

PERCEPTION OF PARENTAL ACCEPTANCE-REJECTION AND SOME PERSONALITY VARIABLES IN YOUNG ADULTS

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The aim of the study was to examine the relationship between Rohner's dimensions of parental behavior, as retrospectively perceived by young adults, and some personality variables that are postulated to be associated with them. 130 female and 94 male students of the University of Zagreb participated in the study. The mean age of the sample was 21 years. Parental behavior of both mothers and fathers was assessed by the 32-items version of Rohner's Adult Parental Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire that asks adults to reflect on the way they were treated when they were at the age of about 7 to 12 years old. The subjects assessed parental behavior in terms of four dimensions: perceived warmth and affection, perceived hostility and aggression, perceived indifference and neglect and perceived undifferentiated rejection. The personality variables examined were aggression, extroversion and neuroticism and self-esteem. Stepwise regression analysis was performed for each of the personality variables with eight dimensions of perceived parental behavior of mothers and fathers as predictors. The obtained multiple regression coefficients for the total sample were all significant, although quite low (ranging from .17 to .30). The most predictive variable was the dimension of the father's undifferentiated rejection that predicted total aggression score, manifest and latent physical aggression, indirect aggression, verbal latent aggression and neuroticism. Father's warmth and affection predicted extroversion, while father's hostility and aggression was predictive for manifest verbal aggression. Separate analyses performed for the gender subsamples revealed that parental behavior accounted for more of the variance in personality variables of males than of females. In addition, mother's behavior was shown to be predictive only in the male subsample.

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INTRODUCTION

Among the many contextual influences that contribute to the socialization of a child, the family is clearly of central importance. It is both the earliest and most sustained source of social contact for a child. Although the socialization within a family is a complex process of family members influencing each other, it is the interaction and emotional relationship between children and parents that shapes the child's expectancies and responses in subsequent social relations. The styles of parenting have been conceptualised in many different dimensions such as nurturance, affection, warmth, permissiveness, control, restrictiveness, etc., but the two main dimensions are generally accepted today: responsiveness and demandingness (Baumrind, 1971; Maccoby & Martin, 1983). The first deals with emotional relationship and sensitivity to the child and ranges from accepting, responsive, child centered behavior to rejecting, unresponsive behavior focused on the needs and wishes of the parents. The second varies from restrictive, demanding and controlling behavior to a permissive, undemanding parental style with few restraints on the child's behavior. Parenting styles were documented to be associated to the child's social competence (e.g. social assertiveness, social confidence, social ascendance), social responsibility (friendliness, cooperation, sensitivity to others), as well as to intellectual assertiveness, creativity and some other intellectual variables (Bayard de Volo & Fiebert, 1977).

Parental acceptance-rejection theory (PART), conceptualized by Ronald P. Rohner, deals with the warmth dimension of parenting. This is a socialization theory which strives to explain and predict major consequences of parental acceptance and rejection for behavioral, cognitive and emotional development of children and for the personality functioning of adults (Rohner, 1984). In addition, it attempts to explain resilience of some children exposed to parental rejection and emotional abuse and to predict major psychological, environmental, and maintenance systems antecedents to parental acceptance or rejection. The theory has an aspiration to be universal and to explain the relationship between this dimension of parental behavior and expressive behaviors in society. The dimension of parental acceptance-rejection is in the PART viewed from two perspectives: from subjective perception of a child or parents and as objectively observable behavior. Accepting parents are defined as those who show their love or affection toward children physically and/or verbally. Those are all behaviors that are likely to induce a child to feel loved or accepted, like caressing, hugging, kissing or complimenting and praising. Rejecting parents are defined in the PART as those who dislike, disapprove of or resent their children. Rejection can be manifested in two principal ways: in the form of hostility and aggression on the one hand, and in the form of parental indifference and neglect on the other (Rohner, 1975). Hostile parents are likely to be aggressive either verbally or physically, while indifferent parents are likely to be physically or psychologically remote or inaccessible to the child. Both forms of

rejection are likely to induce the feeling of being unloved or rejected. The PART predicts that acceptance and rejection, particularly when they are perceived by the individual as such, have effects on the behavioral and personality dispositions of children and personality functioning of adults. Such seven primary dispositions are: hostility, dependence, self-esteem, self-adequacy, emotional instability, emotional responsiveness and general world view (Rohner, 1984).

