



Social Anxiety: The Role of Perceived Childhood Attachment, Family Functioning and Attributional Styles

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to explore the role that perceived childhood attachment, family functioning and attribution styles have in social anxiety of high school students. 430 Iranian students were selected by multistage cluster sampling from high schools of Isfahan city. Participants completed measures of childhood attachment to each parent (Hazan and Shaver, 1986), the family adaptability and cohesion evaluation scale (Olson, Portner and Lavee, 1985), attributional styles questionnaire (Peterson and Seligman, 1984) and social anxiety scale (Watson and Friend, 1969). Results revealed that attribution styles, insecure to mother and family cohesion had direct relationship with social anxiety; attachment to parents had a relationship with social anxiety through family cohesion and success attribution. The results showed that family cohesion and success attribution decrease social anxiety, whereas, insecurity to mother and failure attribution increase social anxiety.

Keywords: Attachment to Parents, Family Functioning, Attributional Styles, Social Anxiety.

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