

## **The relationships between parenting styles and addiction potentiality among students**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Family is considered as the most fundamental and basic shaping, and underlies drug abusing. This research aimed to investigate the relationships between parenting styles (authoritative, permissive and despotic) as one of the most effective family factors on child growth and addiction potentiality among the students. The statistical population of research consisted of all student of Medical Ilam University of Medical Sciences in the second semester 2012-2013 academic years. Therefore 220 students selected with multistage random sampling, and completed the Baumrind parenting styles questionnaire (1972) and addiction potentiality (Zargar, 1996). Data has been analyzed by Pearson correlation tests and regression using SPSS 16. The outcomes of pearson correlation analysis showed that there have been negative relationships between authoritative parenting style and addiction potentiality and between permissive, despotic parenting styles and addiction potentiality positive and meaningful relationships reported. The results of regression analysis showed that parenting styles (authoritative, permissive and despotic) described about 38 percentages of addiction potentiality variances, too. According to present research results, parenting styles is one of the most effective reasons on students' tendency to the drug abusing. With this mind, the hygienic officials and activists should make suitable policies to increase parent's information in parenting styles education field.

**Key words:** parenting styles; (authoritative, permissive, and despotic); students; addiction potentiality.

### **INTRODUCTION**

In the route of reaching to the satisfaction, peace and flourishing and prosperity of mankind, there are numerous obstacles. One of the most important obstacles and problems that is highly endangered health and efficiency of the current generation is drug addiction [1]. Addiction is the captivity- like of being infected with substances or drugs abusing that physically and mentally made person dependent on drugs and overshadows all personal and social behaviors and invaded human society as the most important of social vulnerability. In the past few decades, the shocking statistics on the prevalence of drug abuse and dependence on drugs among youth and adolescents is increasing [2], which is one of the fundamental issues in relation to the health of young people .

The family is considered as the most fundamental and the most basic shaping and underlies drugs

abuse [3]. One of the most important factors of family affecting child development is parenting styles [3, 4]. People begin parenting styles even before giving birth, and certainly, up to one or two years old of their child, parenting styles can be clear, but many parents are aware of these styles before child goes to elementary school [4]. However, the research literature on the relationship between parents and children is extensive, multi-disciplinary, and sometimes inconsistent and for this reason it is difficult to comment definitively on the relationship between parents and children [5, 6]. A review of available findings in the field of parenting practices and the type of child and parent relationship shows that probably one of the reasons people tend to use drugs, are vast problems and weaknesses in the area of parenting practices imposed by parents. Lamborn, montes, Sternberg and Darenbach (1991) reported that adolescents whose parents

have authoritative parenting style compared to adolescents whose parents have permissive style, have better compliance in respect of abuse, mistreatment and drug use and were less crime at school and are more competent in the areas of development[7]. Terry (2004) in the conducted study had stated that criminal behavior emanating from the number of factors such as unstable family environment and poor parenting practices that person will be affected during the transition to adolescence. Suitable parenting practice such as authoritative style, because of adequate monitoring and support create a safe and reliable environment, which is one of the most fundamental conditions for healthy growth of the individual. Therefore, person has independence, self- confidence and is realistic and competent in this condition and can establish friendly relations with peers, and is happy and energetic, thus, better able to cope with stressful situations and less susceptible to risky behaviors [8]. Authoritative parenting practices, as a supporting factor, that is the factor that increases the probability of immunity against drug abuse and has been proposed as the modulators of drug use, attitude toward drugs and consumer sentiment [9]. In contrast, poor parenting style such as authoritative, permissive and despotic are not good conditions and person is susceptible to risky behaviors. Permissive parenting style in dealing with the crime and aggression is related to adolescences. Poor monitoring, neglect and indifference are all part of the Permissive parenting style that has a decisive role in crime and as a result, these individuals with a higher frequency of deviant behaviors such as drug and alcohol use, abnormal behaviors, impulsive, emotional and misconduct or criminal acts are involved [8-11]. As well as, authoritarian parenting style is associated with negative behavioral outcomes, including aggressive behavior, decreased emotional functioning, depression and low level of self-confidence [8, 12]. Given the above mentioned issues, the purpose of the present study investigate the relationship between parenting styles and addiction potentiality in students.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study is a descriptive-correlation. The statistical population of research consisted of all students of Ilam University of Medical Sciences in the second semester 2012-2013 academic year. The multistage random sampling of 220 students participated as samples in research. Initially,

