

Exploring Components of Intergenerational Transmission of Stress in Adolescents

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

In “Adolescence represents a critical developmental stage marked by heightened sensitivity...”, the introduction could benefit from more specific statistics or recent global data on adolescent stress prevalence to anchor the argument in empirical evidence.

In paragraph 4, “Evidence suggests that adolescents not only absorb stress from their parents but can also affect parental well-being...” — this is a critical point. Expanding this with at least one recent empirical example would enrich the rationale.

In paragraph 5, when citing COVID-19 studies (“family climate was directly linked to adolescents’ stress levels...”), consider linking this directly to the current research design—why stress in post-pandemic contexts might be especially relevant for Ireland.

Table 1 is very informative. However, the open codes (e.g., “harsh discipline, lack of emotional support...”) could be directly connected to adolescent quotes in the narrative to avoid redundancy between table and text.

The discussion emphasizes family-based interventions, but the sentence “Schools should be equipped with resources to identify adolescents at risk...” could be expanded by suggesting specific programs (e.g., resilience curricula, school-family communication workshops).

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The discussion of the family stress model (para. 2: “The family stress model provides one of the most widely recognized frameworks...”) is clear but would be stronger if limitations of this model in diverse cultural contexts were acknowledged.

In the introduction, the use of studies from Greece and the former Soviet Union is effective, but the transition to the Irish context is abrupt. Consider explaining why Ireland was chosen and how its sociocultural context may present unique insights.

In “One of the clearest findings concerns the spillover of parental work-related and marital stress...”, you align with Chen et al. (2023). Consider also contrasting cases where adolescents reported resilience despite stress spillover, to present a more nuanced view.

In the discussion of role reversal (“Several adolescents reported imitating parental stress responses...”), you might link to established literature on “parentification” and its dual role as both a risk and resilience factor.

In “Participants often described silence around mental health...”, the discussion could further situate this within Irish cultural attitudes toward mental health stigma, supported by national reports or statistics.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.