




Effectiveness of Emotion-Focused Therapy on Attachment Styles, Anger Management, and Social Anxiety Among Female Secondary School Students in Shiraz

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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
Trevor Archer  Professor Department of Psychology University of Gothenburg, Sweden trevorcsarcher49@gmail.com	Reviewer 1: Sara Nejatifar  Department of Psychology and Education of People with Special Needs, Faculty of Educational Sciences and Psychology, University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran. Email: s.nejatifar@edu.ui.ac.ir Reviewer 2: Kamdin. Parsakia  Department of Psychology and Counseling, KMAN Research Institute, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada. Email: kamdinarsakia@kmanresce.ca

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The phrase “insecure attachment contributes to both internalizing and externalizing psychological disorders” is mentioned broadly. Consider specifying how this relates to anger and social anxiety to improve thematic cohesion.

The shift from anger to social anxiety is abrupt. Add a transition sentence that frames both as emotional regulation issues linked to attachment style.

The description of the multistage cluster sampling process is vague. Please elaborate on how districts and schools were randomly selected and if stratification was considered.

You state that Cronbach’s alpha was .73 in this study but provide no justification for its acceptability given previous higher values. Please comment on this potential reliability drop.

You state SPSS v26 was used, then later say SPSS v28. Please clarify which version was ultimately applied for analysis to ensure consistency.

Mean and SD reporting is clear, but the effect sizes for pretest-posttest changes are missing. Consider including Cohen’s d to convey the magnitude of improvement.

While the discussion proposes how EFT influences attachment styles, it remains speculative. Consider citing neurobiological or affective neuroscience literature supporting these emotion-to-attachment pathways.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The sentence “Disregarding emotions in psychological treatments may result in minimal change...” should be supported by additional empirical evidence or meta-analytic findings beyond Sharif (2022) and Sukhodolsky et al. (2016).

The justification for choosing female students from Shiraz could be strengthened by referencing national prevalence data or local school psychology concerns to clarify why this population is at risk.

The claim that “statistical experts also recommend 15 participants per group” lacks citation. Please provide a methodological source to support this sample justification.

The statement “these figures indicate that the majority of participants in both groups were 14 years old” is correct, but you should note the balanced age spread more explicitly as a strength for generalizability.

Statistical power is reported as 1.000 for multiple variables. While technically possible, this requires explanation in the text due to the unusually high values—were power calculations conducted a priori?

The phrase “no findings were observed that contradicted the outcomes” is imprecise and reads as defensive. Rephrase to emphasize consistency with literature while acknowledging the exploratory nature.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.