Empirical tests of the PART, mostly done by the author and his associates, confirm the main assumptions of the theory. Holocultural research, using a pancultural sample of 101 societies, showed that rejected children all over the world are significantly more hostile, aggressive or passive aggressive, that they tend to evaluate themselves more negatively and are more dependent than accepted children (Rohner, 1975). Adults who were rejected as children seem to share the same characteristics being more emotionally unresponsive, emotionally unstable and have a more negative world view than those who were accepted as children (Rohner & Rohner, 1981; Rohner, Berg & Rohner, 1982). Other studies confirmed the relationship of parental rejection and self-esteem both in the samples of children (e.g. Matejcek & Kadubcova, 1983, 1984; Kapur & Sukhdeep, 1986), and adolescents (Saavedra, 1980; Kitahara, 1987; Haque, 1988). In addition, the relationship was found with locus of control (Rohner et al., 1980), dependence (Matejcek & Kodubcova, 1984), substance abuse (Campo & Rohner, 1992) and socioeconomic status and size of the family (Sandhu & Bhargava, 1987; Tewari & Pal, 1986).

The aim of the study

The aim of this study was to evaluate particular postulates of the PART theory that were not examined in detail on samples of adults. More specifically, an attempt was made to explore the relationship between perceived childhood acceptance-rejection on the one hand, and self-esteem, two Eysenck's personality dimensions and the level of different forms of aggressiveness, on the other. According to the theory, it can be hypothesised that persons who were rejected by their significant others as children would be likely to have lower self-esteem, i.e. to define themselves negatively, or as unworthy of love, and therefore as inadequate and inferior human beings. Consequently, the theory postulates that those children can become emotionally insulated, unable to form warm, intimate and lasting relationships with others, trying to protect themselves from more emotional hurt that may occur. Such persons, without supportive relationships, are inclined to have less tolerance for stress and to be less emotionally stable than those who were accepted as children. In addition, the rejected children are likely to become hostile, aggressive or passive aggressive adults who can have problems managing their hostility and aggression both verbally and physically.

METHOD

Subjects

The study was conducted on a sample of 224 undergraduate students (130 females, 94 males) of three faculties from Zagreb. There were 81 students (78 males, 3 females) of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Shipbuilding, 104 students (96 females, 8 males) of the Faculty of Defectology and 39 students (31 females, 8 males) of the Faculty of Philosophy, Department of Psychology. The mean age of the sample was 21 years. The majority of the students (89%) had lived throughout their childhood and adolescence with both biological parents, while others had lived either with one biological and one step-parent or with a single (divorced or widowed) parent. Thirty-two subjects were singletons, 96 were from two-child families, 76 were from three-child families, while the remaining 20 were from families with four or more children.

Instruments

Four instruments were administered: (1) The 32-items version of Rohner's Adult Parental Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire (Adult PARQ-32)¹, (2) The Aggression Questionnaire (AG-87, Žužul, 1987, Keresteš & Žužul, 1992), (3) The Extroversion and Neuroticism scales of the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ, Eysenck, 1978), and The Self-Esteem Scale (SES, Rosenberg, 1965).

The Adult PARQ asks adults to reflect on the way they were treated by their parents when they were at the age of about 7 to 12 years. Subjects are asked to assess, on a four-point frequency scale, parental behavior (rarely attitudes) in terms of four dimensions: perceived warmth and affection, perceived hostility and aggression, perceived indifference and neglect, and perceived undifferentiated rejection (Rohner, 1984). Reliability coefficients (Cronbach alpha) obtained on our sample ranged from 0.59 to 0.74 for ratings of maternal behavior and from 0.77 to 0.87 for ratings of paternal behavior, which are lower than for the original, longer version, but similar to those obtained with the 32-item version in earlier studies in Croatia (Kljaić, 1989; Pajur, 1996).

