




Self-Esteem as a Mediator Between Peer Victimization and Social Withdrawal in Youth




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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Please clarify whether partial or full mediation occurred in the abstract. The term “significantly mediated” is vague without explicitly stating the mediation type.

Consider citing more diverse sources or DSM-related definitions to further validate the clinical relevance of “social withdrawal” as used in this context.

Although values are acceptable, citing specific thresholds from SEM literature (e.g., Hair et al., 2010) can enhance rigor.

Please interpret what this value implies in psychological terms—e.g., does it reflect low, moderate, or high self-esteem in the studied population?

Consider adding SRMR (Standardized Root Mean Square Residual), which is commonly reported in SEM literature to further support model validity.

It would be clearer to reference specific mediation testing procedures used (e.g., bootstrapping, Sobel test) and confidence intervals.

Consider citing specific intervention models (e.g., CBT-based esteem training, SEL programs) to support these recommendations.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

This section could benefit from elaborating on how collectivist norms in Indonesia specifically may shape peer dynamics and self-esteem development.

This concept is repeated several times throughout the introduction. Consolidating similar arguments may improve narrative efficiency.

Strengthen this statement by listing specific shortcomings in existing studies (e.g., sample limitations, lack of SEM, cultural gaps) to justify your study more rigorously.

Ensure that the figure includes standardized path coefficients and indicates statistical significance (e.g., $**p < .001$). Currently, there are no labels in the provided summary.

Strengthen this argument by exploring potential psychological mechanisms (e.g., internalized stigma, learned helplessness) through which victimization reduces self-esteem.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.