptance-rejection theory predicts that the experience of parental rejection in childhood leads to the development of rejection sensitivity that tends to extend into adulthood. Until now, however, this prediction has not been directly tested within the framework of the theory. Here we draw from a sample of 271 American adults with a mean age of 21.73 years to study the relationship between remembrances of parental acceptance-rejection in childhood and the young adults' current levels of rejection sensitivity. Remembered maternal and paternal acceptance were assessed by adult versions of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire. Current rejection sensitivity was assessed by the Rejection Sensitivity Questionnaire. Overall, both men and women feel that they had been accepted in childhood by both their mothers and fathers. Additionally, both men and women were relatively non-sensitive to the possible threat of rejection. Nonetheless, remembrances of both maternal and paternal acceptance-rejection in childhood were significantly correlated with the adults' current levels of rejection sensitivity. Moreover, regression analyses showed that the level of remembered maternal and paternal acceptance-rejection in childhood uniquely contributed to the level of rejection sensitivity among both men and women.

Rusnac, S., Musienko, N., & Zmuncila, L.

**Work-Related Stress of University Didactic Personnel as a Factor of Communication Difficulties.** srusnac58.@mail.ru.

Guidance on work related stress defined this phenomenon "as a pattern of emotional, cognitive, behavioral, and physiological reactions to adverse and noxious aspects of work content, work organization and work environment." Didactic activity is presented as one of the most stressful professional fields. This has led to an educational psychology subfield of "stress of the teaching profession". The main causes of work-related stress on didactic personal are 1) high personal responsibility for the quality and content of the educational process, 2) the social importance of higher education, 3) constant shortage of time, 4) variety and difficulty of tasks, 5) organizational problems, 6) inadequate remuneration, and 6) workload. Consequences are reflected in personal conditions such as chronic tension, emotional burnout, depersonalization, less motivation, and manifestation of difficulties in communication. These are defined as psychosocial sub-syndrome of stress. This study has identified negative impact of work-related /occupational stress at communication capacities of didactic personnel from university and the quality of relationships with students and colleagues. Also the particularities of emotional arousal were identified and its influences on professional experience and attitude both on relationships in the workplace, as well as the resistance to stress. One of the important findings of the study confirmed the thesis that resistance to stress of didactic personnel is determined by the satisfaction of their work and the quality of interpersonal relationships in the work group.

Schneider, B. H.

**Literature Review: When Aggression by Children and Adolescents is Associated with Peer Acceptance and Not Rejection.**

barry@uottawa.ca

Peer-relations researchers of the 1970s and 1980s believed almost unanimously that aggressive behavior by children was linked to rejection by peers. Since that time, however, a growing number of studies are showing that aggression is not always linked with peer rejection and may in some cases lead to popularity. Although some might attribute this to changes in society, it is more likely the result of researchers adopting more comprehensive research designs and measures. This paper is a review of studies in which aggression is linked with social acceptance by peers in childhood and adolescents. One set of studies is focused on individual differences among the peers who are rating social reputation. Emerging from these studies is the need to look beyond mean correlations between aggression and reputation. Not only do other aggressive children respect and befriend aggression children but there are also subgroups whose members identify in some way with the aggressors and condone their aggression. Other studies focus on individual differences in the aggressive peer being rated. In this heterogeneous group of studies, a wide range of moderator variables are considered. For example, peers who are both aggressive and attractive may be accepted rather than rejected. Peers some personality characteristics such as Machiavellianism have also been found to be popular. Furthermore, peer rejection of aggressive schoolmates seems to decline with age and when aggression is assessed using measures other than teacher report. The paper concludes with remarks about the need for more systematic comprehensive replication research in a wider sample of cultures.

Shelyakhina, N. & Yarskaya, V.