The Aggression Questionnaire AG-87 is intended to measure the tendency toward aggressive behavior in provoking situations, i.e. to measure impulsive aggression. The AG-87 consists of 5 scales that cover 5 modalities of aggressive reactions: Manifest Verbal Aggression (MVA), Manifest Physical Aggression (MPA), Indirect Aggression (IA), Latent Verbal Aggression (LVA) and Latent Physical Aggression (LPA). It is also possible to compute the Total Aggression Score (TA). Research has shown that the A-87 has satisfactory

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The Adult PARQ-32 was developed for the purpose of the cross-cultural study on the development of moral reasoning and perceived parental behavior, coordinated by U.P.Gielen. National coordinator for Croatia is S.Kljaić.

psychometric properties (Frieze & Žužul, 1988; Knezović et al., 1989; Kušen, 1988; Žužul et al., 1989).

To assess neuroticism and extroversion we used the respective two scales of the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ). The EPQ is well-known and is the most frequently used personality questionnaire in Croatia, with well established psychometric qualities on various Croatian samples (e.g. Knezović et al., 1989).

The Self-Esteem Scale is a 10-item, unidimensional measure of general self-esteem. The SES items require the respondent to report feelings about the self on a four-point scale. A higher total score indicates higher self-esteem. The scale was translated into Croatian for the purpose of the present study and showed satisfactory internal reliability (Cronbach alpha 0.67).

Procedure

The questionnaires were administered during group sessions, at each faculty separately, as a part of a broader battery of instruments dealing with family characteristics, perceived parental behavior and personality characteristics among young adults. The administration of the whole battery lasted approximately one hour. Regarding parental behavior, which is of main interest in the present study, the students were asked to reflect on the behavior of both parents when they were at the age of about 7 to 12. If the student hadn't lived with both parents during that time, only the behavior of the parent with whom she or he had lived was assessed. Therefore, we collected data for the behavior of 221 mothers and 211 fathers.

RESULTS

Table 1 presents means, standard deviations and t-tests obtained on all the studied variables in the total sample and by gender groups. Young men and women significantly differentiated only on two variables: neuroticism and manifest physical aggression. On both variables results confirm well documented gender differences: males are generally more aggressive and females are more prone to neuroticism.

While gender differences in the perceived maternal and paternal behavior were not found, there are differences in the assessments of the same behaviors between mothers and fathers. Paired t-tests for the results for mothers and fathers on each of the dimensions and the total PARQ were computed. The obtained results show that mothers are assessed as significantly warmer and less indifferent than fathers ($t(1,199) = 3.99, p < .001$ and $t(1,207) = 6.67, p < .001$) (Figure 1). Summative results on the PARQ also reveal that mothers are perceived as having a more positive parental style than fathers ($Mm=50.8, sd=12.35, Mf=54.0, sd=14.67, t(1,187) = 3.09, p < .002$).

Table 1
Means and standard deviations for the results on all the variables for total sample and gender subsamples, and t-tests between the subsamples

