

Predictors of Parental Acceptance–Rejection among Adolescents

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ABSTRACT

In the cycle of human growth and development, adolescence is a phase of between the childhood and adulthood. The Parent-Child Relationship is one that nurtures the physical, emotional and social development of the child. The present was aimed to explore the relationship between self-esteem and aggression and depression of adolescents 'perception of parental acceptance and rejection'. For this purpose a total sample of 450 adolescents. The participants were 16 to 18 years old. The data was collected from private schools of Mandi Gobindgarh and Khanna (Punjab) using the random sampling technique. Parental Acceptance–Rejection Questionnaire (Rohner 2005), Self Esteem Scale (Rosenberg, 1965), Aggression Questionnaire (Buss & Perry, 1992) and Beck Depression Inventory-II (Beck et al., 1996) were used to collect data from adolescents. Results and implications are discussed.

Keywords: *Parental Acceptance-Rejection, Self Esteem, Aggression, Depression, Adolescents*

In the cycle of human growth and development, adolescence is a phase of between the childhood and adulthood. It corresponds to one of the critical changes in terms of growth and pace in the life span. With the beginning of pubescence at this stage denoting the progress from childhood to adolescence and many other biological changes and processes takes place in terms of growth and development. The biological causes of this stage are reasonably universal, however, occurrence of some defining features vary according to growth period and economic situations. Some of the defining features which mark this stage and have been observed during the last centuries include commencement of puberty, change in sexual mentalities, behaviours and marriage at later age.

According to Rohner (1986) in parental acceptance-rejection theory is defined as the affection, and love of parents towards their children. Physical and verbal expressions are the two types of expression available. Hugging, fondling, caressing, approving, kissing, smiling, or supports are all physical expressions of warmth from parents. Praising, complimenting, telling stories to the child, singing songs, and saying good or nice things to the youngster are all examples of verbal expressions of warmth. These behaviors are more common in children who come from accepting households, and they may change over time when the youngster becomes angrier, impatient, or rejected.

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Self-Esteem

Imam and Singh (2019) investigated that parentally incomplete study students had more social perceived self-esteem level than parentally rejected students. Ansari, (2013) conducted a study, Parental acceptance and rejection in relation with self -esteem among adolescents. Findings of the present study exhibited positive correlation between personal and social self-esteem and parental acceptance-rejection.

Ansari and Qureshi, (2013) Parental rejection negatively impact on the adolescent's emotional growth and self-esteem. Perceived parental rejections are associated with number of mental health problems and social adaption. This investigation shows that rejected and neglected children show lower levels of self-esteem and compared to their accepted peers, they can be sticky, possessive, and repeatedly seek for approval, nurturance and attention, and they can also have a high risk of showing delinquency, cruelty, destructiveness, sexual offenses, rebelliousness and being arrested for juvenile alcohol and drug offenses Rohner, (1975).

Lucy (2012) examined the relationship between parenting style and self-esteem. A Survey was conducted on 183 participants focusing on the relationship between parenting style and self-esteem across a specific age range. Parenting styles were assessed using four factor model while self-esteem was evaluated using two different scales. Result showed a positive association between perceived parental acceptance and rejection and self-esteem.

Aggression

Raina and Goyal (2018) suggested that it is evident that the parental acceptance-rejection as far as coldness, aggression, neglect and rejection both from mother and father has a positive relationship with nervousness and anxiety among adolescents. Consequently, if adolescents see both their parents to be cool, aggressive, neglecting and rejecting then they have more significantly level of anxiousness. Besides, it is evident from the results of regression analysis that of all the variables of parental acceptance-rejection only mothers aggression has emerged as significant indicators of anxiety among adolescents.

Rafail and Haque (1999) conducted a study on the relationships between perceived parental acceptance and rejection and adolescent misconduct sources shows that non-criminal adolescents perceive their parents are less aggressive, less neglecting, less rejecting as compared to criminal adolescents, further; the parental acceptance rejection score is significantly associated with juvenile delinquency.

Depression

Wasif et al. (2015) investigated link between perceived parental rejection and depression among adolescents in age range of 13 to 19 years. The results revealed that perceived parental rejection was significantly positively correlated with depression among adolescent students. Results of the study also highlighted that both males and females equally face depression when their parents reject them.

Malik (2012) investigated that high authoritarian attitude of fathers towards children. She found that severely abused children perceived their parents to be rejecting, indicates that strong positive correlation was found between depression and perceived parental rejection for father and Moderate positive relation was found for depression and perceived parental rejection for mother. Some other researches also support the researcher results as reported by (Najam and Kausar , 2012).

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OBJECTIVES

1. It was expected that self-esteem, aggression and depression would predict Parental Acceptance-Rejection among adolescents.