**The Issues of Language Acculturation of Immigrants in Europe.** s\_nataliya@inbox.ru

The paper deals with the issues of language acculturation, racist discourse, and growth of national self-identity of ethnic minorities nowadays. We provide an overview of the modern language of racism in the rhetoric of public institutions, everyday communication, and in political and academic discourse. The paper reveals that power racist discourse in Russian society, including academic discourse, is institutionalized and ensured by constant reproduction of racist representations through appropriate socialization and through the education system, first of all. We provide both theoretical and empirical issues of language abuse towards ethnic minorities in the modern world, with examples of racism cases occurring in everyday language in Germany. Empirical data are provided on the basis of content analysis of

posts on the German forum where its participants discuss issues of language racism toward foreign workers and refugees in Germany and their acculturation. In the context of growth of phobias and aggression towards immigrants, modern language is being transformed, now reflecting social attitudes toward these citizens causing appearance of abusive derogatory vocabulary concerning immigrants. On the other hand, the process of language acculturation is extremely important in the research of cultures' clash in modern society. We propose that educational programs and information campaigns today should be aimed at developing skills of critical reflection, deconstruction, and determined and courageous overcoming of racist discourse.

Starr, B. A. & Brown, C. M.

**Perceived Parental Rejection and Intimate Partner Violence: Are They Connected?** brittanyamandastarr@gmail.com

Parental acceptance-rejection theory (PARTheory) is an evidenced-based theory of socialization and lifespan development that seeks to predict major causes, consequences, and correlates of parental acceptance and rejection worldwide. According to PARTheory, when the need to feel accepted by parent(s) is not adequately met, humans tend to respond in predictable, negative ways – regardless of culture. To date, there is little to no research linking PARTheory with intimate partner violence (IPV). IPV, which can range from psychological aggression to physical assault and rape, is a growing national health crisis. The purpose of this study was to investigate potential associations between perceived parental rejection in childhood and experienced intimate partner violence among adult women. The participants in this study were 85 self-identified heterosexual women between the ages of 18-29 who were currently in a romantic relationship and were recruited via Facebook. The researcher had sixteen hypotheses. To test these hypotheses linear regressions were run. The results indicate that an increase in perceived maternal rejection does not predict any experiences of IPV, but that perceived paternal rejection does predict experiences of minor and severe psychological aggression victimization. These findings reveal that females with increased perceptions of paternal rejection may experience more psychological aggression victimization in intimate relationships.

Sterpu, V.

**Psychopathological Personality Traits Among Patients with Mood Disorders and Chronic Alcoholism.** dr.sterpu@mail.ru

The influence of parenting in the development of pathological personality traits and the consequences of parental rejection perceived in childhood was studied. Three groups of respondents were included in the study: 125 common population samples, 126 patients with mood disorders (major depression and dysthymia), and 60 patients suffering from chronic alcoholism. It was shown that high level of pathological personality traits correlates with poor psychological adjustment. Also, persons with high level of psychopathological personality changes have a tendency as respondents to falsify information.

Sterpu, V. & Antonova, D.

**Parental Family Characteristics as Factors of Alcoholism Development in Adulthood.** dr.sterpu@mail.ru.

Different aspects of the parental family of 60 patients with a diagnosis of alcohol-dependency (ICD10, F10) were compared with the same number of common population respondents. The Personality Assessment Questionnaire, the Adult Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire, and a demographic questionnaire were used. There was a correlation between level of culture and material level of parental family with style of parenting – accepting or rejecting. The attitude toward parental family is different in common population and in group of patients suffering from chronic alcoholism.

Sultana, S. & Khaleque, A.

**Differential Effects of Perceived Maternal and Paternal Acceptance on Male and Female Adult Offspring's Psychological Adjustment.** sabinasultana@gmail.com

This study measured and compared differential effects of perceived maternal and paternal acceptance of adult sons' and adult daughters' during childhood on their current psychological adjustment. The sample consisted of 200 young adults (100 males and 100 females) from Bangladesh. Measures used were Adult versions of the Parental Acceptance and Rejection Questionnaire for Mothers and Fathers (Adult PARQ: Mothers and Fathers), and Adult version of the Personality Assessment Questionnaire (Adult PAQ). Results showed that both maternal and paternal acceptance have significant independent effects on adult sons' psychological adjustment, and only paternal (not maternal) acceptance has significant independent effect on adult daughters' psychological adjustment. Paternal acceptance accounts for greater variability in adult sons' and adult daughters' psychological adjustment than maternal acceptance. Results also showed that parental gender has significant interaction effect on the adult daughters' (not adult sons') psychological adjustment. Results further showed that adult daughters reported significantly greater maternal and paternal acceptance and higher psychological adjustment than adult sons.