Scale	Total sample		Males		Females		t	df
	M	SD	M	SD	M	SD		
Adult PARQ								
Warmth and affection - M	27.4	4.93	27.5	3.31	27.3	5.84	0.26	(1,216)
Hostility and aggression- M	14.2	3.60	14.2	2.97	14.3	4.00	0.29	(1,217)
Indifference and neglect - M	11.4	3.20	11.3	2.69	11.5	3.53	0.60	(1,219)
Undifferentiated rejection - M	12.1	3.37	12.0	3.38	12.2	3.37	0.34	(1,216)
Total PARQ - M	50.6	11.09	49.9	9.73	51.2	13.56	0.76	(1,207)
Warmth and affection -F	25.6	5.24	25.4	4.91	25.8	5.46	0.59	(1,203)
Hostility and aggression- F	14.1	4.23	14.2	3.98	13.9	4.42	0.43	(1,210)
Indifference and neglect - F	13.2	4.20	13.3	3.90	13.1	4.41	0.21	(1,208)
Undifferentiated rejection - F	12.6	3.75	12.7	3.81	12.5	3.73	0.39	(1,207)
Total PARQ - F	54.2	15.28	54.7	13.98	53.9	16.14	0.39	(1,198)
Self-esteem Scale	32.0	4.66	32.1	4.6	31.9	4.7	0.22	(1,217)
EPQ								
EPQ - N	11.8	5.37	10.4	4.91	12.9	5.43	3.51**	(1,213)
EPQ - IE	13.9	4.34	13.9	4.74	13.8	4.04	0.16	(1,212)
AG-87								
Manifest verbal aggression	40.7	10.50	40.9	10.9	40.6	10.3	0.26	(1,217)
Manifest physical aggression	23.4	6.47	25.3	6.80	22.1	5.89	3.75***	(1,217)
Latent verbal aggression	42.2	11.93	40.6	12.66	43.4	11.28	1.71	(1,217)
Latent physical aggression	31.4	11.52	32.9	11.25	30.4	11.63	1.65	(1,217)
Indirect aggression	27.7	7.85	27.7	8.11	27.7	7.69	0.02	(1,217)
Total AG-87	165.5	38.72	167.5	41.25	164.1	36.91	0.64	(1,217)

** p < .01, *** p < .001

Stepwise regression analysis was performed for each of the personality variables with eight dimensions of perceived parental behavior of mothers and fathers as predictors. As seen in Table 2, the obtained multiple regression coefficients for the total sample were all significant but very low, explaining only from 3% of the total variance in neuroticism, latent verbal and latent physical aggression to 9% of the variance in self-esteem. Neither mother's perceived behavior significantly predicted young adults' personality variables. Among father's perceived behavior, the most predictive variable was the dimension of undifferentiated rejection. Various father's behaviors that give the child a feeling of being rejected are positively correlated with adult level of aggression generally, and indirect, latent verbal, latent physical and manifest physical aggression in particular. Father's rejective behaviors are also related to higher level of the child's neuroticism. High self-esteem, on the other hand, is negatively correlated with father's rejection. Father's hostility predicts higher manifest verbal aggression, while warmth and affection predicts more sociable or extroverted behavior.

Figure 1

Young adults' assessments of maternal and paternal dimensions of parenting on the Adult PARQ

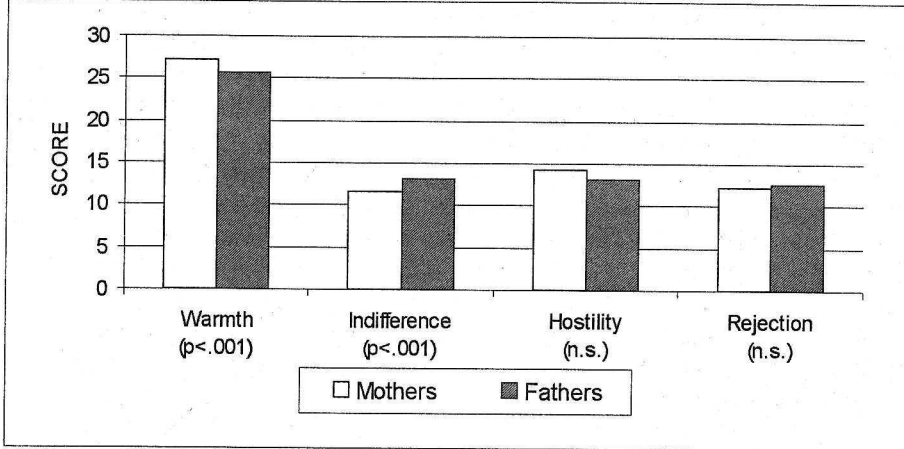


Table 2

Predicting self-esteem, extroversion, neuroticism and different forms of aggression from the aspects of retrospectively perceived parental behaviour: Standardized regression coefficients obtained in stepwise multiple regression analysis for the whole sample