HYPOTHESES

1. It was expected that there will be a positive relationship between self esteem and parental acceptance and negative relationship between self esteem and parental rejection among adolescents
2. It was expected that there will be a negative relationship between dimensions of aggression viz. verbal aggression, physical aggression, anger and parental acceptance and positive relationship between dimensions of aggression viz. verbal aggression, physical aggression and anger among adolescents.
3. It is expected that there will be a positive relationship between depression and parental rejection and negative relationship between depression and parental acceptance among adolescents.

METHOD

SAMPLE

The sample of the study was comprised of 450 adolescents, 225 male and 225 female students. The age range of the sample was 16 to 18 years. The sample collected from schools of Mandi Gobindgarh, an Industrial town and Khanna, the largest grain market area of Punjab State. Purposive sampling technique was used for collecting the data.

MEASURING TOOLS

- Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (PARQ) Child Form. Short version (2005)
- Self Esteem Scale (Rosenberg, 1965)
- Aggression Questionnaire (Buss & Perry 1992)
- Beck Depression Inventory II (BDI-II) (Beck, Steer & Brown, 1996)

Inclusion criteria

- Schools of Punjab (Mandi Gobindgarh, Khanna) were taken.
- Students within the age range of 16 to 18 years were taken.

Exclusion criteria

- Students suffering from severe mental actual medical conditions were excluded from the present study.
- Single parent's child was excluded.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Keeping in view the objectives of the study, multiple regression analysis was used to find out predictors of parental acceptance and rejection among the sample.

RESULTS

Table 1. PREDICTORS OF PARENTAL ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION (Mother’s Form) OF TOTAL SAMPLE

Predictors	R	Beta Coefficient	t	R ²	R ² Change	F-Value
Hostility	0.64	0.70	18.65**	0.41	0.41	317.29**
Physical Aggression	0.71	-0.36	-9.90**	0.51	0.09	231.83**
Self-Esteem	0.72	-0.13	-3.18**	0.52	0.01	161.07**

Table 1 shows the regression analysis results for the criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (mother’s form) for total sample. Hostility ($\beta = 0.70$, $t = 18.65$, $p < 0.01$), physical aggression ($\beta = -0.36$, $t = -9.90$, $p < 0.01$) and self-esteem ($\beta = -0.13$, $t = -3.18$, $p < 0.01$) emerged as the predictors. Hostility explained 41% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 317.29$, $p < 0.01$), physical aggression explained 51% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 231.83$, $p < 0.01$) and self-esteem explained 52% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (mother’s form) ($F = 231.83$, $p < 0.01$).

Table 2. PREDICTORS OF PARENTAL ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION (Father’s Form) OF TOTAL SAMPLE

Predictors	R	Beta Coefficient	t	R ²	R ² Change	F-Value
Hostility	0.65	0.57	13.04**	0.42	0.42	327.78**
Depression	0.68	0.20	4.83**	0.46	0.04	190.23**
Verbal Aggression	0.69	-0.14	-3.94**	0.48	0.02	136.13**

Table 2 shows the regression analysis results for the criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (father’s form) for total sample. Hostility ($\beta = 0.57$, $t = 13.04$, $p < 0.01$), depression ($\beta = 0.20$, $t = 4.83$, $p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression ($\beta = -0.14$, $t = -3.94$, $p < 0.01$) emerged as the predictors. Hostility explained 42% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 327.78$, $p < 0.01$), depression explained 46% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 190.23$, $p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression explained 48% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (father’s form) ($F = 136.13$, $p < 0.01$).

Table 3. PREDICTORS OF PARENTAL ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION (Mother’s Form) OF FEMALES

Predictors	R	Beta Coefficient	t	R ²	R ² Change	F-Value
Hostility	0.61	0.86	11.84**	0.37	0.37	130.57**
Physical Aggression	0.69	-0.30	-4.94**	0.47	0.11	100.07**
Self-Esteem	0.70	-0.43	-4.87**	0.49	0.02	71.38**
Anger	0.72	-0.16	-1.87	0.51	0.02	57.52**
Depression	0.72	-0.33	-2.93**	0.52	0.01	47.73**
Verbal Aggression	0.73	-0.12	-1.99*	0.53	0.01	40.98**

Table 3 shows the regression analysis results for the criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (mother’s form) for females. Hostility ($\beta = 0.86$, $t = 11.84$, $p < 0.01$), physical aggression ($\beta = -0.30$, $t = -4.94$, $p < 0.01$), self-esteem ($\beta = -0.43$, $t = -4.87$, $p < 0.01$), anger ($\beta =$

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-0.16, $t = -1.87$, $p > 0.05$), depression ($\beta = -0.33$, $t = -2.93$, $p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression ($\beta = -1.99$, $t = -1.99$, $p < 0.05$) emerged as the predictors. Hostility explained 37% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 130.57$, $p < 0.01$), physical aggression explained 47% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 100.07$, $p < 0.01$), self-esteem explained 49% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 71.38$, $p < 0.01$), anger explained 51% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 57.52$, $p < 0.01$), depression explained 52% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 47.73$, $p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression explained 53% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (mother's form) ($F = 40.98$, $p < 0.01$).