Tufeanu, M. & Robu, V.

**Gender Differences in Emotional and Social Competencies: A Comparative Study on Romanian Adolescents\***

Literature on gender differences in adolescents' emotional and social skills and competencies is scarce. Rather, past research focused on exploring gender differences in emotional intelligence which denotes the ability of identifying and understanding emotions. Further examination of emotional and social functioning in relation to demographic characteristics may prove useful to researchers and practitioners searching for a better insight into adolescent development. This paper presents a summary of the results we obtained in a cross-sectional study that was carried out on a convenience sample of 458 high school students. Data were collected as part of a larger study of characteristics of academically underachieving adolescents. Among other measures, participants filled out the Profile of Social and Emotional Competencies (PSEC) – a multidimensional questionnaire which aims at measuring seventeen emotional and social competencies. Girls scored higher in expression of emotions, self-presentation, empathy, responsibility in social relationships, gratification and support, interpersonal engagement, ability to develop positive interpersonal relationships, assertiveness, communication and cooperation, while boys scored higher in emotional self-regulation and flexibility in emotions and behaviors. Effect size ranged between 0.22 and 0.94 ( $M = 0.43$ ; median = 0.39) for all significant differences. The findings are relevant in interpreting individual differences in how adolescents gain acceptance and popularity or are rejected in their peer groups. \*Poster

Țărnă, V. & Haraz, S.

**Suicidal Tendencies Among Adolescents Determined by Environmental Factors.** lana\_antocica@yahoo.com.

Currently suicides in Moldova are becoming more numerous and intense, and affect not only the family but also the socio-cultural setting. Among children and adolescents, suicide or attempted suicide is often the result of impulsive acts that occur in the context of emotional immaturity, accompanied by poor communication with and the perception of rejection by people closest to the child (e.g., parents). Given the alarming number of suicides among teenagers in Moldova in recent years, as well as in the number of domestic violence cases (according to the survey conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics, published in 2011, six in 10 women faced domestic violence), we investigated the correlation between the degree of suicidal intent among adolescents and domestic violence. To achieve this goal we studied a sample of high school students randomly selected in several districts of Moldova. Simultaneously, interesting results were obtained from adolescents about their perception of domestic violence.

Van Arsdale, A.

**Intimate Partner Violence Experiences of Asian Immigrant Women in the United States.** avanarsd@marymount.edu

Immigrant women experience higher rates of intimate partner violence (IPV), and have more difficulty accessing IPV services, than non-immigrant women in the United States (Ingram et al., 2010). In particular, the Asian population largely associates IPV with shame, which has hindered researchers from investigating this sensitive issue. In this presentation, I will discuss my experiences volunteering with a domestic violence agency serving the Asian community in Washington, D.C. I will also describe a two-year needs assessment study which my team conducted to improve the understanding of Asian immigrant women's experiences of IPV; their awareness of culturally-specific services; and barriers to these services. In our study, clients were asked to complete a survey and/or interview in English, or an Asian language with the help of a bilingual advocate. In total, 29 women were surveyed and nine were interviewed. Nearly three quarters of women surveyed reported sexual abuse by their partners, and over half of the participants with children reported that children were present during some of the abusive incidents. Results also found that immigrant women face unique forms of abuse: 72% of women surveyed reported that their partner had used their immigration status against them. During the interviews, women expressed cultural pressure to keep IPV a private problem, which makes awareness of, and access to, IPV services challenging for many Asian immigrants. The findings of this study have significant implications for treatment and policy efforts, and help determine what potential improvements should be made to more fully assist Asian IPV survivors.

