




Comparison of Ego Strength, Aggression, and Fear of Loss in Three Groups with Anxiety Symptoms, Depression Symptoms, and Normal Individuals

Zahra. Razaghi¹, Atefeh. Hojjati^{2*}

¹ M.A., Student, Department of Psychology, Qom Medical Sciences Branch, Islamic Azad University, Qom, Iran

² Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Qom Medical Sciences Branch, Islamic Azad University, Qom, Iran

* Corresponding author email address: hojjati14@yahoo.com

E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
José Aparecido Da Silva  Full Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Sao Paulo, Ribeirao Preto, Sao Paulo, Brazil jadsilva@ffclrp.usp.br	Reviewer 1: Roodabeh Hooshmandi  Department of Psychology and Counseling, KMAN Research Institute, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada. Email: roodhooshmandi@kmanresce.ca Reviewer 2: Zahra Asl Soleimani  Department of Clinical Psychology, University of Rehabilitation Sciences and Social Health, Tehran, Iran. Email: z.soleimani@uswr.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

"Cognitive processing in anxiety disorder mirrors that observed in trait anxiety." This statement could benefit from a more detailed explanation or citation supporting the claim that these cognitive mechanisms are similar.

""Participants were screened using the Beck Anxiety Inventory and Beck Depression Inventory-II." Indicate whether the cutoff points used for categorizing the groups were validated for this specific population.

The descriptive statistics table lacks a confidence interval. Adding confidence intervals for the means could give readers a clearer picture of the data distribution.

"Box's M test indicates that covariance matrices are equal." Explain why this test is significant and what it implies about the validity of the multivariate analysis used.

"Low ego strength is associated with poor psychological coping mechanisms." Discuss whether any specific interventions, based on your findings, could improve coping mechanisms.

"The study concludes significant differences among groups." Reiterate the main findings and their implications more explicitly to leave a lasting impact on the reader.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Depression is generally recognized as sadness and can occur following any unpleasant event." This oversimplifies the complex nature of depression. It is important to reference more comprehensive definitions or DSM-5 criteria.

"Low ego strength is associated with poor judgment and difficulty in reality assessment." Provide empirical evidence or studies that support this assertion to strengthen the argument.

"The statistical population consisted of all women aged 20-40 years in Qom province." Clarify why only women were chosen for this study. Discuss any potential gender-related implications for generalizability.

"A cut-off score of 18 can correctly identify up to 92% of patients with major depressive disorder." Specify whether this cutoff is culturally validated for the Iranian population or if there are adaptations.

"The reliability of this questionnaire, using Cronbach's alpha, was reported as 0.79." Discuss whether there was a pilot study to confirm the reliability within the current sample.

"The normal group had higher ego strength than the depression and anxiety groups." Provide a more detailed explanation or graphic to illustrate these differences for better reader comprehension.

"Aggression differs among individuals with anxiety, depression, and normal symptoms." This point could be enriched by comparing your findings to existing literature, noting similarities or differences.

"Fear of loss was greater in the depression group." Consider elaborating on how this finding could influence therapeutic approaches or preventive measures.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.