Table 4. PREDICTORS OF PARENTAL ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION (Father's Form) OF FEMALES

Predictors	R	Beta Coefficient	t	R ²	R ² Change	F-Value
Hostility	0.63	0.62	8.35**	0.39	0.39	144.44**
Depression	0.66	0.35	4.63**	0.44	0.05	87.68**
Anger	0.69	-0.26	-3.08**	0.48	0.04	67.46**
Verbal Aggression	0.70	-0.13	-2.48**	0.49	0.01	53.30**

Table 4. shows the regression analysis results for the criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (father's form) for females. Hostility ($\beta = 0.62$, $t = 8.35$, $p < 0.01$), depression ($\beta = 0.35$, $t = 4.63$, $p < 0.01$), anger ($\beta = -0.26$, $t = -3.08$, $p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression ($\beta = -0.13$, $t = -2.48$, $p < 0.01$) emerged as the predictors. Hostility explained 39% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 144.44$, $p < 0.01$), depression explained 44% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 57.68$, $p < 0.01$), anger explained 48% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 67.46$, $p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression explained 49% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (father's form) ($F = 53.30$, $p < 0.01$).

Table 5. PREDICTORS OF PARENTAL ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION (Mother's Form) OF MALES

Predictors	R	Beta Coefficient	t	R ²	R ² Change	F-Value
Hostility	0.67	0.59	8.74**	0.44	0.44	177.47**
Physical Aggression	0.73	-0.33	-6.85**	0.53	0.08	123.77**
Anger	0.74	0.19	2.71**	0.54	0.02	87.32**

Table 5 shows the regression analysis results for the criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (mother's form) for males. Hostility ($\beta = 0.59$, $t = 8.74$, $p < 0.01$), physical aggression ($\beta = -0.33$, $t = -6.85$, $p < 0.01$) and anger ($\beta = 0.19$, $t = 2.71$, $p < 0.01$) emerged as the predictors. Hostility explained 44% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 177.47$, $p < 0.01$), physical aggression explained 53% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 123.77$, $p < 0.01$) and anger explained 54% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (mother's form) ($F = 87.32$, $p < 0.01$).

Table 6. PREDICTORS OF PARENTAL ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION (Father’s Form) OF MALES

Predictors	R	Beta Coefficient	t	R ²	R ² Change	F-Value
Hostility	0.66	0.61	9.92**	0.44	0.44	175.58**
Depression	0.69	0.20	3.49**	0.47	0.03	99.59**
Verbal Aggression	0.70	-0.11	-2.12*	0.48	0.01	68.94**

Table 6 shows the regression analysis results for the criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (father’s form) for males. Hostility ($\beta = 0.61$, $t = 9.92$, $p < 0.01$), depression ($\beta = 0.20$, $t = 3.49$, $p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression ($\beta = -0.11$, $t = -2.12$, $p < 0.05$) emerged as the predictors. Hostility explained 44% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 175.58$, $p < 0.01$), depression explained 47% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 99.59$, $p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression explained 48% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection (father’s form) ($F = 68.94$, $p < 0.01$).

DISCUSSION

The present research was undertaken to study the parental acceptance-rejection of adolescents and its relation to self-esteem, factors of aggression and depression. This study was an attempt to identify and understand the regression analysis implicated for find the predictors of parental acceptance-rejection.

For the total sample (mother's form), regression analysis revealed hostility ($\beta = 0.70$, $t = 18.65$, $p < 0.01$) to be a significant positive predictor of parental acceptance and rejection. Further two significant negative predictors of parental acceptance and rejection i.e. physical aggression ($\beta = -0.36$, $t = -9.90$, $p < 0.01$), and self-esteem ($\beta = -0.13$, $t = -3.18$, $p < 0.01$) were found. Hostility explained 41% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 317.29$, $p < 0.01$), physical aggression explained 51% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 231.83$, $p < 0.01$) and self-esteem explained 52% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection ($F = 231.83$, $p < 0.01$).