PREDICTORS	CRITERION VARIABLES								Self esteem
	Total AG-87	IA	MVA	MPA	LVA	LPA	EPQ-N	EPQ-E	
Warmth and affection -M	.00	.00	-.04	-.02	.03	.02	-.07	.02	.03
Hostility and aggression - M	.11	.06	.10	.10	.05	.11	.12	.00	-.04
Indifference and neglect - M	.02	.02	.00	-.09	.10	-.01	.00	.00	.06
Undifferentiated rejection - M	.08	.06	.03	.02	.05	.05	.11	-.07	.00
Warmth and affection -F	-.01	.03	.05	.05	-.04	-.08	-.04	.21**	.02
Hostility and aggression - F	-.12	.04	.20**	.10	.06	.10	.08	.02	-.04
Indifference and neglect - F	-.02	.03	.00	-.12	.02	-.05	-.03	.06	.02
Undifferentiated rejection - F	.25***	.29***	.03	.19**	.19***	.18*	.17*	.13	-.30***
R2	.06	.08	.04	.04	.03	.03	.03	.04	.09
F	13.17***	18.05***	8.54**	7.44**	7.16**	6.52*	5.98*	8.95**	19.83***
df	198	198	198	198	198	198	196	195	198

* p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001

Developmental research has shown that both fathers and mothers are important to the developing child and are competent caregivers, but that they adopt different roles in parenting. Research by Clarke-Stewart (1978), Lamb (1977) and others has shown that mothers are more nurturant and perform more routine child-care activities than fathers. Fathers, on the other hand, more often play actively with their children, particularly their sons. Fathers seem to have a particular impact on the development of sex-typed behaviors (Huston, 1985). Because of all the above mentioned, separate stepwise regression analyses were performed for the gender subsamples. They revealed that both parents' behavior generally accounted for more of the variance of personality variables in the male subsample. The percentages of explained variance in the male subsample ranged from 6% of manifest verbal aggression to 18% for the extroversion, vs. range of 4% for the manifest verbal aggression to 8% for the self-esteem in the female subsample (Table 3 and Table 4). Moreover, in the female subsample neither aspect of parental behavior was predictive for neuroticism, extroversion, manifest physical and latent physical aggression.

Table 3
Predicting self-esteem, extroversion, neuroticism and different forms of aggression from the aspects of retrospectively perceived parental behaviour: Standardized regression coefficients obtained in stepwise multiple regression analysis for the male subsample

PREDICTORS	CRITERION VARIABLES								
	Total AG-87	IA	MVA	MPA	LVA	LPA	EPQ-N	EPQ-E	Self esteem
Warmth and affection -M	.01	-.01	-.07	.00	.04	.01	.09	.22*	-.06
Hostility and aggression- M	.17	.11	.10	.12	.16	.16	.13	-.07	-.03
Indifference and neglect - M	.30**	.09	.24**	.03	.29**	.27*	-.01	.05	.19
Undifferentiated rejection - M	.18	.11	.15	.07	.16	.14	.09	-.04	.01
Warmth and affection -F	-.14	-.07	-.06	-.06	-.03	-.17	-.31**	.11	.03
Hostility and aggression- F	.16	.06	.15	.11	.03	.09	.20	-.30**	-.10
Indifference and neglect - F	.17	.15	.09	.11	.05	.08	.13	.01	-.06
Undifferentiated rejection - F	.17	.34**	.07	.35**	.02	.09	.12	.21	-.34**
R2	.09	.11	.06	.12	.08	.07	.10	.18	.11
F	7.90**	10.22**	4.76**	10.71**	7.09**	6.08*	8.65**	8.46***	10.10**
df	79	79	79	79	79	79	79	78	79

* p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001

Table 4

Predicting self-esteem, extroversion, neuroticism and different forms of aggression from the aspects of retrospectively perceived parental behaviour: Standardized regression coefficients obtained in stepwise multiple regression analysis for the female subsample