among the five schools of Medical Sciences (Medical, Paramedical, Dental, Heath, Nursing and Midwifery), 3 faculties (Medical, Heath and Paramedical) were randomly selected. Then, three classes from each school were randomly selected and questionnaire were distributed among them. Their age average ranged between 18 to 25 years with a mean of 21.50 and standard deviation (SD) 1.32, respectively. The study was conducted through coordination with education department of the selected faculties and permission of research implementation that we were able to distribute the questionnaires among selected classes. From each class were asked to complete research tools. To collect data, used the following tools:

### *Iranian-scale of addiction potentiality*

In this study, to evaluate the amount of addiction potentiality was used Iranian-scale of addiction potentiality of Zargar (1996). This scale included 35 items with 5 lie-detector items [3, 9,] in which scoring was in reverse order. Participant must respond to one of four options: totally agree (3), agree (2), disagree (1) and to totally disagree (0). The minimum and maximum score on this scale was 0 to 120. According to Zargar (1996) the reliability of this scale using cronbach's alpha method was 0.90. Also, Zargar (1996) for measuring the validity of the scale using construct validity, calculate the correlation coefficient using symptoms check list-25 (0.45) that in the 0.001 level is significant .

### *Parenting Style Questionnaire*

In this study, to assess parenting practices, parenting style questionnaire of Dianna Baumrind (1972) was used [18]. This questionnaire measures three practices of parenting style including permissive, authoritative and despotic. This questionnaire has been translated into Persian by Esfandiari (1995). The questionnaire included 30 items that 10 items measure and permissive styles (1-6-10-13-14-17-19-21-24-28) and 10 items measure authoritarian styles (2-3-7-9-12-16-18-25-26-29) and 10 items measure authoritative styles. In front of each phrase, there are 5 columns. The columns headings are: totally agree, agree, and almost agree, disagree, totally disagree. Each of these columns, respectively, from 0 to 4 would be scoring and with the sum of questions scores related to any style were obtained three scores separately and a score that is higher and superior, will be determined as a parenting style. The minimum and maximum scores are 0 and 40 for each parenting style . Baumrind reported the

reliability questionnaire using test- retest with an interval of one week for permissive was 0.81, for despotic style 0.85, for authoritative style 0.92. As well as, in Esfandiari's research (1995) the reliability using test- retest with and interval of one week for permissive style 0.69, for despotic style 0.77 and for authoritative style 0.73 was obtained [13].

## RESULTS

Data analysis was done along with two statistical methods include the pearson correlation and regression analysis using SPSS 16. Pearson correlation was used to evaluate the simple relation between parenting style (authoritative, permissive and despotic) and addiction potentiality. In order to assess the relative weights and the combined weight of parenting styles with

addiction potentiality, regression analysis with entry method was used.

To test the significant relationship between parenting styles (authoritative, permissive and despotic) with addiction potentiality, the Pearson correlation method was used which the results have been presented in Table 2.

As can be seen in Table 2, the correlation between the three parenting styles and addiction potentiality, respectively, for authoritative parenting style ( $r=0.32$ ), permissive style ( $r=0.36$ ) and despotic style ( $r=0.47$ ) in which all correlation coefficients in the level of  $P<0.001$  are significant. In the next step to measure the multiple correlation of the parenting style with addiction potentiality, multiple regression analysis was used entry method that the results have been presented in Table 3.

