The Relationship Between Brain-Behavior Systems, Dark Personality Traits, Alexithymia, and Theory of Mind Deficits in Sexual Offenders

Seyed Hossein Alavi[1] , Majid Mahmoud Alilou[2*] , Zeynab Khanjani[2]

[1] Ph.D, Department of Psychology, Bojnourd Branch, Islamic Azad University, Bojnourd, Iran
[2] Professor, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Education and Psychology, University of Tabriz, Tabriz, Iran

* Corresponding author email address: alilou_647@yahoo.com

Editor	Reviewers
Gholamreza Zourmand Department of Physical Education and Sport Science, Huanggang Normal University, Huanggang, China gh.zourmand@hgnu.edu.cn	Reviewer 1: Zahra Yousefi Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Isfahan Branch (Khorasgan), Islamic Azad University, Isfahan, Iran. Email: Z.yousefi1393@khuisf.ac.ir Reviewer 2: Mohsen Kachooei Assistant Professor of Health Psychology, Department of Psychology, Humanities Faculty, University of Science and Culture, Tehran, Iran. kachooei.m@usc.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1 Reviewer 1

Date: 01 March 2024

Reviewer:

Specify how the criteria (e.g., no substance abuse, no intellectual disability) were assessed. Were standardized diagnostic tools used?

Mention the exact psychometric properties and the version of the Toronto Alexithymia Scale used. Include its Cronbach's alpha for this study sample if available.

Expand on how the "Dirty Dozen" scale's three-point rating scale works, as standard psychometric scales typically use more gradations (e.g., 5 or 7 points).

The description should clarify the regression models used. Were stepwise, hierarchical, or simultaneous regression models applied? Provide justification for the choice.

The descriptive statistics table lacks some necessary columns such as "Standard Error" which would help in understanding the precision of the estimates.

Specify the confidence intervals for the correlation coefficients to indicate the precision of these estimates.

In Table 2, include an additional column for R-squared change to illustrate how much additional variance each model explains compared to the previous one.

Clarify the meaning of the Beta coefficients in Table 4. Explain in the text that higher absolute Beta values indicate stronger predictors.

Elaborate on the limitations of using self-report measures. Suggest potential biases this method could introduce and how future studies might address these issues.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

1.2   Reviewer 2

Date: 10 March 2024

Reviewer:

Clarify the sampling method. The term "convenience sampling" is mentioned, but later it refers to "purposive sampling." Ensure consistency in terminology.

The statement "deficits in theory of mind in sexual offenders" needs to be directly tied back to the statistical results presented. Ensure that all interpretations are clearly supported by the data.

The discussion could be enhanced by comparing the findings more thoroughly with existing studies. Highlight any novel contributions of your findings.

Discuss the potential impact of the reduced sample size (from 90 to 80) on the study's power and the generalizability of the findings.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

2.   Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.