PREDICTORS	CRITERION VARIABLES				
	Total AG-87	IA	MVA	LVA	Self esteem
Warmth and affection -M	.02	.00	-.02	.09	.08
Hostility and aggression- M	.06	.03	.09	-.06	-.05
Indifference and neglect - M	-.08	-.02	-.08	.00	.00
Undifferentiated rejection - M	-.01	.03	.01	-.05	-.02
Warmth and affection -F	.06	.10	.11	-.06	.02
Hostility and aggression- F	.12	.05	.19*	.06	.00
Indifference and neglect - F	-.17	-.04	-.05	-.12	.06
Undifferentiated rejection - F	.23*	.26**	.05	.22*	-.28**
R2	.05	.07	.04	.05	.08
F	6.70*	8.89**	4.42*	5.66*	9.88**
df	116	116	116	116	116

* p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001

For the male subsample both types of verbal aggression, latent physical aggression and aggression generally were only predicted by mother's indifference. The absence of father's rejection during the childhood, predicted higher self-esteem in young men. Father's warmth predicts lower neuroticism in young males. Sons of warm and affectionate mothers and non-hostile and non-aggressive fathers showed more sociable behavior as adults. The hypothesis of specific father's influence on sex-typed behavior, such as aggressive behavior predominantly is, had been partially proven. In the male subsample indirect and manifest physical aggression were predicted by father's rejection. In the female subsample, father's undifferentiated rejection was predictive for daughters' aggression generally, and indirect and latent verbal aggression specifically. Father's hostility and aggression is the best predictor for young women's manifest verbal aggression. Physical aggression in girls, however, couldn't be predicted by the used set of variables. Low self-esteem in girls, on the other hand, can be predicted by father's rejection.

DISCUSSION

The study aimed at exploring some of the presumptions that are argued in Rohner's model of early parental influences on later development, particularly on some aspects of adults' personality. The results obtained suggest that the warmth dimension of perceived parenting style explains a significant, although relatively small proportion of the variance in some aspects of young adults'

personality. Aggressive behavior, that is predicted to be particularly influenced by parent's rejection during childhood, showed to share between 6% and 11% of the variance with some aspects of parental behavior in young males, and between 4% and 7% in young females. Father's rejection was the aspect of parental behavior that was most often correlated with different forms of aggressive behavior, particularly for the form of indirect aggression in males and females, manifest physical aggression in males and latent verbal aggression in females. These findings not only support Rohner's hypothesis on the relationship between rejection and aggressive and hostile behavior in adulthood, but also partially support the findings of other studies according to which cold and rejecting parents who apply power-assertive discipline and permit expression of the aggressive impulses are likely to raise hostile and aggressive children (Eron, 1982; Parke & Slaby, 1983). Rejection includes children's perceptions that they are not loved and wanted or that they are bothersome or burden to their parents. Therefore, cold and rejecting parents frustrate their children's emotional needs and model a lack of concern for others, that can become the young persons' general view towards the world. And since aggression is quite a stable attribute for both males and females (e.g. Huesmann et al., 1984), it is not surprising to find that aggressive children became aggressive adults as well. Behaving aggressively, parents can also model their children's aggressive behavior. The obtained predictivity of father's hostility for the verbal aggression of their daughters confirms that fact. The items that comprise the subscale of hostility include a lot of verbal aggression such as criticism, scolding, mockery, the use of unpleasant words, etc. While the female aggressiveness was predicted only by perceived father's behavior, male aggressiveness, particularly the latent form of it, was predicted by mother's behavior as well. Namely, the mother's indifference and neglect in the childhood, i.e. ignoring, not giving support, forgetting important dates and promises given to the child, delegating care to other persons, were predictive for latent verbal and physical aggression, as well as manifest verbal aggression in males. It seems that boys react aggressively to the frustration of emotional needs by mothers and fathers, while girls react similarly only to the father's denial of love.

Self-esteem is considered to be an evaluative component of a person's broader representation of self or self-concept. While self-concept contains cognitive, behavioral and affective components, self-esteem is predominantly saturated with the affective component (Blascovich & Tomaka, 1991). Self-esteem depends to a large extent on the way others perceive and react to a person's behavior. Among significant others that may influence the formation of the child's self-esteem, parents have an important place. The results obtained in this study confirm the findings of numerous studies that rejective parental behavior in childhood has negative influence on self-esteem in childhood and adolescence (e.g. Matejcek & Kodubcova, 1983, 1984; Kapur & Sukhdeep, 1986; Kitahara, 1987). However, while our study showed that negative self-esteem

is related to the father's rejection, earlier studies suggested that this aspect of self-concept is more connected with the mother's behavior (e.g. Haque, 1988; Marshall & Mazzucco, 1995).