**Table 1.** scores of parenting style (authoritative, permissive and despotic) and addiction potentiality

Variables	Mean	SD	Minimum	Maximum
Authoritative parenting	26.85	6.78	3	40
Permissive parenting	16.83	7.30	0	38
Despotic parenting	18.20	6.65	0	40
Addiction potentiality	49.35	11.26	16	85

**Table 2.** Correlation coefficients between parenting styles (authoritative, permissive, and despotic) and addiction potentiality.

Row	Variables	1	2	3	4
1	Authoritative parenting style	1	-	-	-
2	Permissive parenting style	0.40*	1	-	-
3	Despotic parenting style	-0.30*	0.08	1	-
4	Addiction potentiality	-0.32*	-0.36*	0.47	-

$P<0.01$

**Table 3.** Results of parenting styles regression analysis with addiction potentiality using entry method.

Criterion variable	Predictor variable	Multiple correlation MR	Determination coefficient RS	Ratio F Probability P	Regression coefficients $\beta$		
					Authoritative parenting	Permissive parenting	Despotic parenting
Addiction potentiality	Authoritative parenting	0.558	0.31	44.57 $P<0.001$	$\beta = -0.37$ $t = -6.29$ $P<0.001$		
	Permissive parenting	0.599	0.359	36.6 $P<0.001$	$\beta = -0.36$ $t = -6.37$ $P<0.001$	$\beta = 0.23$ $t = 3.79$ $P<0.001$	
	Despotic parenting	0.613	0.375	29.26 $P<0.001$	$\beta = -0.38$ $t = -6.73$ $P<0.001$	$\beta = 0.22$ $t = 3.57$ $P<0.001$	$\beta = -0.14$ $t = 2.29$ $P<0.001$

As Table 3 shows the multiple correlation coefficient for linear combination of parenting styles (authoritative, permissive and despotic) with addiction potentiality  $MR=0.613$  that in the level of  $P<0.001$  is significant. Moreover,

$RS=0.375$  that the determination coefficient indicates that parenting styles (authoritative, permissive and despotic) are determined about %38 of the criterion variable variance namely addiction potentiality.

## DISCUSSION

The purpose of present study investigate the relation between parenting styles and addiction potentiality among students. According to current research findings, there is a significant negative relation between authoritative parenting style and addiction potentiality, and between permissive and despotic style and addiction potentiality, there is a significant positive relation. The results of this study are consistent with the findings of numerous studies (11-10-9-8-2 and 12). In explaining the present study results can be stated that parents of authoritative parenting style, due to sufficient and appropriate control and support cause to create a secure and reliable environment which is one of the fundamental requirements for healthy growth of individual. They transferred the realities and cognitive insights to their children and show more willing to accept the reasons and excuses of children in refusing advice and guidance. These parents are good orators and often to subdue their children use the reasoning and logic approach and also, in order to reach an agreement with child, they use of verbal communication. They apparently able to with stand and resistance to the rage and anger of child. Authoritative parents, begin to interact with child and respond in such away and a degree that child is usually satisfied. Authoritative parents respond to children efforts to gain the support and attention and use more positive reinforcements. So the children of

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authoritative parents in the scales such as being active, self-belief and independence account for higher ranking. These children realistic, competent and pleasing are described [8, 9], have self-reliance and friendly relationship with peers, and coping with stress very well, are lively and energetic and less susceptible to risky behavior [13, 15].

In contrast, in poor parenting styles such as despotic style and permissive, these conditions are not favorable, and person predisposes tendency toward risky behavior. From other present study results, can be stated that generally, the combination weight of the three parenting styles, explain the variance percent of addiction potentiality that shows parenting styles (authoritative, permissive and despotic) play an essential role in students' addiction potentiality and have its subsequent outcomes such as psychological problems.

## CONCLUSION

At the end, according to the special statistical population of this research (students of Ilam University of Medical Sciences) should be cautious in generalizing the results to other populations and suggested that the research be conducted in various populations. As well as, due to the importance of appropriate parenting styles, is recommended that necessary training measures be taken to be given to parents on parenting.

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