For the total sample (father's form), regression analysis revealed hostility ($\beta = 0.57$, $t = 13.04$, $p < 0.01$), and depression ($\beta = 0.20$, $t = 4.83$, $p < 0.01$) to be significant positive predictors of parental acceptance and rejection. On the other hand, verbal aggression ($\beta = -0.14$, $t = -3.94$, $p < 0.01$) was found to be a significant negative predictor of parental acceptance and rejection. Hostility explained 42% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 327.78$, $p < 0.01$), depression explained 46% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 190.23$, $p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression explained 48% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection ($F = 136.13$, $p < 0.01$).

For females (mother's form), regression analysis revealed that hostility ($\beta = 0.86$, $t = 11.84$, $p < 0.01$), and anger ($\beta = -0.16$, $t = -1.87$, $p > 0.05$) emerged as significant positive predictors of parental acceptance and rejection. Whereas, self-esteem ($\beta = -0.43$, $t = -4.87$, $p < 0.01$), depression ($\beta = -0.33$, $t = -2.93$, $p < 0.01$), and verbal aggression ($\beta = -1.99$, $t = -1.99$, $p < 0.05$) emerged as significant negative predictors of parental acceptance and rejection. Hostility explained 37% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 130.57$, $p < 0.01$), physical aggression explained 47% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 100.07$, $p < 0.01$), self-esteem explained 49% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 71.38$, $p < 0.01$), anger explained 51%

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of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 57.52, p < 0.01$), depression explained 52% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 47.73, p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression explained 53% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection ($F = 40.98, p < 0.01$).

For females (father's form), regression analysis revealed that hostility ($\beta = 0.62, t = 8.35, p < 0.01$), and depression ($\beta = 0.35, t = 4.63, p < 0.01$) emerged as significant positive predictors of parental acceptance and rejection. On the other hand, anger ($\beta = -0.26, t = -3.08, p < 0.01$), and verbal aggression ($\beta = -0.13, t = -2.48, p < 0.01$) emerged as significant negative predictors of parental acceptance and rejection. Hostility explained 39% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 144.44, p < 0.01$), depression explained 44% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 57.68, p < 0.01$), anger explained 48% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 67.46, p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression explained 49% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection ($F = 53.30, p < 0.01$).

For males (mother's form), regression analysis revealed that hostility ($\beta = 0.59, t = 8.74, p < 0.01$), and anger ($\beta = 0.19, t = 2.71, p < 0.01$) emerged as significant positive predictors of parental acceptance and rejection. On the other hand physical aggression ($\beta = -0.33, t = -6.85, p < 0.01$) emerged as a significant negative predictor of parental acceptance and rejection. Hostility ($\beta = 0.59, t = 8.74, p < 0.01$), physical aggression ($\beta = -0.33, t = -6.85, p < 0.01$) and anger ($\beta = 0.19, t = 2.71, p < 0.01$) emerged as the predictors. Hostility explained 44% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 177.47, p < 0.01$), physical aggression explained 53% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 123.77, p < 0.01$) and anger explained 54% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection ($F = 87.32, p < 0.01$).

For males (father's form), regression analysis revealed that hostility ($\beta = 0.61, t = 9.92, p < 0.01$), and depression ($\beta = 0.20, t = 3.49, p < 0.01$) emerged as significant positive predictors of parental acceptance and rejection. Verbal aggression ($\beta = -0.11, t = -2.12, p < 0.05$), on the other hand emerged as a significant negative predictor of parental acceptance and rejection. Hostility explained 44% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 175.58, p < 0.01$), depression explained 47% of the variance in criterion variable ($F = 99.59, p < 0.01$) and verbal aggression explained 48% of the variance in criterion variable of parental acceptance and rejection ($F = 68.94, p < 0.01$).

Yasmin and Hossain (2014) revealed that the unique contribution of maternal rejection in variance of self-esteem was 15.05% and it was 11.97% for paternal rejection. The unique contribution of maternal rejection in variance of life satisfaction was 8.88% where it was 1.53% for paternal rejection. So, the result suggests that maternal and paternal rejection both are strong predictor of self-esteem and maternal rejection is the strongest predictor of life satisfaction.

Hankin et al. (1998) According to his research, the prevalence of depression rises dramatically during adolescence. As a result, identifying probable vulnerability factors that predict the onset of depression symptoms is critical. Longitudinal studies have found that the link between self-esteem and depressive symptoms most likely proceeds from self-esteem to depressive symptoms (Sowislo and Orth 2013).

CONCLUSION

The review of literature during this study indicated that there are few research studies on adolescents with parental acceptance-rejection. It is important to identify the relationship of

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parental acceptance-rejection with self-esteem, aggression and depression on adolescents and self-esteem, aggression and depression significant predictor of parental acceptance-rejection.

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Conflict of Interest

The author declared no conflict of interests.

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