According to the Eysenck's theory of personality, among three basic dimensions of personality two are the most important: introversion-extroversion and neuroticism. Individual differences along these dimensions have both hereditary and environmental origins. The introversion-extroversion dimension of personality have two main aspects, sociability and impulsiveness. The typical extrovert is sociable, likes parties, has many friends, craves excitements, acts on the spurt of the moment and is impulsive. The results of our study indicate that father's hostility and aggressive behavior is negatively correlated with the extroversion of young males, i.e. that sons of such fathers are more prone to be quiet, reserved and introspective. Father's warmth was predictive for this personality dimension on the total sample, suggesting that an affectionate father can positively contribute to the child's later extrovertive behavior. This was the dimension that was best explained by the single predictor variable in the male subsample.

The dimension of neuroticism is described as a dimension of emotional stability. People high on neuroticism tend to be emotionally liable, respond quickly to stress and show slower decrease in the stress response. Undifferentiated rejection of a father in the total sample, and warmth of the father in the subsample of males, was predictive for the young adults' neuroticism. Namely, children of rejective fathers seem to be higher on this dimension. For the males, the lack of an affectionate and emotional father was connected to higher neuroticism. In the subsample of women, neither parental dimension was found to be predictive for these two dimensions of personality.

CONCLUSION

The conducted study partially supports Rohner's theoretical assumptions. Perceived rejection, particularly the father's, was predictive for most of the variables investigated in this study. However, although the parents' behavior seems to play a role in the later development of a person's personality, this role was not proven to be so impressive as Rohner had suggested. Since Rohner's model is psychodynamic in nature, suggesting the main influence of early family experiences on later development, it does not account for a number of other socialization agents, the interaction of the child's temperament and parent's personality variables, as well as the impact of experiences in the later course of development. The Rohner & Rohner (1982) suggestion of relative importance of mothers vs. fathers was not supported. On the contrary, the behavior of fathers was more predictive for the studied personality variables than that of mothers. The explanation of such findings can be twofold. First, it is possible that due to the widely spread stereotype of the mother as a warm, kind,

gentle, loving and always available person, our participants were prone to be biased in their assessments of mothers. Second, if the variations in the mothers' parenting are really less profound, as the standard deviations indicate, then it is possible that the differences in the fathers' parenting are more important for the development of their children's later behavior and personality. Thus, if maternal behavior (or at least the perception of it) is more uniform, than the behavior of fathers (traditional, emotionally and physically remote and inaccessible to the child, or more involved in parenting and willing to exhibit warmth and affection) could have a more important role in shaping the child's later behavior and personality.

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PERCEPCIJA RODITELJSKOG PRIHVAĆANJA- ODBIJANJA I NEKE VARIJABLE LIČNOSTI MLADIH ODRASLIH OSOBA

