



# Investigation of Differences in Early Maladaptive Schemas and Defense Mechanisms in Individuals with Gender Identity Disorder Compared to Normal Individuals

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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
Nadereh Saadati Department of Psychology and Counseling, KMAN Research Institute, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada nsaadati@kmanresce.ca	<b>Reviewer 1:</b> Mehdi. Ghezselflo Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Gonbad Kavos University, Gonbad Kavos, Iran. Email: ghezselfloo@gonbad.ac.ir <b>Reviewer 2:</b> Seyed Hadi Seyed Alitabar Department of Psychology and Counseling, KMAN Research Institute, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada. Email: hadialitabar@kmanresce.ca

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1 Reviewer 1

Date: 15 October 2023

Reviewer:

The research question is clear but could be deepened by exploring the mechanisms through which these differences in schemas and defense mechanisms impact the psychological well-being and social integration of individuals with GID.

Consider additional visual representations of your data (e.g., graphs, charts) to enhance readability and comprehension. This could help in effectively communicating the magnitude and implications of the differences found.

The statistical analysis is robust; however, a deeper interpretation of the practical significance of these differences would enrich the discussion. How do these statistical differences translate into real-world impacts for individuals with GID?

The limitations section is appropriately cautious about generalizability and methodology. Expanding on future directions by suggesting specific longitudinal studies or intervention-based research could provide a clearer path forward for the field.

The paper notes adherence to the Helsinki Declaration but could further discuss the ethical implications of studying vulnerable populations, including considerations around informed consent and the potential for harm.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

## 1.2 Reviewer 2

Date: 16 October 2023

Reviewer:

The argument flows logically but would benefit from a more detailed discussion of how these findings contribute to existing literature on GID and mental health. Integrating a comparison with broader psychiatric disorders might provide a richer context.

Expand the literature review to include more recent studies and a broader range of defense mechanisms and maladaptive schemas within transgender and gender-diverse populations. This could provide a more comprehensive backdrop for your findings.

The paper is generally well-written but could benefit from careful proofreading to correct minor grammatical errors and ensure consistency in terminology, particularly around gender identity.

While the study addresses an important gap, further exploration into how these findings could inform specific therapeutic interventions or policies would enhance the innovative value of the paper.

The implications are touched upon but expanding this section to discuss practical strategies for clinicians, based on the findings, would make the research more applicable to real-world settings.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.