Verdes, V.

**Characteristics of Self-Actualization of Women and Men in Adulthood Crisis.** verdesvictoria@gmail.com

At the present time in which rapid social changes occur, forcing the person to continually restructure his universe of values and attitudes, the problem of development of human potential becomes an issue. This study aims to research the relationship between age crisis and its affect on women and men during adulthood. After analyzing literature on the process of self-actualization we can state that ideas about the existence of an achievement potential in a person are widely developed in the research of Maslow, Assagioli, James, and Rogers. Each author comes with their own vision concerning the process of self-actualization. I determined that the middle age period (according to several specialists) refers to maturity or middle age and it includes between 35 and 45 years. There are several views on different aspects of existential crisis, often diametrically opposed. Some authors approach crisis as some negative or deviant manifestations, others treat the crisis as a disease manifestation and associate it with a threat, danger, or disaster. Experimental research results affirm that the tendency of actualization represents a basic human necessity depending on many factors. Women show higher indications of frustration and anxiety, and men higher in aggression and rigidity. We can certainly affirm that person's social-psychological adaptability in the period of middle age crisis is significantly influenced by adult's affection.

Vladica, S. M.

**Parental Alienation—A Form of Emotional Abuse.** simonamariavladica@gmail.com

Parental alienation (PA) is a concept introduced by Gardner in 1980. He described PA as a disorder that arises primarily in divorce cases, in the context of disputes regarding child custody when one parent denigrates the other parent in front of the child. Parental alienation syndrome is a form of emotional abuse because the child is deprived of a loving relationship with one of his or her parents. The emotional abuse is made most often with the intention of punishing the parent who wanted the separation or divorce. The emotional abuse can also occur with the intention of gaining material benefits and an advantage in the court. In the present work, parental alienation is described from a psychological and psychosocial perspective. I discuss the types of parental alienation, "symptoms" that alienated children present, and the psychological effects of alienation on the child. I also discuss the legal perspectives of PA in Romania, as well as global legal perspectives.

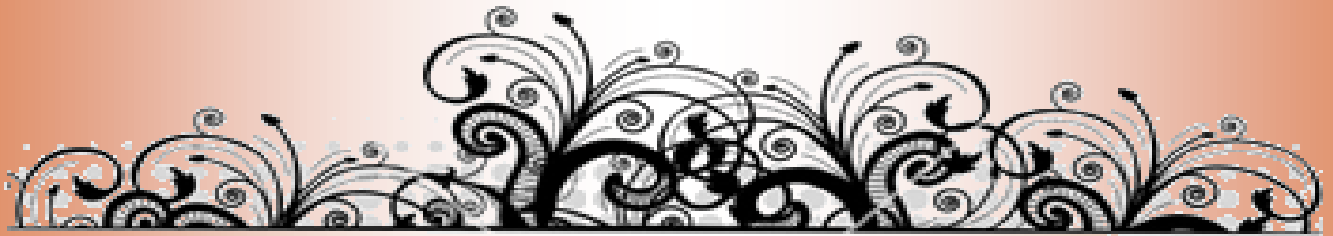
Zubenschi, M.

**Sociocultural Correlation Between Poverty and Vocational Training in Moldova.** marianazubenschi@gmail.com

Vocational counselling services in Moldova are represented as a core component of integration of different categories of people. These services play a most important role by promoting social inclusion and acceptance of persons. Building qualitative vocational training, adapted to the real social contexts and needs should be a constant concern for the efficient achievement and motivation to have an occupation, profession, or job. Particularly in Moldova the main social problems are presented by high indexes of poverty, cross-border migration, exploitation, inadequate child protective services, risk of social exclusion, regional inequalities, and human trafficking. The expressed stereotypes, prejudice, and stigmatization overlap social expectations and promote ostracism. This paper discusses existing sociocultural contexts in Moldova and empowerment of vocational training in getting a job, balancing in this manner social relations and redressing social exclusion.

# NOTES





*Living in Harmony  
With Ourselves and Others*



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