

traits actually measure the same traits in the same way across autistic and non-autistic populations. We addressed this question using a multi-group confirmatory factor invariance analysis of the Autism Quotient Short Form (AQ-S; Hoekstra et al. 2011) across an autistic ($n = 148$) and non-autistic ($n = 168$) group. Metric but not scalar invariance held, suggesting that the AQ-S measures the same latent traits in both groups but with a bias in the manner in which trait levels are estimated. We, therefore, argue that the AQ-S can be used to investigate possible causes and consequences of autistic traits in both groups separately but caution is due when combining or comparing levels of autistic traits across the two groups.

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Dominancy, love, optimism and experience of romantic relationships in Russian students

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We investigated how person's experience of romantic relationships (ERR) was connected with representation about him/herself, the partner, and optimism level. Participants: 210 students (Mage = 18) from some Moscow universities. Measures: Timothy Leary's Interpersonal Behavior Circle, Life Orientation Test of C.Carver & M.Sheier, Z.Rubin's Love & Like Scales, 7-point scale for the assessment of ERR (length). A strong positive correlation between experience of RR and evaluation of the person's dominancy in the couple is revealed; this tendency is stronger in young men. A positive relation between ERR and optimism level is revealed: more experienced participants are more optimistic, those who don't have a partner are frequently pessimists. Also were revealed gender-specific connections: a positive correlation between ERR and love level in young men (the longer are RR, the stronger is love) and a positive correlation between ERR and partner's cooperativeness evaluation (more experienced girls perceive their partners as more friendly).

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Effects of a short psycho-educational program on self-efficacy in undergraduates

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The study investigated the effects of a psycho-educational program on self-efficacy in undergraduates. The experimental group participated in a 4-week program based on cognitive behavior therapy as part of a psychology class, while the control group did not. The program consisted of lectures on effective distraction and relaxation technique, group work and homework. The experimental group rated their understanding about contents each session, and evaluated the program comprehensively. All participants completed a questionnaire measuring self-efficacy and mental health before and after the program. The results suggested that the experimental group had enhanced self-efficacy for distraction and relaxation technique, compared to the control group. It was also suggested that participating the program was useful to reduce depression among the high depression group.

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Effects of aggression dimensions on aggressive reactions in response to provocation

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The aim of this research was to examine the relationship between aggression dimensions, measured by the Aggression Questionnaire, and aggressive response to provocation in a competitive reaction time task. 191 participants (32% male) competed with an unknown, same gender "opponent". Before each task, participants were allowed to deliver the "punishment" to the "opponent" if he had a slower reaction time. Also, if the participant was slower, then he would receive punishment, that simulates different provocation conditions. Results showed that the intensity of the punishment delivered to an "opponent" was related to Hostility and male gender in earlier stages of the task. However, in later stages, particularly in the final stage, only Physical Aggression had significant effect. Duration of the punishment was consistently related to Hostility and, in latter stages, to Physical Aggression, and in the final stage interaction between highly provocative conditions and male gender also had an effect.

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Effects of anger management on the suffering of family caregivers of people with dementia

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The main goal of this research is to study the effects of anger management on family caregivers of people with dementia focusing on the psychological and somatic distress resulting from their work as caregivers. 139 caregivers participated, 108 women (age: 53.99 years, SD = 12.22) and 31 men (age: 55.35 years, SD = 14.86).

In the analysis of the results disaggregated by gender, a three-variable predictive model of anger management is observed in female caregivers (Anger Expression-Out, Anger Expression-In and Anger Control-Out) which explains 30% of the variance of psychological and somatic distress of these caregivers. Regarding male caregivers, we have obtained a two-variable predictive model of anger management (Anger Expression-Out and Anger Expression-In) explaining 40.3% of the variance in the level of psychological and somatic distress.

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Emotional regulation in schizophrenia

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Schizophrenia patients experience difficulties in emotional and social functioning. However, despite well-documented deficits in social functioning, little is known about emotion and mood regulation in this population. In this presentation I analyse the emotion regulation disabilities in schizophrenia from theoretical perspective. Also, I present data from preliminary research verifying the relationship between emotional regulation and social functioning in individuals with schizophrenia and healthy controls.

Thirty individuals with schizophrenia and 30 healthy controls completed measures of emotional awareness, emotion regulation,