




Impact of Parental Monitoring on Risk Behaviors: The Mediating Role of Moral Identity

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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
Anela Hasanagic  Full Professor, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Islamic Education, University of Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina anela.hasanagic@unze.ba	Reviewer 1: Seyed Ali Darbani  Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology and Counseling, South Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran. Email: Ali.darbani@iau.ac.ir Reviewer 2: Abotaleb Saadati Shamir  Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Sciences, University of Science and Research, Tehran, Iran. Email: psychology@iau.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The statement “Parental monitoring does not operate in a vacuum” is insightful but should be followed by a more systematic synthesis of moderating variables. Consider summarizing the most influential moderators in a table or conceptual diagram for clarity.

The sentence “Responses are provided on a 5-point Likert scale...” does not specify whether the total or subscale scores were used in SEM analysis. Please clarify and justify the use of either total or subscale scores in the model.

The internalization and symbolization dimensions are introduced but not analyzed separately in the results. If both subscales were measured, why were they not modeled separately? Consider explaining this choice or revising the analysis to reflect sub-dimensions.

The statement “Statistical significance was set at $p < 0.05...$ ” is too general. Please clarify whether any adjustments (e.g., Bonferroni correction) were made for multiple comparisons or whether all p -values are two-tailed.

The phrase “moderate levels of parental monitoring” is vague. Please specify the theoretical or empirical basis for interpreting the raw score as moderate (e.g., midpoint comparison, normative sample data).

The Mahalanobis distance analysis is mentioned but no actual threshold value or number of outliers is reported. Please provide the critical χ^2 value and specify if any cases were removed or retained.

The correlation between parental monitoring and risk behavior is reported as $r = -.51$, $p < .001$. This is a moderately strong effect. Consider discussing whether this magnitude is typical or unexpectedly high based on prior literature.

The total effect ($\beta = -0.57$) is interpreted as supporting the central hypothesis, but no confidence intervals are provided. Please include confidence intervals for all standardized path coefficients to enhance interpretability.

The figure is not described in sufficient detail in the text. Consider providing a brief textual walkthrough of the figure in the results section, emphasizing both direct and indirect paths.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The article notes “Moral identity serves as a cognitive-emotional framework...”. Please clarify whether you treat moral identity as a stable trait or a dynamic construct susceptible to environmental influence. This distinction is important for interpreting the mediation model.

You cite Social Control Theory and Self-Determination Theory, but these frameworks are not fully integrated. Consider adding a brief paragraph that explicitly compares how each theory accounts for the mechanism linking monitoring and risk behavior.

The sentence “This study seeks to explore this relationship within the context of Chinese adolescents” would benefit from justification for choosing this cultural context. Are there unique sociocultural features in China that make this inquiry particularly relevant?

The authors mention stratified random sampling but do not describe the strata used (e.g., school type, region, socioeconomic status). Please elaborate on the stratification variables to enhance reproducibility.

The statement “These findings underscore the protective function of parental involvement...” could be more nuanced. Address whether these effects are uniform across age or grade levels in your sample.

The phrase “identity-related mechanisms are central...” is repeated multiple times throughout the discussion. Consider varying the language or consolidating these references into a focused theoretical discussion.

The authors refer to “traditional parental monitoring strategies may need to be adapted” in digital contexts. This is an important point—please expand on what modern adaptations might look like (e.g., parental apps, digital literacy education).

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.