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Na uzorku mladih odraslih osoba ispitan je odnos između njihove retrospektivne percepcije Rohnerovih dimenzija roditeljskog ponašanja i nekih osobina ličnosti koje bi, prema Rohnerovoj teoriji, trebale biti povezane s tim dimenzijama. U istraživanju je sudjelovalo 130 studentica i 94 studenta zagrebačkog Sveučilišta. Prosječna dob ispitanika bila je 21 godina. Ponašanje majki i očeva procijenjeno je skraćenom verzijom (32 čestice) Rohnerovog Upitnika roditeljskog prihvaćanja-odbijanja za odrasle. Upitnik od ispitanika traži da se prisjete razdoblja između svoje 7. i 12. godine i procijene tadašnje ponašanje roditelja na četiri dimenzije: percipirana toplina i naklonost, percipirano neprijateljstvo i agresivnost, percipirana ravnodušnost i zanemarivanje te percipirano neizdiferencirano odbijanje. Od osobina ličnosti ispitanice su: agresivnost, ekstraverzija, neuroticizam i samopoštovanje. Provedene su regresijske analize s varijablama ličnosti kao kriterijima i dimenzijama majčinskog i očevog ponašanja kao prediktorima. Svi dobiveni koeficijenti multiple regresije statistički su značajni, ali razmjerno niski (od .17 do .30). Najprediktivnijom varijablom pokazala se dimenzija očevog neizdiferenciranog odbijanja koja značajno pridonosi objašnjenju ukupne agresivnosti, manifestne i latentne fizičke agresivnosti, indirektna agresivnosti, verbalne latentne agresivnosti i neuroticizma. Dimenzija očeve topline i naklonosti prediktivna je za ekstraverziju, a očevo neprijateljstvo i agresivnost za manifestnu verbalnu agresivnost. Analize provedene za poduzorke muškaraca i žena pokazale su da roditeljsko ponašanje objašnjava veći dio varijance u varijablama ličnosti u muškaraca nego u žena. Majčino ponašanje pokazalo se prediktivnim samo u poduzorku muškaraca.

DIE WAHRNEHMUNG ELTERLICHER AKZEPTANZ/ABLEHNUNG SOWIE EINIGE PERSÖNLICHKEITSVARIABLEN JUNGER ERWACHSENER

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In einer Gruppe junger Erwachsener wurde untersucht, in welchem Verhältnis die retrospektive Wahrnehmung des elterlichen Verhaltens (in Dimensionen gemäß Rohner) und bestimmte Persönlichkeitsmerkmale, die theoretisch mit den Rohnerschen Dimensionen zusammenhängen müßten, zueinander stehen. An der Untersuchung nahmen 130 Studentinnen und 94 Studenten der Zagreber Universität teil, die im Durchschnitt 21 Jahre alt waren. Das Verhalten der Mütter und Väter wurde anhand einer verkürzten Version des für Erwachsene bestimmten Rohnerschen Fragebogens (32 Gesichtspunkte) zur Ermittlung elterlicher Akzeptanz/Ablehnung beurteilt. Im Fragebogen wird von den Befragten gefordert, sich der Zeit zu besinnen, als sie im Alter zwischen 7 und 12 Jahren waren, und das damalige elterliche Verhalten auf folgende vier Verhaltensdimensionen hin zu prüfen: wahrgenommene Wärme und Zuneigung, wahrgenommene Feindseligkeit und Aggressivität, wahrgenommene Gleichgültigkeit und Vernachlässigung sowie wahrgenommene undifferenzierte Ablehnung. Es wurden außerdem folgende Persönlichkeitseigenschaften erfragt: Aggressivität, Extrovertiertheit, Neurotizismus und Selbstachtung, sowie Regressionsanalysen mit Persönlichkeitsvariablen als den Kriterien und Dimensionen mütterlichen und väterlichen Verhaltens im Sinne von Prädiktoren durchgeführt. Alle erhaltenen Koeffizienten multipler Regression sind statistisch zwar relevant, aber relativ niedrig (zwischen .17 und .30). Als die prädikativste Variable erwies sich die Dimension väterlicher undifferenzierter Ablehnung, die wesentlich zur Erklärung allgemeiner Aggressivität, manifester und latenter körperlicher Aggressivität, indirekter Aggressivität, verbaler latenter Aggressivität und Neurotizismus beiträgt. Die Dimension väterlicher Wärme und Zuneigung ist prädiktiv für extrovertiertes Verhalten, väterliche Feindseligkeit und Aggressivität wiederum ist prädiktiv für manifeste verbale Aggressivität. Weitere, in männlichen und weiblichen Untergruppen durchgeführte Analysen ergaben, daß das Verhalten der Eltern einen weitaus größeren Teil der Varianzen in den Persönlichkeitsvariablen bei Männern als bei Frauen erklärt. Das Verhalten der Mutter erwies sich nur für die Untergruppe der Männer als prädiktiv.