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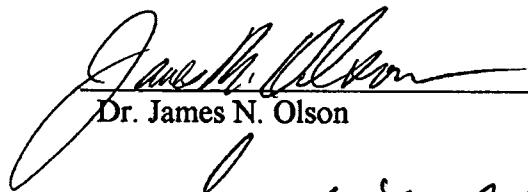
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**OBSESSIVE-COMPULSIVE DISORDERS IN ADULTS
AND INSECURE ATTACHMENT**

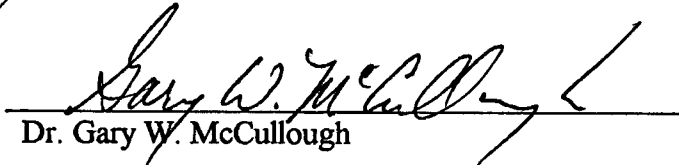
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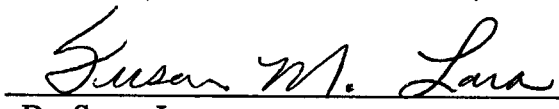
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OBSESSIVE-COMPULSIVE DISORDERS IN ADULTS
AND INSECURE ATTACHMENT

by

SHIRLEY LEE BATES, B.M.

THESIS

Presented to the Graduate Faculty of Psychology

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

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for the Degree of

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Abstract

The purpose of the present study was to examine the relationship between obsessive-compulsive symptoms and disorders in adults and lack of secure childhood attachment. An additional hypothesis was that obsessive-compulsive individuals would most closely fit an avoidant pattern of adult attachment. A group of obsessive-compulsive adults, a group of adults with other emotional symptoms, and a normal group of adults representing the general population were measured using the Maudsley Obsessional-Compulsive Inventory, the Parental Bonding Instrument, the Attachment Style Questionnaire and Bartholomew's Four-Group Model of Attachment. Results did not confirm a relationship between insecure childhood attachment and obsessive-compulsiveness. However, obsessive-compulsive subjects were found to be fearful avoidant, while normal subjects were found to be secure. Subjects in the middle group did not fit a specific attachment pattern. Possible explanations for the outcomes, limitations of the present study, and implications for further research were presented.